



SOUTHWEST COLORADO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Regular Board Meeting Agenda

Thursday, 14 October 2021

1:30 – 4:00 pm

Remote Meeting Only

Zoom Meeting ID: 964 1237 6617

<https://zoom.us>

- I. Introductions
- II. Public Comment – 5 minutes per person
- III. Consent Agenda
 - a. September 2021 Board Minutes
 - b. August 2021 Financials
- IV. Presentation
- V. Discussion Items
- VI. Decision Items
 - a. Additional Staffing Needs
 - b. MOU with Regional Housing Alliance of La Plata County
 - c. Letter of Support Ratification – Axis Health Care
- VII. Reports

Staff will be available for questions on the written reports

 - a. Attend Report
 - b. Director's Report
 - c. Broadband Report
 - d. Fiscal Administration Report
 - e. Grant Updates
 - f. Transportation/Transit Report
- VIII. Community Updates (time permitting)

Introductions

Public Comment

Please limit comments to 5 minutes per person

Consent Agenda

**Southwest Colorado Council of Governments
September Board Meeting
Thursday, 16 September 2021, 3:00 p.m.
Video Conference**

In Attendance:

Mike Lavey - City of Cortez
Olivier Bosmans – City of Durango
Willy Tookey - San Juan County
Gloria Kaasch-Buerger - Town of Silverton
David Black – Town of Bayfield
Andrea Phillips - Town of Pagosa Springs
Marsha Porter-Norton – La Plata County
Alvin Schaaf – Archuleta County
Katie Sickles - Town of Bayfield

Staff in Attendance:

Miriam Gillow-Wiles – SWCCOG
Bryce Bierman – SWCCOG
Jessica Laitsch – SWCCOG

Guests in Attendance:

Kelly Polites - Town of Bayfield
Stella Cox - Town of Ignacio
Clyde Church - La Plata County
Kevin Hall - City of Durango
Kim Baxter - City of Durango
Elizabeth Falcon - Housing Solutions for the Southwest
Ashley Powell - La Plata County
Joan Fauteaux – Durango Area Association of Realtors
Elizabeth Salkind – Housing Solutions for the Southwest
Lori Zazzaro - Town of Bayfield
Meade Harbison – Southern Ute Growth Fund
Shannon Najmabadi - Colorado Sun
Tommy Crosby - City of Durango
Mark Williams - City of Durango Planning Department
Brigid Korce - Housing Solutions for the Southwest
Laura Lewis Marchino – Region 9
Michael French – La Plata County Economic Development Alliance
Mike Kosdrosky – Workforce Housing Solutions
Savannah Lytle - City of Durango Planning Department
Scott Shine - City of Durango Planning Department
Dan Armentano - City of Durango
Andrew Atchley – Department of Local Affairs
Mike Segrest – La Plata County
Rachel Medina – City of Cortez
Helen Katich - Senator Hickenlooper’s Office
Shari Pierce – Town of Pagosa Springs
Heidi Aggeler – Root Policy Research

Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 pm (Quorum Present)

Public Comment

None.

Consent Agenda

- a. August 2021 Board Minutes
- b. July 2021 Financials

Olivier Bosmans motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented. Marsha Porter-Norton seconded, unanimously approved.

Presentation

- a. Regional Housing Study Presentation

Heidi Aggeler presented the Regional Housing Study, including information related to demographic information for the region and suggestions and other contributions from stakeholders.

Oliver asked what data was used for the report. Heidi confirmed the 2019 American Community Survey was one of the main sources used to capture the data, and that more current data was included within the report to supplement the data.

Marsha asked if Root is also breaking down the number of units built by county. Heidi mentioned the report does include the data that can be viewed by county or regionally.

David asked Heidi if they went back to past studies to compare the methodology for collecting data. Heidi said they did review past studies in cooperation with Housing Solutions for the Southwest and SWCCOG. David also asked what trends she sees regarding short-term rentals effect on the housing stock. Heidi said the trend direction is more important than the exact numbers; she believes demand for short-term rentals will increase over the next few years.

Marsha asked Heidi if there is a successful place in Colorado where more than one county have come together as a region to work for housing, and if there was use of a regional tax. Boulder valley is the best example of cooperation across jurisdictional lines, but Heidi is not aware of a multi-county success in Colorado regarding a regional tax. There has been success in the counties surrounding Portland. Marsha said the long-term conversation should be around determining the COG's role.

Olivier asked Heidi if she could include data in the appendix. Heidi said she can do that as a standalone appendix. Olivier asked if there is a percentage in the price point where deed restriction does not make sense. Heidi replied that the exact price point is not clear, but part of the economic feasibility measurement considers those factors. Olivier said there are some indications that deed restrictions have not been successful in Durango. Olivier asked if there is any data regarding how deed restricted houses perform over-time. Heidi said Summit County and Denver have done quite a bit of research regarding deed restrictions. Clyde asked if anyone has tried an escalation deed restriction where the owner gains equity, although slowly over time. Heidi said some programs are using that strategy.

Marsha mentioned that deed restrictions are one tool of many available to the COG regarding the development of affordable housing. Marsha asked if this is something the COG would take on or if there are other groups in the region who would be a better fit. David mentioned the five counties have different needs and finding the right land that is accessible to utilities is the most important task now.

Andrea mentioned Pagosa Springs has been spending a lot of time on developing town owned sites. They have an RFP out now for the second time and are seeking development partners.

Andrea mentioned if infrastructure runs to the properties, it makes the opportunities more feasible. Andrea asked if the Root study should be applied on a regional basis or by jurisdiction, specifically she is worried the efforts may be diluted if we take a regional approach as it will discourage the towns from applying for projects on their own. Heidi said that site planning would probably be most appropriate at the town or city level, rather than regional. Elizabeth said the diversity of the municipalities isn't necessarily a barrier to a regional approach, and that barriers for development are often very similar across different towns of different sizes.

Rachel said a major barrier in Cortez is plotted sub-divisions with no utilities. The city can't afford to run infrastructure to the subdivisions, and this is where regional funding may be useful. David recommended creating metropolitan districts for these subdivisions to complete the development. Rachel felt this may put more of the cost burden on the city, but David mentioned the cost would be put back onto the individual lots available and their owners. Miriam mentioned the HB21-1271 grant could be used to address the need of utility access.

Marsha recommended taking this information back to the member jurisdiction Boards and have further conversations as to the SWCCOG's role regarding housing.

Olivier mentioned that the member jurisdictions shouldn't delay any plans for development while waiting on a regional effort. He said, every community can run at their own pace, but the SWCCOG jurisdictions should also organize together to create a larger project for a developer.

Marsha Porter-Norton motioned to take time outside of the COG meetings to deliberate regarding the Root Housing Study to come back to the October 14th meeting with recommendations, Andrea Phillips seconded, unanimously approved.

Miriam offered support if Board members need help presenting the Root study to their respective Boards.

Discussion Items

None.

Decision Items

a. Letters of Support – Ratification and Approval

Miriam presented the five letters of support to the Board.

David Black motioned to approve the HSSW Enterprise Zone letter of support, Marsha Porter-Norton seconded, unanimously approved.

