



ASSOCIATED GOVERNMENTS
OF NORTHWEST COLORADO

MINUTES

AGNC EDD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

May 20, 2026

*Garfield County Administration Building, 2nd Floor Meeting Room,
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

Called to order 12:45pm

Approval of Minutes – Doug Overton made a motion to approve the February 18, 2026, minutes, Mike Samson seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

EDD Update – Mistalynn Meyeraan presented a written report with activities from January to date. She reported on the meetings that have been held for public input on the CEDS. She noted the engagement with eastern Garfield County has been a challenge and asked for suggestions. Mike Samson commented that Glenwood is not members of AGNC and it may be a challenge. Suggestions were made to reach out to the chambers and RFTA. Mistalynn spoke about Kami Collins with the Rural Opportunity Office helping by facilitating the meetings. She spoke about the annual report that was made to EDA by the AGNC EDD. She then spoke about the RPI grant management and in person partner coordination of the grant. She spoke about the application of the 3rd phase of the grant, with the letter of intent due at the end of May. She spoke about the enterprise zone. She then spoke about a pitch from GSLI for site selection in partnership with CRVEDP. Alicia Gresley spoke about the pitch and said that it may be appropriate for our region. She said that they could also provide an asset map for the region. Mistalynn suggested that she could set up a meeting and invite the communities to hear the pitch from GSLI. Mistalynn's written report is attached as Appendix A.

Next EDD meeting will be the ED Summit on August 19, 2026, in Rifle.

Meeting adjourned – 1:03pm

Attendance:

IN PERSON	VIA ZOOM
Callie Scritchfield	Chris Nichols
Grady Hazelton	Jeff Comstock
Doug Overton	Heather Jones
Mike Samson	Ray Beck
William Dearing	Margie Joy
Cody Davis	Sasha Nelson
Sarah Carlisle	John Swartout
Eric Rudd	Dana Hlavac
Michael Clancy	Todd Starr
Dave Reynold	Dianna Orf
Perry Will	Janeth Stancle
Delaney Deskin	Ashley Dishman
Richard Orf	Merrit Linke
Ted Orf	
Mistalynn Meyeraan	
Laura Kay Good	
Alicia Gresley	
Bonnie Petersen	
Rochelle Firth	
Tiffany Dickenson	
Toni Barrett	

APPENDIX A

AGNC Economic Development District Activity Report - January–April 2026

1. CEDS Phase 1: Initiation, Governance, and Planning Framework

January 2026

- Initiated the 2026 AGNC EDD CEDS rewrite process by establishing the governance and planning framework for a regionally driven and inclusive process.
- This phase focused on:
 - Convening the CEDS Stakeholder Committee.
 - Confirming roles and engagement expectations.
 - Defining the CEDS scope and timeline.
 - Reviewing EDA guidance and regulatory requirements.
 - Assessing prior CEDS implementation outcomes.
 - Identifying data sources needed to support an evidence-based process.
- AGNC began coordinating with county-level partners and stakeholders to support future public engagement and ensure the CEDS process reflected local priorities across all five counties.

January activities included:

- Convened the CEDS Stakeholder Committee.
- Confirmed committee roles and engagement expectations.
- Reviewed EDA CEDS requirements and regulatory guidance.
- Assessed prior CEDS implementation outcomes.
- Identified data sources for the updated CEDS.
- Developed the CEDS scope, schedule, and engagement plan.
- Prepared for public engagement and county-level outreach.
- Continued regular EDD coordination with local, state, and federal partners.

2. CEDS Phase 2: Regional Economic Conditions and Summary Background Development

February–April 2026

- AGNC is working to compile and analyze regional data for the Summary Background section of the CEDS.
- The data collection and analysis provide baseline conditions needed to understand:
 - Regional challenges.
 - Economic opportunities.
 - Workforce trends.
 - Community needs.
 - Economic development priorities.

- AGNC has begun work with trusted economic partners, including Dr. Nathan Perry, to support regional data review and analysis.

February–April activities included:

- Currently compiling regional economic and workforce data.
- Reviewing demographic, workforce, income, poverty, infrastructure, and industry data.

3. CEDS Phase 3: County-Level Engagement and Regional SWOT Analysis

March–April 2026, continuing into May

- AGNC is actively working on this section of the CEDS update.
- During March and April, AGNC began county-level engagement and started organizing regional SWOT input.
- This work includes:
 - In-person stakeholder engagement meetings.
 - Community input collection.
 - Survey creation and launch.
 - Review of county-level priorities.
 - Identification of shared regional themes.
- This work will continue into May as AGNC gathers additional feedback, identifies common themes across the five counties, and begins shaping the regional SWOT analysis.
- Question for the Board – what is the best way to engage with Eastern GarCo?

