



ASSOCIATED GOVERNMENTS
OF NORTHWEST COLORADO

MINUTES

AGNC BOARD OF DIRECTORS & MEMBER MEETING

September 18, 2019

129 Nancy Crawford Blvd., Oak Creek, CO

9:00 am to 1:30 pm

Pledge of allegiance

Call to order – Ray Beck, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:03 am.

Introductions were made, Lisa Piering is alternate for Andy Key representing the Town of Rangely for this meeting. Pete Baier, Mesa County Administrator is the alternate for John Justman at this meeting.

Approval of Minutes – Mike Samson moved to approve the minutes; Tim Redmond seconded the motion; motion passed.

Financial report: Bonnie Petersen reviewed financials for August 2019. Revenues for the month are ahead of budget for the month, we continue to remain ahead of budgeted revenues year to date. Expenses were under budget for the month and remain under budget year to date. Net income for August was better than the projected budget for the month and continues to be ahead of the year to date budget. Doug Monger moved to approve the financial report; Mike Samson seconded the motion, motion passed. Bonnie reviewed the projections for end of year 2019; the projections reflect that AGNC should end the year with a positive net income rather than the budgeted negative income. Given the possibility of ending the year with a negative net income, there was some discussion that AGNC might consider an increase in member dues. Since projections indicate AGNC could end the year with a positive net income, staff recommends no dues increase. This topic is to be postponed for future evaluation by the Executive Committee. Doug Monger suggested that the Executive Committee also discuss the AGNC reserves and identify what the use of those reserves should be and how they may influence a decision related to member dues.

The DOLA application for grant requests to fund a mini-grant program in 2020 will be available soon. The board indicated they would like AGNC to apply for a grant to continue the program into 2020 and instructed staff to apply for \$100,000.00 plus the match for the AGNC ED Summit of \$2,000.00. Chris Nichols made the motion to authorize AGNC to apply for the grant; Tim Redmond seconded the motion, motion passed.

Project and Committee Reports:

Area Agency on Aging – Heather Jones – Performance measures are set up by the state to determine if our older community is being helped. Transportation, care giver respite, meals, home delivery are all areas of measurement. Last year AAoA had three areas of deficiency; this year performance improved in overall numbers. There was one measure not met in the category of home delivered meals. The deficiency had to do with whether home delivery meal recipients had access to the service; in one instance a client did not have a good experience and indicated that there was no access. AAoA provided information in pamphlets and online, last year the score was 60 to 70%, this year is was 88% only 2% off the required measurement. Heather is not sure the questions are eliciting the desired answers due to misinterpretation. All ombudsmen have completed their continuing education - so has Heather. All but one provider had done necessary training so Heather needs to determine how this oversight can be rectified as she thought all providers had been covered. The caregiver program was rated at 100%; all other programs are above 90%. Heather and the AAoA will continue to try to get higher marks. Coming up, the Strategic Action group on aging will be coming to Craig on October 24th from 8:30 to 10:30 and will focus on what is working rather than what is not. The Colorado Commission on Aging will be in Grand Junction, October

4th at Callahan Edfast. There will be a caregiving conference in conjunction with AARP - from 8 to noon that day. In October Heather will be doing on site assessments with all providers through November. She is working on a streamlined assessment tool and will be asking more qualitative type questions to determine challenges and identify items besides funding that could help to overcome barriers. AAoA is doing RFP's for providers annually; the area is not very competitive so Heather is asking why we are doing these annually and will see if we can-do four-year contracts rather than yearly.

