



Grand County

Colorado

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



The mighty, muddy Colorado River on a bluebird spring day.

In this issue:

Board Business

Page 2:

Manager's Update
Department Business

Page 3:

Antero Group Introduction
Attorney Update
Public Hearing
Community Development
Detention Bed Increase
Tourism Ballot Initiative

Page 4:

Employee Recognition



BOARD BUSINESS

Commissioners approved a letter to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services re: Docket No. FWS-R6-ES-2022-0100, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Draft Rule and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) to Establish a Non-Essential, Experimental Population of the Gray Wolf in Colorado Under Section 10(j) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA).



Pictured at left: Last week, **Commissioner Linke** (left) and **Commissioner George** (right) participated in a public meeting with **Congressman Joe Neguse** in Kremmling. Many topics were discussed, including the Colorado River, water conservation, the condition of US 40, and wolf reintroduction. Commissioner Linke requested the Congressman's support of **Senate Bills 23-255** (Wolf Depredation Compensation Fund) and **23-256** (Management of Gray Wolves Reintroduction).

Commissioners approved drafting a letter to Colorado Senators encouraging them to support **SB23-256, Management of Gray Wolves Reintroduction**, concerning prerequisites to the management of gray wolves prior to the wolves being reintroduced. SB23-256 goes before the Senate Appropriations Committee Friday, April 14.

Commissioners also approved drafting a letter to the Senate Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee in support of **SB23-270, Projects to Restore Natural Stream Systems**, concerning projects that restore the environmental health of natural stream systems without administration. SB23-270 goes before the Senate Agriculture & Natural Resources committee Thursday, April 13.



Pictured at left: **Commissioners Linke and George**, along with Grand County EMS **Chief Robert Good** thanked **Representative Neguse** for selecting GCEMS' new central station project to move forward for consideration to receive Community Project Funding.

Community Project Funding (CPF) allows members of Congress to provide greater input on how funding will be directed to specific state or local governments or eligible non-profit recipients.

Commissioners gave an update regarding a recent meeting with representatives from the Union Pacific Railroad, DOLA and several other counties that took place on a train trip from Denver to Winter Park to discuss the Moffat Tunnel lease renewal. Commissioners used the opportunity to also discuss trains blocking crossings in Grand County.

MANAGER'S UPDATE

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

- EMS submitted an application to the Division of Local Affairs (DOLA) for an Energy Impact Assistance Fund grant to help construct a new central station.
- At a recent Insurance Committee meeting, the Committee received an update regarding the dispute between Kroger and ExpressScripts. To minimize further disruption to employees, the Insurance Committee recommended making no further changes to the pharmacy benefit plan until 2024. Commissioners supported that recommendation.
- Manager recently met with the Town of Granby and Grand County Rural Health Network (RHN) regarding RHN's Freeport McMoRan Foundation grant, and to discuss the potential for a multi-use building to house RHN, other non-profits, and possibly County Human Services and Public Health.
- Regarding County Road 522: Manager is finalizing right-of-way acquisitions. An executive session will be scheduled regarding the matter on April 18.
- Manager gave an update regarding Phase 2 of Colorado River Cooperative Agreement (CRCA) Article III.E.14 and Phase 2 of the Fraser River Pumpstation Pipeline and Discovery Park Pond. Phase 2 plans to construct a new pumphouse on the Vasquez Canal and the Discovery Park Storage Pond will be presented to the Commissioners for approval at a future meeting.
- Climax Molybdenum Company's Henderson Mine and Mill submitted a notice that it intends to submit an application to the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board to amend its Mining Reclamation Permit to increase their mine land boundary to accommodate additional water quality infrastructure and monitoring wells. The topic is scheduled for April 18th's BOCC meeting at 11:30 a.m.
- Colorado River District is planning Grand County's State of the River annual presentation for May 22 at Sun Outdoors in Granby.
- CDOT has planned pothole repairs on US 40 in the area of Berthoud Pass this week. Another crew will be mobilized the week of April 24 to address potholes.
- Manager gave an update regarding a recent Windy Gap Partner call. Construction is expected to resume in late May. In late August / early September, the old section of the dam will be breached to make the connection. Restoration and planting is currently planned for 2024. It is unlikely that pumping will take place from Windy Gap this year.
- On behalf of the Middle Park Fair & Rodeo Board, Assistant County Manager **Micah Benson** presented the Fair Board's recommendation to appoint **David Buckley** to the Fair Board for a three-year term. Commissioners approved the request.

DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

ACCOUNTING

Vouchers, wire payments and interfund transfers for payment on Wednesday, April 11 were approved as presented by Finance Director **Curtis Lange**.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

A request by EMS **Chief Robert Good** to waive section 4.08 of the Grand County Personnel Manual for **Richard McGraw**, who is going from full-time to part-time employment was approved as presented.

AIRPORTS

A draft grant agreement from the Colorado Department of Transportation, Colorado Aeronautical Board, Division of Aeronautics for Airfield Pavement Maintenance at both Kremmling Airport (20V) and Granby Airport (GNB) was approved as presented for Chair to DocuSign by Airports Supervisor **Josh Schroeder**.

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Assessor **Tom Weydert** gave an update to the BOCC regarding the office's 2023 printing budget. The office will incur additional expenses this year due to printing a postcard that will be mailed to all Grand County property owners in advance of Notices of Value.

CLERK & RECORDER

Clerk & Recorder **Jolene Linke** presented a monthly report, stating recording revenues increased for the month of March over March 2022. Mrs. Linke also stated she is in discussions with the State to get obtain an MVExpress kiosk to be located at City Market in Granby.

PUBLIC HEALTH

A Services Contract with Central Electric, LLC to install a backup power generator for the vaccine refrigerator and freezer located in the Public Health office was approved as presented by Director **Abbie Baker**.

A fee schedule for private well testing was approved as presented by Environmental Health Manager **Hannah Wynd**.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Resolution 2022-12-27, Amended Final Plat of Lots 9 and 10, Block 4 of Pine Beach Subdivision was approved as presented by Director **Kristen Manguso**.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE / JUDICIAL SERVICES

Director **Kelly Friesen** presented several items:

- A Contract Amendment #1 with CDHS Behavioral Health Administration to administer the Jail Based Behavior Health program was approved as presented.
- Colorado Youth Detention Continuum (Form CYCD) 14th JD Sub-Grantee Agreement was approved as presented.
- Colorado Youth Detention Continuum (Form Sentate Bill 94) 14th JD Sub-Grantee Agreement was approved as presented.

TREASURER'S OFFICE

Treasurer **Marcy Wheatley** presented a quarterly report:

- As of April 4, the Treasurer's Office has received \$29.5 million (45%) of total taxes due.
- Three foreclosures have been filed (and the office has been notified that a fourth will be submitted) to date in 2023.
- Grand County's unemployment rate increased slightly in February to 2.7%, which is a total of 270 unemployed individuals.

ANTERO GROUP INTRODUCTION


Eric Neagu and **Vita Khosti** with Antero Group gave a presentation regarding the Grand County Tourism Revitalization Plan.

In 2022 Grand County Economic Development was awarded a \$400,000 grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) to fund the project, which consists of four main tasks:

1. **Kickoff and Data Collection** with existing tourism-based stakeholder groups to gather existing infrastructure plans, transportation networks, and socioeconomic and demographic data.
2. **Prioritization Strategy** that will identify project needs and budgets, along with a study of economic data and drivers.
3. **Development of a Visitor Toolkit** that includes wayfinding signs, a GIS storymap / interactive web tour and universal QR codes for stakeholders to use.
4. **Final Presentation and Adoption** to be presented for stakeholders for approval and implementation.

Mr. Neagu and Ms. Khosti outlined three project goals:

- Develop a resilience strategy to help protect the County's economy from seasonal fluctuations and provide year-round economic stability.
- Identify solutions to disperse activity throughout the County's geography to expand economic opportunity and mitigate congestion.
- Develop policy to encourage sustainable infrastructure within the tourism industry.

[Click here to view the presentation.](#) 



Notices of Valuation

In Colorado, property is valued every 2 years for property tax purposes.

Notices of Valuation will be mailed to every Grand County property owner on May 1, 2023.

VALUATION FACTS

- Home values in Grand County followed state and national trends, and rose significantly in 2021 and 2022.
- Property is valued as of an appraisal date, which for this period, was June 30, 2022. (The study period was July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2022.)
- By State statute, the Assessor cannot consider any market data from after June 30, 2022 for the 2023 valuation.

To learn more, visit GrandCo.us/Assessor.

