



Grand County

Colorado

OCTOBER 11, 2022

COMMISSIONERS Corner

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

- Richard Cimino | District 1
- Merrit Linke | District 2
- Randy George | District 3



Photo of Granby's iconic, vintage truck piled with pumpkins and mums courtesy Visit Granby.

In this issue:

Employee Recognition, Board Business

Manager's Update, Property Assessment Audit, Wildfire Resiliency Code Workshop, Inclusionary Zoning Workshop, USFS Update | [Page 2](#)

Additional Business, Fee Change Public Hearing, Community Development | [Page 3](#)

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- Stephen Cissel, Road & Bridge - 1 year
- Shayla Steranko, Sheriff's Office - 1 year
- Patrick Wagner, EMS - 1 year
- Richard O'Neil, EMS - 1 year
- Cassandra Van Slyke, CSU Extension - 1 year
- Dustin Sanchez, EMS - 2 years
- Joseph Tort, Sheriff's Office - 2 years
- Tracey Vasquez, Public Health - 4 years
- Laree Howell, Human Services - 4 years
- Larry Banman, Assessor's Office - 8 years
- Luke McDonald, Sheriff's Office - 8 years
- Erica Mentzer, EMS - 9 years
- Shelly Cecil, Public Health - 15 years**
- Tom Weydert, Assessor - 21 years
- Rachel Born, Sheriff's Office - 22 years

WELCOME!

- McKenzie Valance - Human Resources
- Spencer Lyons - Information Systems
- Jessica Lundberg - Dispatch
- Patty Kemper - Community Development

THANK YOU TO OUR DEDICATED TEAM MEMBERS FOR ALL YOU DO TO KEEP OUR COMMUNITY GRAND!



BOARD BUSINESS

Commissioners approved re-appointment of **Janet Thomas** to the Grand County Library District for a term ending December 31, 2025.

Commissioners noted correspondence regarding annual dues from Colorado Counties, Inc. (CCI) and the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG), which is in the 2023 budget.

The Colorado River District provided an amended 2022 budget along with a proposed 2023 budget for Commissioners' review. Commissioners asked Grand County's CRD representative to provide an overview an upcoming meeting.

Commissioner Cimino updated the BOCC regarding a recent CCI policymaking meeting, including legislative issues CCI will be taking up in 2023.



Pictured below: On Friday, Commissioners Linke and George along with County Manager Ed Moyer, Assistant County Manager Micah Benson, Water

Quality Specialist Kayli Foulk and Communications Director Christine Travis attended the ribbon cutting ceremony officially opening Northern Water's Willow Creek facility.



COMMISSIONERS CALENDAR

- Oct 12** | CCI Annual Small Communities Workshop (Chaffee County)
- Oct 13** | Utility Coordinating Committee Meeting (Java Lava)
- Oct 13** | CCAT Transportation 2023 Policy Planning (Zoom)
- Oct 14** | Henderson Mill Water Treatment Plant Follow-Up
- Oct 18** | Summit County Conference Call
- Oct 18** | Bi-Annual Update to Town of Winter Park
- Oct 18** | Monthly Strategy Call with Lobbying Consultants (Zoom)

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

MANAGER'S UPDATE

County Manager **Ed Moyer**

A services contract with Harms and Sons Excavating LLC for snowplow services on County properties in Hot Sulphur Springs presented by Assistant County Manager **Micah Benson** was approved.

Ms. Benson also provided an update on the Waste Tire event held October 1: 778 waste tires were collected for proper disposal and recycling.

A Right-of-Way Easement and Agreement with Mountain Parks Electric, Inc. for underground utilities serving the Winter Park Transit maintenance facility on County Road 5 presented by Manger **Ed Moyer** was approved.

Gross Reservoir:

Manager provided BOCC with an update regarding the Moffat Project / Gross Reservoir expansion, and recent news that the 10th circuit reversed the district court's dismissal of the environmental groups' claims against the project. The Colorado River Cooperative Agreement includes commitments from Denver Water to Grand County that trigger when the project is clear of any litigation and accepts all permits. This recent ruling will extend the timing of this trigger. The West Slope will be meeting to further discuss this matter; staff is also planning to convene a smaller meeting with Denver Water regarding the CRCA triggers.

Sage Grouse:

Natural Resources Foreman will be attending an upcoming Cooperating Agency meeting with the Bureau of Land Management regarding the revised MOU for the Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement, and will provide an update to the BOCC on November 1.

Energy Audit:

Manager provided an update regarding the State Energy Office and its Energy Performance Contracting Program. Staff will be requesting the State Energy Office provide an overview of the program to the BOCC

Veterans Services Office:

Manager met with Summit County regarding Summit's financial contribution to VSO services. (Grand County's VSO also serves veterans in Summit County.)

New 2023 Full-Time Positions

Pursuant to direction provided by the BOCC during Budget Hearings, Manager is drafting a job description for a full-time Project Manager / Grant Writer position. Commissioners provided direction to move forward advertising positions budgeted for 2023 as soon as the job descriptions are available.

Commissioners also provided direction to order vehicles and equipment budgeted for 2023 as soon as possible.

