



ASSOCIATED GOVERNMENTS  
OF NORTHWEST COLORADO

**MINUTES**

**AGNC EDD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**November 20, 2024**

**Garfield County Administration Building, 195 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Rifle CO 81650**

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

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

Called to order - 10:15am

**Approval of Minutes** – the draft minutes from the May EDD meeting were inadvertently left out of the board packet. Therefore, minutes will be approved at the next meeting in February, 2025.

**NCEI Update - Matt Solomon** reported that there are several grants in the works and funding that is coming in soon to continue the work. Mike Samson commented that Matt is doing a great job and that the more he speaks with people in the area there is more interest in what NCEI is doing and interest in nuclear energy. Matt commented that our survey results are being used in several articles and reports throughout the region. Chris Nichols said that Matt was listed as a cohort for the closing of the Craig Station, and Tiffany clarified that it was likely for an interagency grant that he is working on.

**EDD Update – Mistalynn Meyeraan** shared a report that she prepared and is included in these minutes. She spoke about mental health needs that need to be addressed due to the coal transition. She said they have met with Jennifer Pieroni and are looking at a grant to help address this need. Jennifer said they had a cluster of suicides in the fall in Yampa Valley and there is a lack of resources and providers in the area. She said there is a grant put out by the state AG for youth, and they have been asked to apply as a region. She said the funding would come from the JUUL settlement. She said they would like to have a steering committee to move forward. She said that they need some help to move the grant forward for the region. Mistalynn presented the grant and asked that AGNC take the lead to apply for the grant. Jeff Comstock asked who would receive the money, and Mistalynn said that it would go to the providers and AGNC would be the umbrella organization to administer the grant. Jeff asked if there was a match requirement, and Mistalynn said there was none. Mistalynn said this is not the only grant and that she would like to seek other grants for adult mental health as well. Cody Davis suggested that we could include Mesa County to qualify for more funding due to the increased number of students. Chris Nichols said he sees a need in adults and a grant for that needs to be looked at too. Tiffany said the youth grant is available now for us to apply for, and then we can look for adult funding as well. A motion to approve the grant application was made by Chris

Nichols, seconded by Doug Overton, and the motion passed unanimously. Mistalynn spoke about the CEDS meetings which will take place after the AGNC board meetings that include EDD. She asked all interested to attend the meeting. She said the CEDS implementation grant was received. She said that she is seeing improvement in the implementation of DOLA grants. She reported on several grants that have been applied for and are awaiting approvals.

Mistalynn then turned time over to Dallas Blaney to speak about the Direct Pay program. Dallas reported that he is with the Office of Federal Funds and Strategic Initiatives. He spoke about the services they provide including technical assistance and matching funds. He said that they do not provide tax advice. He said that Direct Pay is part of the Inflation Reduction Act. He said that it provides eligible tax-exempt organizations cash payment from the IRS for clean energy investments. He spoke about 3 popular tax credits including alternative fuel refueling property, qualified commercial vehicles, and energy investment tax credit. Cody Davis asked if these credits apply to biogas and Dallas said he would investigate it. He said the most used credit is the energy investment tax credit with can include rooftop solar on government buildings, wind power, geothermal HVAC, and is a one-time payment. He said the maximum potential is 70% of the project for this tax credit. He spoke about the program features which include that tax credits can be combined with other funding sources, including grants and donations, up to 100% of project cost, and that there is no cap on funding and direct pay funding is not competitive. He presented a hypothetical example of a project that could be used for the direct pay program. He presented helpful direct pay resources, which will be sent out to the members once his slide deck is shared with AGNC.

**Enterprise Zone - Tiffany Dickenson** gave an overview of the program and said that there will be a boundary amendment taking place next year. She said there will be public comment available for the redistricting. She presented the different business tax credits that are available within the zone. She then spoke about the contribution projects within the enterprise zone and requirements for those projects. She spoke about the application process for contribution projects. She presented all the contribution projects currently operating. She spoke about the fees that are charged by AGNC for administering in the zone. She presented the 2026 boundary redesignation map. She presented the current map compared to the proposed map. She pointed out that Garfield County is losing a lot of area in the enterprise zone. She also said that Moffat, Routt and Rio Blanco will be enhanced rural enterprise zones based on SB24-190 which qualifies these counties due to their designation as rural tier one coal transition counties. She spoke about enhanced rural enterprise zones (EREZ), which are redesignated every 2 years, which increases the enhanced job creation credit and the agricultural processing credit. She presented the timeline for the redesignation, including community outreach, which will most likely begin early next year. Questions were asked about how many projects are in the various counties, and it was discussed that Routt County has most of the projects. Mike Samson suggested that we find a way to market the program to the other counties.

Next EDD meeting February 19, 2025 in Rifle.

Meeting adjourned – 11:11am

**Attendance:**

<b>IN PERSON</b>	<b>VIA ZOOM</b>
Keith Caddy	Matt Solomon
Grady Hazelton	Jeff Engell – CSU Extension
Stan Harbaugh	Sarah Carlisle
William Dearing	Shannon Scott
Ray Beck	Kami Collins
Chris Nichols	Heather Jones – Region 11 AAA
Doug Overton	Jennifer Pieroni
Lori Malsbury	Lindy Browning
Alicia Gresley	Betsy Bair
Richard Orf	Dallas Blaney
Ted Orf	Teri Cavanagh
Dianna Orf	Ashely Dishman – SBDC
Lisa Piering	Drew Kramer – Tri-State G&T
Vinnie Tomasulo	Kait Schwartz
Morgan Vankat	David Thurow – Prosono
Mike Samson	Margaret Dioguardi
Cody Davis	Richard Orf
Jeff Comstock	Tinker Duclo
Michael Clancy	970-260-3753
Andrea Styles Pullas	
Kylie Wetnight	
Tiffany Dickenson	
Perry Will	
Mistalynn Meyeraan	
Toni Barrett	