Olivier Bosmans motioned to ratify the four letters of support for Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Greyhound Lines, Housing Solutions for the Southwest, and Montezuma Public Transportation, Alvin Schaff seconded, unanimously ratified.

b. SWCCOG DOLA TA Grant Application

Tabled until 2022 as the deadline had changed. Miriam mentioned the COG could use more staff help to keep up with all the available grants.

c. Workforce Development Grant Application

Initial approval was given by the Executive Committee for the Upskilling, Reskilling, and Next-Skilling program. The program will be geared toward higher income skilled trades with a focus on certifications, and creation of an apprenticeship program in cooperation with PCC and local school districts.

Willy Tookey motioned to ratify the application for the Workforce Development Grant. Marsha Porter-Norton seconded, unanimously approved.

d. Regional Housing Planning Grant Application

Miriam mentioned this planning grant could help identify parcels of land. The intention is not to usurp the jurisdictional zoning or land use but identify how each jurisdiction can offer variances in support of the development of affordable housing. Grant money from Housing Solutions grant is eligible for matching funds, so the SWCCOG would need about \$10,000 in total cash funds to match. Marsha mentioned a modular home builder may be the path forward to work together on a regional level. Andrea asked about the status for the housing sub-committee for the SWCCOG. Miriam said the group has not been formed yet but would be useful to pursue. Elizabeth mentioned streamlining for affordable housing to help overcome the pre-development costs to the developers. Olivier expressed his excitement for this regional effort.

Olivier Bosmans motioned to approve the application for the Regional Housing Planning Grant. Gloria Kaasch-Buerger seconded, unanimously approved.

Reports

No reports this month.

Community Updates

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 pm

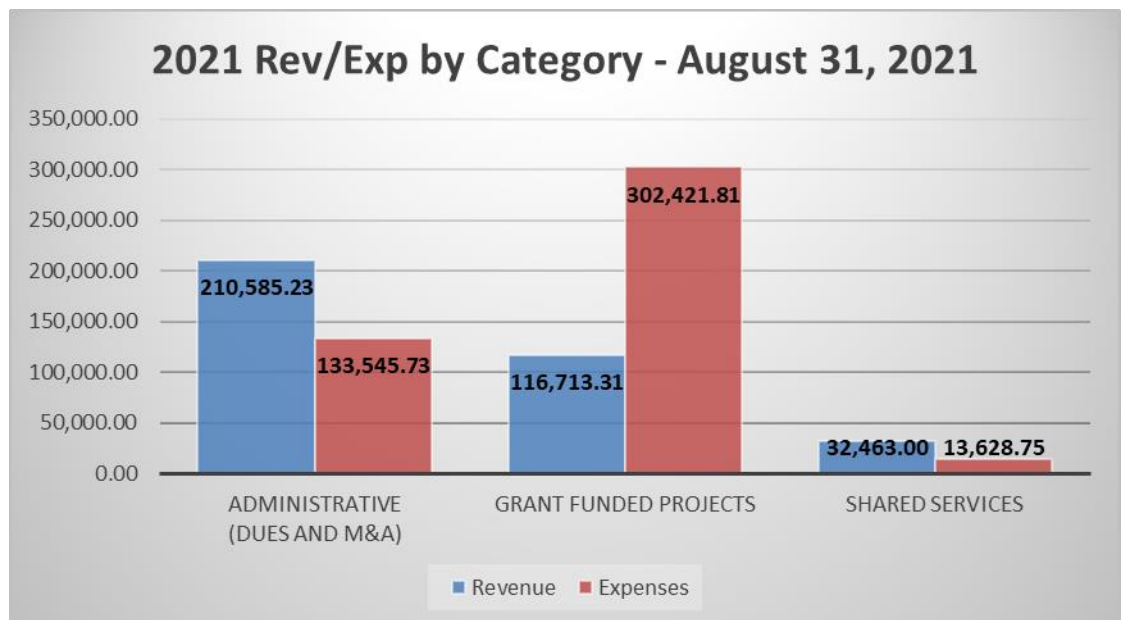
August 2021 Financials

To: SWCCOG Board of Directors
From: Jessica Laitsch
Date: 14 October 2021

- Comments: The following reports are attached:
- Balance Sheet as of 31 August, 2021
 - Budget vs. Actuals as of 31 August, 2021

Summary:

The net income in August 2021 is negative. This is due to two large grants recently ending with the reimbursements associated with these activities pending.



Fiscal Impact: High, overall financial status of the organization

Legal Review: Not applicable

Staff Recommendation: Approve the August 2021 Financials

Southwest Colorado Council of Governments

Balance Sheet As of August 31, 2021

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Alpine Bank	0.00
Alpine Bank Account (UR)	-2,546.63
Fiber Equip Fund - Restricted	0.00
Total Alpine Bank	-2,546.63
Petty Cash	22.97
AmeriCorps VISTA	95.10
Jessica Laitsch	0.00
Total Petty Cash	118.07
Total Bank Accounts	\$ -2,428.56
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	60,833.97
Total Accounts Receivable	\$60,833.97
Other Current Assets	
Prepaid Expense	0.00
Undeposited Funds	0.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$0.00
Total Current Assets	\$58,405.41
TOTAL ASSETS	\$58,405.41

Southwest Colorado Council of Governments

Balance Sheet As of August 31, 2021

	TOTAL
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
Accounts Payable	53,602.84
Total Accounts Payable	\$53,602.84
Credit Cards	
Credit Cards	0.00
Jessica	2,751.28
Miriam	872.23
Sara	0.00
Total Credit Cards	3,623.51
Total Credit Cards	\$3,623.51
Other Current Liabilities	
Accrued Wages	0.00
Deferred Revenue	0.00
Payroll Liabilities	1,347.21
457 Retirement Due	4,720.73
CEBT Health Insurance Due	-1,567.69
Total Payroll Liabilities	4,500.25
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$4,500.25
Total Current Liabilities	\$61,726.60
Total Liabilities	\$61,726.60
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	0.00
Retained Earnings	26,991.28
Net Income	-30,312.47
Total Equity	\$ -3,321.19
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$58,405.41

Southwest Colorado Council of Governments
Budget vs. Actuals: 2021 Budget - FY21 P&L
August 2021

