



# Grand County

Colorado

JULY 12, 2022

## COMMISSIONERS Corner

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

Rich Cimino | District 1  
Merrit Linke | District 2  
Randy George | District 3



Photo courtesy Kevan Sheppard & High Country Stampede Rodeo.

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## EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION



### Welcome!

Randy George, District 3 Commissioner  
Richard Good, Sheriff's Office  
Krista Conrad, Public Health Intern  
Mia Rimmer, EMS intern  
Caitlyn Corcoran, CSU Extension Intern  
Robert Benson, Fairgrounds & Maintenance Intern

### July Anniversaries

Dennis Newell, Assessors Office - 1 Year  
Colin Ledsome, EMS - 1 Year  
Tyson Dearduff, Community Development - 3 Years  
Robert Rauch, Sheriff's Office - 4 Years  
Ron Brynoff, Road & Bridge - 8 Years  
Karla Whitacre, EMS - 14 Years  
**Kristen Manguso, Community Development - 15 Years**  
**Ken Clark, Road & Bridge - 15 Years**  
**Katherine Morris, Water Protection - 15 Years**  
**Tamra Russell, EMS - 20 Years**  
Kelly Friesen, Juvenile Services - 26 Years



## COMMISSIONERS CALENDAR

- July 13** | Department Head Meeting
- July 14** | Utility Coordinating Committee Meeting (Java Lava Cafe)
- July 14** | AGNC Legislative Call (Zoom)
- July 14-15** | Club20 Summer Policy Committee Meetings
- July 15** | CCI Proposed 2023 Legislative Issues Discussion (Zoom)
- July 20** | Commissioner Cimino to speak at Legislative Wildfire Matters Meeting at CCI (Denver)
- July 21-24** | NACo Annual Conference (Aurora)

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

## BOARD BUSINESS

### Board of Equalization

Sitting as the Board of Equalization, the Board approved Resolution 2022-7-3 opening equalization hearings, and approving two referees to hear appeals. During a 2022 update, Grand County Assessor **Tom Weydert** stated that approximately \$19 million in appeals have been filed for 2022. Total taxable property is \$10.1 billion (actual value), which reflects a \$237 million increase since the last assessment.

### Congressman Neguse Mountain Region Staff Introduction

Newly appointed mountain field representative **Julie Sutor** with Congressman Neguse's office introduced herself to the BOCC and led a discussion about Grand County's needs and priorities.

### CCI Legislative Proposals

Commissioner Cimino drafted two legislative issues to propose to Colorado Counties, Inc. (CCI): One regarding the imbalance between short- and long-term rentals in Colorado, and the other regarding the amount of property taxes paid by STR owners. Commissioners Linke and George supported Commissioner Cimino putting these issues before CCI with minor modifications to the form.

- In conjunction with Grand County Mutual Ditch and Reservoir Company, Grand County Irrigated Land Company (aka Vail Ditch Company) has requested a letter of support for a Colorado River District Community Funding Partnership - Accelerator Grant to fund a conservation and efficiency project assessment on the Vail Ditch and associated laterals on the Granby Mesa.
- Windy Gap Connectivity Channel:
  - Manager participated in a conference call with Colorado River Connectivity Channel partners to formalize a partnership agreement regarding operation, maintenance and future funding goals once construction is complete. A separate adaptive management plan will be attached to the partnership agreement.
  - Manager will be making a requests for the initial payment installments in the amounts of \$250,000 / each from the Colorado River District Community Funding Partnership and Grand County OLRT.
  - All construction documents have been approved and authorized.
- County Manager reported on the Grand County, Denver Water and Colorado Water Conservation Board Environmental Flow Decree (11CW152) and recent work on the judge's diligence ruling.
- Manager is working with the Emergency Manager and several district fire chiefs to provide Commissioner Cimino with talking points to address the the Wildfire Matters Interim Committee taking place next week.
- County Road 72:
  - The Town of Fraser owns several parcels of property adjacent to County Road 72. County Road 72 was re-routed to accommodate The Drop trash facility. The Town of Fraser has requested that the County deed the old right-of-way alignment in order to expand The Drop. In addition, the County has requested the Town of Fraser be deeded the section of County Road 72 beyond The Drop to a point adjacent to the Town's public works site and access to a future development in the Town. Manager will be bringing any agreement and deeds back before the BOCC at a future meeting.

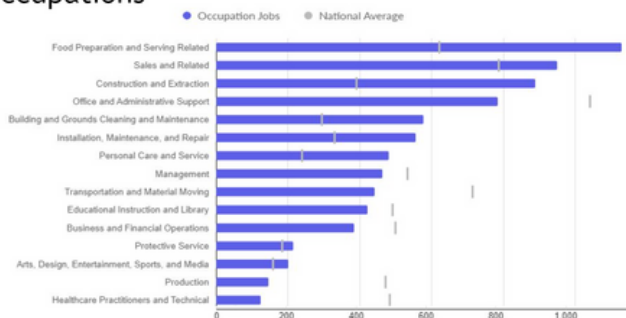
## WORKFORCE UPDATE

Regional Business Services Coordinator **Christina Oxley** with the Colorado Department of Labor & Employment gave an Economic & Workforce Update for Grand County.

Highlights from Ms. Oxley's report include:

- Grand County's population has grown over the last five years, and is expected to continue growing.
- More than half of Grand County's workforce population will be retiring soon.
- Leisure & Hospitality represent Grand County's largest employers.
- The number of small business start-ups in Construction and Professional Services continues to rise.