ATTORNEY UPDATES

County Attorney **Maxine LaBarre-Krostue** presented the following:

- Resolution No. 2023-04-01 amending Resolution 2023-01-09 | Approved as presented.
- Resolution No. 2023-04-02 amending Resolution 2023-01-03 | Approved as presented.
- Asphalt consultants are being interviewed to analyze and provide recommendations on County Road 22. A recommendation will be brought to the BOCC for approval.
- Following background on the legal issues surrounding Village Drive, Commissioners instructed the Clerk to record the deed to transfer ownership of Village Drive to Grand County, as contemplated in 1975.

PUBLIC HEARING

Middle Park Fair & Rodeo Special Use Permit to sell liquor at the Flying Heels Arena during cornhole tournaments | Approved as presented.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Straub Outright Exemption | Approved as presented.

DETENTION BED INCREASE

Judicial Services Director **Kelly Friesen** led a discussion with the BOCC regarding increasing the number of detention beds available for juveniles in Colorado. The number of beds in the youth center is currently capped at 215.

Since 2020 juvenile services has seen an increase in the number of violent crimes being committed by juveniles - requiring an increase in the number of beds available in detention centers. Ms. Friesen asked Commissioners to engage in discussions with Colorado Counties Inc. (CCI) to support increasing the number of beds available at Colorado's Youth Centers to 238.

Commissioners stated they would request the topic be added to CCI's upcoming Steering Committee Meetings.

TOURISM BALLOT INITIATIVE

Commissioners had a follow-up Workshop with Grand County Tourism Board President **Ron Ellis** and Executive Director **Lindsey Morrow** regarding HB22-1117, Use of Local Lodging Tax Revenue, concerning the use of revenue from a local tax on lodging.

Passed during the 2022 Legislative session, the act expands the allowable uses of the revenue from a local marketing district's marketing and promotion tax and a county's lodging tax to including workforce housing and childcare, facilitating and enhancing visitor experiences, and capital expenditures related to these new purposes. Voter approval must be obtained to use the tax revenue for the new allowable uses.

Following lengthy discussion on current tax revenue, marketing expenditures, and grants to chambers, Commissioners stated they would like to include as many uses as allowed by the act. Commissioners also proposed a .2% increase in lodging tax (from 1.8% to 2.0%) to Grand County voters, and directed the County Attorney to draft ballot language. The next Workshop on this topic is tentatively scheduled for May 23.

Welcome!

Katherine Stauhs - Sheriff's Office
Samuel Norman - EMS
Christopher "Chris" Cheevers - EMS
Mr. Cade Kuxhausen - EMS
Colette Palmquist - EMSs
Zachary "Zach" Rocco - EMS
Daniel "Dan" Shisler - EMS
Joanne Tennant - EMS
Benjamin "Ben" Vaught - EMS

Thank You!

To our staff celebrating employment anniversaries this month:
THANK YOU for service to our Grand community!

Nicole DeAvila - Sheriff's Office, 1 Year
Jorune Klisauskaite - Community Development, 1 Year
Randi Pepper - Coroner, 1 Year
Benjamin Steinle - Sheriff's Office, 2 Years
Magli Escobedo Amaya - Public Health, 2 Years
Neil Brown - Sheriff's Office, 4 Years
Eric Selzer - Information Systems, 5 Years
Aaron Trainor - Sheriff's Office, 6 Years
Alan Gonano - Emergency Medical Services, 6 Years
George "Tom" Clark - Road & Bridge, 9 Years
Curtis Lange - Accounting, 9 Years
Lacie Barbee - Sheriff's Office Dispatch, 9 Years
Thomas "Tom" Manguso - Sheriff's Office Dispatch, 11 Years
Janette Fudge - Treasurer's Office, 15 Years
Cathy Henderson - Accounting, 16 Years
Ryan Gallagher - Emergency Medical Services, 17 Years
Teresa "Teri" Hertel - Clerk & Recorder's Office, 18 Years



*Pictured at far left: Commissioner Cimino congratulates Treasury Coordinator / Deputy Public Trustee **Janette Fudge** for 15 years of service.*

*Pictured at left: Commissioner Cimino congratulates Computer Technician **Eric Selzer** for 5 years of service.*

To the voices on the other end of the line 24/7/365: **THANK YOU.**

Grand County's Dispatch / Communications Center answers and dispatches emergency and non-emergency calls for *all* of Grand County's law, fire, medical, and search and rescue agencies.



This National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week, on behalf of the entire Grand community, we'd like to thank:

Lacie Barbee | Jeff Bauckman | Rachel Born | Jodie Kern | Jarrod Manguso | Tom Manguso | Ashley Newton | Shayla Steranko