



MINUTES
AGNC BOARD OF DIRECTORS & MEMBER MEETING
September 18, 2024
9:00 am to 1:30 pm
Community Hospital,
2351 G Road, Grand Junction, CO 81505

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

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

Pledge of allegiance

Call to order – Chairman Cody Davis called the meeting to order at 9:02am. Introductions were made.

Approval of minutes – Chris Nichols made a motion to approve the July 17, 2024, meeting minutes; Doug Overton seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

Financial report – Tiffany Dickenson presented the July and August 2024 financial reports. The August P&L was reviewed including the Contribution Project admin fees above budgeted amount. The balance sheet for August was reviewed including AAA which is paid out monthly. Accounts Receivable was reviewed including past due amount from Jackson County, new NCEI grant from ECA, and the RCEDP amount is billed out, but they have until the end of the year to pay this amount per the agreement. The check register was reviewed including the amount paid to AGNC from NCEI for the marketing and website work; large checks paid to AAA; amount paid to JOLT for next years summit on behalf of NCEI; and everything else was normal. Cody Davis asked about the payment from NCEI, and Matt Solomon said it is for marketing from the first grant they received. A motion to approve the financial reports was made by Chris Nichols, seconded by Doug Overton, and the motion passed unanimously.

2023 AGNC Audit Report – Paul Miller presented the 2023 Audit report. He said that as a small organization AGNC has internal controls and the board is important. He said the board needs to ask questions when needed to help the auditor and entity head off mistakes. He talked about the auditor’s report and said he did not find anything that would be misleading. He said that since there are federal funds the report is a bit longer. He spoke about the report showing the differences between 2022 and 2023. He spoke about the balance sheet and how they may look different from the monthly reports due to federal reporting requirements. He spoke about the large payments to AAA. He spoke about the expenses and revenues with a \$54K increase in net position. He spoke about the general fund versus the government funds. He presented the notes on financials and encouraged everyone to review that. He said the budget to actual is the meat of the audit. He said that the budget is important and that it is also important to understand why there may be differences in the expenditures and the budget. He said this is one of the most important statements for the board to review monthly. He said that AGNC is doing a good job budgeting. He then spoke about the single audit reports as required for the federal funds. He said that one of the main compliance requirements is the monitoring of the AAA funds, which is done by Mesa County. He asked if there were any questions. Tiffany Dickenson said that the audit that was printed out in July has been revised in order to correctly reflect the amount of funds expended to

related family members. Cody Davis asked what the process of approving the audit is. Paul said once the board approves it, it then goes to a clearinghouse. A motion to approve the 2023 Audit was made by Doug Overton, seconded by Jeff Comstock, and the motion passed unanimously.

Project and Committee Reports:

Area Agency on Aging – Heather Jones, NW CO AAoA Director, presented the AAA updates. She said they applied for CDS funding, and they were denied, and she said this is the first time they have been denied this funding. She said they will try again. She reported that the House proposed cuts were presented at the federal level, and she reached out to AGNC to write a letter to oppose these cuts. She said they will continue to monitor this since the Senate did not propose any cuts. She reported that there will be a Western Colorado Candidate Forum on Aging-Action Network on September 25th. She reported that there will be a visit on October 4th from the Administration on Community Living. She said that one of their contractors, A Little Help, will not be contracting with the AAA this fiscal year. She said they had not reallocated those funds yet. She reported that she is beginning to schedule visits with contracted providers. She said that in the process of reviewing the database she found that there were two providers that provided services to ineligible individuals. She said they have received payment from those providers to reimburse the overpayments. She said that she now has checks and balance procedures to prevent this from happening in the future. She reported that they have been granted an extension on spending the AAA ARPA Public Health Funds, which were originally set to expire on 9/30/24. She said AAA is requesting an extension to renew these funds with Northwest Colorado Health and the Senor Social Center until 6/30/25. She said these funds must be used specifically to help with the public health force. A motion to approve these funds was made by Doug Overton, seconded by Chris Nichols, and the motion passed unanimously. Heather reported that they have closed out the 2024 fiscal year and gave a report on the LTC Ombudsman program. Details can be found in Heather's report. She presented the SFY24 Annual Report including nutrition, supportive services, wellness, legal, caregiver respite and state health insurance assistance program. The details can be found in her report. Cody Davis asked about the reasons for the increase in complaints to the ombudsman. Heather said they may be getting a more accurate count from the new reporting system, as well as post-pandemic adjustments. Heather's report is attached as Appendix A.