	Total			
	Actual	Budget	Remaining	% Received
Income				
Dues Revenue				
COG Dues	164,205.00	137,081.00	-27,124.00	119.79%
SWTPR Contributions	5,914.00	5,342.00	-572.00	110.71%
Total Dues Revenue	\$ 170,119.00	\$ 142,423.00	-\$ 27,696.00	119.45%
Grant Project Income				
All Hazards	17,896.27	156,900.00	139,003.73	11.41%
CDOT Grants				
SWTPR Grant	563.30	11,050.00	10,486.70	5.10%
Transit FTA 5310	0.00	16,000.00	16,000.00	0.00%
Total CDOT Grants	\$ 563.30	\$ 27,050.00	\$ 26,486.70	\$ 0.02
Colorado Health Foundation	32,542.71	0.00	-32,542.71	
DoLA Grants				
DOLA 8824 - 2019 TA		50,000.00	50,000.00	0.00%
DOLA 9149 - 2020 TA		35,000.00	35,000.00	0.00%
DOLA 9318 - 2021 TA		49,000.00	-5.85	0.00%
REDI 20-204	43,000.00	86,000.00	43,000.00	50.00%
Total DoLA Grants	\$ 43,000.00	\$ 220,000.00	\$ 177,000.00	19.55%
RREO Grant		0.00	0.00	
SWIMT	22,711.03	36,375.00	13,663.97	62.44%
Total Grant Project Income	\$ 116,713.31	\$ 440,325.00	\$ 323,611.69	26.51%
Misc Income	1,170.00		-1,170.00	
Project Administration				
All Hazards M&A	2,570.43	3,100.00	529.57	82.92%
CARO		880.00	-6,692.00	0.00%
CDOT Other		24,500.00	-3,825.00	0.00%
Housing Project	12,403.13	5,000.00	-7,403.13	248.06%
RHA	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00	100.00%
Rural Community Assistance		15,000.00	15,000.00	0.00%
SJRC&D	2,904.50	10,000.00	7,095.50	29.05%
SWIMT	2,271.11	3,625.00	1,353.89	62.65%
SWTPR	5,697.06	11,050.00	5,352.94	51.56%
Transit Coordination Grant	3,450.00	14,088.00	10,638.00	24.49%
Total Project Administration	\$ 39,296.23	\$ 97,243.00	\$ 57,946.77	40.41%
SCAN Services				
Aggregation of Connectivity	7,902.00	15,684.00	7,782.00	50.38%
Contract Sharing	1,200.00	0.00	-1,200.00	
Dark Fiber Leasing	23,181.00	49,674.00	26,493.00	46.67%
Telecom Services	180.00	360.00	180.00	50.00%
Total SCAN Services	\$ 32,463.00	\$ 65,718.00	\$ 33,255.00	49.40%
Total Income	\$ 359,761.54	\$ 745,709.00	\$ 385,947.46	48.24%

	Actual	Budget	Remaining	% Spent
Expenses				
Administrative Costs				
Operating Expenses				
Advertising and Promotion	75.04	200.00	124.96	37.52%
Bank Service Charge		200.00	200.00	0.00%
Conference Fee		1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00%
Consulting	56.25	7,500.00	7,443.75	0.75%
Employee/Board Appreciation		100.00	100.00	0.00%
Information Technology (IT)				
Hardware	2,106.18	1,400.00	-706.18	150.44%
Software	2,044.80	3,278.00	1,233.20	62.38%
Total Information Technology (IT)	\$ 4,150.98	\$ 4,678.00	\$ 527.02	88.73%
Internet Connectivity		2,340.00		
Meetings	58.74	1,000.00	941.26	5.87%
Memberships	3,800.00	4,848.00	1,048.00	78.38%
Misc Expense	51.68			
Office Supplies	1,397.04	850.00	-547.04	164.36%
Postage and Delivery		80.00	80.00	0.00%
Professional Development	845.00	2,000.00	1,155.00	42.25%
Professional Fees				
Audit		6,300.00	6,300.00	0.00%
Legal	2,520.00	7,000.00	4,480.00	36.00%
Misc.		250.00	250.00	0.00%
Total Professional Fees	\$ 2,520.00	\$ 13,550.00	\$ 11,030.00	18.60%
Rent	5,600.00	8,400.00	2,800.00	66.67%
Travel		6,250.00	6,250.00	0.00%
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 18,554.73	\$ 53,496.00	\$ 34,941.27	34.68%
Personnel Expense				
Insurance Expense				
General Liability	1,948.89	1,958.00	9.11	99.53%
Health	9,270.61	15,885.00	6,614.39	58.36%
Worker's Compensation	1,438.00	1,432.00	-6.00	100.42%
Total Insurance Expense	\$ 12,657.50	\$ 19,275.00	\$ 6,617.50	65.67%
Salary and Wages	87,668.86	130,689.52	43,020.66	67.08%
457 Retirement	3,418.04	5,227.58	1,809.54	65.38%
Car Allowance	2,400.00	3,600.00	1,200.00	66.67%
Cell Phone Allowance	800.00	1,200.00		
Payroll Processing Fee	1,234.34	1,925.00	690.66	64.12%
Payroll Tax	6,812.26	11,173.95	4,361.69	60.97%
Total Salary and Wages	\$ 102,333.50	\$ 153,816.05	\$ 51,482.55	66.53%
Total Personnel Expense	\$ 114,991.00	\$ 173,091.05	\$ 58,100.05	66.43%
Total Administrative Costs	\$ 133,545.73	\$ 226,587.05	\$ 93,041.32	58.94%
Project Costs				
All Hazards Projects	117,489.16	156,900.00	39,410.84	74.88%
Grant Funded Consulting	127,677.35	282,000.00	154,322.65	45.28%
Local Foods	32,542.71	0.00	-32,542.71	

	Actual	Budget	Remaining	% Spent
Shared Services Expenses				
Fast Track	4,400.00	6,600.00	2,200.00	66.67%
Forethought.	8,280.00	12,000.00	3,720.00	69.00%
SCAN Dark Fiber Lease	948.75	11,698.50	10,749.75	8.11%
Total Shared Services Expenses	\$ 13,628.75	\$ 30,298.50	\$ 16,669.75	44.98%
SWIMT	22,936.05	36,375.00	13,438.95	63.05%
SWTPR	1,776.54	11,050.00	9,273.46	16.08%
Total Project Costs	\$ 316,050.56	\$ 516,623.50	\$ 200,572.94	61.18%
Total Expenses	\$ 449,596.29	\$ 743,210.55	\$ 293,614.26	60.49%
Net Income	-\$ 89,834.75	\$ 2,498.45		

Presentations

Decision Items

Additional Staffing

To: SWCCOG Board of Directors

From: Miriam Gillow-Wiles

Date: 14 October 2021

Initially, this memo was written about funding for a Broadband Manager or Coordinator position much like Region 10, SLVCOG, and NWCCOG have on staff. However, due to the way the SWCCOG has been structured and funded over the years, I developed the broadband knowledge base organically, and started to question the potential duplication of bringing on a broadband specific position.

After noodling on it a bit, I realized what we needed is a Project Manager, essentially a seasoned professional that would be able to keep track of a number of projects and programs and provide back up for both the ED and Finance positions. Someone who could learn about the various grants and initiatives but may not be too specialized in just one area of expertise. In addition, the cost of this type of position versus a content expert is going to be lower salary than a broadband content expert and likely located in the region already.