Dinosaur Welcome Center – Cheryl McDonald (Cheryl's full written report can be found as Attachment A at the end of these minutes.) Cheryl reported that the Monument has implemented fall hours will be closing the visitor center; they will post a note to will refer people to DWC. She has been getting calls from hunters about rooms, etc. The center is still busy with travelers, hunters come in at the end of the week. Nine volunteers participated on the FAM trip - in Cortez. Cortez hosted lunch - volunteers noted significant differences in the DWC center vs the Cortez center. Scott Tipton came to visit DWC it was great. George Rossman noted that the Congressman had been in a couple of centers but DWC was so organized that he was very impressed. Some gentleman from Greeley came in and thanked the center for how much the center supports the state and the community. The CTO management contract has been executed and AGNC will continue to manage the center through the remainder of this fiscal year. Ray commented that Moffat County has provided funding to keep the DWC open for hunters in November in the amount of \$2,700. Charge Point contacted the county to get approval for the installation of a vehicle charging station at DWC - Moon Lake electric will install the electricity. The county doesn't want to fund the requested \$37,000 but will reach out to LMD and request that financial match. Moffat County will ask the state to verify that the center will stay open before moving forward, keeping the center open will be a requirement for final approval of the charging station installation. A charging station will be important in Dinosaur as 3 or 4 electric vehicles in Dinosaur had to be towed recently since there were no charging stations available. Vernal is very excited about the placement of the charging station. High efficiency charging stations are to be installed and after 5 years, Moffat County will own the stations and will be required to maintain them from that point.

Legislative Update – (The full written report can be found as Attachment B at the end of these minutes.) Orf and Orf are in the throes of following the interim committees; we won't know details of bills until later in year. Regulatory agencies are still working on 181 and other bills and there remains a lot of rulemaking to be done. The Energy Legislative review committee has done several tours on the east and west slopes. Concerns about tax base and jobs have been raised and these meetings. Richard reviewed the bills being considered by this committee. We may be seeing some legislation on biodiesel. Senator Foote is looking for tax legislation to see how tax policy could help communities. All tax credits are being reviewed by legislators; the JBC is pushing back on new incentives that do not have an explicit definition of use for the credits. Water resources review committee will look at blocking chain use; a bill was killed last year - CSU provided ideas for use. Senator Coram is looking for statewide meetings on how we would deal with a compact call. Senator Donovan is considering a bill regarding water speculation and looking at some sort of legislation to deal with that concept. There will be a bill to increase the number of water well inspectors. Sonnenberg is considering a bill for CDPHE to provide rationale for increasing water standards and considering the impacts of those standards to rural communities. Many expenditures and credits will not be renewed by legislation - EZ credits going on at end of October. Zero waste recycling met a couple of times this year; the market dropped out of the bottom in China - market doesn't exist anymore. A bill is being considered that will try to create a product development through recycling. Healthy soil management is trying to find a way to push CO2 back into soil to study those effects. A bill to do consumer education around recycling is under consideration; there is not a lot of appetite for mandated recycling programs but perhaps they can find an incentive or credit to encourage recycling. Investor owned utility committee is looking for alternative revenues for energy assistance programs, considering the severance tax reductions or elimination, there are concerns about low income energy assistance programs. Senator Garcia is looking for consumer protections and requesting a PUC study for consumer choice agreements. Communities who want a higher clean energy standard don't see how they can get there under an investor owned utility so there is likely to be a study committee on that issue. The EPA is likely to move the front range air quality designation to serious. The Wildlife

commission in May reviewed a request to consider a prohibition on bobcat take in the state; the commission declined that request unanimously. The Governor is now expected to do an executive order to eliminate the take of bobcats. Of all the paths available for wolf reintroduction - legislative method - voter initiative – we always have the chance of an executive order being issued. Ray noted that last Friday AGNC representatives met with the Energy Legislative committee to testify on impacts of legislation passed this year - Diana was there as well. Bonnie testified as well. Ray noted concerns about bill concepts suggested at the end of the meeting - transmission in conservation easements raises concerns - who knows the nexus better than commissioners – AGNC needs to pay close attention to that. Doug had good presentation; we say the same things but are not sure anybody is hearing. Hard lift on conservation easement to allow for transmission crossings. Investor owned committee purpose is to find a way to allow communities to do what they want in electrical generation. The path forward will likely be a carbon trade program. Regarding SB067, a group will be trying to take another shot at that to find some way to bring that back; it would provide an incentive method for the state to help early stage investment for businesses. May be second bite at that apple may find a way to leverage with incubators, etc. Looking for some measure of success. Prop CC will drive how legislature moves forward next year.