Workforce Update - Carolyn Tucker presented a workforce update including July unemployment numbers for the AGNC region. She said they have gone up slightly from July 2023 to a healthy unemployment rate. She spoke about stresses on the workforce, which have not changed since the pandemic including housing prices, childcare, transportation, job choices, skills deficit, inflation and the great reckoning. She spoke about the long-term demographic trends affecting the workforce, and that they will remain for some time. She presented workforce development activities including industry focus groups and upskilling current employees, which include apprenticeships, industry certifications, higher education training, and talent pipeline development. She spoke about the workforce enters in the AGNC region as well as the staff available at these centers. She said if anyone has any questions to reach out to her.

Legislative Update – Richard Orf presented a legislative update. He spoke about the special session and the enacting of HP24B-1001, a compromise bill that achieved some limited property tax relief for both homeowners and businesses. He said interim committee bills have begun and preparation for the November election. He spoke about interim committees including water and agriculture resources, transportation legislation review, and wildfire matters. He reviewed referred measures including amendments and propositions. He spoke about another possible PFAS bill. He said that it is going to be a big year. He said the biggest issue may be that the legislature is out of money. His full report is attached. Don Coram asked about the mining cleanup bill and Richard said they are working on it, and Don said they are concerned about some of the requirements in the bill. Don said he would like to discuss his concerns more with Richard. Jeff Comstock asked Richard's take on the

office of just transition and whether they will continue to be funded or defunded. Richard said that it is speculation, but that defunding that program would be a tragedy. He said there have been some concerns about how well that program has used their funding and there may be more questions coming up about continuing to fund the program. Tom Rugaard asked about Tabor and the sliding scale. Richard said there is backfill from the state for K-12, but there is not backfill for other special districts, and they are going to get hit. Alicia Gresley asked about the new initiative on the ballot for K-12 and Richard said it protects public choice for charter schools, and it may have impacts on K-12 budgets. He said there should be more information coming out of the blue book. Richard's report is attached as Appendix B.

NCEI Update - Matt Solomon presented an update on NCEI. He said that the 2nd survey is out with today being the last day to complete the survey. He said the first meeting with Rio Blanco County is next week, and they are finalizing meetings for other communities in the region. He said there will be 3 work sessions with each community. He said that he is in Denver and will tour NREL this week. He said that we have received 3 grants so far, and that they work together for the efforts of NCEI. He presented the OCED grant and asked for approval to seek this grant. He said that this grant will require a 5% match. Cody asked what the ask and what the share would be. Matt said it would be a multi-state cooperative and that Wyoming may be able to contribute to the match. Matt said it's not open yet, but they will be notified when it is. Matt asked for the representatives in the room to contact him to set up the work sessions.

Farm to Power - Don Coram with Farm to Power gave a PowerPoint presentation. He commended Mesa County for the opposition of the Dolores Canyon national monument. Cody Davis said they are meeting with Senators tomorrow to see if there may be a different route forward to achieve the same goals. Don said he has been in the mining industry for about 25 years. He said that Farm to Power is a 501(c)(3) nonpartisan advocacy platform. He said the group aims to develop a coalition of farmers, ranchers and community stakeholders with agricultural backgrounds. He spoke about the program goals and strategies. He spoke about their staff. He presented testimonial spotlights from farmers in Kansas and Colorado. He spoke about how wind and solar are the other cash crops for farmers and their land. He said the best approach is to be part of the transition. He spoke about agrivoltaics and dual land use. He said there are some additional costs for the agrivoltaics panels, but that it is worth the increase in cost to be able to use the land for dual purposes. He spoke about the costs of agrivoltaics and how it compares to using the land without it. Cody spoke about the agritourism program they have started in Mesa County, to make small family-owned farms more viable. Mistalynn Meyeraan spoke about a new grant she found and would like to send to Farm to Power and Don said that she can send it to him.

