



## COMMISSIONERS Corner

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



February 19 was a big day for ice fishing around Grand County.  
Photo courtesy the Kremmling Chamber and the Wolford Reservoir Ice Fishing Tournament.

### In this issue:

HB22-1117 & Board Business

Manager's Update & CR 522  
Workshop | Page 2

Additional Business | Page 3

### COMMISSIONERS CALENDAR

- Feb 22** | CO River Headwaters Connectivity Project Draft Plan EA Meeting
- Feb 23** | Monthly Legislator Breakfast
- Feb 23** | Leaving a Lasting Legacy Workshop (CSU Extension)
- Feb 24-25** | Colorado Counties Inc. (CCI) Steering Committee meetings
- Feb 24** | Counties & Commissioners Acting Together (CCAT) Monthly All-Member meeting
- Feb 28** | Colorado Basin Roundtable Next Steps meeting
- March 2** | GC BOCC Bi-Annual Update to the Town of Fraser
- March 2** | GC Rural Health Network Board Meeting
- March 3** | CO Assoc. of Ski Towns (CAST) Annual Legislative Meeting
- March 3** | Check-In with CO Commissioner of Agriculture Kate Greenberg
- March 4** | CCI Legislative Briefing
- March 4** | Transit Advisory Committee Meeting, Winter Park Town Hall

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



## HB22-1117 | USE OF LODGING TAX REVENUE



Commissioners discussed HB22-1117 - Use of Local Lodging Tax Revenue, with members of the Grand County Tourism Board.

HB22-1117 was drafted by Colorado Counties Inc. (CCI), and is currently under consideration by the State Senate. Grand County's BOCC unanimously supports HB22-1117.

If passed, the bill allows for flexibility in spending lodging tax revenue funds; with a vote, citizens could opt to spend portions of funding that currently can *only* be used for marketing and advertising for other projects - such as housing and childcare for tourism-related workforce, including seasonal workers, and other workers in the community. (Grand County's lodging tax revenue grew 42 percent year-over-year.)

Commissioners encouraged the Grand County Tourism Board to support or take a neutral "No Position" on the proposed legislation. Grand County Tourism Director **Lindsey Morrow** stated that the Tourism Board meets next week, and will discuss its position on the Bill.

### Additional Board Business

- Commissioners approved contributing \$10,000 to study Pre-trial Services for the 14th Judicial District. (In December, the BOCC ear-marked up to \$10,000 toward the study, anticipating the request.)
- Commissioner Cimino gave a brief update on the NACo Legislative Conference he attended last week in Washington D.C.

## Congratulations

Community Development Administrative Assistant **Patty Kemper** is retiring this Friday. On Tuesday, Commissioners presented Ms. Kemper with a challenge coin in recognition of her service to the community and to the County.



**We will miss Ms. Kemper and wish her all the best with this next chapter of life!**

# MANAGER'S UPDATE

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

- The Windy Gap Draft Watershed Plan and Plan-EA public meeting is this evening (Tuesday). There is a remote option for those not able to attend in person due to road conditions.
  - Comments the team has received to date are related to the firming project itself - which are not relevant to the Plan EA and project.
- The Colorado River District, Community Funding Partnership Grant for Windy Gap Connectivity Channel discussion / update was originally scheduled for today. However, Manager has outstanding questions for the River District; the grant will be brought back before the BOCC in the next week or two.
- Re: Middle Park Health's application for a USDA-Rural Development Community Facilities construction loan for a new healthcare facility in Fraser: Manager is meeting with MPH to discuss the application prior to submitting the County's response.
- County Road 522:
  - The Workshop with Pole Creek Valley Owners Association is this afternoon. The discussion will involve the North section of County Road 522.
  - Regarding Phase 1 (County Road 73 to County Road 50), a meeting with landowners has been scheduled for this Wednesday at 3 p.m. to review design, surface type and other engineering aspects of the project.
  - Manager has met with Finance Director **Curtis Lange** to conservatively budget for the project over the next five years.
- Manager is meeting with Town of Winter Park Manager **Keith Riesberg** next week regarding Winter Park Resort's Master Plan, which will ultimately be presented to the U.S. Forest Service for review and approval.

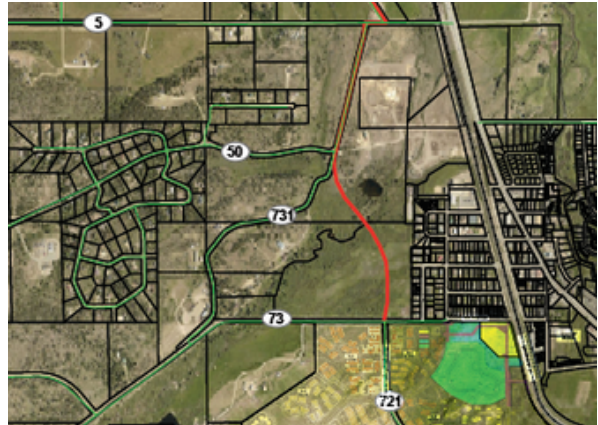
## WORKSHOP | COUNTY ROAD 522

Commissioners hosted a Workshop regarding County Road 522 with the Pole Creek Valley Owners Association. A representative from the Owners Association gave a presentation on behalf of the residents outlining their concerns about the project, including emergency response access, traffic congestion, increased truck traffic, and water supply. [Click here to view the presentation.](#)

Citizen concerns also included if - despite its intention to be for local traffic only - visitor traffic would be diverted onto County Road 522 from U.S. Hwy 40 when traffic on 40 is backed up.