The Life Foundation Opportunities – Barnett Davis II, Executive Director, Life Foundation (LF); Mark Vogele, Mark Vogele, LLC. Barnett reviewed the basis of the Life Foundation which provides programs to lessen the burden of government – transferring the benefits generated by government real estate activities from private developers and contractors back to where they belong: to the government agencies and the people they serve. The Foundation will purchase facilities already leased to government entities and all or a combination of some of the following:

- Rent Reductions
- Tenant improvement allowances
- Renewal options at free or very low base rent (where the agency is only responsible for operating and capital expenses)
- Equity participation from the sale proceeds at the end of the lease (or before if the agency wants to leave early)
- Ownership

Barnett and Mark buy, develop and optimize real estate projects for government agencies. They provided a couple of examples of projects tailored to specific needs. Mark is in construction and has a great understanding of LEEDS and energy efficient buildings and has developed platinum LEEDS building. They like to come in early as consultants on projects, if they are involved early, they can help to right size building. They have been doing this type of work for about 40 years. They are motivated by a love of Colorado and the desire of trying to help local governments here. When working on a project, they use local resources architects, planning, etc. Each community has land use codes and procedures - government helps move entitlements forward. Pull permits and bring on local contractors, etc. Create jobs and fees in building department. When a project is set up in the Foundation a lot of benefit comes back to the community. They can do COPS or private placement and can sometimes save communities a great deal of money on bond legal expenses. They don't have a required rate of return or IRR that normal real estate agencies do so that can save communities money as well. Ray noted that Moffat County had visited about a potential Moffat County courthouse as they are currently not compliant with court requirements. Life Foundation can come in and renovate an existing building, which is often inefficient. However, retail stores lend themselves to being redone to be compliant with current regulations for courthouse structures. The county needs to remodel to have airport style security. In one scenario, LF would buy the building - talk to the county about what would be needed, come up with a preliminary budget to include the purchase of building. All soft and hard costs, including wiring computer systems, etc. would be considered. Often communities can upgrade a lot of technology up front. LF can package all the components together - then go to Wall Street financial partners - if COPS have increased costs or private placement might be able to save money. LF would find the optimal way of borrowing money to make sure it works for the community. At the end, when building is paid for the entity can stay in the building for free rent or rent the building to pay for building expenses. Ultimately, the community can

have a structure so that building goes to community at the end. LF won't charge development fees like a private development firm. Projects of \$5 million and up are doable.

Legislator Discussions – Representative Dylan Roberts, House District 26. This district includes Routt and Eagle counties, Representative Roberts lives in Avon. He has been in legislature since 2017 and is Chair of the Rural Affairs and Ag Committee also serves on the Judiciary and Capital Development committees. He is a deputy district attorney in Eagle County and provided a review of last session. Items of note, there were a lot of bills on health care and recalls that nearly every major bill was bipartisan. Some of them will lower prices for our region. The reinsurance proposal was just authorized by the federal government and will lower premiums by over 29% on January 1, 2020, in Western Colorado - statewide there will be a 19% reduction. He helped pass a bill with Mark Catlin to look at public option for health care; a committee is working on that proposal right now. Based on the proposal and, if it's viable, Dylan will try to implement that in next session. Full day kindergarten went into effect this fall - a lot of school districts use funds to cover other costs if they already had full day kindergarten, but all districts have full day kindergarten now. Prop DD allocates money to the water plan and was referred by the legislature; they are hoping that passes. Transportation received \$300 million from the general fund for this year. Next session the Representative will be working on 1) reauthorizing and modifying the Rural Jump Start tax credit which is due to sunset in 2021; he wants to do a bill to reauthorize the program 2) public option health care/prescription drug prices; 3) water trying to expand the stream flow issue. AGNC discussion items included:

