



Grand County

Colorado

FEBRUARY 1, 2022

COMMISSIONERS Corner

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



Photo courtesy of Treasurer **Frank DeLay**.

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Board Business

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COMMISSIONERS CALENDAR

Feb 3 | Colorado Counties, Inc. Check-In with
Kate Greenberg, Colorado
Commissioner of Agriculture

Feb 3 | Counties & Commissioners Acting
Together Policy Meeting re: Health &
Human Services, Natural Resources /
Environment & Wildlife

Feb 7 | Transit Advisory Committee Meeting
at the WP Town Hall

Feb 10 | Utility Coordinating Committee
Meeting

[Click here to view the BOCC's full calendar.](#)



UINTA RAILWAY PROPOSAL

Water Quality Specialist **Kayli Foulk** discussed the Uinta Railway proposal for a new rail line that connects with Union Pacific's current mainline in Kyune, Utah and across Colorado's West Slope through the Moffat Tunnel into Denver.

The line is being proposed specifically to transport an average of 130,000 to 350,000 barrels of crude oil per day from the Uinta Basin to Gulf Coast refineries.



The Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) has been issued by the federal Surface Transportation Board identifying the 88-mile Whitmore Park Alternative as the environmentally preferred route. The project also lies within Utah's Ashley National Forest Roadless Area. The USFS has approved the right of way, but hasn't issued the final Record of Decision (ROD).

Ms. Foulk presented the potential environmental impacts and water quality concerns in the Headwaters of the Colorado River, in addition to Grand County and the Moffat Tunnel. East Grand Fire Chief **Todd Holzwarth** stated that hazardous materials are currently transported through Grand County, and believes the transport of waxy crude would be similar in number to the coal trains of previous years.

Commissioners opted not to issue a letter of opposition for the project, but - on Chief Holzwarth's recommendation - supported requesting that appropriate mitigation equipment be staged in Grand County, and directed staff to draft letters to that effect to the Surface Transportation Board, USFS, and Senators Bennett and Hickenlooper.

BOARD BUSINESS

- Grand County Library District's request to appoint **Marcus Davis** for District 3 and **Alan Walker** for At-Large B, each for for three-year terms, were approved with no discussion.
- A letter to Annie Sperandio with BLM's Kremmling Field Office in support of the BLM's Land Exchange with Blue Valley Ranch was approved with no discussion.
- Commissioners approved and signed a letter to **Ingrid Karlstrom** in appreciation of and recognizing her 28 years of service to Grand County as a member of the Planning Commission.

MANAGER'S UPDATE

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

- Windy Gap Connectivity Channel: Public notices regarding the Watershed EA public scoping on February 22 at Grand Fire will be posted and mailed soon. Additionally, funding agreements with Northern Water, the River District, NRCS and other entities are being drafted. In addition to construction funding, Agreements include plans for long term maintenance, future adaptive management and monitoring. Construction on the project is anticipated to begin May 15, 2022, with completion by the fall of 2023. County Manager will be bringing several draft agreements to the BOCC.
- County Manager and Water Quality Manager will be meeting with the Bureau of Reclamation Regional Director and Eastern Area Office Manager regarding Grand Lake Clarity and the Windy Gap Firing Project 1041 Permit on Friday February 4.
- County Road 522: A meeting with consulting parties took place as scheduled last week. Consulting parties must provide feedback to the Army Corps of Engineers with their mitigation requests for the POW camp by February 11. It is anticipated that the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will require archeological monitoring during construction. Interpretive signage is also being discussed as part of mitigation efforts.
 - The Corps is drafting a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for all parties to sign; the County will be requesting extension of the 404 permit.
 - Commissioners will need to enter into an agreement with property owners regarding the design of the road ahead of construction, which is anticipate to begin this summer.
 - Wetland Mitigation is a significant component of the project, and can occur simultaneously with design and construction.
- Manager participated in a call hosted by the State regarding the Housing Incentive Program; the program is not directly related to our Housing Authority projects, but rather funding for factory built, pre-fab panel, HUD and small business housing companies.
- On a roundtable call, CWBC provided an update regarding WSRF \$300K fund and \$25K PEPO program. As part of PEPO, there is statewide basin tours being planned this summer; a Headwaters tour is planned for August and is to be organized by the Manager's Office. The Final Colorado Basin Implementation Plan was submitted to the State Attorney General Office for review; specific language related to future Trans-Mountain Diversions and Colorado River flows has not been agreed upon between the Roundtable Members and AG's Office / CWBC.
- Staff is meeting with Winter Park staff regarding the Transit Maintenance Facility and SUP ahead of an upcoming update to the BOCC. Discussion items include the water augmentation plan, building permit, and drainage plans, which are in progress.
- Manager and staff participated in a call with the Towns of Winter Park, Fraser and Granby regarding the structure of a Regional Housing Authority. A meeting with all entities and elected officials is anticipated to take place in March.
- A request to execute the CPW Impact Assistance Grant Application in the amount of \$9,923.48, a was approved as presented.