Mobility Presentation - Tim Jackson, author of "Dude, Where's My Flying Car?" gave a PowerPoint presentation. Tim said that AGNC is well represented by the Orfs. He spoke about the early forms of transportation including cycles, motorcycles, planes and cars. He spoke about the automotive industry being responsible for ozone pollution but has worked hard to reduce emissions. He said that the automotive industry is ahead of aviation in reducing emissions. He said that new cars are virtually emissions free. He said that eVTOLs will be all electric and that this will be aviation's way of reducing GHG emissions. He said they can't electrify large aircraft, but they can electrify small aircraft. He spoke about traffic fatalities in the last ten years versus commercial aircraft fatalities. He spoke about traffic congestion and the trend to build more traffic lanes. He said that they can only build so many more lanes. He spoke about his book and how well it has sold on Amazon. He talked about VTOLs, which is the technical term for flying cars. He said that helicopters and drones are VTOLs. He said it stands for Vertical Take Off & Landing. He said that vertiports and heliports are basically the same thing. He spoke about drone delivery services and drone light shows. He spoke about flying taxis and that they may operate in the next few years. He said that Boeing has a model that will be autonomous. He said that he has moved from a skeptic to a believer when it comes to eVOTLs. He said that start-ups are being energized from three primary categories: aircraft manufacturers, major airlines, and automakers. He spoke about vertiports and what they will look like. He said there will be air taxis and personal vehicles. He reviewed the different flying cars currently taking pre-orders. He spoke about urban air mobility with services

currently being planned for Houston and San Francisco. He then reviewed the other companies working on eVTOLs. He spoke about the range technology which is about 100 miles currently. He said that one company is reporting a range of 260 miles. He also said another company is claiming up to 500 miles using hydrogen fuel cells. Alicia Gresley asked about the possibility of implementing air mobility in rural areas for commuters that live 2 to 3 hours from their jobs. He said he thinks it is one area where they could make an impact.

Proposed Opposition to Mountain Lion Hunting Ban - Cody Davis spoke about the proposed resolution to oppose proposition 127 which seeks to prohibit the hunting of mountain lions, bobcats and lynx across the state. Tony Bohrer spoke about the importance of as many counties as possible to oppose the proposition. Doug Overton spoke about how CPW does a good job managing wildlife and that ballot initiatives are a hinderance to their efforts. Cody Davis said that Mesa County is working on a release in opposition and suggested a joint press release on October 8th to announce all the resolutions in opposition. He said the main objection is that it removes the ability for CPW to do their best work in managing wildlife. Jeff Comstock also said that he thinks the main issue is leaving the management of the animals to CPW. Sarah Carlisle said that she would be happy to do more coordination statewide with the organizations to release the oppositions. Betsy Bair suggested that the joint press release should happen in Denver so that we aren't all just preaching to the choir on the Western Slope. Cody suggested some form of subcommittee to organize the release of the oppositions. A motion to approve a resolution to oppose proposition 127 was made by Chris Nichols, seconded by Doug Overton, and the motion passed unanimously. Tiffany Dickenson also asked if we could get more information out as an education piece so that voters understand the issues.

