

NORTHEASTERN COLORADO ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

August 20, 2025

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Northeastern Colorado Association of Local Governments was held virtually on August 20, 2025. Chairman Tom Timm called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with the following members and guests present:

Jim Santomaso, Logan County Commissioner
Jon Becker, Morgan County Commissioner
Tom Timm, Phillips County Commissioner
Darrin Tobin, Sedgwick County Commissioner
Scott Ramey, Washington County Commissioner
Gillian Laycock, Washington County Municipality
Mike Leerar, Yuma County Commissioner
Marcus Shay, Yuma County Municipality

Kenneth Mooney, Executive Director
Janelle Machamer, Finance Officer
Meagan Priest, Human Resource Manager
Bev Dobner, AAA Director
Charles Bunnell, Transit Director
Sarah Christensen, CMA Director

Guests: Kendra Calderon, Phillips County Economic Development; Kent Vance, NECALG Regional Grant Navigator; Brenda Rowland, NECALG Nutrition; Amy Keegar, NECALG Nutrition Assistant; Susan Clutter, Eco Lane; and Dan Betts, Congresswoman Boebert's office.

Acceptance of Agenda: Mr. Shay motioned to approve the agenda as printed, Mr. Leerar seconded; passed unanimously.

Minutes: Mr. Leerar motioned to approve minutes from June 18, 2025 due to the July Board meeting having been canceled, and Mr. Ramey seconded; passed unanimously.

Finance: Mrs. Machamer gave financial report for June 2025. Accounts payable were \$377,537, payroll was \$203,370.92 for a grand total of \$580,908.38. Mr. Shay motioned to approve the June finance report as presented, Mr. Ramey seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. For July 2025, accounts payable were \$331,484.92, payroll was \$205,624.54 for a grand total of \$537,109.46. Mr. Shay motioned to approve the July financials as presented, Mr. Leerar seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

- A. None

New Items:

- A. Transportation software purchase: Mr. Bunnell reported that he was notified by our current dispatch software, ParaPlan will be discontinued between March and May 2026 and will not be usable. Mr. Bunnell spent the last two months researching dispatch software and got three quotes. His choice is for software called Ecolane. Susan Clutter presented information on the Ecolane software. Ecolane will automatically capture NTD reports with no manual effort; their last ten implementations have averaged a 30% increase in efficiencies in the first 30 days and 44% in the first year. Software has automatic alerts for DOT vehicle inspection requirements and preventative maintenance, driver licenses, insurance certs. They also have additional a la cart add-ons. All servers and tech support are located in the United States. Ms. Laycock asked several clarifying questions as did Mr. Leerar. Mr. Shay motioned to approve the software purchase, Mr. Tobin seconded the motion, passed unanimously.
- B. Transportation vehicle purchase: Mr. Bunnell advised that NECALG brought on a Mobility Manager from EC COG. Will oversee driver credentialing, training and some customer relations. The plan is to give the current director vehicle to the Mobility Manager to use for her travels throughout the counties and then a new vehicle would be purchased of no more than \$25,000. The money to be used for the purchase is coming from unrestricted Medicaid revenue. Mr. Shay motioned to approve a vehicle not to exceed \$25,000 Mr. Leerar seconded the motion. All voted to approve the purchase except for Mr. Becker who opposed it. Motion passed.

Program Updates:

- a. AAA: Mrs. Dobner recognized Brenda Rowland and Amy Kreegar of the nutrition department for their years of service of 31 and 28 years respectively. Mrs. Dobner reported that the 2026 budget has been finalized, they have provided 5,078 meals; 537 round trips through County Express, 14 voucher services and 36 material aid. Monday, August 25th bimonthly regional meeting in Ovid.
- b. CMA: Mrs. Christensen reported that they had 115 referrals last month, which is up from 75-80 in previous months. As of August 1st the state changed how they provide services again. Up to four systems not working from the state. The department is looking to hire additional case managers due to the increase in time it is taking to provide services, document and bill.
- c. CSBG/Enterprise Zone: Mrs. Monroe was not present to give an update.
- d. Economic Development: Mr. Leerar reported that Yuma County Economic Development got a big win with Bomgaars announcing they would be moving into Wray in the old Atwood building on Hwy. 385. The building has been sitting vacant for several years.

- e. Education: No update
- f. Employment: No update
- g. Human Resources: Mrs. Priest reported that they are looking for four additional Case Managers, interviews going well. Regional Ombudsman position is still open due to conflict of interest with previous employment. County Express is looking for a full time dispatcher in Sterling and PT driver in Sterling. Brush fully staffed. Yuma is looking for five part time drivers, no interest not qualified.
- h. NECTA: July Ridership for County Express: 2,491 total trips of that Morgan had 1,250; Logan County had 616 Phillips 20 Sedgwick 29 wash 36 yuma 540 Prairie Express: 2,809 total passengers. Bustang 203 riders total for the month of July, the Sterling to Denver route up 120% from last July. The DIA route is really helping ridership. Medicaid had 677 trips: Logan County had 177, Morgan County had 287, Phillips County had 6, Sedgwick County had 22, Washington County had 32 and Yuma County had 153 trips. Medicaid was billed \$79,4976.18 for the month of July. Overall ridership was down due to the summer slump and Medicaid rides were down due to Yuma County being down five drivers. No applicants for the Burlington and Limon routes.
- i. Regional Grant Navigator: Mr. Vance reported slowdown for August. Rise grant has been sent for approval. He sent out a couple of NoFo's for potential grants.

County Updates: Mr. Santomas reported that Logan County monetarily joined the coalition against the Methane landfill requirements that Mesa County is leading; working on finalizing ballot measure to keep 1% sales tax; Mr. Miller with Logan County Economic Development is looking to refurbish/repurpose the old sugar beet factory in town.

Closing Remarks and Public Comments: None

Next meeting September 17, 2025, 10:00 am In Person

Meeting called into executive session at 11:44 am.

Tom Timm, Chairman

Jon Becker, Secretary