

**Southwest Colorado Council of Governments  
December Board Meeting  
Thursday, 12 December, 2019, 1:30 p.m.  
295 Girard Street, Durango, CO 81303**

In Attendance:

Karen Sheek – City of Cortez  
David Black – Town of Bayfield  
Gwen Lachelt – La Plata County  
Chris Tookey – Town of Silverton  
Willy Tookey – San Juan County  
Andrea Phillips – Town of Pagosa Springs (by phone)  
Mark Garcia – Town of Ignacio (by phone)  
Steve Garchar – Dolores County (by phone)

Staff in Attendance:

Miriam Gillow-Wiles – Southwest Colorado Council of Governments  
Jessica Laitsch – Southwest Colorado Council of Governments

Guests in Attendance:

John Dougherty – City of Cortez  
Gini Pingent – Colorado Counties Inc.  
Warren Unsicker – City of Farmington  
Carrie Padgett – San Juan Resource Conservation and Development Council (SJRC&D)  
Chuck Wanner – San Juan Resource Conservation and Development Council (SJRC&D)

**Introductions**

The meeting was called to order at 1:33 p.m.

**Public Comment**

None.

**CCI and CML about what to expect regarding TABOR and Gallagher in 2020:**

Gini gave an overview of the current status of discussions related to the concept of a potential repeal and replace of TABOR and Gallagher. There was discussion about what jurisdictions have “de-Gallaghered” and “de-Bruced.”

**Consent Agenda**

October 2019 SWCCOG Meeting Minutes and November 2019 Financials

**David Black motioned to approve the consent agenda, Gwen Lachelt seconded, unanimously approved.**

**Discussion Items**

Retreat Follow-Up: SmartSheets:

Miriam provided a demonstration of the SmartSheets system. Gwen asked if the system is included in the budget. Miriam replied yes, and described the options for paying for the system.

Calendar for education series in 2020:

Karen and Miriam summarized the idea and possible topics for the proposed education sessions for the board throughout 2020. Gwen asked about the status of the Census grant.

Miriam described the status of the grant and the reasons why the award was less than the request. Willy suggested an update from CDOT after their meetings with the counties.

### **Public Hearing**

#### 2020 Budget

The public hearing was opened at 2:33 p.m. There being no citizens present who wished to speak, the public hearing was closed at 2:33 p.m.

### **Decision Items**

#### 2020 Budget:

Miriam explained that the final budget included some changes from the draft budget, the major change was that grant funding for two grants was received in 2019 when it was expected in 2020, and the expenditures would largely happen in 2020. She added that there is cost for a part time position included in the budget. She explained that dues for the City of Durango are not included in the budgeted revenue, but the Towns of Dolores and Silverton are included. She explained that the unknown grants, such as the FCC broadband funding, are not included and could be added with an amendment if awarded.

**Willy Tookey motioned to approve the 2020 budget as presented, David Black seconded, unanimously approved.**

#### Fiscal Administration Policies:

Miriam explained that the purpose for this request is to help manage details related to fiscal management for various organizations.

**Gwen Lachelt motioned to approve the SWCCOG Fiscal Management Policies, David Black seconded, unanimously approved.**

#### Mobility for All Grant Application:

Jessica summarized the proposed request for this funding. Willy asked where the match would come from. Miriam and Jessica replied that they had some possible ideas, but had not identified a source yet.

**Willy Tookey motioned to authorize staff to apply for the Mobility for All Grant for an amount not to exceed \$80,000, David Black seconded, unanimously approved.**

#### Management of San Juan RC&D and Appointment of SWCCOG Member to SJRC&D Board:

Miriam explained that the Board may wish to identify a representative to serve on their board.

Gwen asked when the SJRC&D board meets. Miriam replied that they have historically met every month, but that frequency may not be necessary moving forward. Carrie explained that there are currently 15 projects, she estimated that staff time requirements should be approximately 20-25 hours per month. Gwen asked what the scope of work typically includes.

Carrie described some of the existing projects. Miriam asked how often the board meets. Carrie replied that have historically met monthly, but that may be possible to change. Carrie and Chuck suggested that periodic updates by email along with quarterly meetings should be sufficient.

**Willy Tookey motioned to approve the agreement between the SJRC&D and the SWCCOG, David Black seconded, unanimously approved.**

There was discussion about appointing a representative to the SJRC&D board. David offered to serve in this capacity.

**Willy Tookey motioned to nominate David Black to serve on the SJRC&D Board, Andrea Phillips seconded, unanimously approved.**

#### Executive Committee Selection:

Karen explained that the Board needs to identify a Treasurer for 2020. There was discussion about requesting Ronnie Maez or Steve Garchar to serve as Treasurer. There was discussion about Gwen serving as Chair, Willy serving as Vice-Chair, and identifying a Treasurer at a later time. Willy pointed out that historically the Board has tried to rotate who is serving on the Board. **David Black motioned to appoint the Executive Committee as proposed with the Treasurer being decided at the next meeting in February, Andrea Phillips seconded, unanimously approved.**

#### Reports

##### Director's Report:

Miriam summarized the written report.

##### Broadband Report:

Miriam reported that Dove Creek will be first community in the region with a full fiber to the premises build. Also, funding was awarded through the Broadband Fund to serve Pagosa Springs and surrounding areas. She summarized several FCC rulemakings and the concerns related to local control.

##### Grant Updates:

Miriam summarized the written report.

##### Transportation Report:

Jessica summarized the discussion from the SW Regional Transportation Planning Region meeting held earlier in the day. She stated that there will be a follow-up meeting on Friday, December 13 to finalize decisions on the SW regional transportation plan.

##### Community Updates:

Andrea reported that Pagosa Springs is making progress on the Town's maintenance facility, they hope to start construction in the spring. They have decided to create an urban renewal authority, and are working on education related to this effort.

Steve reported that Dolores County is looking forward to working with Emory Telecommunications. He added that snowpack is at 100%.

Chris reported that the Anvil Mountain development has rented most its units. She reported that the Town of Silverton has a new administrator. The Town's budget is completed. The water treatment plant is completed and they have new equipment. There are three open positions on the board, and she is term limited.

Willy reported that San Juan County has closed roads for the season. They received a grant for technology update for the courts with match from DOLA to complete restoration work at the courthouse. They have finished the budget, revenues are concerning, fortunately they had passed taxes for emergency services.

David reported that the Town of Bayfield received a grant to upgrade the water system. The budget went well, outside agencies were asked to show up to justify their funding requests.

Karen reported that the City of Cortez passed the budget. The land use code second reading was postponed. A council member recently resigned. The annual parade of lights went well.

Mark reported that the Town of Ignacio is looking at their land use code. They had a commissioner resign last week. The budget is up for consideration next week.

The meeting ended at 4:01 p.m.