



Grand County

Colorado

JANUARY 25, 2022

Photo courtesy Rocky Mountain National Park.



COMMISSIONERS Corner

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

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COMMISSIONERS CALENDAR

- Jan 26 | Monthly Legislator Breakfast
- Jan 26 | CO Communities for Climate Action Meeting
- Jan 26 | Grand Enterprises Meeting
- Jan 26 | Peak Health Alliance Meeting
- Jan 27 | CO Association of Ski Towns
- Jan 27 | Club20 Chair Meeting
- Jan 27 | GCR 522 Consulting Party Mitigation Meeting
- Jan 27 | Colorado Counties, Inc. (CCI) Steering Committee Meetings
- Jan 27 | NW Colorado Council of Governments Meeting
- Jan 28 | CCI Steering Committee Meetings
- Jan 31 | CO Basin Roundtable Meeting
- Feb 3 | Counties & Commissioners Acting Together Policy Meetings

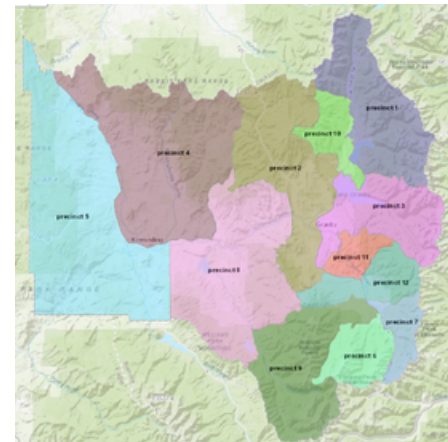


ELECTION PRECINCTS UPDATE

Grand County Clerk & Recorder **Sara Rosene** reviewed House and Senate district changes with the BOCC. While boundaries changed, Grand County remains in Colorado Senate District 8 and House District 13.

Ms. Rosene also reviewed proposed changes to the County's Election Precincts, which are determined based on active registered voters (not population).

Commissioners discussed splitting or consolidating precincts, but ultimately opted to preserve the existing precincts until 2023.



BOARD BUSINESS

- Three Lakes Water and Sanitation District is applying for State and Federal grants related to its septic to sewer project. The BOCC discussed the project with the TLWSD Board, along with its connectivity requirements and policies. Commissioners approved a letter of support for the District's grant application.
- Information Services Director **Thomas Johnson** asked for direction regarding communicating details about the Affordable Connectivity Program to the community. Commissioners supported disseminating information about the program via newspaper ads, social media and the County's website.
- Board Appointments:
 - Commissioners appointed **Shaun Mullahey** to the Planning Commission representing District 1.
 - **Kim Shepton** was re-appointed to the Planning Commission for another term representing District 3.
 - **Sandra Scanlon** was appointed to the Board of Adjustments representing District 2.

PUBLIC HEARING | MARIJUANA LICENSE ORDINANCE

Following its second reading, Commissioners adopted the proposed Amended Marijuana License Ordinance as presented.

MANAGER'S UPDATE

County Manager **Ed Moyer** gave the following updates:

- The Grand County Tourism Board is in the process of hiring a sustainability plan consultant; this is on their February Board Meeting Agenda.
- County Road 522: The Army Corps of Engineers is hosting an adverse effects consultation meeting this Thursday with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and other parties. The Corps is expected to address mitigation options related to wetlands, the lumber and POW camps, along with questions and requests made by SHPO. Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) will be drafted to memorialize agreed upon mitigation.
- An updated County Facility Closure policy was approved as presented. The policy combines previous version of closure policies related to the pandemic and snow closures, and includes information about how staff should record time when closures are implemented.
- County Manager is meeting the State OEDIT and the Town Managers on Friday, January 28 regarding the State's Innovative Housing Incentive Program.
- Staff will continue to monitor the State's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding framework and grants for affordable housing projects. At this time, the framework has not been released. Staff will update the BOCC as more details are rolled out.
- The County has received a draft letter and recommendation from Water Rights Attorney David Taussig regarding the County exercising its discretion and cut-off the 3,000 acre-foot carve out as part of the water right approved pursuant to Case No. 10CW298 for Grand County's recreational in-channel diversion (RICD) on the Colorado River at Pumphouse. BOCC concurred with the recommendation and advancing a letter to the Division Engineer.
- Windy Gap Connectivity Channel: Comments were received by National NRCS Office on the Watershed EA. NRCS Colorado is addressing many of the comments. Today the group is meeting with the National NRCS office. It is anticipated that the Watershed EA will have a green light to move forward on the public notice in early February for a public scoping meeting later in the month. The public notice will be on the County's website, as well as posted in public buildings and mailed to adjacent properties.
- Manager met with the Assessor's Office last week regarding the data cloud solutions items included in the 2022 budget. Due to software incompatibility, the Assessor's Office is evaluating alternative solutions to achieve the original goal with possible cost savings. More information will be provided to the BOCC as solutions are finalized.
- The Colorado River District has approached the County regarding their cloud seeding program, specifically inquiring about private and County properties in the Williams Fork Valley that could be considered for equipment placement. BOCC supported moving forward with discussion and analyzing County property if necessary.



