



# Grand County

Colorado

Richard Cimino | District 1

Merrit Linke | District 2

Randy George | District 3



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## COMMISSIONERS CALENDAR

**Feb 8-10** | Colorado Preservation Savings Places Conference (Boulder)

**Feb 9** | UCC meeting (Java Lava)

**Feb 10** | Natural Resources Roundtable

**Feb 10-14** | NACo Legislative Conference (Washington, D.C.)

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

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## CPW FISHERIES UPDATE

Colorado Parks & Wildlife (CPW) Hot Sulphur Springs Aquatic Biologist **Jon Ewert** gave an update on the Kemp-Breeze State Wildlife Area Habitat Project.

Mr. Ewert's presentation noted that the invertebrate population in the Colorado River is different than before the Windy Gap Reservoir was constructed. He also noted a decline in the sculpin population; sculpin are more sensitive to changes in river health than trout.



CPW monitors the Colorado River's health and impacts from the Colorado Big Thompson Project. CPW has been performing habitat work on a stretch of the Colorado River known as the Kemp-Breeze State Wildlife Area Habitat Project. [Click here to view a video of the project.](#)

The sculpin population in Grand County is present in all of the rivers and tributaries - except the mainstem between Windy Gap dam and the Blue River confluence near Kremmling. [Click here to view the full presentation.](#)

## BOARD BUSINESS

A letter to **Trust for Public Land** requesting technical assistance regarding efforts to reinstate and possibly expand the current Grand County Open Lands, Rivers and Trails (OLRT) Fund was approved as presented. The BOCC and OLRT Advisory Committee are continuing conversations regarding the OLRT Fund and a potential ballot question on March 7.

**Commissioner George** provided an update from a recent meeting regarding efforts to coordinate sustainability framework within the Grand County Tourism Board sustainability plan and the Winter Park Sustainability Action Plan.

**Commissioner Linke** and Manager **Ed Moyer** provided an update from the recent Colorado River Basin Roundtable meeting. With the recent adoption of the 2023 Colorado Water Plan, Roundtable Chair **Jason Turner** was presented with the Colorado River Basin Water Hero Award.

## MANAGER'S UPDATE

- The Colorado Parks & Wildlife (CPW) Impact Assistance Grant Application in the amount of \$10,038.15 presented by Manager **Ed Moyer** was approved as presented.
- **Sheriff Brett Schroetlin** and Kremmling resident **Paul Bruchez** have both been invited to attend the State of the Union as guests of Arizona **Congressman Andy Biggs** and Colorado **Senator Michael Bennet**.
- The Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Progress Report Form submitted by Headwaters Trails Alliance (HTA) related to the GOCO Resilient Communities grant HTA received was approved as presented by the Manager.
- Assistant Manager **Micah Benson** announced that **Brianna Osborn** has been selected as the CSU Extension Director with a March 1 start date.
- Closing documents for the purchase of the Human Services building located at 129 East Byers Ave. in Hot Sulphur Springs were approved as presented by County Attorney **Maxine LaBarre-Krostue**.
- County Manager updated BOCC on the recent Colorado Water Congress concerning upper and lower basin matters.
- News stories regarding Colorado River water matters, including the Bureau of Reclamation's water usage reduction proposal signed by six of seven Colorado River Basin states have been compiled and provided to the BOCC and public via the Box. [Click here to view the Box](#).
- County Manager provided the State Demographer **Elizabeth Garner**'s recent population trend presentation.

### County Road 522

- County Manager discussed applying for a Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability with Equity (RAISE) grant to help fund the cost of construction and wetland mitigation. Communications Director **Christine Travis** is taking the lead preparing the grant application.
- Information regarding the wetland mitigation plan and financial assurance was submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) on Friday, meeting the established deadline.

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

**Resolution No. 2023-02-02, Correcting Resolution No. 2022-5-20** | Approved as presented.

**Resolution No. 2023-02-, Granting a One-Year Extension to the Sketch Plan Approval for the Red Hawk Multi-Family Planning Areas 1 and 2** | Continued.

## DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

### Accounting

Finance Director **Curtis Lange** presented several items:

- A software agreement with OpenGov, Inc. renewing the contract for budgeting and finance software was approved as presented.
- Resolution 2023-02-01, Approving and Authorizing Execution of a Collaborative Management Memorandum of Understanding pursuant to HB 04-1451 by and between multiple agencies and appointing Mountain Family Center as fiscal agent, was approved as presented. The resolution approves Grand County's Finance Department to release \$156,624.52 to Mountain Family Center to deliver services to children, youth and families of Grand County.
- Vouchers, wire payments and interfund transfers for payment on Wednesday, February 8 were approved as presented.

### Airports

A ground lease assignment for Hangar No. 14 at Granby Airport to Rocky Mountain Triangle presented by Airport Supervisor **Josh Schroeder** was approved as presented.

### Judicial Services

A letter of support to the Town of Hayden in support of Mind Spring Health's application for the NorthWest Colorado Region 1 Opioid Settlement Fund Youth Prevention for Substance Use Disorders grant application presented by Director **Kelly Friesen** was approved as presented.