The request to the Board comes from the addition of a number of large-scale projects/grants and the requirement of more staffing to execute them effectively and appropriately. These projects include:

- Broadband Projects
 - \$13,4000,000 NTIA Request
 - Development of Carrier Neutral Locations throughout the region to be ready for middle mile fiber
 - Keeping track of what is happening in various parts of the region
 - Additional funding coming online (expected through DOLA and or other federal programs)
- Workforce Development – Digital Literacy and Training and Construction Trades
 - \$30,000 Digital Upskilling & Reskilling existing DOLA grant
 - \$499,000 construction trades grant pending
 - Engaging with partner organizations for both these, and future initiatives
- Housing Project Management
 - \$200,000 housing planning grant pending
 - Likely additional grants as state and federal funding become available

The total increase in funding the SWCCOG is seeking needed is \$100,814. This can come from ARPA or other funding sources. The staff have written this position into multiple grants (that allow for staff costs) which totals, if awarded all of the funding, \$87,404, leaving a difference of \$13,410 for FY2022 between what is funded and what is needed.

The breakdown by community using the same formula of 20% divided evenly across membership and 80% based on population without any grant funding for the position is:

Additional Staffing

Archuleta County - \$14,309
Bayfield - \$4,980
Cortez - \$11,065
Durango - \$21,580
Ignacio - \$2,967
La Plata County - \$36,362
Pagosa Springs - \$4,336
San Juan County - \$2,307
Silverton - \$2,908

If funded this money would allow the SWCCOG to hire a critical position for the growth and development of the organization, but it could also be used as match for additional funding to help support the position.

I recognize that the costs are quite high and staff would need to find additional external funding sources to the membership for FY2023 to maintain this position. And as such the staff is requesting this as a one-time additional funding for FY2022. If all the grants are awarded, I would expect to reserve the difference to put towards FY2023 staff costs.

Legal Review: Not Applicable

Fiscal Impact: Very significant. Will dictate what SWCCOG can do in FY2022

Staff Recommendation: Approve the additional one time increase for a Project Manager, or proceed in a discussion of how to fund that position for FY2022 and provide direction to staff.

SWCCOG – RHA MOU

To: SWCCOG Board of Directors

From: Miriam Gillow-Wiles

Date: 14 October 2021

The SWCCOG has been providing fiscal and administrative services to the Regional Housing Alliance of La Plata County (RHA) since mid-2017, when the organization went into dormancy. Previously, the contract was for \$10,000 annually for support of the organization.

Starting late last year, the RHA decided to come out of dormancy and work towards solutions for the affordable housing crisis in La Plata County. As a result, the RHA has been having regular meetings for the last six months, including a strategic planning retreat, that the SWCCOG has been providing staff services for. As the time commitment for the RHA has increased for FY2021, the RHA has increased the funding to the SWCCOG by \$7200 in addition to the previous \$10,000 provided for in the original MOU between the two organizations.

As the organization starts to gain its footing again and hire or contract with an executive level staff, the SWCCOG will continue to support the RHA through, part or all, 2022 to ensure there is a smooth transition to the next phase for the organization.

The attached contract is for increased level of administration and fiscal management. Details include:

- Contact amount: \$22,800
- Anything above and beyond the scope of work will be billed at \$51.00/hour in 15-minute increments.
- Up to 40hrs of grant writing
- One RFP process in 2022
- Coordination with other entities (HomesFund, Housing Solutions, etc) on behalf of the RHA
- Transition from SWCCOG to RHA staff/contractor

Legal Review: Developed from Legal created template

Fiscal Impact: Will provide revenue for SWCCOG, and will be added to the Final 2022 Budget in December

Staff Recommendation: Approve the contract between the SWCCOG and the Regional Housing Alliance of La Plata County.

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN
SOUTHWEST COLORADO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
AND
THE REGIONAL HOUSING ALLIANCE OF LA PLATA COUNTY**

THIS AGREEMENT (the “Agreement”) is entered into this ___ day of _____ 2021, by and between the SOUTHWEST COLORADO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS, (hereinafter referred to as the “SWCCOG” or “Contractor”) whose address is 295 Girard St, Ste B, Durango, CO 81303, and the Regional Housing Authority of La Plata County, a Colorado Housing Authority, whose address is 295 Girard St, Ste B, Durango, CO 81303 (hereinafter referred to as the “RHA”) (and collectively, the “Parties”).

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the RHA is in need of certain administrative support, meeting support, and book-keeping services as set forth in Exhibit A and whereas SWCCOG would provide those administrative, book-keeping, and meeting support services; and

WHEREAS, it is the mutual desire of the Parties to set forth their understanding and agreement, in writing, with respect to said obligations:

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties agree as follows:

1. *Retention of Contractor.* RHA hereby retains SWCCOG to provide certain Services on the terms herein provided.
2. *Term of Agreement.* Unless terminated earlier by either party hereto, the period during which Contractor shall provide services to RHA under this Agreement shall be from **1 January 2022** until **31 December 2022**. This Agreement shall not automatically renew. Both SWCCOG and RHA must agree to any renewal terms.
3. *Termination.* This Agreement may be terminated by either Party, with or without cause, by providing at least 90 days’ written notice to the other Party.

RHA may terminate this Agreement immediately without prior notice if any of the following occurs:

- a. Contractor commits a material breach of any provision of this Agreement and thirty days’ notice and an opportunity to cure, without curing lapses; or
- b. Contractor commits an act of fraud, dishonesty or any other act of gross negligent, reckless or willful misconduct in providing the services to the RHA violates any other provision of law; or
- c. Contractor fails to commence the work within the RHA calendar dates, Exhibit B, attached to the Contract or in the opinion of RHA the Contractor fails to perform the work with sufficient workers and equipment or with sufficient materials to assure the prompt completion of said work; or

- d. Contractor discontinues the work; or
- e. Contractor fails to resume work which has been discontinued within a reasonable time after notice to do so.

The SWCCOG may terminate this Agreement immediately without prior notice if any of the following occurs:

- a. RHA Board fails to communicate changes to Exhibit B; or
- b. RHA Board fails to provide direction, information, and other relevant information needed for the SWCCOG to provide services in Exhibit A; or
- c. RHA Board fails to notify SWCCOG on meetings or gatherings of Board Members outside of Exhibit B.

Upon termination, RHA shall issue SWCCOG any payments owed for the annual period, however pro-rated to the date of termination, and SWCCOG shall return to RHA all of RHA property, correspondence and records (including copies of RHA computer files), and the parties shall thereafter be relieved from further obligations under this Contract.

4. *Contractor's Duties.* Contractor shall furnish the Services to RHA as described in Exhibit A, Scope of Services. The RHA agrees that it will at any time, and from time to time, execute and deliver all documents and instruments, and take all actions as may reasonably be required by the SWCCOG in order for the SWCCOG to effectuate and fully carry out its obligations in accordance with the terms of this Agreement. SWCCOG is not responsible for incomplete Colorado Open Records Requests as a result of the RHA not having a centralized email system and prior lack of communication with SWCCOG on behalf of the RHA Members regarding RHA business.

5. *Compensation and Invoices.* The compensation paid to the Contractor is to be paid on a schedule and at rates as described in Exhibit A. SWCCOG's obligation to perform is condition on RHA payment.

6. *Agreement to Perform Services as an Independent Contractor.* It is understood through this contract that RHA is contracting with Contractor to provide specific services and this contract should in no way be interpreted that Contractor is an employee of RHA.