Economic Development Update - Mistalynn Meyeraan gave an economic development district update. She reported on the grant navigator position. She reported that OJT has a grant assistance program, and she did an application for Rio Blanco County and the Wolf Creek Reservoir project. She said they were approved within one day with OJT. She said this will help them get assistance applying for a large grant. She reported that she is working with the Clifton Water District and has submitted a grant application for them. She said that she is working with Mesa County for a RAISE grant and will be applying in 2025. She asked Alicia Gresley to report on a grant that AGNC helped them apply for through the Colorado Energy Office, which they were awarded. Alicia said they were selected and received \$240K over three years. She said they will utilize the grant to analyze the data in Western Garfield County and help them in this work. Mistalynn reported that the CEDS Implementation Grant is finally being awarded and we should receive the funding soon. Tiffany Dickenson reported that the state will be more stringent in their reporting requirements. Mistalynn said we will be able to begin more work on the website because of this grant. She reported that AGNC has written 15 letters of support recently. She said the next CEDS committee meeting is coming up and encouraged anyone interested to attend. She reported on our continuing work with the Enterprise Zone. She said we currently have 3 new contribution project applications in the works. She reported on the ED Summit that was held in August, including the Business Toolkit that was launched on the AGNC website at the summit. She said that next year's Economic Development Summit will be on August 26th in Rifle. Mistalynn spoke about the AGNC strategic planning proposal. She said they released an RFP and received one response from Prosono. She briefly went over the proposal and reviewed the project phases which will total \$50,280. A motion to approve award of the RFP to Prosono was made by Doug Overton, seconded by Chris Nichols, and the motion passed unanimously. Mistalynn's report is attached as Appendix C.

Federal Delegate Update –

Hilary Henry with Sen. Bennet's Office gave an update. She reported that Sen. Bennet released a list of protections that he would like to see for Dolores Canyon. She said they are having conversations with Mesa and Montrose counties. She said they are open to feedback to what should be in the legislation and that specific information about resources would be most helpful. She said that the funding is now getting pushed out for the

IJA and IRA programs. She said they are always happy to write a letter of support and can help with other grant questions as well. She said they are introducing funding for energy transition workers. She reported that Sen Bennet led the letter saying that TABOR refunds should not be taxed.

Administrative Update – Tiffany Dickenson gave an administrative update. She reported that we were asked to provide a letter for AAA opposing federal budget cuts. A motion to approve the letter was made by Doug Overton, seconded by Stan Harbaugh, and the motion passed unanimously. She reported that we were contacted at the last minute from Habitat for Humanity to be the lead applicant to a grant. She said that we applied with the understanding that it would need to be board approved, however, the grant was not awarded so no approval will be necessary. She reported that we will be attending an EZ meeting in Alamosa in October and that zone redesignation will be discussed at the meeting. She said that the redesignation will take place in 2026. She said that the EDCC meeting will be in Beaver Creek the week after the EZ meeting. She reported that she applied for the LPR program and was not selected. She reported that Paul Miller has been the auditor for AGNC for about 10 years and will be retiring soon and asked if we should put out an RFP for a new auditor. No one opposed this, but Chris Nichols said that startup costs for new auditors may be more expensive, but that is just an upfront cost. She reported that two families have sent a letter requesting the wolf management be taken over by US Fish and Wildlife and she asked if AGNC should take the same position. She said that with the concerns of how CPW has managed the process so far it may be warranted. Jeff Comstock said he thinks it is highly unlikely that US Fish and Wildlife would take this on. He suggested there be more research before making a similar request. Betsy Bair said that she thinks that if we are saying that CPW should be the best agency to manage mountain lions that we should not ask that the wolf management be transferred away from CPW. Doug Overton said he thinks it just isn't the right time to ask for a change. Jeff said he thinks a better position would be to ask the state to pause further reintroductions until they can manage what they already have.

Heather Jones with AAA reported that the budget she presented earlier in the meeting was slightly off by \$29.35, so she asked for a vote on the revised budget. A motion to approve the revised AAA ARPA budget was made by Chris Nichols, seconded by Doug Overton, and the motion passed unanimously.

