



ASSOCIATED GOVERNMENTS
OF NORTHWEST COLORADO

MINUTES

AGNC EDD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

May 15, 2024

Garfield County Administration Building, 195 W. 14th 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

Call to order 10:22am

Approval of Minutes – Mike Samson made a motion to approve the February 21, 2024 minutes, Doug Overton seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Regional Economic Update – Dr. Nathan Perry presented an economic update for the region via Zoom. He presented population estimates by county. He spoke about the reasons for expected growth or decrease including birth and migration. He showed that Garfield, Mesa, and Routt counties are projected to increase in population, and Rio Blanco and Moffat are projected to decrease. He presented on the GDP for the Western Slope as of 2022. Routt, Moffat, Delta, and Montrose counties all had increases with Rio Blanco and Garfield counties showing a decrease, and Mesa County was nearly the same with a 0.1% increase. He went over the data for each individual county, including GDP, employment, jobs, jobs by industry, median household income, and poverty. He presented a slide on oil and gas prices, Mesa/Garfield oil and gas jobs/wages, oil and gas permits compared to jobs, and the western slope vs. Colorado permits. He presented a slide on NW Colorado mine jobs. Tony Bohrer asked about the jobs in Routt County versus where the workers live in Moffat County. Dr. Perry said that the jobs are listed in Routt County even though the workers may not live there. Tony asked if he really feels the population will decrease given the housing shortages. Dr. Perry said population forecasting data comes from the state and that there are trends that are nearly impossible to forecast. He said that he thinks the migration can be reversed in the region with the right momentum.

EDD Update – Mistalynn Meyeraan presented her update including the annual report she has prepared for the EDA. She presented her report including the CEDS strategy, budget, and the 4 priorities. She spoke about regional economic development and planning, including accomplishments achieved, which include CSBR and Road Trip with focus on the Trapper Industrial Park. She spoke about the difficulties encountered including the accelerated closure of the coal plants. She also spoke about the regional grant navigator program with 7 grants requested to date, and award amounts of over \$1.2 million to date. She shared the pipeline document that she uses to track all the grants, including amounts requested and amounts awarded. She spoke about the capacity difficulties encountered when applying for grants. She

spoke about the enterprise zone tax credits and contribution projects. She spoke about the NCEI organization being a notable accomplishment for the AGNC EDD. She talked about the work that has been done by NCEI to date including the Nuclear Now showings and the grants awarded to the NCEI. Cody Davis and Mike Samson asked for copies of the annual report. Mistalynn spoke about combining the CEDS committee meeting with the EDD meetings that are held quarterly to better engage the board. Cody thought there would be better participation, if we moved the EDD portion of the meeting to the end of the meeting time. There were no objections to structuring the EDD meeting in this way. She spoke about the first goal for the next meeting being Robust Economy.

Next EDD meeting November 20, 2024 in Rifle.

Meeting adjourned – 11:11am

Attendance:

IN PERSON	VIA ZOOM
William Dearing	Jeff Comstock
Matt Solomon	Ray Beck
Heather Jones	Sasha Nelson
Grady Hazelton	Sarah Carlisle
Mike Samson	Jennifer Pieroni
Lori Malsbury	Alicia Gresley
Brandon Bainer	Anna Stout
Perry Will	Betsy Bair
Chris Nichols	John Bristol
Travis Day	Christina Oxley
Tony Bohrer	Raven Finegan
Lisa Piering	Corey Bryndal
Richard Orf	Erin McCuskey
Dianna Orf	Jeff Engell
Ted Orf	Nathan Perry
Tinker Duclo	Merrit Linke
Tiffany Dickenson	Jeff Hurd
Cody Davis	
Dana Hlavac	
Mistalynn Meyeraan	
Toni Barrett	