



COMMISSIONERS Corner

News & Updates from Grand County's
Board of County Commissioners



This beautiful frosty sunrise was captured by
Water Quality Specialist **Kayli Foulk**.

In this issue:

2022 Final Budget & Board
Business

Human Services Update,
Treasurer's Report, Public Health
Update | Page 2

Manager's Update, Employee
Recognition | Page 3

Additional Business | Page 4

Commissioners CALENDAR

- 12/15 National Assoc. of Counties West
Region Monthly Videoconference
- 12/15 GC Board of Adjustment meeting
- 12/16 Colorado Geographic Naming
Advisory Board (Zoom)
- 12/17 Health Insurance Affordability
Enterprise Board meeting (Zoom)
- 12/20 Transit Authority Committee
meeting (Winter Park)
- 12/22 Monthly Legislator's Breakfast
(Zoom)

[Click here to view the full BOCC calendars.](#)

COMMISSIONERS APPROVE 2022 BUDGET

Commissioners approved Resolution 2022-12-1, adopting the Grand County budget for fiscal year 2022; Resolution 2021HA-12-2 adopting the Housing Authority's 2022 budget; and Resolution 2021-PID-12-3 adopting the 2022 budget for the Pole Creek Meadows Public Improvement District.

In addition, Commissioners approved the Budget Message for budget year 2022, which is filed with the State of Colorado. **Click here to read the Budget Message, and view the full 2022 budget.**

Finance Director **Curtis Lange** also presented the following supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2021, which were approved:

- Resolution 2021-12-11 (General Fund)
- Resolution 2021-12-12 (Emergency Medical Services Fund)
- Resolution 2021-12-13 (Airport Improvement Fund)
- Resolution 2021-12-14 (Retirement Fund)
- Resolution 2021-12-15 (Conservation Trust Fund)
- Resolution 2021-12-16 (Lodging Tax Tourism Fund)
- Resolution 2021-12-17 (Major Capital Improvements Fund)
- Resolution 2021-12-18 (Human Services Fund)

Most of the supplemental appropriations were expenses related to East Troublesome Fire recovery and Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) efforts, and are fully offset by State and Federal reimbursements. Likewise, airport improvements required by the FAA, and human services expenses for State mandated programs are reimbursed by the State and Federal government. The lion's share of other supplemental appropriations were for approved capital purchases pulled forward out of the 2022 budget due to supply issues. **Click here to read the supplemental appropriations summary and resolutions.**

BOARD BUSINESS

Commissioner Cimino reported on the State's Emergency Wildfire Fund, noting the memberships of Grand County and Denver Water. Staff was directed to contact the Wildfire Fund coordinator to better understand the membership formula in an effort to make a formal request of Northern Water and Freeport McMoRan to also become members.

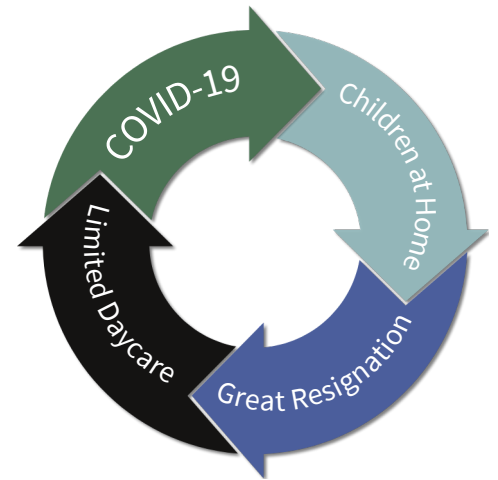
Commissioners asked for the standing Employment Ad in the local newspapers to be larger and feature department openings on a rotating basis.

HUMAN SERVICES | UPDATE

Grand County Department of Human Services Director **Deb Ruttenberg** gave an update regarding the Department's programs:

- **Colorado Child Care Assistance Program**
 - The number of families with children in the program has decreased since June.
 - Grand County has the fifth highest cost of early childhood care in Colorado.
 - Ms. Ruttenberg expressed concerns about child care centers' inability to hire or retain staff (to increase capacity) due to the cost of housing as well as the (low) wages care providers earn in the Rural Resort Region.
- **Child Welfare and Adult Protection**
 - Child protection calls decreased over 2020.
 - Behavioral Health resources continue to be a challenge for Grand County and Colorado families.
- **Economic Security Programs**
 - The number of households receiving food assistance has decreased since June.
 - The public health crisis brought on by COVID-19 has increased the number of households on food assistance. This federal program has dramatically increased the allotment provided to families eligible for the program.

Ms. Ruttenberg also outlined the department's goals for the upcoming year. [Click here to view the full presentation.](#)



Ms. Ruttenberg outlined the impacts COVID had to all of the Department's programs:

The COVID-19 pandemic led to children and parents being at home, which led to The Great Resignation (with many employees choosing to leave the workforce), and parents now seeking to re-enter the workforce are struggling with finding daycare for younger children.

TREASURER'S REPORT



Grand County Treasurer **Frank DeLay** provided a monthly report:

- No major changes to fund balances in November.
- Mr. DeLay anticipates placing funds into bonds with 2 to 5 year maturities before the end of the year, with a focus to ladder the portfolio over time so the County has a range of investment maturities.
- No significant changes to expenses.
- Interest earnings are down compared to forecast.

November inflation was 6.8% - which is increased over October. This marks the seventh month of inflation over 5%, and the highest inflation rate since 1982. Nationwide, gas prices are 50% higher year-over-year; the cost of food is up 6%.

PUBLIC HEALTH | COVID UPDATE

Grand County Public Health Director **Abbie Baker** provided an update on COVID-19 in Grand County.