- Price of prescriptions and impacts on local budgets. The representative will be working on price transparency to provide to insurance companies and pharmacies and is hopeful Colorado will receive a waiver allowing the purchase of drugs from Canada;
- Water plan budget is only \$10 million and there is a concern that the plan does not override the prior appropriations doctrine. Proposition DD is a step toward adding additional funding for water projects in the state;
- A concern was raised about insurance premiums as they are related to the reinsurance bill. Insurance companies indicate premiums would be going up 32% next year but with reinsurance they will only go up 3%;
- CDOT has a \$150k limit on work they can do creates a bunch of small patches - renegotiate with asphalt companies. Worry that front range will solve problems and leave rural areas without mechanisms to fund rural roads. Prop 110 would have been a funding source for transportation - an agreement that we need a dedicated source of funding - TABOR requires asking voters - going to ballot may not be the best thing to do. Committees having those conversations now; think there is willingness to put something on the ballot to ask voters for more funding. Watch for transportation funding formulas and take care of rural Colorado.
- Remote testimony locations have been expanded with CMC arranging for Steamboat and Edwards to be included. CNCC in process.
- Requested support for the new version of SB67 being considered for 2020. Rural Jump Start program modifications would be helpful if there were changes to the competition requirement to aid smaller communities and all coal communities should be included regardless of criteria.

Proposition DD – Brad McCloud, EIS Solutions provided an overview of Proposition DD which legalizes licensed casino sports betting and authorizes a tax on it to fund the Colorado Water Plan. The state needs to find a way to fund identified projects as it is expected that the population will double by 2060 in the state. We need efficiencies and storage to accommodate that growth. If passed, it is expected that approximately \$29 million will be generated annually. The administration of these funds will be similar to the way GOCO was established. A Supreme Court ruling changed the Vegas monopoly on sports betting, so this measure was passed on a bipartisan basis out of legislature. It will still fall to basin round tables to identify needs for area. Funds generated will go into the Colorado Water Conservation fund - some funding comes off the top for addiction and to keep casinos whole as well as administration. The water plan is anticipated to need as much as \$100 million per year so this measure is only a portion of the need but, without this we will have nothing to address the implementation of the plan; this is a start.

We need to put Ag protections in place to protect that industry. The Colorado river is the number one stressed river in the U.S. This measure will not be in constitution. AGNC was requested to support this measure.

Doug Monger made a motion that AGNC support Proposition DD and that a resolution supporting it be drafted under the guidance of the Executive Committee. Chris Nichols seconded the motion; motion passed.

Federal Delegation Updates

George Rossman with Congressman Tipton's office reported that the Congressman is coming to Grand Junction for C20; he will be in late Friday and speaking first thing Saturday morning. His focus has been on passing the budget, the house will likely to do a continuing resolution, but nothing is released yet. Natural Resources committee meeting was held regarding the BLM move, Robin Brown with GJEP did an unbelievable job for Grand Junction. The Congressman has introduced a draft public lands package; he heard from some counties that some WSA's have been determined by BLM that they should not be wilderness so this bill will address that. Tipton has been meeting with the communities for input, the lands included are strictly in the 3rd Congressional district. The website has maps, etc. On October 1st, he will host a listening session in Ouray attendance will be by invite only. Any ideas AGNC would like to pass on, please get with the office and let them know. Expect gun legislation to come through this session, the word is there will be something but there are no details yet.

SBDC Update – Erin McCuskey is the new director for the NW Colorado SBDC and has been in that role almost three months; she is training with the GJ SBDC and they are sharing resources. She reported that SBDC is setting up satellite offices in each of the counties and that she wants to be at AGNC meetings, so we know what is going on. Erin will be at the Craig meeting on August 29th. Garfield has had success in the western part of the county; SBDC has been focusing resources there. SBDC will have 2 three-hour courses on how to start a business workshop in Rifle; already they have more signed up than they had in Eagle county which is very encouraging. One of top SBDC consultants will facilitate those meetings and they will be held at Rifle Co-work. The Town of Hayden is working on a certified small business communities grant. Co-workspace will have a staff person that will be counselor for SBDC as well. There is a State level push for allocating resources to rural areas and it is hoped that some resources will be pushed out through the SBDC. Erin has some funding reserved for Ag events and may be able to help with the hemp symposium in Craig.

Administrative Update - Bonnie Petersen provided an Administrative Update on the following:

- Members' Dues Letters will go out the week of 9-30-19.
- Consideration of taking a position on the National Popular Vote Ballot Measure – item tabled to a later date as the measure will be on the 2020.
- Wade Haerle presented an idea to AGNC for consideration suggesting that we create a positive public policy framework demanding all future natural gas electric generation replacing existing coal fire electric generation in Western Colorado must be located in Western Colorado.

