

Upper Arkansas Area Council of Governments
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda – Hybrid Location—UAACOG Office & Zoom
December 28, 2022
10:00 AM

Call to order

Buck called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Board members: Buck Wenzel, Dwayne McFall

Board members via Zoon: Ryan Stevens, Kevin Day, Rusty Granzella

Guests via Zoon: PT Wood

Staff: Heather Evans, Carol Gindro, Max Hanson, Chris Henager, Tom McConaghy, Kristi Brownfield

1) Consent Agenda – *action item*

- a) Minutes UAACOG Board of Directors meeting 10/26/2022
- b) Financial Statements
- c) Loan Reports
 - i. Allowance for Bad Debts
- d) Write Up of Procedures and Controls Update
- e) Financial Management Manual Update
- f) UAACOG-WIOA Contract Termination Ratification
- g) Regional Grants Navigator Specialist RFP Ratification

Dwayne made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Rusty made the second. No discussion. Motion approved.

2) Additions/changes to Agenda

3) Program Manager Reports – Director’s overview of Program Manager’s Reports

- Area Agency on Aging – Aging is conducting “Listening Sessions” in all counties for the 4 year plan. The session for Canon City is scheduled for January 6, 2023. The purchase order has been received for the new building. Realtor will be met with this afternoon with Buck, Tom, and Heather to discuss possible options and craft an initial offer. Staff Assistant/Receptionist has been hired.
- Commodities – Fremont County has bumped their portion to \$25,000 for operating
- CSBG – The poverty guidelines change to 125% from 200%, effective January 1. Fremont County has some additional funds available.
- Self-Help Housing – groundbreaking was help the for current Prairie Sage group of 3. Dwayne asked about the General Contractor for the build and it was explained that the families are the general contractors; we only provide technical assistance.
- WIOA – WIOA is ending December 31, 2022.

4) New Business

- a) Head Start Self-Assessment Plan—*action item, Chris Henager*
Chris explained the Self Assessment Plan process. There are 7 different committees that contribute to the plan. Board approval is needed to proceed with the process. Dwayne made a motion to approve the timeline. Rusty seconded it. No discussion. Motion passed.
- b) Head Start School Readiness Plan—*action item, Chris Henager*
Chris explained the School Readiness Plan process and content of the Plan. It’s a pretty in-depth document. The two part of it are the Actual Readiness Plan and an Outcome Summary. The first checkpoint is done in the Fall. It showed an extremely low level of social and emotional development in the 3-4 and 4-5 year olds. This is due to the COVID pandemic during which the children had no interaction with others. Additional training will be

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provided to the teachers and the parents to help with this. The literacy and cognitive scores are also low. HS is working in conjunction with both school districts to get these scores higher. Kevin stated that it was probably not just our program's problem; it was happening everywhere. Chris explained that it was happening everywhere. Chris pointed out that there is not a lot of mental health resources for the children, resulting in a domino effect and that people are leaving the early childhood education profession so qualified teachers can't be found.

Rusy made a motion to approve the document for signature. Ryan seconded it. Motion passed.

- c) Head Start Universal Preschool Plan—*informational, Chris Henager*
The UPK has been approved in Colorado. It will be launched in the 23-24 school year. This replaces CPP (for 3-5 year olds). UPK is for children getting ready to enter kindergarten. There are 3 levels; 10 hours per week, 15 hours per week, and 30 hours per week. It will fund a limited number of 3 year olds but only for 10 hours per week. ECHO is the Local Coordinating Agency for UPK. There is a general agreement in place with ECHO that has already been signed by Heather. Kevin made a motion to approve the plan; Dwayne seconded it. Motion passed.
- d) AAA SUA Technical Guidance and Support—*informational, Tom McConaghy*
Tom met with Karen Kline in Leadville on November 3rd and 4th. The #'s for the health programs far exceed any others in the State. Tom will work on getting health programs running again in Custer and Fremont counties. The nutrition program did well. The documentation kept by the nutrition program well exceeded the State's expectations. Areas of concern were the temps on the home delivered meals. (This is a statewide problem). They have corrected the process to take the temps at the last delivery instead of back at the center. Another area of concern was provider evaluations not being available. They were done; the forms were misplaced. Wet Mountain Valley Rotary has had an extremely high turnover and they haven't been following the contract with us. A response to the monitoring is due by the 13th of January.
- e) 2022 Meeting Dates – *consensus*
All the dates are wrong on the list. The dates are the 4th Wednesday of even months. CML is in June; CCI is in December. Those dates will move to the 3rd Wednesdays. Heather will correct the dates and send out a new calendar list. Buck made a motion to approve the meeting dates with the verbal changes. Dwayne seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- f) Hidden Benefit: TBD—*informational, Area Agency on Aging*
Tom spoke about a client that has serious health issues; lost his partner in the last year; has struggled with housing; hard to place. Matt Gower has worked with him extensively. The client became homeless with no where to go. Matt was able to get him into Genesis in Pueblo, on a temporary basis; hopefully, long term. Our AAA is keeping him as a client rather than passing him off to Pueblo.

5) Old Business

- a) DOLA TA Mini-Grant
We asked for \$80,000; got \$65,000. It has been allocated for 3 projects in each county. There is a \$20,000 cap on the projects and the grant amount will still only be \$5,000. End of contract is October 31, 2024. Approvals are done by the UAACOG Board after DOLA has approved them.
- b) Regional Grants Navigator Specialist position
This was moved to Executive Session

6) Director's Report General Information – written report included in the packet

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Heather recapped her submitted report. Updated that a UAADC loan officer/program manager has been hired and will begin January 9, 2023. As far as program staff recognition, everyone deserves recognition for 2022.

7) County/Community Reports

- a) Custer County – Kevin Day
 - Bailer is having issues with the recycling program.
 - Grant for sidewalk at County buildings has been received.
 - Lawsuit has been settled; was in regards to the newspaper of record for Custer County
- b) Westcliffe/Silver Cliff – Buck Wenzel
 - Museum rehab is inching forward; should be open by Memorial Day
 - State drainage work has been postponed until Spring, along with the Highway 96 project
 - Going through another round of grant processes for the park
 - Hope to be able to resurface all the streets
- c) Florence/Cañon City – Ryan Stevens
 - New Public Works Director. Leo Evans, has been hired.
 - The Love’s site is moving along
 - The Holiday Motel is going through asbestos abatement before demolition
 - The Skyline Steel building is also getting ready to be torn down
- d) Lake County – Jeff Fiedler – not in attendance
- e) Leadville – Greg Labbe – not in attendance
- f) Chaffee County – Rusty Granzella
 - Thanked everyone for the hard work he’s seen over the last 4 years
 - Will turn his place over to PT Wood next meeting
 - PT looks forward to working with every one
- g) Buena Vista – Devin Rowe – not in attendance
- h) Fremont County – Dwayne McFall
 - County Manager has been narrowed down to two candidates.
 - Received a broadband grant and will do a broadband study for the unincorporated portions of the County
 - Working on spending the ARPA funds received and are trying to keep the County buildings up to date and in good repair

Buck called for the Executive Session - Under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402 (4) (f) (I)& (II) for discussion of a personnel matter and the Regional Grants Navigator Specialist position not involving: any specific employees who have requested discussion of the matter in open session; any member of this body or any elected official; the appointment of any person to fill an office of this body or of an elected official; or personnel policies that do not require the discussion of matters personal to particular employees;

Upon conclusion of the Executive Session request / ensure the recording of the Executive Session be safeguarded and retained for a period of 90-days following the Executive Session

Adjourn the Board meeting