County Engineer **Tim Gagnon** responded to questions and concerns raised by citizens:

- Regarding traffic congestion, Mr. Gagnon stated that - when Red Hawk Ranch is built - increased traffic in the area is an inevitable.
- County Road 522 is an extension of a road and traffic engineering process that was begun in the 1990s based on projected growth in the area since 1977.
- Early planning and mapping indicated that - based on projected neighborhood build-outs - Tabernash needed an alternate direct north-south road to Fraser and Winter Park.



In response to citizen comments to expand U.S. Hwy 40 instead of building County Rd 522, Commissioners reiterated that expanding Hwy 40 is not a decision Grand County can make; the highway is owned and managed by the State / Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT). The County can propose and contribute funds toward improvement projects (like the current one on Red Dirt Hill), however, Grand County competes with all of the other counties, metro areas and I-70 in Colorado for CDOT's time and funding.

**The BOCC is prioritizing the segment of County Road 522 from County Road 73 to County Road 50 as Phase 1.** Following completion of Phase 1, Commissioners will hold future discussions regarding the section from County Road 50 to Tabernash. Approximately 70 percent of Grand County is public lands - which cannot be developed to accommodate population increases; Commissioners stated that - with the current affordable housing crisis - the BOCC receives pressure to allow building for density versus single-family homes.

Manager Moyer gave a status update regarding where the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is at in its discussions with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and mitigating "adverse effects" on the section of County Road 522 from County Road 73 to County Road 50. Once agreed upon, an MOA will be drafted to memorialize what mitigation will be required. If the MOA is completed, along with extension of the 404 permit and finalization of landowner agreements, it is anticipated that the County could break ground on the section from County Road 73 to County Road 50 in 2022. **As this was a Workshop only, no decisions were made.**

## ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

### Accounting

Assistant Finance Director **Cathy Henderson** presented the annual report of fixed assets of review. This was an information item only; no BOCC action was required. [Click here to view the report.](#)

Vouchers and wire payments presented for payment by Finance Director **Curtis Lange** were approved as presented.

### Airports

An Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with CDOT Aeronautics for placement of a weather camera at the Granby Airport presented by Assistant County Manager **Micah Benson** was approved.

An annual Letter of Agreement for Hangar #4 at Granby Airport was also approved with no discussion.

### Clerk & Recorder

Clerk & Recorder **Sara Rosene** presented an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) to perform limited services for the Town of Fraser's April 2022 election. The IGA was approved as presented.

### Coroner

Grand County Chief Deputy Coroner **Tawnya Bailey** submitted a request for a second full-time Deputy Coroner, citing an increasing number of complex cases. The BOCC gave direction to pursue the additional full-time position, bringing the number of full-time deputy coroners to two through 2022, when the office's needs will be re-evaluated.

### Economic Development

An IGA for the Northwest Enterprise Zone presented by County Manager Ed Moyer was approved as presented.

### Housing Authority

Grand Foundation Executive Director **Megan Ledin** gave an update on the affordable housing / workforce housing units Grand Foundation is seeking to purchase in Grand Lake. Ms. Ledin stated that, should the offer be accepted and a contract signed as anticipated, she will provide the BOCC a full update with next steps at a future meeting.

### Public Health

Grand County Public Health Director **Abbie Baker** provided a COVID-19 update for Grand County. Grand County currently has two hospitalizations related to COVID, and no additional deaths. [Click here to view the data dashboard.](#)

Ms. Baker stated the department is planning changes that will be made to disease mitigation efforts when the State moves to standard vs. emergency COVID response.

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

**Resolution 2021-11-23 for the Final Plat, Peters Subdivision Exemption** | Approved as presented.

**Amended Final Plat, Lots 85-87 Block 6 Columbine Lake** | Approved with one amendment.

**Amended Final Plat, Lot 2-56, The Fairways at Pole Creek, Phase 2** | Approved as presented.

## PUBLIC HEARING | BLIGHT ORDINANCE

Second reading of the Proposed, Amended Prevention of Environment Blight Ordinance #6 was continued until March 1.

We're



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Attorney's Office • Road & Bridge • Sheriff's Office • Fairgrounds • Housing Authority  
Clerk & Recorder • Community Development