



ASSOCIATED GOVERNMENTS
OF NORTHWEST COLORADO

MINUTES
AGNC EDD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
May 25, 2022

ZOOM: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2510562431> **Password:** 2462

PHONE: +1 (669) 900-6833 **Meeting ID:** 251 056 2431 **Password:** 2462

Call to order 10:48am

Approval of Minutes – Cody Davis made a motion to approve the February 2022 minutes. Tony Bohrer seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously.

Review of Coal Innovation Study and NW Regional Economic Playbook – Jeremiah Riley, Joshua Riley, Dr. Nathan Perry – Jeremiah introduced the project and provided an overview. They began the process a few years back to find innovative uses for coal. An EDA grant helped fund the project. The work product of the project is the Colorado and Utah playbooks, and the DIER. Playbooks are distilled from the DIER. These can be cited for grants in the future. Joshua presented an overview on the findings of the project. DIER is in 6 chapters including challenges and economic trends surrounding coal. Three counties in Utah, and three in Colorado participated in the study. 3rd chapter talks about infrastructure and resources. 4th chapter talks about coal innovation, materials that can be made from coal, coal use in different types of products, coal to products feed stock, resources for coal to product advancement, 5th chapter talks about innovation, focused on coal and general innovations in the playbooks for the regions. 5 program priorities were discussed. Playbooks provide program implementation strategies, funding sources (grants, etc.), steps to general and coal innovation. Foreign partnerships may be needed to invest in coal innovation. A question was posed about whether the study looked at the byproduct of coal mining and how to include in the report that a plant could be built in our area for this use. Jeremiah talked about coal slag and how it is addressed in the report. Feed stock can be by products. The report is complete at this point but does include some information about these by products. Joshua says that the DIER speaks to this as well, including extracting rare earth elements from coal ash. Dr. Perry spoke about the fact that this report could be mined for grants for several years to come. History of the economy was discussed and what will happen as coal is retired. He talked about using the data to drive ideas for how to implement potential solutions for the coal industry, but other economic development as well. It is his hope that it will be used to facilitate solutions in the region, based on data. Mike Samson asked if they have been in contact with Sen Bennet's office and the bill that he just introduced. Matt Kireker talked about how the bill can help support the innovations that will come out of this study. Dr. Perry said he is a resource for data if needed. The point of the study is to measure the impacts and provide possible solutions. Tiffany Pehl encouraged the different entities to use the playbooks and DIERS to help in their communities. Mike Samson encouraged Moffat County to use these resources. Drew Kramer from Tri-State spoke about their work with CORE-CM at the University of Wyoming and their project. He asked if that effort could be coordinated with this project. Davin Bagdonas from

University of Wyoming spoke, he is the project lead for the project there. He said they will take the Coal Innovation as a guide for all the things they are working on as well and are excited for the documents. Dr. Perry talked about how this report is very complimentary to these types of projects.

Report on EDD Activities – Tiffany Pehl – Introduced Jeff Tripp as our new ED Coordinator, replacing Karl Paulson. His position is funded by the cares act grant. Grant was extended through the end of this year. Remote work program – did the kickoff in January, yet to see it take off. Had our first CEDS committee meeting and will work on getting the program to take off hopefully. CEDS meeting will take place more regularly every other month. Committee looked at the ED Summit on August 25 at Ute Theater in Rifle. Agenda was briefly discussed for the summit and speakers lined up so far. Tiffany asked for ideas for a keynote speaker. EDD Membership program was discussed and those who have joined so far. ERRTF was discussed, including those seven projects submitted by Sen Roberts, but none were funded. There may be another opportunity, but we haven't heard from him about that yet. A grant application is in the works with CNCC for their aviation program. They are asking for funding from EDA coal impacted communities' grant. Coal to Products study has ended with all grant fundings ending on March 31st.

New Business: *Next meeting will be August 17, 2022, at Garfield County Administration Building Community Room, 195 W. 14th Street, Rifle, CO 81650.*

Meeting adjourned – 11:25am

Attendance:

IN PERSON	VIA ZOOM
Cheryl Meier	Christelle Khalaf
Jeff Tripp	Ashley Pynes
Bill Carlson	Heather Jones
Alden Vanden Brink	Johnny McFarland
Larry Elarton	Brandon Bainer (Kacie Sallee)
Richard Blakely	Shannon Scott
Tim Webber	Helen Katich – Senator Hickenlooper
Lisa Piering	Jeff Engell – Director SBDC Mesa
Jeannie Caldwell	Melonie Matarozzo
McKenzie Webber	Betsy Bair
Keely Ellis	Charles Nye
Cody Davis	Drew Kramer
Tony Bohrer	Davin Bagdonas
Ginny Love	John Bristol - Routt County EDP
Dianna Orf	Jeremiah Riley
Richard Orf	Joshua Riley
Mike Samson	Anna Stout – Mayor Grand Junction
Tiffany Pehl	Joel Riggins – Deserado Mine
Toni Barrett	
Lisa Jones	
Matt Kireker	
McKenna Farley	
Nathan Perry	

