



Collaborative Board Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2023, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Gilpin Conference Room, Routt County Health and Human Services, 135 6th Street, Steamboat Springs, CO

1. Roll Call

The meeting of the Collaborative Board was called to order at approximately 10:02 a.m. on Friday, November 17, 2023 as a hybrid meeting.

Collaborative voting members in attendance:

- Steamboat Springs: Counselor Gail Garey
- Routt County: Commissioner Sonja Macys
- Routt County: Scott Cowman
- Hayden: Mathew Mendisco
- Oak Creek: David Torgler
- Community: Tim Wohlgenant
- Community: Sarah Jones
- Community: Geoff Blakeslee

Quorum is present. Yampa Valley Sustainability Council's Michelle Stewart, Tim Sullivan, and Ashley Dean were present supporting Program Management for the Collaborative Board.

2. Minutes

Counselor Garey motioned to approve the October 27, 2023 minutes with requested edits to Brown Ranch discussion and inclusion of David Torgler at the October meeting. Geoff moved to approve. Sarah seconded. All in favor. No objection. Approved 8-0.

3. Board administration updates

- a) **Finalize Accountability Tracker and 2024 Accountability actions/priorities**

- Michelle is developing a GANTT 2024 Collaborative Accountability Goals document. Board to continue to discuss and identify 2024 priorities.

Strategy 1 - Funding

- Discussion of funding opportunities - who is in charge of moving these things forward and identifying opportunities? CAP Collaborative in a good position to apply for these grants.
- Funding available for EV Readiness Grant Program
 - County pursuing that through DOLA and CEO
- Commissioner Macys to be Board lead on evaluating funding mechanisms with YVSC support
 - Explore Renewable Energy Mitigation Program (REMP)
 - Develop Colorado Association of Ski Towns (CAST) survey to explore how other communities are funding their CAP implementation. Develop a survey to be sent out in December with a reminder in January.
- Action item to develop a fundraising plan (YVSC)
 - Identify grant opportunities
 - Tim W. to lead Board efforts to support a fundraising plan for the Climate Action Fund and application template and criteria for applicants
 - Municipal budget requests need to be made by end of Q2

Strategy 2 - Accountability mechanisms

- Quarterly evaluation of progress and annual report (YVSC)

Strategy 3 - Community plan alignment

- Focus on CAP opportunities in letter to governmental community planners
- Hayden incorporating CAP recommendations (geothermal) in new business industrial park development. Plan to take it utility-scale for heating and cooling using geothermal townwide (through an ordinance).

Strategy 4 - Educational programs supporting the CAP

- Create an education and outreach plan to engage community
- Focus on largest emitters (e.g., SSRC, school districts (Board of Education), hospital)
- Sarah to take Board lead
- Work with Colorado Green Business Network of the Yampa Valley to talk about CAP-related opportunities and identify strategies with private entities (e.g., businesses, property managers) that align with CAP priorities.
- Set up meeting with Steamboat Chamber to discuss integrating CAP into Destination Stewardship material
- CAP equity framework part of YVSC's scope of work

Strategy 5 - Engaging private and public partners

- Develop a workshop on government best practices - gathering of reps to share and learn

- Identify strategic meeting for CAP Board representation (e.g., MT2030, CAST, state level opportunities)
- Explore private partnerships

b) CAP Community Board seat update and next steps

10 applications received. CAP Board government representatives to interview candidates the week of December 4th.

c) CAP financials and current projected budget

Sarah to put together a year-end financial report.

4. Program Management Updates (YVSC)

a) Working Group updates

Meetings are an opportunity to check in with working group members quarterly and gauge continued interest and participation. Working group members to serve as touch points and to help identify 2024 priorities.

Good attendance and engagement from all Working Groups. Working Groups provided updates to the Working Group Progress Tracker and identified 3 priority actions per sector with the understanding that all recommendations should be left on the table.

Energy - Notable updates

- Recommendation 1
 - The Building Department has now completed the 2021 Building Code Adoption process, and has been successful in adopting identical Code Adoptions within unincorporated Routt County and the Towns of Hayden, Oak Creek, and Yampa. Routt County, Towns of Yampa, Oak Creek, and Hayden have all approved the proposed new regulations on outdoor heated snow melt systems, and will only allow active Heated Outdoor Snow Melt Systems to be installed if they are powered by a 100% renewable energy source, unless you meet any of the exceptions listed in these ordinances. The City of Steamboat Springs will revisit this topic on November 21. The currently adopted code includes no restrictions on how commercial snowmelt systems are powered within three downtown zoning districts at the base of the mountain, and limits residential snowmelts in the city to 450 square feet.

Transportation - Notable updates

- Recommendation 4

- CAP Fund established. The Good Traveler Partnership formed. Marketing plan development in process.
- Recommendation 5
 - EV readiness requirements included in 2021 building code to be adopted in January 1, 2024.

Waste - Notable updates

- Recommendation 1
 - City of Steamboat Spring Recycling coordinator is working on implementing the State's polystyrene ban throughout 2024 in addition to the plastic bag ban. Group suggests starting with banning plastic straws because an alternative to plastic is already available

Land Use - Notable updates

- Recommendation 8
 - Routt County adopted new code provisions for utility scale solar on October 31. The code has protections for both agricultural lands and native vegetation as well as critical wildlife habitat. There is still opportunity to create a process to help identify the most suitable lands in advance of permit applications if it was deemed necessary given the number of anticipated applications.
- Recommendation 6
 - Routt County has completed an updated Community Wildfire Protection Plan that identifies priority projects for wildfire risk reduction. County staff, and other fire protection districts in conjunction with Routt Wildfire Mitigation Council are developing an implementation plan for the CWPP.
- Recommendation 3
 - USFS completed approximately 100 acres of tree planting on site of Muddy Creek fire in 2023 with plans for an additional 100 acres in 2024

Economy - Notable updates

- Recommendation 1
 - The City of Steamboat Springs adopted a local procurement policy (10/23)
- Recommendation 4
 - Hayden exploring alternative energy/geothermal to heat and power industrial park (<https://haydencolorado.com/nwcobd/>)
- Recommendation 5
 - CMC received planning grant to do a workforce development center of industrial and skilled trades
- Recommendation 6

- YVSC, as a Regional Partner of the Colorado Green Business Network, awarded a \$60,000 USDA grant to expand Green Business funding

b) Communications updates - 2022/23 CAP Annual Report

2022/23 CAP Annual Report to be sent out digitally before Thanksgiving.

5. Other

a) CSU Student Final Presentation on December 7

CAP Board members are welcome to join the CSU Impact MBA presentations via Zoom on December 7.

Next Meeting

- Friday, December 15, 2023 - 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. - Gilpin Conference Room, Routt County Health and Human Services, 135 6th St, Steamboat Springs, CO

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

MINUTES PREPARED, REVIEWED AND RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY: Ashley Dean Approved Day 15 of December 2023.