PROPERTY ASSESSMENT AUDIT

Assessor **Tom Weydert** presented results of the 2022 Grand County Property Assessment audit performed by Wild Rose Appraisal, Inc. The audit looked at how the Assessor develops economic areas, confirms and qualifies sales, develops time adjustments and performs periodic physical property inspections. The audit reviewed the procedure for determining subdivision absorption and subdivision discounting. [Click here to read the full study.](#)

WILDFIRE RESILIENCY CODE

Grand Fire Protection District **Chief Brad White** and Interim Emergency Manager **Alexis Kimbrough** led a Workshop discussion with the BOCC concerning the establishment of a Wildfire Resiliency Code Board. [Click here for more information about the proposed legislation.](#)

The Workshop preceded a larger discussion on the matter at an upcoming Colorado Counties Acting Together (CCAT) meeting in November. CCAT is a group of counties and individual commissioners across Colorado working to provide a unified, nonpartisan and independent voice at the Statehouse. *As this was a Workshop, no decisions were made.*

HB21-1117

Community Development Director **Kristen Manguso** led a Workshop discussion regarding HB21-1117: Local Government Authority to Promote Affordable Housing Units. The bill stipulates that if a local government opts to enact inclusionary zoning, it must adopt changes to zoning and land use policies to increase overall density and availability of housing.

Commissioners gave staff direction to evaluate the zoning and regulation actions required to enact inclusionary zoning, and propose changes to the zoning amendments that could increase the number of dwelling units where infrastructure allows. *As this was a Workshop, no decisions were made.*



USFS Sulphur Ranger District Ranger **Eric Freels** provided an update, including changes to the Arapaho & Roosevelt National Forest concessionaire and Christmas tree cutting, and annual USFS road closures that only affect the fourth rifle season, and prescribed burns and overall timber management.

In response to Commissioners concerns about the Sulphur Ranger district office being closed, Mr. Freels also discussed the USFS' plans to communicate with the community via partnerships with other agencies.

The USFS will be implementing the Blue Ridge prescribed fire project in the area near Cottonwood Pass as conditions allow over the coming weeks. [Click here to view a press release and map of the project area.](#)

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Accounting

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

Sheriff's Office

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Town of Kremmling for the Grand County Sheriff's Office to provide oversight to the employees of the Kremmling Police Department presented by **Sheriff Brett Schroetlin** was approved.

Emergency Medical Services

A Statement of Work and authorization to receive funds awarded by the CDPHE Emergency Medical and Trauma System Provider Grant presented by Deputy Chief **Austin Wingate** was approved.

Information Services

An amendment to the Agreement with Tyler Technologies presented by Director and Chief Information Security Officer **Thomas Johnson** was approved.

Clerk & Recorder

RM Concepts LLC Medical Marijuana-Infused Product Manufacturer License presented by Clerk & Recorder **Sara Rosene** was approved.

Ms. Rosene also gave a monthly report regarding clerk fees:

- Revenue for the month of September 2022 compared with 2020 and 2021 was down, however, year-to-date recording revenue has increased.

Regarding the 2022 General Election:

- Ms. Rosene stated that ballots will be mailed October 17. Active Grand County voters may also choose to pick up their ballot at the Clerk & Recorder's office.

Human Services

Director **Deb Ruttenberg** presented several items:

- A one-year subscription with TransUnion Risk and Alternative Data Solutions, Inc. for access to a nationwide database was approved.
- An Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with CDHS Community Partnerships to order and receive nine computers from the State for the child welfare program was approved.
- Services Contracts with Grand County Rural Health Network to provide vouchers for dental and mental health services, and Mountain Family Center to provide cash assistance for housing assistance via Colorado Works / Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funding were approved.
- Revised Colorado Works Policies were approved.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Water Protection

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

- Data from Colorado State University's Colorado Climate Center for the Grand Lake station indicated that precipitation in that area was above average during the summer months.
- Options for structures at Drowsy Water Ranch are being reviewed.
- Meetings with the Bureau of Land Management have taken place regarding additional watershed protection projects on BLM lands.
- East Fork Ditch and Landslide Ditch projects are due to be completed by the end of October.

Treasurer's Office

Treasurer **Marcy Wheatley** provided a monthly update. The Treasurer has advertised property taxes for sale on 264 properties, representing \$550,000 in unpaid taxes. The sale date for this year's taxes is Thursday, November 3. The sale will be held online at: Grand.ColoradoTaxSale.com.

The County's unemployment rate in August of 2022 was 2.4%, compared with 4.6% in August of 2021.

PUBLIC HEARING | FEE CHANGES

Grand County EMS Deputy Chief **Austin Wingate** presented proposed fee increases for 2023, citing the risings cost of fuel and supplies as the reason for the rate increases. Commissioners approved the fee increases, effective January 1, 2023.

Public Health Director **Abbie Baker** also proposed a new fee structure for Environmental Health to cover the cost of staff performing one-time inspections during events. Commissioners approved the fee increases, effective January 1, 2023. [Click here to view the new fee schedules.](#)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Resolution 2022-10-3 Final acceptance of the subdivision improvements for the Ranches at Devil's Thumb subdivision | Approved as presented.

Resolution 2022-10-4 Final acceptance of all subdivision improvements of the Dethmers subdivision | Approved as presented.

Resolution 2021-4-37 Highway (34 & 40) Junction Outright Exemption | Approved as presented.

Resolution 2022-3-10 Shald Subdivision Exemption | Approved as presented.

Fraser's Ridge Subdivision Sketch Plan | Tabled.