Contractor shall perform said services in its own way in the pursuit of its independent calling and not as an employee of RHA and shall be solely responsible for the means and methods and the proper performance of the services in compliance with the terms, requirements, and specifications of this Agreement. Contractor and any persons employed or retained by Contractor for the performance of services hereunder shall be independent contractors and not employees or agents of RHA. Contractor shall not be under the control of RHA or its employees as to the means or manner by which such result is to be accomplished.

Contractor shall have no claim against RHA hereunder or otherwise for vacation pay, sick leave, retirement benefits, social security, worker's compensation, health or disability benefits, unemployment insurance benefits, or employee benefits of any kind. Contractor shall be solely responsible for meeting all applicable withholding, tax, and insurance requirements.

7. *Notices.* Any notice this Agreement requires must be written and hand-delivered or sent by U.S. Certified mail, return receipt requested, to the parties at the address listed above and also via email, to the following e-mail addresses:

If to SWCCOG: director@swccog.org AND info@swccog.org

If to RHA: _____ (insert e-mail notice address)

8. *Assignment.* Neither party shall have the right to assign this Agreement except with the express written consent of the other.

9. *Enforceability.* If any term or provision of this Agreement shall be adjudicated to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable, this Agreement shall be deemed amended to delete the term or provision thus adjudicated to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable and the validity of the other terms and provisions of this Agreement shall not be affected thereby so long as the purposes of this contract can be met.

10. *Governing Law and Enforcement.* The terms and conditions of this Agreement shall be construed, interpreted and enforced in accordance with the applicable laws of the State of Colorado. Any dispute concerning the performance or interpretation of the agreement which cannot be resolved by the designated points of contact or their immediate superiors shall be referred to the party's board of directors. If the matter is not resolved within 45 days after referral, either party may file legal action. If any legal action is necessary to enforce the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the parties agree that the jurisdiction and venue for bringing such action shall be in the appropriate court in La Plata County, Colorado.

11. *Entire Agreement.* The parties agree that this Agreement constitutes the entire Agreement between the parties and supersedes any and all prior oral representations, promises, covenants, understandings and other agreements, if any, between the parties and their agents, and this Agreement may not be modified in any manner except by an instrument in writing executed by both parties.

12. *Waiver.* No failure by either party to exercise any right it may have shall be deemed to be a waiver of that right or of the right to demand exact compliance with the terms of this Agreement.

13. *Construction.* This Agreement's final form resulted from review and negotiations among the parties and/or their attorneys and no part of this Agreement shall be construed against any party on the basis of authorship.

14. *Signatory's Authority.* Each person signing this Agreement in a representative capacity expressly represents that the signatory has the subject party's authority to so sign and that the subject party will be bound by the signatory's execution of this Agreement.

15. *Funding availability.* Financial obligations of the RHA and performance obligations of SWCCOG are contingent upon annual appropriation of funds by their organizations to pay for the scope of work defined in this agreement. The Parties understand and accept that RHA obligations to make any payments, and SWCCOG obligations to perform services are

contingent on annual appropriation of funds. The parties represent that funds have been appropriated for the initial term.

16. *Third Party Beneficiaries.* The parties to this Agreement do not intend to benefit any person not a party to this Agreement. No person or entity, other than the parties to this Agreement shall have any right, legal or equitable, to enforce any provision of this Agreement.

17. *Breach of Contract.* The prevailing party to any litigation arising out of this agreement shall be entitled to all costs of that action, including reasonable attorney's fees. Notwithstanding, neither party shall be liable for any damages for loss of profits, loss of revenues, loss of goodwill, loss of anticipated savings, loss of data or cost of purchasing, replacement services, or any indirect, incidental, special, consequential, exemplary or punitive damages arising out of its performance or failure to perform under this agreement. Additionally, any damages against SWCCOG shall be capped at the amount of funds that SWCCOG has received from the RHA during the fiscal year in which such liability or damage accrued.

18. *Liability Insurance.* SWCCOG shall maintain its CIRSA insurance coverages in the amount presently held (at the time of execution of this Agreement) by the SWCCOG and RHA shall maintain its CIRSA insurance coverages during the term of this contract.

19. *Indemnification.* Each party, to the extent authorized by law, shall indemnify and hold the other harmless, their agents, employees, and Directors from and against any claim, damages, losses and expenses, including but not limited to attorney's fees and court costs, arising out of or related to that party's own failure to properly perform under this agreement, but only to the extent the failure to perform is caused in whole or in part by the negligent acts or omission of that party, or anyone directly or indirectly employed by that party, and so long as that party did not cause, in whole or in part, the other party not to properly perform. RHA to the extent authorized by law, shall indemnify and hold the SWCCOG harmless from any claims made against the SWCCOG arising from RHA's actions or inactions that are either negligent or a breach of their contract with others, including reasonable attorney's fees and court costs.

20. *Intent.* It is the intent of the Parties that all contractual and statutory obligations of the RHA remain those of the RHA and are not assigned to the SWCCOG and do not become the obligation of the SWCCOG. This Agreement does not create a joint venture or partnership or merger of the Parties. RHA is and shall remain a separate and distinct entity from the SWCCOG. The business operations of RHA shall in no way combine with the business operations of the SWCCOG. The role of the SWCCOG is merely to assist the RHA Board by supplying it with administrative support, meeting support, and book-keeping support, as set forth in this Agreement. The SWCCOG is not responsible for the RHA's actions or inactions.

21. *Immunity.* By executing this agreement, SWCCOG does not waive any immunity or limit liability contained in the Colorado Governmental Immunity Act, does not create a multi-year financial obligation, and does not create any other financial obligation not supported by a current appropriation.

22. *List of Exhibits*

Exhibit A – Scope of Services and Compensation

Exhibit B – RHA Meeting Schedule

Exhibit C – RHA Calendar

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have executed this Agreement the day and year first above written.

Regional Housing Alliance of La Plata County

Title, Date

Southwest Colorado Council of Governments

Title, Date

EXHIBIT A

SCOPE OF SERVICES & COMPENSATION

Administrative Services are limited to:

- Filing any necessary papers at RHA Board's direction to renew RHA's insurance policy(s) in the amount including errors and omissions coverage, to ensure no lapse in coverage, the costs of the same to be paid by RHA.
- Collecting and opening mail and email correspondence forwarded by RHA to SWCCOG and forwarding the correspondence to RHA's Board President and Executive Committee. The SWCCOG will reasonably assist RHA in transmitting RHA Board responses to correspondence.
- Supporting RHA Board Meetings set forth in Exhibit B, which shall include the following:
 - Per the direction of the RHA Board President, creating an agenda and supporting documentation.
 - Distributing the agenda to the Board.
 - Taking minutes and drafting minutes of the meeting which will be at the following regularly scheduled Board Meeting.
- Maintaining RHA board meeting minutes and financial records obtained during the time of this Agreement. SWCCOG does not know the status of the RHA's records prior to the original contract execution date hereof and is not responsible therefor.
- SWCCOG shall be the official Custodian of the RHA's records. SWCCOG will assist RHA in responding to any record requests made of the organization under applicable Colorado law. The cost of the same, including the payment of any necessary legal fees or court costs in complying with same or replying to record requests shall be promptly paid by RHA to SWCCOG in addition to the annual payments. Files provided by RHA to SWCCOG shall be kept in a locked and secure location.
- Update bank signatories
- Posting public notices of meetings, budget hearings, and other items required by Colorado Revised Statutes.
- Assisting RHA in meeting its deadlines as specified in Exhibit C: RHA Calendar.
- 40 hours of grant writing
- One RFP process on behalf of the RHA

Bookkeeping Services limited to:

- Providing bookkeeping services utilizing GAAP accounting processes
- Maintaining RHA books in QuickBooks from date of execution of this Agreement.