DOLA - Dana Hlavac reported on awarded projects for waterline projects in the area, some housing projects, and a new program for existing mobile home parks for improvements.

Tri-State - Sarah Carlisle proved an update and she reported that they released an RFP for new projects for a new plant in Moffat County which will include carbon capture and sequestration. She said they will file their preferred plan with PUC next spring. She said they will have a better idea for planned resources as a result. She said they were announced as finalists for a new grant.

**New Business – Next meeting October 23, 2024, Garfield County Administration Building,
2nd Floor Meeting Room, 195 W. 14th Street, Rifle, CO 81650**

Adjournment – meeting was adjourned at 1:27 pm.

Attendance:

IN PERSON	VIA ZOOM
Sarah Carlisle	Lisa Piering
Paul Miller	Carolyn Tucker – CDLE
Edward Smercina	Matt Solomon
Bobbie Daniel	Ray Beck
Cody Kennedy	Lori Malsbury, Town of Silt
Jeff Comstock	Tracy – CRWC
Chris Nichols	Dave Reynolds
Cody Davis	Jeannie Caldwell
Doug Overton	Ashley Dishman
Tiffany Dickenson	Jeff Engell – CSU Extension
Stan Harbaugh	Drew Kramer, Tri-State G&T
Richard Orf	Evan Zislis
Heather Jones	Margie Joy CHFA-Colorado
William Dearing	McKenna Farley (Rep. Boebert)
Mistalynn Meyeraan	Hilary Henry – Bennet
Toni Barrett	
DeeJay Dickenson	
Don Coram	
Tim Jackson	
Betsy Bair	
Tom Rugaard	

APPENDIX A



Updates from AAA 09/18/2024:

- **The AAA found out at the beginning of August that we did not receive any federal Congressionally Directed Spending for federal fiscal year 2025. No AAAs from Colorado received any funding. This was the first time Colorado AAAs put in a request for this type of funding.**
- **The House Appropriations Labor-HHS Subcommittee released the FY 2025 appropriations report on their proposed spending bill. The House bill proposed significant cuts to congregate meals (\$22 million decrease) and home-delivered meals (\$15 million decrease) nutrition programs. The Senate Appropriations Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-HHS) Subcommittee released the FY 2025 appropriations report with the funding numbers for all Older Americans Act (OAA) programs. The Senate did not propose any funding cuts to OAA programs, with most programs mirroring FY 2024 funding levels. AGNC sent a letter to our senators and representative at the federal level asking them not to cut funding. With the final budget for FY 2025 not yet approved, the AAA will keep watch on what is happening at the federal level.**
- **AARP Colorado, Bell Policy Center, Colorado Alliance for Retired Americans, Colorado Center for Aging, Colorado Commission on Aging, Encore Roadmap and several other organizations are sponsoring a “Western Colorado Candidate Forum on Aging-Action Network” on Wednesday, September 25, 2024, from 11am-12:30pm online. All candidates have been invited to the forum. I can forward the information out to anyone who might be interested.**
- **The Administration on Community Living will visit the AAA on Friday, October 4th. They will also be meeting with Colorado Legal Services, Hilltop ADRC and the LTC Ombudsman program. They may visit with others as well.**
- **A Little Help will not be contracting with the AAA this fiscal year. They just have not seen enough volunteers to help their transportation program. The \$1500 that was allocated to them will be reallocated when we receive the carryover funds. It looks like we will have about \$150,000+ in carryover funds. The AAA is hoping to receive notice of the carryover funds in October 2024.**
- **The AAA is starting to schedule visits with contracted providers for the required yearly monitoring visits. Additionally, the State Unit on Aging (SUA) is starting their monitoring visit with the AAA and some contracted providers.**

- While the AAA worked on cleaning up our database, I ran across another provider who provided services to ineligible individuals, Garfield County. Garfield County has already submitted repayment to the SUA in the amount of \$4,788.15.