In-person CEDS engagement included planning, coordination, and/or facilitation for:

- Rangely / Rio Blanco County
- Meeker / Rio Blanco County
- Moffat County / Craig & Craig Economic Development Advisory Committee Meeting
- Routt County / Steamboat Springs
- Garfield County
- Mesa County

CEDS engagement activities included:

- Coordinated in-person stakeholder meetings.
- Developed SWOT facilitation materials with OEDIT/ROO at the State of Colorado.
- Prepared meeting agendas, run-of-show documents, and presentations.
- Coordinated with county-level partners and local hosts.
- Gathered public and stakeholder input.
- Documented strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats by county.
- Began identifying cross-county themes.
- Aligned meeting questions with EDA-required CEDS sections.

4. Report to EDA for April 2025–March 2026

- AGNC completed its annual EDA Partnership Planning report for the April 2025–March 2026 reporting period.
- The report documented AGNC’s continued progress in:
 - Regional planning.
 - CEDS implementation.
 - Project development.
 - Grant support.
 - Economic transition response.
 - Partner coordination across Region 11.
- The report highlighted AGNC’s use of the CEDS as an active implementation tool.
- Key items documented in the report included:
 - Nearly 40 project support letters.
 - Launch of the 2026 CEDS rewrite.
 - Shift from quarterly to monthly CEDS Committee meetings.
 - Public engagement coordination with OEDIT’s Rural Opportunity Office.
 - Expanded grant navigation work.
 - Monthly Grants Roundup.
 - Updates to the regional project pipeline.
 - Technical assistance for community and regional projects.
- The report also documented work related to:
 - Water and wastewater.
 - Transportation.
 - Broadband.
 - Housing.
 - Recreation.
 - Downtown revitalization.
 - Healthcare.
 - Economic transition.
- The report identified the Northwest Enterprise Zone and Regional Partnership Initiative grants as major economic development tools.
- The report included AGNC’s management of:
 - 43 active Enterprise Zone Contribution Projects.
 - RPI fiscal oversight.
 - RPI partner coordination.
 - RPI grant tracking.
 - RPI implementation support.
- The report also noted ongoing challenges, including:
 - Federal funding freezes.
 - Infrastructure funding uncertainty.
 - Instability around coal transition timelines.

- These challenges reinforce AGNC's continued role as a regional convener, advocate, technical assistance provider, and funding connector.

6. Meetings, Regional Coordination, and Partner Convening

- Meetings were a major component of AGNC's EDD activity from January through April.
- AGNC continued regular collaboration with:
 - DOLA.
 - OEDIT.
 - EDA.
 - SBDC.
 - USDA.
 - Workforce partners.
 - Regional economic development organizations.
- Ongoing coordination also included:
 - CDOT transportation meetings in Garfield County with CLEER.
 - Northwest Colorado Development Council.
 - Routt County Economic Development Partnership.
 - Garfield County Economic Partnership.
 - Colorado River Valley Economic Development Partnership.
 - EDCC.
 - CARO.
 - NADO.
 - Monthly EDA meetings.

Meeting activity supported:

- CEDS planning and implementation.
- County-level public engagement.
- RPI grant implementation.
- Grant and funding strategy.
- Economic transition coordination.
- Business and workforce development referrals.
- Regional infrastructure and project pipeline discussions.
- DOLA and OEDIT coordination.
- EDA communication and reporting.
- SBDC and USDA partner alignment.
- Local government, nonprofit, and special district support.
- These meetings strengthened AGNC's role as a regional convener.
- They also helped connect local priorities to funding, technical assistance, and implementation resources.

7. RPI Grant Management and In-Person Partner Coordination

AGNC continued managing the Northwest Colorado Regional Partnership Initiative grants, providing administrative coordination, grant tracking, partner communication, and fiscal oversight to advance implementation across Northwest Colorado.

AGNC managed two RPI grants during this period:

RPI Phase	Purpose	Budget
Phase 1	Capacity / coalition development	\$130,674.28
Phase 2	Planning / implementation support	\$130,000

RPI grant management activities included:

- Managed grant administration and fiscal oversight.
- Met in-person with CPW, BLM, local governments, conservation partners, and recreation stakeholders.
- Supported project planning by RBC and Moffat County leads.
- Updated budgets and timelines, as needed with CPW.
- Planning the Phase 3 Letter of Intent and grant application.

8. Enterprise Zone Administration and Investment Activity

AGNC continued administering the Northwest Enterprise Zone as a key economic development tool for the region. The Enterprise Zone program supports private-sector investment in eligible community and economic development projects through state income tax credits.

AGNC's official 2025 Enterprise Zone metrics are:

Metric	Result
Active Enterprise Zone Contribution Projects managed by AGNC	43
Individual EZ contributions in 2025	1,185
Total EZ contributions in 2025	\$6,192,627
New employees reported in the Northwest Enterprise Zone	23
Total ITC capital raised	\$36,545,074
ITC Non-Renewable Energy Tax Credit	\$416,386
Total EZ credits	\$507,668