



Grand County

Colorado

NOVEMBER 23, 2021

COMMISSIONERS Corner

News & Updates from Grand County's
Board of County Commissioners



*Kaibab Park in the pre-dawn hour,
captured by Grandsky. (Do **you** know who he or she is?)*

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Commissioners CALENDAR

November 24

Monthly Legislators Breakfast (Zoom)

November 25-26

County Offices closed for the Thanksgiving
holiday

November 29 - December 1

Colorado Counties, Inc. (CCI) All-Day Winter
Conference (El Paso County)

December 3

CCI Lodging Tax Bill Stakeholder Meeting (Zoom)

December 4

Transit Advisory Committee Meeting, WP Town Hall

December 6

U.S. Forest Service Meeting, Grand Fire

**No BOCC meeting next week,
November 30, as it's the 5th Tuesday
of the month. Next BOCC meeting:
December 7.**

Click here to view the full BOCC calendars.

PUBLIC HEALTH | COVID UPDATE

Grand County Public Health Director **Abbie Baker** stated that the County's case rate has remained steady in the last week, at .216%. Grand County has experienced a significant decrease in pediatric cases, which dropped from 24% to about 3% of cases.

Grand County has three current hospitalizations, and two active outbreaks. In about 83% of COVID hospitalizations, the patients are unvaccinated. Director Baker is anticipating one, if not both, of those outbreaks to close within the next week.

Serial Testing in the Schools

Students who are testing weekly will be exempt from quarantines as long as they continue testing negative. The goal of serial testing is to quickly isolate cases to prevent wide-spread quarantines, and keep students in the classrooms.

Click here for Grand County's COVID-19 dashboard.

Regarding hospital capacities, Director Baker referenced a Colorado Sun article discussing the myriad of issues affecting hospital staffing levels and bed demand as a result of COVID.

Click here to read the article.

BOARD BUSINESS

- A Letter of Support for the Winter Park Bus and Bus Facilities Grant 2021 submitted by the Town of Winter Park was approved. The grant funds would help the Town of Winter Park and The Lift construct a new modern transit facility that will support workers and visitors to Grand County.
- Commissioner Cimino gave a recap of a recent conference call with Congressman Joe Neguse. During the call, Commissioner Cimino highlighted that Grand County has \$500,000 available for shovel-ready projects, and provided an update about Grouse Mountain Reservoir discussions.

**Grand County offices will be closed
Thursday & Friday, November 25 & 26
for the Thanksgiving holiday.**



MANAGER'S UPDATE

On behalf of County Manager **Ed Moyer**, Assistant County Manager **Micah Benson** presented the following:

- A Lease Agreement with Granite Healthcare, Inc. DBA Namaste Home Health and Hospice was approved. Namaste will use offices owned by the County at 613 First Street in Hot Sulphur Springs to provide home health and hospice services.
- Road & Bridge will be before the BOCC at a future meeting to present a contract to repair the fuel pumps at the Granby shops.

PUBLIC HEARING | UNION TELEPHONE CO.

Grand County Community Development Director **Robert Davis** submitted a request on behalf of applicant Union Telephone to replace an aging tower with a more advanced tower that is 20 feet taller than the existing one. Both the existing and new tower site are on Bureau of Land Management property near Kremmling off of Trough Road (County Road 1). The new tower will improve coverage to areas on the west end of the County that currently have little to no cellular coverage. An agreement amending an existing Special Use Permit (SUP) for Union Cellular - San Toy Site, was approved with conditions.



ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Accounting

Voucher and wire payments were approved with no discussion.

Airports

Airport Supervisor **Josh Schroeder** presented two items:

- FAA Airport Rescue Grants in the amount of \$22,000 / each for Grand County airports (Granby Airport and Kremmling Airport) were approved as presented. The funds must be used within four years of acceptance.
- A recommendation for an at-large appointment to the Airport Advisory Committee to fill one of two open seats (per updated Bylaws approved in a previous BOCC meeting) was approved.

Human Services

Human Services Director **Deb Ruttenberg** presented several items:

- A CORE Services Program Contract with Lukens Psychology, LLC to provide mental health and psychological services to a child specific person and their family was approved.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Prowers County to manage and administrate calls to the child welfare and adult protection hotline on behalf of Grand County was approved.
- A draft proposal was approved for the CDHS County Behavioral Health Grant Program that will be submitted by Grand County Human Services in collaboration with the Grand County Rural Health Network and Mind Springs Health. Funding to be used for behavioral health programs in Grand and Jackson counties. If funded, the grant allows for the hiring of a Behavioral Health Navigator, to provide independent therapists funding assistance for billing services, and to provide additional funding for mental health transports. Commissioners approved the draft for signature outside of a meeting, contingent on review by the County Manager, Attorney and Finance Director.

Treasurer's Office

As follow-up to a previous discussion, Grand County Treasurer **Frank DeLay** presented Resolution No. 2021-11-19 authorizing the Treasurer to invest public funds with U.S. Bank, which was approved. The Resolution provides the Treasurer's Office with a second option for investing funds on behalf of Grand County.

EWP

Assistant County Manager **Micah Benson** gave an Emergency Watershed Protection Update:

- Construction on fall EWP projects is being completed. During the winter, work will continue on design for projects to launch in the spring.
- An amendment to an MOU with Northern Water (as a result of additional CWBC funding) will be presented at the December 7 meeting.

Housing Authority

Grand County Housing Authority Operations Manager **Sheena Darland** presented a Letter of Engagement from law firm Holland & Hart LLP to represent the Towns of Winter Park, Fraser and Grand County in the undertaking of establishing a Regional Housing Authority. Sitting as the Housing Authority Board, Commissioners asked for clarification from and a formal agreement with the Towns of Winter Park and Fraser regarding how expenses will be shared and the financial liability of each of the three entities.

Community Development

Community Development Director **Robert Davis** presented the following items:

- Resolution 2020-12-47, Extended Service Plan of Red Hawk Ranch Water & Sanitation, was approved.
- Arvada Parcel Subdivision Final Plat was approved with the recommended conditions.

Grand Foundation | Donor Advised Fund

Grand Foundation Executive Director **Megan Ledin** presented the 2022 Grand County Donor Advised Fund agreement in the amount of \$380,000.00. Via the Donor Advised Fund, County Commissioners help primarily non-profit community organizations with fundings that provide or enhance residents' access to basic primary needs in the areas of health and human services, environment and education. **The deadline to apply for a 2022 grant is 12 p.m. December 1, 2021.**