- Providing financial statements including Balance Sheet, Profit & Loss, and Budget to Annual statements to the RHA Board in the Board Packets
- Assist the RHA Board in scheduling the annual audit, as necessary, to be performed by an Audit Firm selected by RHA Board. Facilitate the audit by providing records in its possession as requested. Costs of audit and auditor contract to be the responsibility of the RHA Board.
- Assist RHA in complying with their audit and auditor's requests for information
- Assisting the RHA Board in preparing an annual budget for approval by the Board, when approved by the RHA Board file the budget and budget amendments with any additional agencies or persons as directed by RHA.
- File financial paperwork on behalf of the RHA with the State.
- Meet with RHA Treasurer to review financials as needed.

Administration and Bookkeeping Services provided in this scope of work shall include labor costs, rent, liability insurance, utilities, telephone, office supplies, and computer hardware and software. Other costs that the RHA may incur including, but not limited, to legal fees and costs, audit fees, PO Box costs, postage, mileage and travel (as authorized by the RHA Board), liability insurance renewal, payment of RHA Vendors and RHA invoices, are the responsibility of the RHA.

RHA shall pay SWCCOG \$22,800 for Fiscal Year 2022.

If additional work is requested above and beyond what is listed in this Scope of Work, the hourly rate shall be: \$51.00/hour, billed at 15-minute increments.

EXHIBIT B

Regular Meeting Schedule

At the July 27, 2021 Board Meeting, the Board approved a regular meeting schedule on the first Thursdays of the month from 2-4pm. The following are the dates for 2022.

January 6, 2022 – This may be cancelled or rescheduled due to proximity of a federal holiday

February 3, 2022

March 3, 2022

April 7, 2022

May 5, 2022

June 2, 2022

July 7, 2022 – This may be cancelled or rescheduled due to the proximity of a federal holiday

August 4, 2022

September 1, 2022 – This may be cancelled or rescheduled due to the proximity of a federal holiday

October 6, 2022

November 3, 2022

December 1, 2022

EXHIBIT C

RHA Calendar of Important Dates

- No later than January 31: Adopted Budget filed with Department of Local Affairs
- January/February: Set audit date with Auditors (when applicable)
- March/April: Conduct audit (when applicable)
- May/June: Audit presentation to Board and Accept Audit
 - o No later than June 30, audit must be complete
- No Later than July 31: audit must be filed with Office of the State Auditor
- August: CIRSA Insurance renewal application
 - o Sign and return by October 1
- No later than October 15: Proposed budget must be presented to RHA Board
 - o Notice of Budget must be published in advance of October Board Meeting
- No later than December 31: RHA Board adopt annual Budget
 - o Notice of Meeting must be published in advance of December Board Meeting

Letter of Support Request

To: SWCCOG Board of Directors
From: Jessica Laitsch
Date: 14 October 2021

Comments: Axis Health System has requested a letter of support from the SWCCOG for a USDA Emergency Rural Health Care Grant for expansion of the clinic in Cortez. They have outgrown the existing clinic and this would help accommodate an increased need for group behavioral health treatment, expanded primary care and oral health, and a need to house case management services for the future permanent supportive housing complex. Construction would also include a drive-through (or walk-up) pharmacy onsite to promote adherence with prescribed medications, as well as dental suites for integrated oral health. They have also requested Community Directed Spending through Senator Bennet's office, notification of the outcome of that process is expected early in 2022.

Due to the timing of the grant application, the Executive Committee authorized submission of this letter with ratification to be requested at the October meeting.

Fiscal Impact: None to SWCCOG

Staff Recommendation: Ratify the attached Letter of Support for the Axis Health System Grant Application.



SOUTHWEST COLORADO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

14 October 2021

Irene Etsitty, Acting State Director
Denver Federal Center
Building 56, Room 2300
PO Box 25426
Denver, CO 80225-0426

RE: Axis Health System's Cortez, CO Integrated Healthcare Clinic

The Southwest Colorado Council of Governments (SWCCOG) is located in the southwest corner of the state of Colorado. The SWCCOG was created as a partnership between fourteen local governments to provide regional leadership on behalf of governments throughout Southwest Colorado by defining regional issues, advocating for mutual goals, and administering regional programs. The southwest Colorado region spans an area of roughly 6550 square miles with an average population density of 15 people per square mile. Our very rural region depends on access to quality healthcare - particularly during the pandemic, when primary care, mental health, and substance use care needs have increased. In light of the critical health services they provide, the SWCCOG supports Axis Health System's application for the USDA Emergency Rural Health Care Grant.

The SWCCOG has a history of working with Axis on projects that support our organizational goals, including collaboration on housing, telecommunications, and transportation related issues. We are currently working together on a regional Opioid task force to develop solutions to prevent and treat opioid use. Multiple needs assessments with our partners have repeatedly identified access to healthcare (including medical, mental, substance use, and dental care services) as foundational to creating an economically vibrant community. With access to healthcare, our residents can successfully be consistently employed, be innovative in local business development, and support children and families.

This project would bring needed revenue and economic development as well as expanded access to care. The Cortez Integrated Healthcare clinic serves a significant role in the community and is well-positioned to engage underserved community members in preventive and restorative care and acute services and reduce unnecessary emergency department utilization, all of which reduces the cost to the local economy. It would also expand the capacity of this clinic to respond to public health crises such as COVID-19 going forward.

The SWCCOG strongly supports Axis Health System's application for support to expand the Cortez Integrated Healthcare clinic. Their work is invaluable and we are confident in their continued ability to expand healthcare access through this project.

Sincerely,

Miriam Gillow-Wiles
Executive Director
Southwest Colorado Council of Governments

295 Girard Street, Ste B, Durango, CO 81303
970-779-4592
2021-10-12

Reports

2021 SWCCOG Board Meeting Attendance

Current Members										Partner Organizations													
Jurisdiction	Archuleta County		Town of Bayfield		City of Cortez		City of Durango	Town of Ignacio		La Plata County		Town of Pagosa Springs		San Juan County	Town of Silverton	Dolores County	Town of Dolores	Town of Dove Creek	Town of Mancos	Montezuma County	Southern Ute	Town of Rico	Ute Mountain Ute
Member Name	Alvin SchAAF - Primary	Scott Wall - Alternate	David Black - Primary	Katie Sickles - Alternate	Mike Lavey - Primary	Drew Sanders - Alternate	Olivier Bosmans - Primary	Mark Garcia - Primary	Marsha Porter-Norton - Primary	Chuck Stevens - Alternate	Andrea Phillips - Primary	Shari Pierce - Alternate	Willy Tookey - Primary	Gloria Kaasch-Bueger - Primary	Steve Garchar	Ken Charles						Kari Distefano	
Feb																							
Mar																							
April																							
June																							
July																							
Aug																							
Sept																							
Oct																							
Dec																							
Percent Attend	57%		100%		100%		75%	57%	86%		100%		86%	57%									
Dues Paid	★		★		★		★	★	★		★		★	★									

Present
Absent

*removed notation to indicate remote attendance

Director Report

To: SWCCOG Board of Directors
From: Miriam Gillow-Wiles
Date: 14 October 2021

Comments: I, like most everyone in the room, has gotten busier and busier over this last 18+ months. August and September were no different. In those months we applied for over \$14,000,000 in grants for everything from broadband to school to trades program development. In addition, the SWCCOG has started to work on the housing challenges the region faces. Personally, I am still dealing with medical issues that are likely the fall out of my COVID infection in March 2020.

