



THE STATE BOARD OF THE GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO TRUST FUND  
BOARD MEETING  
March 10, 2023

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Minutes Approval			
December 2023 Board Meeting			



*A meeting of The State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund convened at 8:54am on March 9, 2023*

**Board Present**

In-person: Brenda May, Carrie Curtiss, Charley Garcia, Craig Hughes, David Cockrell, Jahi Simbai, Jay Tutchton, Leticia Martinez, Mara Brosy-Wiwchar, Marie Haskett, Mina Liebert, Mo Siegel, Pam Denahy, Patty Imhoff, Ray Tschillard, Tom Lee  
Virtual: Dan Gibbs, Krithika Prashant, Turk Montepare

**Board Absent**

**Staff Present**

In-Person: Adrian Varney, Alex Castino, Chris Yuan-Farrell, Christy Reeves, Dan Omasta, Dan Zimmerer, Diane Metzger Jackie Miller, Josh Tenneson, Liz Bowen, Rosemary Dempsey, Tilah Larson,  
Virtual: Chris Aaby, Crystal Medrano, Emily Robinson, Estrella Woods, Katie Smith, Leah Kahler, Nevaeh Booker, Sammie George

**Staff Absent**

Erika Meyer, Madison Brannigan, Matt Brady

**Public Present**

Martha Beavers (CPW), Heather Dugan (CPW), Jody Kennedy (CPW), Chris West (NFWF), Tom Seaver (Colorado Lottery), Daniel Bewley (Colorado Lottery), Leigh Ann Bauer (Sukle Advertising), Clint Anders (City of Greeley), Kristin Wilkenson (GOCO Fellow), Jim Petterson (TPL), Sam Dancis (Poudre Learning Center), Amber Palmay (Mile Youth Corps), David Cook (City of Fort Lupton), Karen Scopel (City of Greeley)  
Virtual: Melissa Daruna (KIC), Hannah George (KIC), Suzanne Stephens (KIC, Aspen Valley Land Trust), Katelyn Toigo (KIC), Ashleigh Quillen, Carl Woody (RMFI), Cathie Pagano (Gunnison County), Joe Lavorini (STOR, National Forest Foundation), Joel Nystrom (COL), Keeley Murphy (COL), Marc Mancuso (Fruita), Scott Fitzwilliams (US Forest Service, virtual), Melanie Kilpatrick, Roger Poirier (US Forest Service), Shannon Schaller, Carl Woody (RMFI)

**Welcome & Introductions**

Ms. Denahy invited board members to introduce themselves to the group and share any updates. Ms. Prashant, the newest board member, gave a brief introduction of herself.

**Regional Spotlight**

Ms. Castino gave a presentation of the historic investments and open projects in the northern front range, focusing on Weld and Larimer counties. She touched on the projects the board was able to visit in-person – Campo Esperanza and Delta Park – as well as projects in Larimer and Weld Counties.

**Board Member Updates**

Board Members provided updates on activities since the last board meeting. Mr. Gibbs gave an update on the Department of Natural Resource and Colorado Parks & Wildlife

**Director Updates**

Ms. Miller provided a report summarizing GOCO's major areas of staff activity since the last board meeting: the annual report went out to community members and legislators; was able to meet with the governor, first-gentleman, and some legislators in-person at the Capitol; Generation Wild Coalition Workshop and breakfast with legislators; statewide plan: 1.4 million dollar investment for a 3 ½ year process; and GOCO's operating budget and staffing updates.

**December Board Meeting Minutes**

Ms. Denahy introduced the December board meeting minutes for a vote:

*Mr. Garcia made a motion to approve the December board minutes; Ms. Liebert seconded. **Motion Carried Unanimously (19-0)***



**Finance Update**

Ms. Reeves provided a report summarizing the GOCO finances since the last board meeting including details such as: the timeline for receiving the final funds from the lottery, which is expected by the end of March, and

**FAMLI Opt Out**

Mr. Tenneson, on behalf of the Finance Committee, presented on the FAMLI Opt Out option, which acts as a short-term disability and leave program, and allows for local governments to opt out. The board can elect to re-instate the option in the future.

*Mr. Garcia made a motion to approve the FAMLI Opt Out option for GOCO staff; Mr. Lee seconded.*

*Mr. Simbai asked to rephrase the resolution, removing the statement "GOCO board believes it is in the best interest of the GOCO Staff..."; Ms. Imhoff recommends amending the resolution and strike #5 from the resolution.*

*Ms. May motioned to pass the resolution as amended, Mr. Lee seconded.*

***Motion Carried Unanimously (19-0)***

**Consent Agenda**

Ms. Larson, Mr. Yuan-Farrell, and Mr. Zimmerer presented the awards within the consent agenda and introduced the consent agenda for a vote:

- RESTORE
- Base Programs
- Grant Extensions
- CPW Investment Proposal
- CPW Grant Extensions

*Ms. Liebert made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented; Mr. Siegel seconded. **Motion Carried Unanimously (19-0)***

**Forest Service,  
Updates on Hanging  
Lake & Sweetwater**

Mr. Fitzwilliams, the White River National Forest Supervisor from the US Forest Service, provided an update to the board on the Hanging Lake and Sweetwater Projects. Roger Repoirier and Ashley Quillen, the designers and landscape architects of the Hanging Lake trail, presented on the concept and overall project goals.