- The federal government has granted the SUA a no-cost extension on spending theAAA ARPA Public Health funds. These funds were originally set to expire 9/30/2024.The AAA had \$45,019 not allocated as we only had two providers respond to our RFP.The AAA is requesting a extension to renew these funds with Northwest ColoradoHealth (\$3600) and the Senior Social Center (\$41,449.22) until 06/30/2025.

LTC Ombudsman July 2023- June 2024

- 426 Consults with Facilities (76% increase from SFY23)
- 587 Consults with Residents, Family or Community Members (19.6% increase fromSFY23)
- Attended 185 Resident Council Meetings (17.8% increase from SFY23)
- Completed 543 visits to assisted livings and/skilled nursing facilities (23.4% increasefrom SFY23)
- Received 234 new cases (72% increase from SFY23) with 570 complaints (139.5%increase from SFY23)
 - o1. Dignity & Respect
 - o2. Care
 - o3. Dietary

APPENDIX B



Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado (AGNC) Government Affairs Update September 18, 2024

The Special Session concluded its work August 29 after enacting HB 24B-1001, a compromise bill that achieved some limited property tax relief for both homeowners and businesses. Following its enactment, two ballot initiatives that threatened the General Fund fiscal stability were withdrawn from the November ballot. The bill's key provisions become effective of the next three property tax years. The bill cut assessment rates, capped revenue growth, and required state backfill for school districts. For property tax year 2025 only, the bill requires that the state reimburse lost revenue to local governments, other than school districts, for those that had a decrease in assessed value from 2024 to 2025 as a result of the bill. The fiscal impact on any particular taxpayer or local government is difficult to project, due to numerous uncertainties. For an analysis of the bill, see https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2024B/bills/fn/2024b_hb24b-1001_r2.pdf Once the Special Session adjourned, the legislators returned to their consideration of interim committee bills and preparation for the November election. There will be at least 28 new legislators following the election – new in the sense of some moving from the House to the Senate and some who have never before served under the Gold Dome. There could be even more new faces, if some legislators lose their races because in politics nothing is certain!

Each election cycle brings the potential for new leadership in each chamber including top officers selected by their peers and committee chairs appointed by their respective leadership. Appointments of committee members usually occur in December following new- legislator orientation, leadership elections, and a careful review of the relative numbers of each political caucus. Committee membership must reflect not only majority-minority ratios, the backgrounds and strengths of potential committee members, and must also consider the scheduling of each committee. Once introduced, bills are assigned to a “committee of reference” for initial hearings and votes, with additional committee assignments such as Finance or Appropriations, when necessary. When the respective chambers are not conducting floor work, six or seven committees may be meeting and considering bills simultaneously, so assigning members to committees is a bit like working a Rubik's cube. From AGNC's perspective, key committees to watch include Local Government and Transportation, Agriculture, Energy, and Finance.

Legislative Interim Committees

This week and next several interim committees will be considering drafts of legislation for the 2025 General Assembly that convenes January 8. Following are some of the drafts we are watching:

Water and Agricultural Resources Committee. The committee is reviewing 15 bills for potential sponsorship – only ten of which may move forward. Bills of particular interest to AGNC include:

- Revegetation standards in change of water right from irrigated ag to another use.
- Directing the State Land Board to protect historic ag and grazing uses in granting leases.
- Task force to study severance tax as water funding source.
- Exemption of agricultural buildings from collection and reporting of energy use data.

- Directing the Division of Water Resources to maintain a database of water rights offered for sale and purchased in Colorado.
- Exempting individuals engaged in the business of inspecting, testing, or repairing backflow prevention devices from licensure requirements but retains the licensure requirements for individuals engaged in the installation or removal of the devices.
- Establishing the access to veterinary care advisory group (advisory group) within the division of animal welfare in the department of agriculture.
- Requiring CPW to keep confidential the personal information of persons filing claims for compensation for wildlife damage and proactive non-lethal measures.