### Human Services

Director **Deb Ruttenberg** presented several items:

- An amendment to consulting services agreement with MGT of America Consulting, LLC to manage the County's 2 CFR Part 200 Compliant Cost Allocation Plan for the current fiscal year was approved as presented.
- An out-of-state travel request for a case worker related to an ongoing child welfare case was approved as presented.

### Water Protection

At the BOCC's direction, Water Quality Specialist **Kayli Foulk** presented letters of opposition to Governor Polis and our U.S. Senators and Representative opposing the Uinta Basin Railway until mitigation conditions are met. The letters were approved as presented.

### Public Health

Director **Abbie Baker** presented several items:

- A Master Task Order with CDPHE to increase the availability of overdose prevention tools, specifically synthetic opiate detection tools, was approved as presented.
- The Colorado Interactive PayPort Agreement for GCPH to accept online, credit card and other electronic payments was approved as presented.

### Housing Authority

Operations Manager **Sheena Darland** presented several items:

- The Black Bear Apartments Management & Tenant Plans were approved as presented.
- The Agreement for Conveyance and Donation of Real Estate to convey and donate the Black Bear Lodge property from the Grand Foundation to GCHA was approved as presented. The property will be used for families displaced by the East Troublesome Fire and workforce housing.

## ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Pursuant to Resolution No. 2023-01-04, Assessor **Tom Weydert** presented a request to refund taxes in the amount of \$7,439.12 to Capstone Property Group LLC due to a clerical error. The refund request was approved as presented.

## PUBLIC HEARING

**Grand County Housing Authority Post-Award, Single-Family Owner-Occupied Rehab Program**  
Colorado Division of Housing CDBG Project Completion Report | Approved as presented.

## SAGE GROUSE PLAN UPDATE

Natural Resource Foreman **Amy Sidener** gave an update regarding the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Greater Sage Grouse Programmatic Draft EIS Update.

As a Cooperating Agency, Grand County has been asked by the BLM to comment on the 2015 and 2019 Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plans as alternatives and amendments are considered.

## WORKSHOP: INCLUSIONARY ZONING

Commissioners hosted a joint workshop with the Grand County Planning Commission to discuss Inclusionary Zoning and Short-Term Rentals.

The discussion included HB21-1117, Local Government Authority Promote Affordable Housing Units, concerning the ability of local governments to promote the development of new affordable housing units pursuant to their existing authority to regulate land use within their territorial boundaries. *As this was a Workshop, no decisions were made.*

## STEWARDSHIP TRUST

In response to a request for comment on the nomination of the Milk Creek State Trust Land for Stewardship Trust Designation, BOCC requested the State Land Board make a presentation regarding the proposal. Current lessees of the Milk Creek property were also invited to comment on the proposal.

Stewardship Trust Manager **Lindsay Brandt** with the State Land Board gave a presentation to the BOCC regarding the purposes and principles of stewardship trust designations.

The Stewardship Trust was established in the Colorado Constitution in 1876, and given fiduciary responsibility to produce reasonable and consistent income over time and sound stewardship with Amendment 16 in 1996. Volunteer Commissioners are appointed by the Governor.

The Stewardship Trust is not a conservation program; it is a management program. Grand County currently has one Trust property - the Kremmling Cretaceous Ammonite Locality. Sites nominated for the Stewardship Trust are evaluated on seven criteria: Rare Plants, Wildlife, Beauty, Open Space, Cultural & Geologic, Hydrology and Potential Conservation Areas.



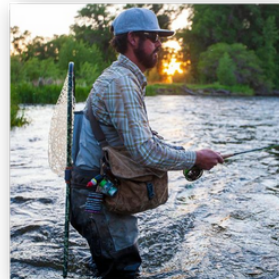
*The Milk Creek State Trust Lands (17,801.15 acres north of Kremmling) was nominated for the State Land Board's Stewardship Trust.*

The BOCC received numerous concerns about the proposed stewardship trust designation from the various lessees. Due to these concerns, Commissioners directed staff to draft a letter to the Land Trust Board outlining these concerns. Comments are due to the Land Trust Board by February 17.

## GRAND COUNTY SHERIFF, RANCHER & COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD MEMBER INVITED TO STATE OF THE UNION



Grand County **Sheriff Brett Schroetlin** and current President of the Western States Sheriffs' Association, is honored to accept the invitation by **Congressman Andy Biggs** from Arizona's 5th District as his guest to President Biden's State of the Union address on Tuesday, February 7th. This prestigious event will take place in the Chamber of the United States House of Representatives to the 118th United States Congress in Washington, D.C.



Colorado U.S. **Senator Michael Bennet** announced that **Paul Bruchez**, a 5th generation rancher from Kremmling, Colorado, will join him as his guest to President Biden's State of the Union address on Tuesday, February 7th. Bruchez operates Reeder Creek Ranch with his brother and father, and currently spearheads a 12-mile restoration of the Colorado River in collaboration with 12 landowners to sustain agriculture and the environmental health of the river.