Meeting Minutes

UPPER ARKANSAS AREA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

April 15, 2026

3224 Independence Road, Canon City, CO 81212

And via ZOOM

Chair H.A. Buck Wenzel called the meeting to order at 10:15 AM

ROLL CALL: Directors present in person: Chair Wenzel, Dwayne McFall. Directors present electronically: Dana Greene, Devin Rowe, P.T. Wood, Lucas Epp. A quorum was established.

Others present: Beth Lenz, grant manager, Jessica Rathke-WIC Director, Mike Loyd-Housing Director, Tom McConaghy-AAA Director, Chris Henager-Head Start Director, Veronica Vigil-Finance Director, Karin Petrin, Head Start CFO/Finance Consultant, Lindsey Chapman-HR director, Max Hanson-US Rep. Petterson Area Manager, Antonio Huerta-US Sen. Bennet Area Manager.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: No modifications requested. McFall moved approval, Rowe seconded, Passed without opposition.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF 2/18/2026 MEETING: Wenzel moved approval, Rowe seconded, passed without opposition. McFall abstained.

BANK STATEMENT REVIEW: Dave Paul presented, commented on the new format of CSAFE statements and reasonable balances in operating and reserve accounts.

PROGRAM REPORTS

AAA- Tom reported on changes in safe food delivery using updated standards and the resulting expanded opportunities in western Fremont County.

Finance and Systems Reconciliation- Veronica reported on the provided spreadsheet generated by the APLOS system that now has 2026 uploaded and can produce YTD budget to actual reports. 2024 and 25 are being added and we are making progress toward desired reporting standards. Karin Petrin identified the Finance staff for their successes and provided feedback on the improved relations and conditions for the program managers.

Head Start- Chris reported on statistics for current operations, the opening of Safety Town including an award for Rhonda Webb, who has lead the effort for 30 years. Nearly 900 kids are expected to tour this year. Also mentioned was the FA2 monitoring and anticipated result. Concerns are being mitigated and the final report is due in 3-6 months. Due to a shortage of qualified teachers, a classroom has been closed and the students disbursed to the remaining classrooms. Full enrollment will not be met by year end.

ACTION ITEM: Ratification of the email vote 3/27 to approve a funding request for the Supplemental Capital Improvement Grant. Wenzel Moved approval, Wood seconded, passed without opposition.

Safe Streets For All- Beth reported that the RFP is public and applications are being received. She also reported that 2023 Mini-Grants are complete and submitted.

WIC- Jae reported she has hired a new employee for Buena Vista and Leadville and will be training her next week. Currently serving 1100 people, but with the western section covered, expansion is being encouraged.

HR-UAADC-Executive Director- Dave introduced Lindsey Chapman as the new Human Resources Director.

UAADC has 1.1million available for loans and lending has been slow. Closed on small loan and another is pending.

ACTION ITEM: Recess as the UAACOG Board, convene as UAADC Board. McFall moved, Wenzel seconded, passed without opposition. The UAADC Board was asked to write down Loan # 0917 by $28,000 to match a CSFS write-down of the same amount, leaving a balance of @ $100,000 for a modification to $1501 monthly moving forward. Epps moved approval, Rowe seconded passed without opposition. UAADC adjourned and UAACOG went back into session.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Dave reported on the West Wing being ready for its next endeavor, the HR audit being completed and the expectation that our Master's Degree candidate will begin her internship in August.

OLD BUSINESS- none

NEW BUSINESS- none

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

McFall, Fremont County, reported on the cooperation experienced during the 24 fire and the challenges of getting in touch with citizens.

Wood, Chaffee County reported on their concerns regarding fires, and drought, as ranchers struggle to feed their cows.

Rowe, city of Buena Vista, commented on the recreation department master plan and the difficulty in explaining the costs associated with a public pool. Mentioned November elections and possible candidacy.

Greene, city of Leadville, shared fire concerns, and reported on the Leadville-Lake County Joint Comprehensive Plan that is underway, providing focus on individual concerns like parking, their URA and EDC cooperation, etc. She is "optimistic!"

Epp, Custer County also had a fire citing concerns about communication. He mentioned an informational event regarding workforce housing and misunderstandings that it is not low-income housing, and the opening of the Marketplace on Main selling locally sourced items to mesh locals with the tourist economy.

Wenzel, City of Silver Cliff, had a visit from Congressperson Petterson and commented on the park rebuild progress. Also mentioned their museum will re-open Memorial Day weekend and that there was a structure fire that now has produced concerns regarding hazardous materials in its wake.

The Board went into Executive Session under CRS 24-6-402 (4) (f) at 11:50.

The Board went back into regular session at 12:05, clarifying that the Executive Director's contract extension severance section verbiage would be clarified and rewritten by the Chaffee County Attorney and an email vote would be conducted when completed. There being no other business before the board, the meeting was adjourned.

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