Transportation Legislation Review Committee (TLRC) The committee meets September 25 to consider six draft bills, of which the following may be of particular interest:

- Authorizing local government to generate fees from enterprises to support projects to protect vulnerable road users (road users not in vehicles).
- Reducing emissions from motor vehicles, including regulation of indirect sources (structures and facilities that result in increased traffic). Includes residential, industrial, roads and highways commercial development; medical facilities and educational institutions. Directed at Front Range non-attainment area but MAY INCLUDE the rest of the state per the AQCC determination.

Wildfire Matters Review. The committee will meet September 26 to vote on draft bills. Of particular interest:

- A bill that provides immunity from civil liability for damage or injury to persons or property, other than that which arises from gross negligence or willful misconduct, to a landowner who allows access to the landowner's property for entry and exit in connection with an emergency.
- Requiring the public utilities commission (commission) to adopt rules on or before March 1, 2026 establishing guidelines for investor-owned electric utilities to follow regarding their public safety power shutoff practices to mitigate the potential negative impacts of the practices. Municipally owned utilities and cooperative electric associations are encouraged to establish their own public safety power shutoff guidelines

Ballot Measures

Fourteen measures will appear on the November ballot, half of those are initiated by citizen petition and half referred by the legislature. Measures that would change statute are designated as Propositions, while Constitutional changes are Amendments. **Thanks to Marianne Goodland at Colorado Politics, here is an analysis of those topics.**

Referred Measures

Amendment G

This measure expands the eligibility for the homestead exemption — a property tax deduction — for veteran homeowners with a disability who are determined to be unemployable because of that disability and as determined by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Amendment H

This measure establishes an independent judicial discipline adjudicative board, set standards for judicial review of a discipline case, and clarify when discipline proceedings become public. The measure came out of calls in 2022 and 2023 for changes in the judicial discipline process after reports showed a substantial increase in the number of complaints about judges, most of which were dismissed by the state's judicial commission for lack of jurisdiction, as well as concerns about a lack of transparency around the judicial discipline process.

Amendment I

This measure makes those charged with first-degree murder ineligible for bail.

No issue committees are registered for or against the measure.

Amendment J

This measure overturns Amendment 43, adopted by voters in 2006, that banned same-sex marriage. The 2006 initiative was proposed by then-Lt. Gov. Jane Norton and her husband, former U.S. Attorney Mike Norton, and was approved on a 55% to 45% vote.

However, Amendment 43 was deemed null after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in favor of same-sex marriages in Obergefell v. Hodges in 2015.

Amendment K

This measure adds an extra week for some specific election deadlines. That includes changing, from three months, to three months and one week the deadline for filing initiative petitions with the Secretary of State one week before the election. It also changes from 90 days to 83 days the deadline for referendum petitions that challenge laws adopted by the General Assembly and gives judges and justices an extra week to file their intent to run for office.

Proposition JJ

This measure basically “de-Bruces” the state’s sports betting tax revenue, allowing the state to retain and spend all it collects. Under the measure, the state would use the first \$29 million in revenue to regulate sports betting and pay for gambling programs. Any revenue over that would go to the state’s water plan implementation cash fund for water conservation and protection projects.

Voters approved Proposition DD in 2019, setting a 10% tax on sports betting proceeds. In 2022, the state collected \$25.6 million from those taxes, more than double the amount collected the previous year. In 2023, revenues exceeded \$27 million. According to Water Education Colorado, more than \$60 million has been put toward water projects.

The fiscal note on HB24-1436 estimates revenues will exceed \$30 million annually beginning in 2023-24.

Proposition KK

This measure, which won no Republican votes and garnered some Democratic opposition, imposes an excise tax on firearms and ammunition, effective April 1, 2025. If passed, it’s expected to generate \$35 million in 2025-26, with the funds going toward the Colorado Crime Victim Services Fund for behavioral and mental health and for school security.

