

November 25th, 2025

Chaffee County Common Ground Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting

Location: 200 Steele Drive, Buena Vista, CO 81211; Virtual via Zoom Meetings

Attendance:

Committee: Ben Lenth, Dani Cook, Paule Muelle, Sydney Schnurr (virtual), Joe Stone (virtual), Jim LaRue (virtual)

Chaffee County Staff: Gabe Hobson

CCCF: Betsy Dittenber, Anna Hendricks

13:10 – Meeting commences and the CAC approves the November 28th meeting minutes with a spelling correction.

13:12 – The Common Ground Assigned Fund Balance and Grant Tracker are reviewed. Betsy D notes that CCCF has created a reporting process for partnership grants to ensure all grants are tracked through the GLM system.

13:15 – Gabe H provides updates on County Councils and Working Lands Initiative. Council meetings are being held as normal but are likely to be brief due to the holiday season. The selection of the Ag Resilience Coordinator position is still being evaluated but the final candidates appear to be the Upper Arkansas Conservation District and Guidestone Colorado who may be asked to work together to fulfill the role of the Ag Resilience Coordinator.

13:18 – Betsy D begins discussing the Criteria Review Process. Anna H gives an update on the applicant survey which was sent out to all grant recipients from the beginning of the beginning of the Common Ground Grant process. Another round of survey invitations will be sent out in early December to solicit additional responses. The policy review is being pushed to the December meeting. The timeline for policy review is briefly discussed.

13:22 – Betsy D gives an update on the TN Bar Cattle Company grant. The Forest Service completed their archeological review complete. The remaining funds of their grant for water pipe installation are ready to be used. Dani C asks about the signage included in the project and if there is a requirement to track and confirm that funds are spent locally when local spending is described in the application. It would need to be required in a future grant reporting requirement. The CAC unanimously approves the amendment request to move the location of the water pipe, with the requirement of including signage and photos in the final report.

13:29 – Ben L discusses officer nominations of Committee Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary for a one-year term. Nominations can be submitted until the agenda is sent out for the December meeting.

13:30 – The group discusses the upcoming December 16th meeting and the potential for a social gathering. The social gathering will be scheduled some time in January. The January meeting will be held on January 27th.

13:38 – Meeting adjourns.