

**HIGH COUNTRY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 18, 2023
MINUTES**

The Executive Board of the High Country Council of Governments (HCCOG) met September 18, 2023, 6:00pm, in the HCCOG Board Room in Boone. The following members were present at the meeting: Charles E. Vines, Stoney Greene, Jeff Whitson, Timmy Evans, Otis Church, Bill Wheeler, Dennis Aldridge, Larry Fontaine, Steve Pitman, JoAnn Royal, Jim Blevins, Rocky Buchanan, Tom Hartman, Tim Futrelle, Larry Turnbow, Paul Robinson Jr., Doug Matheson, and Todd McNeill. The following staff and guests were present at the meeting: Jim Youngquist, Wendell Lawrence, Chandler Reece, Mason Reece, Jeff Hedrick, Julie Wiggins, Julie Page, and Victoria Oxentine.

CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

Chairman McNeill welcomed everyone to the High Country Council of Governments September Executive Board meeting. Chairman McNeill welcomed new board member from the Town of Ronda, JoAnn Royal. Chairman McNeill called on Stoney Greene to lead the invocation and Jeff Whitson to lead the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Charles E. Vines made a motion to approve the July 17, 2023 Executive Board minutes. Stoney Greene seconded the motion. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Financial Highlights

Finance Officer, Julie Page presented the Financial Highlights as of August 31, 2023 (Attachment A) and reviewed year to date revenues versus expenditures and balances. Mrs. Page noted that everything has been submitted to the auditors and they should be able to present in November. Otis Church made a motion to approve the Financial Highlights as of August 31, 2023. Stoney Greene seconded the motion. Motion carried.

REPORT FROM THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Julie Wiggins, Executive Director announced that the building restoration has finished up and we are just waiting on a few more furniture items. Ms. Wiggins noted that the search is underway for the Planning and Development Director. Ms. Wiggins also reminded board members that the Annual Banquet will be held on October 6th and RSVPs are due Friday, September 22nd. We received \$5,000.00 in sponsorships for this year's banquet. Lastly, Ms. Wiggins announced that the Fall ReCOgnition will be published in November.

STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

Jim Youngquist and Wendell Lawrence from SERDI facilitated a Strategic Planning Focus Group session. HCCOG staff left for this portion of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

As there were no other comments or business, Charles E. Vines made a motion to adjourn. Stoney Greene seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm.



Chairman, Todd McNeill



Clerk to the Board, Victoria Oxentine

Date 11/20/23