Citizen Initiatives

Amendment 79

This measure enshrines the right to abortion in the Colorado Constitution and allows for the use of public funds for abortion services, reversing a 1984 initiative known as Amendment 3.

Amendment 80

The measure amends the Colorado Constitution to say all K-12 students have the right to equal opportunity to access a quality education, that parents have the right to direct their children's education, and that school choice includes neighborhood, charter, private, and home schools, open enrollment options, and any future innovations in education.

Proposition 127

This measure prohibits the hunting of bobcats, mountain lions, and lynx in Colorado. According to the [Common Sense Institute](#), some portions of the measure are already illegal in Colorado, such as hunting and trapping lynx and mountain lions solely for trophies.

Proposition 128

This measure requires individuals convicted of certain violent crimes, including murder, sexual assault, and aggravated robbery, to serve at least 85% of their sentence before being eligible for parole. Those convicted of a violent offense three or more times will be required to serve their entire sentence without being eligible for parole or early release.

Proposition 129

This measure creates a new mid-level role in the veterinary field called a veterinary professional associate. The position would require a Master's degree and would be a step above a veterinary technician but below a doctor of veterinary medicine.

[Proposition 110](#)

This measure creates a "peace officer training and support fund" within the Department of Public Safety to assist in recruiting, training, and supporting law enforcement officers and their families.

[Proposition 131](#)

This measure changes Colorado's primary system to an open system, with candidates chosen by voters regardless of party affiliation and not by political parties. The four candidates with the most votes, regardless of party, would then move on to the general election. The initiative also proposes a ranked-choice voting system, in which voters would rank candidates rather than voting for just one. If approved by voters, the proposition would have gone into effect in 2026, but the Colorado General Assembly, in the final week of its session, passed [SB 210](#), which would delay its implementation until 2028.

APPENDIX C



ASSOCIATED GOVERNMENTS OF NORTHWEST COLORADO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

- The RGN outreach efforts:
 - Huge wins
 - OJT grant writing assistance grant for Rio Blanco County – Wolf Creek Reservoir.
 - Governor’s Office/DOLA Technical Assistance Grant for Clifton Water District and Mesa County Public Works.
 - Thank you to Commissioner Daniel
 - CRVEDP Grant awarded through Colorado Energy Office – kudos to Alicia Gresley
- CEDS
 - Implementation Grant status -\$40,000
 - Thank you to Kami Collins with Rural Opportunity Office for getting it moving, which has been reported to be in “Operations” and waiting for a PO.
 - AGNC is moving forward with our rebranding effort and the relaunch of our website, encouraging members to submit ideas and share economic development needs.
 - 15 Letters of Support!
 - Two recent letters include Mesa County and NREL
 - Next CEDS Implementation Committee Meeting
 - Wednesday, Sept 25, 2pm via Zoom
- Our collaborative work with Downtown Colorado, Inc will specifically help those communities who are engaged with their Tiny Towns programs.
- Our work within the Enterprise Zone remains a key component of our economic development efforts. We currently have 37 active contribution projects and have already surpassed last year's CP admin fees with \$84,181 to-date.
 - We have 3 new applications in the works!
 - Habitat of Humanity – Roaring Fork Valley – Garfield County
 - Routt County Economic Development Partnership – Routt County
 - Moffat Road Railroad Museum -Granby, Colorado – Grand County
- In August, we hosted our 9th annual Economic Development Summit, themed “Pathways to Prosperity.” The event focused on small businesses, providing essential resources and exploring growth opportunities. The summit was a great success, with attendees eager to return next year.
 - Main takeaway was the [Small Business ToolKit](#) available on the AGNC website!
 - AGNC’s Executive Director, Tiffany Dickenson, emphasized, “When small businesses thrive, we all thrive.”
 - Revenue, Expenses, Net Income
 - Mark your calendars for next year!
- Strategic Planning RFP – proposal review from Prosono