Tri State Generation and Transmission, Xcel Energy and Pacific Corp have announced the removal of 1600 megawatts of coal fire electric generation at the Craig and Hayden Stations by 2030. The request is the AGNC be the lead grant request agency in the sponsorship of a follow up white paper to Dr. Nathan Perry's two-part study on the Economic Contribution of the Oil and Gas Industry in the Piceance Basin. The grant application will be to the CMU Unconventional Energy Center. The paper will highlight the contribution of new natural gas generation in Western Colorado on direct employment, indirect employment, local taxes and the social well-being of Western Colorado. This will lead to the exploration of both, legislative and regulatory, approaches requiring the ownership group of the Craig and Hayden Stations to invest such that the maximum amount of retained property tax and economic development occur in the community's impacted by the removal of coal fire electric generation. Gary Moyer made a motion that AGNC be the sponsoring organization for the grant request; Chris Nichols seconded the motion, motion passed.

Next Meeting: *October 16, 2019, Fruita Community Center, Fruita, CO*

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 1:32 pm.

Attendance:

Ray Beck, Moffat County
Grady Hazelton, Town of New Castle
Gary Moyer, Rio Blanco County
Cheryl McDonald, DWC
Chris Nichols, City of Craig
Dylan Roberts, Representative HD 26
George Rossman, Congressman Tipton's Ofc.
Tiffany Pehl, AGNC
Pete Baier, Mesa County
Mike Samson, Garfield County
Chris Oxley, Colorado Workforce Center
Barnett Davis, Life Foundation

Lisa Piering, Town of Rangely
Heather Jones, AAoA
Tim Redmond, Town of Hayden
Konnie Bilgren, Rangely Chamber
John Bristol, Steamboat Chamber
Erin McCuskey, NW Colorado SBDC
Bonnie Petersen, AGNC
Doug Monger, Routt County
Ted Orf, Orf & Orf
Richard Orf, Orf & Orf
Paula Stepp, City of Glenwood Springs
Mark Vogeles, Vogeles LLC

ATTACHMENT A

AGNC REPORT
SEPTEMBER 2019

Visitation for August was slightly down seeing 3,998 visitors. This was partly due to rafting season ending.

Dinosaur National Monument changed to their fall hours 9-5. Both visitor centers are still open. Local festivals are ending by mid-September.

I will be gone September 28th thru October 3rd for the Governor's Conference.

Hunting season started August 31st. Receiving numerous calls for rooming and local area information and maps.

A man from Greeley made a comment that our center represents the state of Colorado very well.

Cheryl McDonald

ATTACHMENT B



Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado (AGNC) Legislative Update September 17, 2019

We are beginning to get an outline of bills that will be introduced in January as Interim Committees wrap up their summer work. There is not a lot of controversy thus far, as may be expected for 1) interim committees, and 2) going into an election year. That does not mean that the 2020 legislative session will be free from nasty surprises, but it does signal that such bills will not carry the weight of an interim committee recommendation with them. Bill requests are generally offered conceptually; that is, committee members will ask for a bill to be drafted as a general concept with little or no detail. They are required to provide the Legal Services drafting staff with enough detail to start the drafting process within three days or the request will be deemed withdrawn. Following the drafting of the bill a fiscal analysis is prepared and the committee votes on whether to recommend introduction of the bill in 2020 with committee sponsorship. Thus, the determination of which drafts will move forward to introduction in January will not be determined until late October or early November after the committees' final votes. At the same time, regulatory agencies continue to move forward with their mandate to enact measures to implement 2019 legislation, including the controversial SB 19-181 (oil and gas) and HB 19-1261 (climate change) directives. Following is a snapshot of recent actions in both the legislative and regulatory arenas.