HOUSE BILL 21-1271 | AFFORDABLE HOUSING STRATEGIES



Grand County Housing Authority Operations Manager **Sheena Darland** introduced a discussion regarding House Bill 21-1271, Innovative Affordable Housing Strategies that was passed and signed in 2021.

Through the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), the bill offers grant funding and other forms of State assistance for local governments to promote innovative solutions to the development of affordable housing. Funds through this bill are only available to municipalities.

In addition to the specifics of the Bill, Commissioners discussed the current Grand County Multi-Family Regulations; HB 21-1271 provides municipalities with grant funding to examine their current building regulations when considering changes to accommodate affordable housing units.

Did you know...

Grand County Housing Authority offers a down payment assistance program?

The program is **not** limited to first-time homebuyers or low-income households. Low and moderate-income homebuyers may apply for down payment and closing costs as necessary to obtain homeownership. [Click here to learn more.](#)



ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Accounting

- Weekly vouchers and wire payments presented by Finance Director **Curtis Lange** were approved as presented.

Clerk & Recorder

A liquor license renewal and change of manager request by Colorado Adventure Park presented by Clerk & Recorder **Sara Rosene** was approved as presented.

Airports

Airport Supervisor **Josh Schroeder** presented three commercial amendments to ground leases for approval:

- Hangar #20 at Granby Airport (GNB) - Approved as presented.
- Hangars C & D at Kremmling Airport (20V) - Approved as presented.

A project at Granby Airport last year required the airport to borrow FAA entitlements from Limon Airport in the amount of \$150,000. A request to transfer Granby Airport's 2022 entitlements to Limon was approved.

Juvenile Services

Juvenile Services Director **Kelly Friesen** presented an out-of-state travel request to attend the annual NCJFCJ conference in Pennsylvania. The request was approved.

Sheriff's Office

Sheriff **Brett Schroetlin** presented several items:

- A contract with Clinical Solutions Pharmacy to provide prescriptions for jail inmates. The contract will result in significant savings on medications prescribed to inmates. The contract was approved with one amendment for the Chair to sign outside of meeting.
- An out-of-state travel request for the Sheriff and two staff members to attend the Western States Sheriff's Association Conference in March in Nevada was approved.
- An out-of-state travel request for Investigator Neil Brown February 6 - 9 as part of an ongoing investigation was approved.

Office of Emergency Management

Emergency Manager **Joel Cochran** gave an update on mobile radar deployment with a recommendation not to continue funding the program this year. Boulder National Weather service stated the additional deployment was not a necessary tool with existing radar coverage and addition of the precipitation gauges which inform forecasters. Commissioners supported the recommendation.

Mr. Cochran also gave an update regarding FEMA reimbursements related to East Troublesome Fire recovery: Grand County was able to recover 100% of cost-share expenses, a total of \$430,276.55.

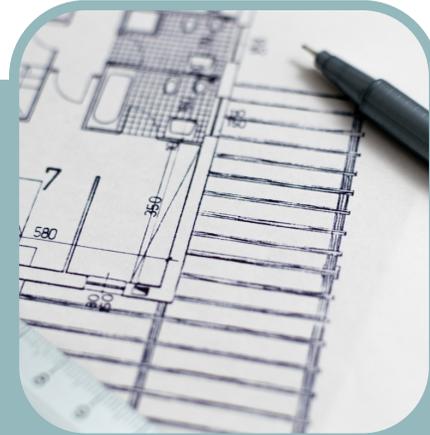
Emergency Medical Services

EMS **Deputy Chief Allen Pulliam** presented a reimbursement request from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Emergency Medical and Trauma System (EMTS) Provider Grant for approval. The grant is funded through motor vehicle registrations in the state, and rural agencies are provided preference when applying.

Grand County Public Health

GCPH Director **Abbie Baker** stated that case rates have dropped significantly in the last two weeks, with only two hospitalizations. One additional death with COVID has been reported; this is an individual who passed away of unrelated cause, but had tested positive for COVID in the last 30 days.

GCPH Medical Officer **Dr. Jason Stuerman** provided an update that supplies of monoclonal antibody treatments are in short supply. Grand County's COVID dashboard is currently undergoing maintenance to correct some of the data, but should be up and running again soon.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Blue Valley Ranch, Pump Area Rest Station Outright Exemption

Approved with amended conditions, including approval of the BVR Land Exchange, and placement of one picnic table at the site.

Sego Blight Hearing

Continued until 11:45 a.m. June 7, 2022.

Shald Subdivision Exemption, Sketch Plan

Approved with amended conditions.

Public Hearing: Flintstone Gravel & Trucking, Inc.

Special Use Permit Amendment | **Approved with staff's conditions as amended.**

Red Hawk Ranch Lots MF-1 & MF-2 Sketch Plan

Continued from Jan 25 | Approved with amended conditions.