### Occupations



Hospitality industry jobs represent the majority of jobs currently available in Grand County, and also where growth is expected to take place. [Click here to view the entire report.](#)

Staff is following up with Ms. Oxley on various questions regarding the data.

## 2023 BUDGET

The 2023 budget process is underway. The Budget Preparation Letter presented by Finance Director **Curtis Lange** was approved as presented.

Each County department will be giving short Workshops presentations to the Commissioners in July and early August to provide them with a high-level overview of their requests and needs going in to 2023. This week, the Assessor's Office, Public Health and Veterans Services gave their overviews of anticipated changes:

### Grand County Assessor

- The Assessor's Office workload has significantly increased due to new statutory requirements as well as additional accounts due to recent construction and development. BOCC will be working with the Assessor to evaluate whether it will be most cost effective to hire additional staff to meet the new requirements and workload, or to outsource the work.

### Grand County Public Health

- COVID-19 response funds will be available through 2023, and are anticipated to be available into 2024, which will off-set any COVID-related costs.
- 2023 personnel will increase with the additional environmental health position approved by the BOCC.
- Director would like to add an electronic records system with a potential cost of \$18,000 annually.
- Director is working with community partners to continue offering the Senior Nutrition Program in a cost effective manner.

### Grand County Veteran Services Office

- Director anticipates needing new tires on the dedicated VSO vehicle.
- Director is looking into training opportunities to stay current with Office of Veterans Affairs policies.
- The IGA with Summit County is expected to be renewed.

## ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

### Accounting

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

### Road & Bridge

A Contract Amendment with Acord Asphalt, Inc. amending the Scope of Work in a May 3, 2022 construction contract presented by Assistant County Manager **Micah Benson** was approved as presented.

### Airports

Assistant County Manager **Micah Benson** presented a list of equipment being auctioned by the CDOT Aeronautics Surplus Auction at Denver International Airport in August that Airports Supervisor **Josh Schroeder** has recommended purchasing for Kremmling / McElroy Field and Granby / Emily Warner Field. Purchases for equipment will be partially reimbursed with State grants. Commissioners approved Mr. Schroeder participating in the auction and signing any documents related to purchases not to exceed \$65,000.

### Emergency Watershed Protection

Assistant County Manager **Micah Benson** gave an update regarding Emergency Watershed Protection projects:

- Additional TA funding for engineering has been approved by NCRS.
- Grand County has requested a project extension to December to complete all projects and submit final closeouts.
- Due to the rain events the end of June, NRCS has approved an emergency declaration for Drowsy Water and the County culvert on County Road 219. Additional work will be evaluated for both projects.
- Aerial mulching in Area A has begun; Area B is scheduled for the last week of July.
- Kinney Creek is under close-out.

### Clerk & Recorder

Clerk & Recorder **Sara Rosene** presented the following:

- Fitch Ranch Meats & Liquor License Renewal and Trade Name Change | Approved as presented.
- In her monthly report, Ms. Rosene noted that Clerk revenue for June 2022 is down from 2021. However, revenue remains higher than 2019 and 2020 for the same period.

### Emergency Medical Services

An out-of-state travel request by Grand County EMS **Deputy Chief Allen Pulliam** for **Chief Robert Good** and three EMS staff members to travel to the National EMT EXPO and Conference in Orlando this October was approved.

### Public Health

Grand County Public Health Director **Abbie Baker**'s request to hire an Environmental Health Specialist I to continue meeting the CDPHE requirements for retail food inspections was approved. In addition to the number of Grand County inspections increasing, the State has asked that Grand County assume responsibility for inspections in Jackson County.

## ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

### Housing Authority

An application for exemption from an Affordable Housing Transfer Fee for Lot 21, Unit 2 at Coyote Creek at Winter Park presented by Housing Authority Operations Manager **Sheena Darland** was approved as presented.

### Sheriff's Office

Grand County **Sheriff Brett Schroetlin** updated Commissioners regarding fire restrictions: The scientific matrix indicates that we are getting enough rain and enough moisture to preclude fire restrictions at this time.

### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer **Marcy Wheatley** gave a monthly report:

- 96.4% of property tax payments have been received, totaling \$61.76 million. This amount represents the total that the Treasurer has collected in property tax on behalf of all taxing entities within the County (towns, special districts, county, etc.) There are currently 1,200 delinquent accounts.
- Grand County's unemployment rate is currently 2.4%.
- Inflation remained at 8.6%, and the Federal Reserve raised the prime interest rate to 4.75%, and it is anticipated that another increase is coming.
- Commissioners approved publishing the Treasurer's Report.

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

**Resolution 2022-4-16: Silver Tips Subdivision Lots 23-26 Amended Final Plat** | Approved as presented.

**Resolution 2022-2-8: Phase 2 Sun Valley Ranch Estates Third Amended Final Plat** | Approved as presented.

**Resolution 2022-6-21: Cabins at Porcupine Ridge Amended Final Plat** | Approved as presented.

**Resolution 2021-11-27: Arvada Subdivision Final Plat** | Approved as presented.

## PUBLIC HEARING

**Emore Inc. Heavy Equipment Storage Special Use Permit** | Approved with conditions as presented.



**Grand County's 2022 Primary Election audit was completed with no discrepancies.**

Clerk **Sara Rosene** along with the Commissioners would like to thank our **Election Judges** for diligently overseeing this important process.

**Questions & concerns about election security?**  
Email them to [GrandElections@co.grand.co.us](mailto:GrandElections@co.grand.co.us).