Grand County has seen a slight increase in cases, but fared well following the Thanksgiving holiday. Based on random sampling, the County's COVID cases are still the Delta or previous variants; to date, none have returned as Omicron variant.

Vaccines and boosters: Data is showing that vaccine immunity is waning at a slightly faster rate than natural immunity.

[Click here for Grand County's COVID-19 dashboard.](#)

COVID Testing

If you are symptomatic and want to get a saliva PCR test, it is recommended that you NOT eat or drink 30 minutes prior to the test.

PCR tests are randomly submitted for variant testings; genomic sequencing (that is necessary to determine variants) is not performed on every test performed in Grand County.

[Click here to view testing options.](#)

MANAGER'S UPDATE

County Manager **Ed Moyer** presented the following:

County Road 522

- The Army Corps of Engineers reviewed the correspondence from the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), and provided correspondence to Grand County regarding the POW camp, adverse effects, proposed mitigation options and a memorandum of agreement (MOA). The Corps will be scheduling a meeting with SHPO, Grand County and Section 106 parties that have provided public comment. County Manager suggested the landowners of the properties associated with the POW camp also be included.
- Staff is reviewing the Corps' correspondence, will be discussing it with Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, and scheduling a meeting with the Corps prior to said larger meeting. The goal is to ensure the County fully understands the Corps' recommendations and options, and what realistic mitigation should be included in an MOA with SHPO, in order to provide the BOCC with the best information possible for them to make any necessary decision to advance the project. BOCC concurred with this approach.
- The Manager will be presenting options to the BOCC based on discussions with the Corps and will request the BOCC attend any future larger meeting.

The Manager will be attending the following upcoming meetings:

- December 14: Tabernash Meadows Water & Sanitation District Board meeting to discuss the 2016 Amended Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA), and clarify projects that were provided and paid for by the County in exchange for requesting the District clear its books of a partial tap that is said to be owed by the County.
- December 16: Grand Places 2050 meeting at Winter Park Town Hall and virtual.
- Meeting with Fire Districts and EMS on December 15 to discuss Grand Fire's new County Road 40 Station.
- Meeting with Jason Cleckler – Middle Park Health CEO December 16 or 17.



Thank you to our dedicated staff members celebrating employment anniversaries this month, and welcome to our new employees!

December Anniversaries

Cassandra O'Brien (GC Jail) - One Year
Robert Good (EMS) - Two Years
Michael Minhas (GC Sheriff's Office) - Two Years
William (Taylor) Schlueter (Community Development) - Two Years
Kendra Wilkinson (Clerk & Recorder, Motor Vehicle) - Three Years
Garrett Sullivan (EMS) - Three Years
Andrew Smyth (EMS) - Three Years
Cyndi McCoy (Manager's Office) - Three Years
Patty Kemper (Community Development) - Three Years
David Miller (GC Sheriff's Office) - Three Years
Doug Baker (Road & Bridge) - Three Years
Alexis Kimbrough (Emergency Management) - Three Years
Pam Cornett (Public Health, Home Care) - Seven Years
Rick Sharrow (GC Sheriff's Office) - Seven Years
Robert Adams (Road & Bridge) - Eight Years
Sheriff Brett Schroetlin - Nine Years
Dave Webb (Road & Bridge) - Ten Years
Rachel Drewett (Community Development) - Fourteen Years

Welcome!

Shawn Mahorney - Airports
Alexander Burris - Sheriff's Office Dispatch
Bonnie Nachtrieb - Clerk & Recorder
Bryon Colvin - Fairgrounds
Marci Gallegos - Road & Bridge
Lee Nelson - Information Systems
Jessica Hoffman - Sheriff's Office (Jail)
Tyler Mathis - Sheriff's Office (Jail)

Grand County is **HIRING!**

Grand County has open positions in almost every department, and to suit nearly every level of experience, interest and acumen.

Find job listings at:
www.co.grand.co.us/Jobs

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Accounting

Voucher and wire payments were approved with no discussion.

Clerk & Recorder

Grand County Clerk & Recorder **Sara Rosene** presented several items for approval, and also the Clerk's Monthly Report:

- Transfer of Ownership of a Hotel & Bar Liquor License from the Stillwater Grill LLC to Bar FR DBA FR Bar & Ranch Restaurant was approved.
- Parshall Inn's Tavern Liquor License was renewed.
- November recording fee revenue has increased YOY by approximately 11%; comparison with 2019 fees also shows recording revenues steadily increasing.

Airports

Airports Supervisor **Josh Schroeder** presented two Professional Service Agreements with Armonstrong Consultants, Inc. for planning and engineering services at each of Grand County's airports. The Agreements were approved with no discussion.

Sheriff's Office

Grand County Information Systems Director **Thomas Johnson** presented a plan contract with T-Mobile Connecting Heroes Addendum, which provides Sheriff's Office deputies with SIM cards for T-Mobile (in addition to Verizon) cellular services. There is no cost to the County through the "Connecting Heroes" Plan.

EWP Update

Assistant County Manager **Micah Benson** presented an EWP project update:

- Fall projects are wrapping up; one ditch owner has opted not to participate in the EWP program, and several projects have been postponed until spring due to the onset of winter.

Housing Authority

A Letter of Support from the Grand County Housing Authority to the Colorado Division of Housing supporting the Town of Fraser's DOLA grant application to assist with establishing a Regional /Multi-jurisdictional Housing Authority working group was approved last week, and submitted today for signature.

Community Development

Community Development Planner **Taylor Schlueter** presented the following:

- Moehlman Outright Exemption / Approved as presented.
- Liebler Outright Exemption / Approved as presented.
- Subdivision Exemption Regulations Amendment / Resolution 2021-12-19 was approved as presented.

