

SWCCOG Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Monday, December 8, 2025

TIME: 3:00pm – 5:00pm

Minutes

Attendance:

COG: Veronica Medina, Vice Chair, Archuleta County; Jennifer Green, Treasurer, Pagosa Springs; Gilda Yazzie, Durango; Matt Salka, La Plata County; David Harris, Pagosa Springs; Tommy Crosby, Durango; Colton Black, Southern Ute Tribe; Chauncey McCarthy, Rico; Drew Sanders, Cortez; William Tookey, San Juan County; Dayna Kranker, Silverton; and Cathleen Giovanni, Archuleta County.

Region 9: Audrey Royem, Laura Lewis Marchino, Irina Hauser, Shak Powers, Shirley Jones, and Allyson Barker

Guests: Wyatt Bair, Senator Michael Bennet's office.

A. Call SWCCOG Meeting to Order – Veronica Medina, Vice Chair

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. **The meeting was called to order by Veronica Medina, Vice Chair, at 3:04 PM**

B. Amendments to the Agenda -none

C. SWCCOG Executive Committee terms (FYI)

- a. Two officer positions are soon to be vacant with Mark Garcia retiring and Gloria Kasch-Buerger no longer living in Silverton. Some outreach has been done by Region 9 to gauge interest in the positions. Staff received interest from several government members to serve on the Executive Committee, including Commissioner Medina, Commissioner Salka, Drew Sanders, David Harris, and Colton Black, with Commissioner Medina expressing interest in the chair position. Officer elections will be held at the January 29th board meeting,

D. Public Comment and Public Hearing regarding 2026 SWCCOG Budget

1. no public comments made.

E. Decision Items

1. Approval of Resolution #25-04- Check signers

approval to remove Mark Garcia, who is retiring, and Brian Rose, who no longer works for Region 9, and add Shak Powers who was recently promoted to Deputy Director as a check signer for the COG accounts.

Discussion: No Discussion

Drew Sanders made the motion (William Tookey second) to approve Resolution #25-04 to remove Mark Garcia and to add Shak powers as approved check signers. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Approval of Resolution #25-05 - 2026 Budget

- a. The budget discussion included details about sources of income, profit margins, expenses, grant funding, and the reduction of Tiffany's hours as a result of the ending of Grant Navigator Funds.
- b. Discussion: the ending of Grants Navigator funding was discussed will result in our grant writer's hours being reduced to 20 hours per week. The housing needs assessment project was inquired

about and region 9 staff explained that we are in the final stages of signing a contract for that project.

Matt Salka motioned (Drew Sanders second) to approve Resolution #25-05 to approve the 2026 Budget as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Financial Report through October 31, 2025
 - a. The financial report was reviewed, including revenues and expenses over the first 10 months of the year, grants, staff time, and projects.
 - b. Discussion: a question was asked regarding a specific account payable which Shirley explained.

William Tookey motioned (Matt Salka second) to approve the financial report through October 31, 2025. Motion passed unanimously.

F. Discussion Items

1. Staff, Funding and Program Updates
 - a. Ricardo Arrieta will be joining the team as Loan Officer January 5th.
2. Grant Impact Discussion
 - a. Discussion: Laura asked for governments to share any information regarding grants that they did not get or did not apply for due to the federal changes.
3. CEDS Update – Audrey Royem
 - a. Maslow’s hierarchy of Needs aligned for communities was presented to the Directors
 - b. **Discussion:** A question was asked if Audrey will still be going out to discuss projects with the communities. Answer, yes, with partnership with food initiatives and discussion to align governments policy with community needs. A consultant is being hired to aide in community outreach and generating discussion. Discussion ~~was generated~~ regarding how region members can come together to have a larger impact on these needs related initiatives. Comments were made by multiple members about how it seems at times that many of these community impact organizations and community members don’t know who they are supposed to connect to in different governments to get initiatives like these moving. In addition, comments to make sure region 9 is involving the COG members. Some comments were made claiming that a survey is not an effective way to get member governments and communities involved. Recommendations were made to hold public conversations in each community, in person, or even web calls for a more personal approach.

G. Other Business

1. Next Region 9/SWCCOG Board Meeting: January 29, 2026

H. Adjourn SWCCOG Board meeting

David Harris motioned (William Tookey second) to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned by Veronica Medina, Vice Chair at 3:52 PM