Legislative Interim Committees

Energy Legislation Review Interim committee. The committee met at the Capitol and has held two field hearings, one in Fort Morgan and most recently in Grand Junction. Both field hearings were followed by tours of energy production sites: the Pawnee power plant, Limon Wind Project Ute Water Conservancy District hydroelectric facility, and the Basalt Vista Net Zero community all electric community (developed with Holy Cross Energy). At each of the field hearings local officials and utilities spoke to committee about their efforts to meet (and sometimes exceed) clean energy standards, and the challenges facing communities as government actions and public opinion pushes the move away from fossil fuels. At the Sept. 13 meeting in Grand Junction six bill drafts were requested, of which only three can ultimately be recommended by the committee. Those drafts include:

- Rep. Jackson requested draft legislation concerning creation of a Transmission Authority.
- Rep. Winter requested draft legislation concerning integrity of conservation easements when transmission is approved.
- Sen. Fenberg requested draft legislation concerning biodiesel (there was a biodiesel presentation at the Fort Morgan meeting).
- Rep. Hansen requested draft legislation to make tax treatment of battery storage the same as renewable energy equipment.
- Sen. Foote requested tax legislation see how tax policy could benefit transition communities.
- Rep. Hansen requested draft legislation concerning implementation of an RTO in Colorado.

There was a strong bias against retaining exemption and credits that are not tracked (or cannot be tracked) by the Dept. of Revenue.

The committee will vote on the finalized drafts November 4 when it meets in Denver.

Water Resources Review Committee. The committee has met twice with the first meeting in Steamboat focused on in-stream flow legislation. The second meeting held in Denver

- Rep. Arnd requested a bill to study blockchain applications for water management. A similar bill failed in the legislature in 2019, but since then the potential uses have been detailed by CSU professor Evan Thomas in presentations to the committee
- Sen. Sonnenberg requested a bill requiring expenditures of money from Proposition DD (should that measure be passed by the voters in November) be approved by the General Assembly like the way the annual Water Projects bill is forwarded each year to the legislature.
- Sen. Coram requested a bill requiring the legislature to hold statewide meetings concerning development of the Drought Contingency Plan and the Demand Management Plan that will be developed from that. This would parallel the statewide meetings held when the State Water Plan was proposed pursuant to a Governor's Executive Order.
- Senator Donovan requested a bill concerning speculation in water. Although the issue was not discussed, there has been reference in the past to a financial group (hedge fund?) that has purchased property in the Grand Valley believed to be for the purpose of securing the water rights and then selling them.
- Rep. Saine requested a bill to increase the number of water well inspectors. There has been concern for the past 2-3 years about water wells that are drilled and completed but which do not meet standards leaving owners at risk for additional costs to re-drill and perform the work properly. Only two inspectors in the program now, one on the Eastern Front Range and one on the Western Slope. There was no specification as to what the proper number should be.
- Sen. Sonnenberg requested a bill to expand the requirement for CDPHE to provide a rationale for changed permit requirements. The current statute was enacted in 2013 to address only the General Permit which is developed for individual industries. Sen. Sonnenberg thinks it should be required for all permits - pushing CDPHE to explain its reasoning. In previous years he has expressed frustration that permittees including small town municipal water providers are pushed to ever increasing permit requirements without adequate justification when the statutes and regulations underlying the permits have not changed.

The committee will meet again October 23-24 and will vote on the bills.

Tax Expenditure Evaluation Committee. The committee is seeking bill drafts on the following topics:

- Establish a tax commission – Benavidez
- Require future “tax expenditures” to state the purpose of the bill (anticipated outcome)
- Amend sales tax exemption for energy used in manufacturing and industrial purposes to clarify by returning to manufacturing and industrial purposes (remove broadcasting). Original purpose. Court wants justification and wants to know effect of suspension in 2010.
- Repeal obsolete or rarely used exemptions or those not deemed effective:
 - Crop hail insurance premiums
 - Occasional sales of liquor by public auction
 - Sales to residents of bordering states
 - Pre-1987 net operating loss deduction for individuals, estates and trusts
 - Previously taxed income or gain deduction for C corporations
 - Farm close-out sales tax exemption
 - Long-term lodging sales tax exemption
 - Excise tax credit for unsalable alcoholic beverages
 - Sacramental wines excise tax exemption
 - On -demand aircraft used outside state exemption (expiring) take no action to extend
 - Non-profit transit agency fuel tax exemption
 - Employee Retirement Plan insurance premium tax deduction
 - Crop and Livestock contribution corporate income tax credit
 - Agricultural Lease deduction (expiring) take no action to extend
 - Hunger Relief income tax credit (expiring) take no action to extend
 - Historic property preservation credit (expiring) take no action to extend
 - Deduction for wages and salaries due to IRC 280C
 - Bio-gas Production components sales tax exemption (expired) take no action to extend

At the October 30 meeting the committee is expected to discuss various exemptions and credits related to Enterprise Zones.