Affordable Connectivity Program
*Helping Households Get
Access to Broadband*

FC **The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC benefit program that Congress created to help ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more.**
Learn if you qualify and apply at: [ACPBenefit.org](https://www.acpbenefit.org)

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Accounting

- Weekly vouchers and wire payments were approved as presented.
- Finance Director **Curtis Lange** presented letters from the BOCC and Housing Authority to Interim County Attorney **Maxine LaBarre-Krostue** requesting material pending or threatened litigation, claims, and assessments (excluding unasserted claims and assessments) related to the upcoming annual financial audit.

Juvenile Services

Juvenile Services Director **Kelly Friesen** presented the 2022-23 Annual CYDC Plan for the 14th Judicial District for BOCC signature. Once approved by the State Advisory Board, a contract will be presented for approval by the BOCC.

Economic Development

Economic Development Director **DiAnn Butler** presented an application for a Tourism and Diversification Strategy EDA grant in the amount of \$400,000; the Grand County Tourism Board would provide the 20% match (up to \$100,000). If the grant is awarded, scope of work includes development of a Resilience and Diversification Strategy, a Geographic Information Systems Storymap, and a Corridor Promotion Plan.

Information Services

Information Services Director / Chief Information Security Officer **Thomas Johnson** gave an update regarding the Broadband Working Group, which recently hosted a kick-off meeting with area internet service providers.

The presentation included results from a community survey related to internet services and availability.

Providers will be presenting any expansion plans at the next Workgroup meeting.

Public Health

GCPH Director **Abbie Baker** stated that Grand County's COVID case numbers and hospitalizations due to COVID are declining, which is a state-wide trend. [Click here to view Grand County's COVID dashboard.](#) A shortage of testing supplies throughout the state has required Grand County's local medical providers and Public Health to prioritize testing for schools and symptomatic cases. Ms. Baker stated she will be sending January's public health advisory letter to the public later this week.

GCPH Medical Officer **Dr. Jason Stuerman** provided an update about the effectiveness of COVID monoclonal antibody treatments and their availability in Grand County.

Community Development

Grand County Community Development Director **Robert Davis** presented the following:

- Red Hawk Ranch Lots MultiFamily -1 and MultiFamily -2 Sketch Plan : **Continued until 1:30 February 1, 2022.**
- Byers Peak Ranch Filing 1 - Preliminary Plat: **Approved with amended conditions and variances to road standards.**
- Byers Peak Ranch Filing 2 - Parcels 1 & 3 - Preliminary Plat: **Approved with amended conditions and variances to road standards.**

SHORT TERM RENTAL | UPDATE

Short Term Rental Coordinator **Christian Hornbaker** provided an update:

- Last week, the Planning Commission approved changes to the Short Term Rental regulations; the regulation changes will be noticed for Public Hearing before the BOCC at a future date.
- Next week, Host Compliance will be sending fine letters for non-compliance with STR regulations to 83 accounts.
- Taxes on STRs that can potentially fund affordable housing projects are being discussed; a proposal will be brought to Commissioners with more details and data.