Housing

Staff is waiting on letters of commitment from the partner organizations to be able to apply for the HB21-1271 Housing Planning Grant. The State is requiring a non-binding letter of commitment from partner agencies. We are unable to apply until letters are received. Please send these to staff asap.

The Colorado Sun will be publishing an article on the Regional Housing Assessment in the coming week. Which is quite exciting. I know there has been some concerns about data, including the age of the data in the Regional Housing Assessment. The Assessment strived to provide a base line of what is needed for a variety of price points while taking into consideration homeownership options would alleviate some of the strains of the rental market. The other component was recommendations that the jurisdictions could implement to impact affordable housing. Regarding the age of the data, due to the timing of the report and the challenged numbers from the 2020 census, 2018 and 2019 data was used in some locations. The 2018/2019 data identified the needs at that point in time, which just means it is more critical in 2021. My recommendation is to strive to build AT LEAST the number of units identified, as the need is so great, any development will be beneficial. Finally, because it does take time to solve this issue through housing development, the region will likely never reach a point where local governments do not need to engage with housing in some capacity.

Regional Housing Alliance of La Plata County (RHA)

There is a contract in the Board Packet for the Administration and Fiscal Management for the RHA by the SWCCOG. This is a continuation and growth of the roles and responsibilities of the SWCCOG for the RHA. The contract is for FY2022 without renewal as it is expected the RHA will be self-sufficient by 2023.

Opioid Settlement

A few months ago, I asked the Board if there was any concern about the SWCCOG acting as fiscal agent for the opioid settlement funding for the region. The Board gave permission to investigate. The Attorney General's office reviewed the statutes and the settlement requirements and decided that Councils of Governments do not qualify as

Director Report

fiscal agents. As a result, the SWCCOG will not be the fiscal agent, La Plata or Montezuma will be providing those services.

Staffing

The SWCCOG has long been understaffed for the previous workload. Much like the inflation of goods, the SWCCOG workload has rapidly increased since the beginning of the pandemic. We have been able to hire two entry level positions this year through some grant funding, but overall I am concerned at the ability to execute projects and programs, as well as provide the level of services the members expect.

PTO

I will be out of the office, with some PTO and some remote work from Phoenix the week of October 18th.

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

Thursday, December 9th, 1:30-4pm.

Broadband Report

To: SWCCOG Board of Directors
From: Miriam Gillow-Wiles
Date: 14 October 2021

Comments There is quite a lot going on with Broadband, as always. However, a lot of what is happening is waiting on the Infrastructure Bill for funding and the Treasury Final Rules regarding ARPA funding for DOLA money to be accessible.

I have been working with several ISPs to identify areas of need, and work on middle mile plans for development, with the goal of creating redundancy internally and external to the region. Ultimately the major projects are middle mile between Durango and Cortez and Durango to Ouray to provide redundancy to the Town of Silverton. The COG is still working on Durango to Pagosa Springs with a variety of partners, but the previous routes have less partners and a few more challenges. For the Silverton to Durango route the challenges are significant, stemming back to the EagleNet days.

These challenges include:

- Incomplete conduit between Durango and Purgatory
- Unsigned agreements between EagleNet and TriState for the route from Purgatory to Silverton
- TriState concerns about easement issues on the aerial line between Purgatory and Silverton.

I have made contact with the Attorney General and Senator Bennet's office on these issues. To build a redundant route for the region, San Juan County, Silverton, and even Region 10, these challenges need to be resolved.

FCC Rulings and Alleged Violations

The FCC rulings from the last few years have settled down, but the challenges to local government control through the FCC have not fully abated. In August the FCC's Wireline Competition Bureau that allege violations by local governments engagement with ISPs and fees imposed on ISPs for broadband development. While both of these petitions involve mid-west cities of Columbia, Missouri and West Des Moines, Iowa, these could be the canary in the coal mine moment for other local governments.

Columbia, Missouri

The company Bluebird Broadband is alleging that Columbia's \$1.91/linear foot fee is a prohibition is not cost based.

Broadband Report

West Des Moines, Iowa

The petition by Mediacom Internet petition says that the City has put them at a competitive disadvantage, and has effectively prohibited them from providing services because West Des Moines built an open-access conduit network where Google Fiber was the first occupant.

Why this Matters to Local Governments

The largest concern is that these petitions assert that the FCC has the significant preemptive authority over local government regulations. The FCC does not have statutory authority to preempt local government regulations. IF the FCC were to grant these petitions, then any company or entity could request the FCC to preempt local regulations. As it currently stands if a company or other entity claims local regulation of ROWs and/or fees regarding use of ROW violates the federal statute, that challenge must go through a local court system.

The CUA (Colorado Communications and Utility Alliance), of which the SWCCOG is a long-standing member, has filed comments on both petitions stating that the FCC does not have the authority to preempt local governments.

This should be something to keep an eye on, as there are a ISPs that operate in anticompetition mindset and will go to lengths to try to make that a reality regardless of standing rules, regulations, and laws.

Fiscal Administration Report

To: SWCCOG Board of Directors
From: Jessica Laitsch
Date: 14 October, 2021

Comments: The SWCCOG is contracted with a number of small agencies to assist with fiscal management. The intent is to help these small agencies comply with basic administrative requirements at minimal cost, as well as to provide a modest revenue stream for the SWCCOG. Below are brief summaries of the current activities of these various organizations:

Colorado Association of Regional Organizations (CARO):

Nothing new to report.

Regional Housing Alliance of La Plata County (RHA):

The RHA has begun to meet monthly. The last meetings were held on 14 September and 7 October, 2021, discussions at recent meetings have included updates to the organization's governance IGA, updates to the administrative MOU with the SWCCOG, and development of a request for professional services. The next meeting will be held 4 November, 2021.

San Juan Resource Conservation and Development Council (SJRC&D):

The last meeting of the SJRC&D was held on 14 September, 2021. The next meeting will be held 9 November, 2021.

If any SWCCOG Board members are aware of any non-profits that could benefit from the assistance of a fiscal sponsor to help manage expenses and establish their organization, please contact Miriam or Jessica.

