



Collaborative Board Meeting Minutes

June 7, 2024, 10 a.m.–Noon

Routt County Health and Human Services Gilpin Conference Room
135 6th Street
Steamboat Springs, CO 80487

10:00 - 10:05 am

The meeting of the CAP Collaborative Board was called to order at 10:03 a.m.

1. Roll call

Collaborative voting members in attendance:

- Routt County: Sonja Macys
- Routt County: Scott Cowman
- Town of Yampa: Sheila Symons
- City of Steamboat Springs: Gail Garey
- City of Steamboat Springs: Steve Muntean
- Community: Sarah Jones
- Community: Tim Wohlgenant
- Community: Emily Katzman
- Community: Steven Johnson

CAP program management entity Yampa Valley Sustainability Council (YVSC) staff in attendance:

- Paul Bony
- Michelle Stewart
- Ashley Dean
- Tim Sullivan
- Abby Vander Graaff

2. Minutes

- a. [May 2, 2024](#)

Tim W. made the motion to approve, Emily seconded, all in favor.

10:05-11:00 am

Board Administration Updates

1. CAP Board Community Board Seat [application posted](#)

CAP Board application press release has been sent to media contacts and working groups. Decision was made to reach out to all past applicants to see if anyone would like their application to be considered again. Application deadline is June 14.

2. YVEA follow up discussions

- a. Commissioner Macys - coordinate a conversation with NV5/YVEA on Routt County [solar energy projects](#) and proposal update**

Sonja shared that she had a conversation with Yampa Valley Electric Association about the suitability of locations to implement renewable energy.

Routt County is collaborating with other local governments to find an appropriate site for a solar array in Hayden and at the Steamboat Airport. A grant is in for capital construction costs. Another DOLA grant possible for energy impact assistance. An assistant county manager has been hired to help manage the process.

YVEA June 17 deadline for people who want to support renewable energy with Guzman. CAP Board invited to attend YVEA annual meeting on June 25.

3. SSSD partner engagement meeting tentatively scheduled for August

- a. Presenters**
- b. Discuss priority areas for engagement**

Dr. Wicks from Steamboat Springs School District agreed to meet with CAP Board members in August. Any board members interested in attending should let YVSC know (Tim W. and Gail expressed interest); YVSC will create a draft presentation. Focuses of the conversation will be on transportation, energy/facilities, waste (recycling, composting, durable) and local procurement.

JC Norling said he'd be in touch about meeting with the CAP Board on behalf of Colorado Mountain College.

There is also an opportunity to meet with Yampa Valley Medical Center.

4. Review [potential CAP Fund project areas](#)

a. Define projects that would work with a fund, criteria

A donor contributed \$50,000 to the CAP Fund, which meets the target threshold to start giving out grants. There is a need to discuss projects, potential donors, campaigns and what the process will be for applying to receive a grant. The CAP Board will be the entity to review grants. There was discussion around the importance of aligning donors with projects that match their values.

Potential projects include heat pumps, weatherization, electrification, wetlands restoration, zero waste, composting, workforce development, wildfire risk mitigation, urban tree planting and urban water conservation.

Tim W., Michelle and Emily will get together to talk about projects and potential donors and come back with a shorter list of criteria and projects for the Board to consider. Criteria for priority projects could include gaps in funding, amount of emissions saved, replicability, climate equity and co-benefits.

5. Routt County geothermal awards

Sarah J. said two feasibility study grants have been awarded for around \$250,000 each, one for deep and one for shallow geothermal for snowmelt for the Gondola Transit Center at Steamboat Resort - capturing heat waste for electricity generation.

Steamboat Resort is currently in negotiations with the Colorado Energy Office (scope of work, agreements). The resort is not seeking any other grant money for the project.

The Town of Hayden was also awarded a \$200,000 grant to study the use of geothermal at its new business park.

11:15- 11:50 am

Program Management Updates (YVSC)

- 1. Working Group Quarterly Meeting Updates ([Progress Tracker](#))**
 - a. Requests from Working Groups to the Board**

Energy:

YVSC has a CAP Energy Intern working on CAP Energy recommendations 2 and 6. Working Group ready to support housing size restrictions that could come out of the Routt County Master Planning process.

Transportation:

City is undergoing an update on its Community Area Plan.

Land Use:

There's funding available for riparian buffer projects and studying green infrastructure. Currently there are planting projects in progress in the community in local burn scars, along with urban tree planting projects.

Next week the Routt County Board of Commissioners will adopt the proposed Unified Development Code, which includes some of the strongest protections for natural resources on the Western Slope.

May be time to think about actions Routt County can be taking to build resilience to climate change.

Economy:

City of Steamboat and Town of Hayden have passed local procurement policies. How we can expand that to other entities, such as Routt County, Town of Oak Creek and Town of Yampa? 70% of revenue that goes into purchase of local goods goes back into the communities. Catalyze Steamboat Springs Chamber and RCEDC to help with this effort.

Sarah J. suggested reaching out to the Circular Economy Development Center who may be looking for funding recipients for circular economy projects.

There are currently 25 businesses enrolled in the Colorado Green Business Network of the Yampa Valley.

Waste:

CAP Waste Working Group interested in forming a compostable straws sub-committee to see how they can support a ban on plastic straws.

Scott C. suggested CAP Collaborative be involved in stakeholder discussions around Extended Producer Responsibility moving forward. The community is set up well to try to take advantage of recent EPR legislation, but capacity is a problem.

To move forward on Waste recommendation 3 (volume-based pricing) Gail said the City of Steamboat would have to pass a "pay as you throw" ordinance that would impact pricing by the amount of trash residents throw away. People save money by recycling more. City currently focused on commercial recycling ordinance so may need to wait to 2025 to bring this forward again.

Support for a durables business key to implementing recommendations around zero waste. No local zero waste vendors. There is a sub-committee convened to look at the potential for a community recycling center.

~~2. Climate equity update (Michelle)~~

Item not discussed.

3. Community Drop Off Center sub-committee meeting/Extended Producer Responsibility update (Scott)

Funding to pay for recycling from new EPR legislation will enter the community in February 2026. The State of Colorado will have a plan for implementation by 2025. Circular Action Alliance in charge of implementing EPR - implementation by February 2026.

11:50 am - 12 pm

Other

Next meeting: Friday, July 12, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., Gilpin Conference Room, Routt County Health and Human Services

Link to [CAP Board June 7 Board packet](#)

Motion to adjourn by Tim W., seconded by Scott C., meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Abby Vander Graaff.
Minutes approved July 12 2024.