



## COMMISSIONERS Corner

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



Photo courtesy of **Julie Sweeney** via the **Grand Gazette**.

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### COMMISSIONERS CALENDAR

- Jan 19** | Statewide Transit Advisory Committee
- Jan 19** | GC BOCC Bi-Annual Update to Town of Kremmling
- Jan 19** | (Rescheduled) GC Planning Commission meeting
- Jan 20-21** | Voices of Rural CO Joint Legislative Visit / Denver Chamber of Commerce
- Jan 20** | Associated Governments of NW CO Weekly Legislative Call
- Jan 20** | Geographic Naming Advisory Board
- Jan 21** | Wolf Technical Working Group
- Jan 21** | Health Insurance Affordability Enterprise Board meeting
- Jan 21** | Colorado Counties, Inc. (CCI) Virtual Legislative Briefing



## WORKSHOP | COUNTY RD 40 FIRE STATION

Grand Fire **Chief Brad White** and EMS **Chief Robert Good** had a discussion with the BOCC regarding Grand Fire's planned new fire station on County Road 40.

The station has been part of long-term planning since 2004, and will be built on five acres purchased by Grand Fire District in 2016.



The new fire house could potentially serve as an all-hazards public safety facility and would serve as an additional location for Grand Fire, and possibly Search and Rescue (SAR), and as a base for the newly established Headwaters Rescue Authority. The agencies have been analyzing their spatial needs and co-location opportunities based on call volume. Chief Good stated that crew quarters and an ambulance bay on County Rd 40 is not necessary for EMS due to good coverage in the area between the Granby station and Grand Lake. Chief Good also noted that their needs are dependent on what is presented in the future for current station remodels and potential new stations based on co-location opportunities with the Fire Districts at alternative station locations.

Chief White stated that fire agencies are not only reviewing personnel and equipment needs, but also projected response times as communities in the Town of Granby and those in the Lake Granby area expand, and travel times to the north increase. Chief White has been in contact with the Granby Ranch developers and the Town of Granby regarding the planned expansion at Granby Ranch. While discussions are preliminary, the developer is supportive of holding a parcel for Grand Fire, EMS and Granby Police Department to use if needed as development proceeds as planned. Continued building at Smith Creek Ranch and the launch of Phase 2 at River Run will also bring more people to the area, and is a consideration for emergency response times.

Commissioners expressed their appreciation for the collaboration taking place, and also the update about building projects. At the BOCC's direction, staff will continue working with Chief White to discuss a potential funding strategy for future co-location.

## BOARD BUSINESS

- Commissioners made the following appointments:
  - County Manager **Ed Moyer** as CCI's 2022 steering commission proxy.
  - BOCC Chair **Kristen Manguso** as the primary 2022 representative (with Commissioners Cimino and Linke as alternate representatives) for NorthWest Colorado County of Governments (NWCCOG).
- Commissioners approved Open Lands, Rivers & Trails (OLRT) Annual Services Contract with Fountainhead Consulting LLC as presented.
- Commissioner **Rich Cimino** provided an update regarding the Town of Winter Park's Strategic Planning Kick Off meeting that was attended by representatives from the Towns of Winter Park and Fraser, along with representatives from Winter Park Resort.

# MANAGER'S UPDATE

County Manager **Ed Moyer** gave the following updates:

- Regarding the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and the funding available through the State Division of Housing for affordable housing: Manager will be meeting with Housing Authority Operations Manager **Sheena Darland** to determine how the ARPA funds will be made available.
- Windy Gap Firing Project and Reservoir Modification and Connectivity Channel: Manager met with the Colorado River District and Northern Water last week regarding the River District's \$1 million grant (to Grand County) for the project, as well as Grand County's \$1 million OLRT funds. Manager discussed proposed disbursement schedules for each fund. Manager will present a finalized scope of work and grant agreement with the River District, along with a funding agreement with Northern Water, at a future meeting to memorialize the project disbursements.
- Manager and Public Health Director **Abbie Baker** have been discussing the requirements of HB 21-1115, Board of Health Member Requirements. The act requires members of a county board of health on and after January 1, 2022 to attend annual public health training sessions provided by the Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE).
- County Manager has served on the Grand County Mutual Ditch & Reservoir Company board since 2015. The board has nominated the Manager as President following the retirement of the current Board President **Bruce Hutchins**.
- Drafts of the updated Emergency Snow Closure and Holiday Expense policies will be presented at an upcoming meeting.
- Mr. Moyer advised Commissioners to anticipate being contacted by groups opposing S.B. 22-031, legislation introduced that would ban all recreational hunting and trapping of bobcats, mountain lions and lynx in the state of Colorado. (The bill has been sent to the Senate Agriculture and Resources Committee.)
- The Second Reading of proposed Amendments to the Grand County Marijuana Licensing Ordinance No. 22 will take place next week. *Click here to view the ordinance.*
- Per the BOCC's request: Manager reported that, to date, Community Development has waived \$55,000 in building permit fees for those re-building from the East Troublesome Fire.

## ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

### Accounting

Weekly vouchers and wire payments were approved as presented.

### Clerk & Recorder

Grand County Clerk & Recorder **Sara Rosene** gave a brief update regarding vehicle registration renewals: The State has clarified that December and January registration renewals were mailed, but were significantly delayed.

### Grand County Public Health

Public Health Director **Abbie Baker** provided the Grand County Board of Health with a COVID-19 update. As predicted, the Omicron variant of COVID-19 is more transmissible than previous versions of the disease. As a result, Grand County's case rate is rapidly rising, but hospitalizations are holding steady. For the first time during the pandemic, Public Health is seeing individuals test positive within 90 days of previously contracting COVID-19. The County currently has six active outbreaks, which include both school districts. Due to the number of new daily positive cases, GCPH's contact tracers are focusing their efforts on those who are at the greatest risk following an exposure to COVID.

### Community Development

The Ridge Point Condominium Sketch Plan was approved with conditions.

### Economic Development

Representatives from the Wireless Research Center (WRC) provided an update regarding opening a digital resource center in Grand County. Due to funding limitations, the group anticipates opening one center instead of the proposed three centers. The funding initially provided by Grand County and Freeport McMoRan would be used for staff expenses, and program / curriculum development will be provided by WRC's affiliates in North Carolina. County Manager **Ed Moyer** recommended amending the Services Contract with WRC to reflect the project's revised scope.

### EMS

At EMS Chief **Robert Good's** request, Commissioners authorized Manager **Ed Moyer** to complete EMS' Assistance to Firefighter's FEMA grant application. If awarded, EMS would use the funds for additional communications equipment.