Southwest All Hazards Advisory Council:

The SWCCOG is assisting as the SWAHAC transitions to a new project coordinator. The SWCCOG is eligible for reimbursement of certain management and administration costs for managing these grants.

Southwest Colorado Incident Management Team (SWIMT):

The SWIMT was awarded funds for state FY2021-22 and is finalizing details of the award. The SWCCOG is eligible for reimbursement of certain management and administration costs for managing this grant.

Grant Updates

To: SWCCOG Board of Directors
From: Miriam Gillow-Wiles
Date: 14 October 2021

Comments: **Open Grants:** 9
Open Grant Funding: \$666,997
Grant Requests in 2021: 7
Funded Grant Requests in 2021: 4

Existing Grants:

All Hazards 2019 and 2020

- Homeland Security funding
- Supports emergency management and first responders
- \$341,809

Southwest Incident Management Team (SWIMT)

- Sept 2021 – May 2022
- \$19,000
- Funding to support incident management training
- Funding to support Emergency Managers and other first responders during emergencies

DOLA REDI 21-240 Montezuma Orchard Restoration Project (MORP) – AWARDED PROJECT IS IN CONTRACT DEVELOPMENT

- \$150,000
- Will provide funding for building to house equipment and eventually apples and other products

CDOT 5310 Funding – AWARDED

PROJECT IS UNDERWAY – EXPECTED COMPLETION 12/31/2021

- \$30,088 for staff and consultant
 - The Mobility Management team will manage and deliver coordinated transportation services to older adults and people with disabilities within the following described service area: The southwest Colorado five-county region consisting of Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma and San Juan Counties.
 - The Mobility Management team shall only perform mobility management activities allowed under FTA Section 5310, such as:
-

Grant Updates

- a. Operating transportation brokerages to coordinate service providers;
- b. Coordinating transportation services;
- c. Supporting local partnerships that coordinate transportation services;
- d. Staffing for the development and implementation of coordination plans;
- e. Providing travel training and trip planning activities; and/or
- f. Developing and operating traveler call centers.

DOLA Technical Assistance EIAF 7203 – AWARDED

PROJECT IS UNDERWAY

- \$49,000
- The request was for funding to help support remote work readiness for residents of the region, and support business growth in partnership with SCAPE for the areas outside of Durango.
- The Contract with SCAPE has been executed and is underway
- The Contract with Adult Ed for digital literacy and workforce upskilling is in the Packet.

CDOT CDL Development Purchase Order

PROJECT IS UNDERWAY

- The DOLA 8824 Grant (see below) was awarded to the SWCCOG to help create a CDL program in the region. Due to a variety of reasons, this has not moved in any consistent manner.
 - CDOT has been awarded funding through the Federal On-the-Job Training Supportive Services to invest in statewide construction workforce.
 - CDOT and SWCCOG have developed a Purchase Order outlining objectives and tasks. Objectives include:
 - o Lead the establishment of a CDL Class B training program in the Durango area
 - o Coordinate stakeholders to develop a short-term (6-12 months) approach to consolidating existing training and testing resources
 - o Communicate proactively and consistently with both internal and external program stakeholders, paying particular attention to CDOT and DOLA
 - o Identify opportunities to provide supportive services to trainees in the form of technology or transportation
 - The Purchase Order will cover the cost of the SWCCOG time based on the staff performing the activities and number of hours via reimbursement.
 - Estimated that the SWCCOG will invoice for \$20-24,000
 - This will count towards match for the DOLA grant as well.
-

Grant Updates

CDOT TPR FY21-22 Funding – Ends 6/30/2022

The TPR is funded through a Purchase Order, for \$22,100.

- This funding will cover staff time related to TPR goals and administration of the TPR
- Also purchased hot spots for connectivity for Tribal representatives to attend STAC and Transportation Commission meetings since connectivity is highly limited on both reservations.

DOLA 8824 – 2019 Technical Assistance – Ends 6/30/2022

PROJECT IS UNDERWAY

- \$20,000 - CDL Program Development and Cost Reduction for COG Members (*Shared Services/Community Support*)
- \$30,000 - Development of end markets for hard to recycle items (*Environment*)
 - o Match from CDPHE Regional Waste Studies - CDPHE or USDA
- No funding for staff

Grant Requests Pending:

NTIA Broadband Grant

- \$13,400,000 project
- Partnership with Clearnetworx
- Fiber between Bayfield and Durango in rural La Plata County including Forest Lakes and Vallecito Subdivisions
- Expected notification date is mid-November

CDLE 1264 Workforce Certifications

- \$499,512 grant request
- Construction trades certifications and trainings
- School to Trades Pipeline development
- Expected notification date is November

Congressional Directed Spending

- Senator Bennet: \$16,800,000 for fiber optics between Durango and Pagosa Springs
- Senator Hickenlooper: \$1,000,000 for the development of Carrier Neutral Locations

Current Grants in Development

- DOLA DOH 1271 Regional Housing Planning
- Carrier Neutral Locations across the region – DOLA & USDA

Future Grants

Grant Updates

DOLA

USDA Funding

- Post USDA REDI Technical Assistance work
- Will focus on targeting outcomes and recommendations of USDA REDI TA
- Likely various co-working spaces, outdoor recreation economy development, programs with San Juan College and PCC

Broadband Funding

- Expected USDA/NTIA funding in 2021 or 2022 from federal legislation

Completed Grants in 2021:

DOLA REDI – NEPA Work for EDA Towaoc Broadband Project – AWARDED

COMPLETED 6/30/2021

- \$84,600
- Finalize NEPA work on US160/491 between Cortez and Old Pottery Barn north of Towaoc.
- NEPA work is required to be complete before EDA broadband grant is awarded
- SWCCOG is under contract with Montezuma County for match for the project. Expected to get underway this spring.

DOLA 9149 – Technical Assistance Grant 2020

COMPLETED 8/31/2021

- \$35,000
- Match for Housing Solutions Regional Housing Data Collection
- Identify and better understand regional housing including quantity and quality of housing types across the 5 counties.
- Housing Solutions is under contract with Root Policy Research and project has been started.
- Project will be completed by 8/31/2021

Transportation Report

To: SWCCOG Board of Directors
From: Jessica Laitsch
Date: 14 October, 2021

Comments: Transportation:

There was a SWTPR meeting held on 12 August, 2021. The meeting included redistribution of MMOF monies and updates on future funding, the 4-year plan, and the greenhouse gas rulemaking process.

The next meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. Thursday, 14 October, 2021. Items include updates on the 10-year plan amendment process, the Greenhouse Gas Rulemaking process, and the Multimodal Transportation and Mitigation Option Fund.

Transit:

The last Transit Council meeting was held 14 September 2021, the discussion included an update on the four corners mobility hub project and information regarding a transit ticket payment app. The next Transit Council meeting will be held 18 November 2021,

The SWCCOG is working with Compass Transit for the design of a regional mobility information system, a comprehensive one-call/one-click system of transportation options throughout the region. The contractor has been working closely with partner agencies on each stage of the project. SWCCOG staff submitted an application for 2022 Transit coordination funds to begin implementation of this project.

Community Updates

If time allows