Zero Waste and Recycling Committee. This committee spent the interim touring recycling facilities around the state and hearing about the concerns of recyclers (China has pulled back from the market, implementing standards of purity that are nearly impossible to meet) and no domestic market for the materials being recycled. The August 19 meeting in Denver focused on the role of agriculture in GHG production and sequestration. Presentations from Colorado State University emphasized the relative heat trapping characteristics of nitrous oxide and methane relative to carbon dioxide and recommended practices such as composting and adding to soil to restore carbon to the soils, reducing and carefully managing fertilizers, no tillage farming, and adding cover crops. Public commenters encouraged the committee to ban single use plastics (such as bags and Styrofoam containers), as well as adopting bottle bill legislation such as enacted in Oregon. Boulder Mayor Elise Jones (also an AQCC member (spoke on behalf of))) Recycling and presented a concept paper for legislation suspending Business Personal Property Tax for recyclers. Representatives Arndt and Moreno reminded the committee that there are already manufacturing incentives that recyclers can take advantage of and that many tax incentives are undergoing evaluation in another committee. Rep. Moreno (who chairs the JBC) and sits on the Tax Expenditure Evaluation interim committee) cautioned that tax incentives going forward must have a standardized effort and known outcome. Committee requests for draft bills included:

- Rep. Cutter requested a bill addressing end market development for recycled products
- Rep. Moreno requested a bill for a bottle redemption program
- Rep. Cutter requested a bill to study organics management for building healthy soils
- Rep. Foote requested a bill to establish a statewide task force on supply and end use for organics
- Rep. Priola requested a bill creating a safety net for recyclers, but this was rejected by the committee
- Rep. Arndt requested a bill creating a consumer education and awareness program regarding waste

The committee will review the draft bills and vote on October 22 to move forward at its final meeting October.

Investor Owned Utility Interim Committee. Committee members have requested three bills (set out only in concept):

- Rep Hooten requested a PUC study for Consumer Choice Agreements. This seems to have been fait accompli for the committee, despite testimony against the concept by nearly all invited presenters.
- Rep Kennedy moved to draft a bill looking at alternative revenue sources for energy assistance programs.
- President Garcia moved for a bill to be drafted for consumer protections in relation to investor owned utilities.

Air Quality Control Commission. At its September 19 meeting the Commission consider a petition by the Air Pollution Control Division to amend Regulation Number 3, Parts A, B, and C including State Implementation Plan (SIP) strengthening measures specific to the oil and gas sector reporting and permitting requirements and additional SIP clean-up revisions; and Regulation Number 7 including State Implementation Plan (SIP) strengthening measures concerning additional emission reduction requirements for the oil and gas sector and reasonably available control technology (RACT) requirements for major sources of VOC and/or NOx in the Denver Metropolitan North Front. It should be noted that the Division's submission of the petition is not timely (they missed the deadline of 30 prior to the Commission meeting).

The Commission will also hear a briefing on the Front Range Ozone Nonattainment Area; SIP clean-up revisions; and additional state-only, state-wide emission reduction, recordkeeping, and reporting requirements for the oil and gas sector.

Another briefing will focus on the changes to the Regional Haze SIP recommended by the Division for the next phase of that program.

The Commission will consider a resolution addressing nitrogen deposition in Rocky Mountain National Park stating that it Recognizes the commonalities in emissions and atmospheric processes affecting nitrogen deposition, regional haze, and ozone, the Commission will actively include consideration of

nitrogen deposition reduction goals in upcoming rulemakings for regional haze, ozone, and House Bill 19-181.