**CPW Annual Report  
Highlights**

Mr. Zimmerer and Ms. Dugan, the acting director of Colorado Parks and Wildlife, presented on recent projects funded with CPW and GOCO dollars.

**Statewide Planning**

Ms. Miller and Mr. Zimmerer presented on the statewide planning efforts between GOCO and CPW over the last two years: initiative outcomes, GOCO's role, the consultant selection process, where Keystone Policy Center was eventually chosen, and the planning schedule – currently in Phase I, Phase II starting in 2024, completion by 2026.

**Regional  
Partnership Update**

Ms. Kennedy, Regional Partnership Program Manager for Colorado Parks & Wildlife, gave an update on the regional partnerships, the highlights of the network of regional partnerships, and the statewide plan.

**Generation Wild  
Campaign Spotlight**

Ms. Dempsey and the Suple Advertising Team presented Phase VII of the Generation Wild Campaign and the upcoming summer campaign, which includes a new logo, and will focus on parents as role models for their children. Ms. Bauer also gave an update on the winter campaign – Say Hi with a Snowman.

**Colorado Lottery**

Mr. Seaver and Mr. Bewley presented to the board the Lottery's current revenue, products, how it is connected to the state conservationism, and what the future plans and events are going forward.




**NFWF/RESTORE**

Mr. West, Rocky Mountain Regional Office Director of National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, presented to the board how GOCO and NFWF partner together and with others across the country, how RESTORE allows for applicants to apply for funding from multiple funders in one place, and investments to-date.

**ECO Program**

Ms. Daruna provided and update on the Keep it Colorado's ECO Program from June 2022, focusing on the Conservation Community Health & Sustainability program, emerging issues and opportunities, and upcoming next steps, including diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice work with Land Trust Alliance Partnered Programming, as well as future plans for the program.

*The State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund meeting adjourned at 3:19pm on March 10, 2023*

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Turk Montepare, GOCO Board Secretary

**State Board of the  
GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO TRUST FUND  
Resolution 2023-01  
March 10, 2023**

**A Resolution Approving Grants for Base Programs**

This Resolution is made in view of the following facts:

1. GOCO's competitive grants include four base programs: Community Impact, Land Acquisition, Stewardship Impact, and Planning & Capacity;
2. GOCO received 27 concept papers for all four base programs and advanced 11 of those for full application during the second cycle of FY23 programs;
3. As provided by Article XXVII of the Colorado Constitution and further articulated in GOCO Board Policy 2.11(E), the board may award funding to ineligible entities for expenditures that accomplish one or more eligible constitutional purposes;
4. GOCO does not currently recognize Mile High Youth Corps (MHYC) and Rocky Mountain Field Institute (RMFI) as entities eligible to receive funding as identified in Article XXVII of the Colorado Constitution;
5. MHYC serves as a partner with Conservation Service Corps and will be working across multiple jurisdictions. RMFI is a well-established partner organization that delivers outdoor stewardship and conservation outcomes and submitted the application to address multi-jurisdictional stewardship projects across city, county, and federal lands. These organizations have led the work in the areas proposed and are best positioned to efficiently manage a grant award to achieve the outcomes articulated in their respective proposals;
6. In the FY23 spending plan, the board allocated up to \$8,388,306.00 in local government purpose funding and up to \$5,932,916.00 in open space purpose funding for base programs across all three funding cycles; and
7. On February 23, 2023, the Programs Committee recommended funding nine projects in the amount of \$4,591,145.00.

Accordingly, the board resolves:

1. Award \$4,591,145.00 to fund nine of the projects identified in the attached "Base Programs Funding Summary List";
2. Exercise its discretionary authority to award funding to MHYC and RMFI;

3. Finance this award with \$2,911,222.50 in local government purpose funding and \$1,679,922.50 in open space purpose funding; and
4. Authorize the executive director to make minor adjustments in recommended funding levels if a project cannot proceed as anticipated. In the event significant funding changes are necessary as these projects progress, the executive director will consult with the board for additional direction.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund on March 10, 2023.

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*Turk Montepare*

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Turk Montepare, GOCO Board Secretary

<b>Base Programs Funding Summary List</b>								
Projects Recommended for Funding								
March 10, 2023								
<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Program</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Request Amount</b>	<b>Recommended OS Amount</b>	<b>Recommended LG Amount</b>	<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>Congressional District</b>
City of Fort Lupton	Community Park Renovation Project	Community Impact	Weld	\$ 790,000.00		\$ 790,000.00	\$ 2,867,255.15	4
City and County of Denver	Heron Pond/Heller/Carpio-Sanguinette Park	Community Impact	Denver	\$ 1,000,000.00		\$ 750,000.00	\$ 3,500,000.00	1
City of Fruita	Reed Park Revitalization	Community Impact	Mesa	\$ 600,000.00		\$ 600,000.00	\$ 1,642,600.43	3
City of Craig	The Yampa River Corridor Project	Community Impact	Moffat	\$ 600,000.00		\$ 600,000.00	\$ 4,999,173.00	3
Colorado Open Lands	Rito Seco Park Expansion	Land Acquisition	Costilla	\$ 825,000.00	\$ 825,000.00		\$ 1,979,100.00	3
Mile High Youth Corps	Eastern Plains Conservation Corps Proof-of-Concept Project	Planning & Capacity	Multi-County	\$ 342,445.00	\$ 171,222.50	\$ 171,222.50	\$ 381,698.00	3, 4
Colorado West Land Trust	Promoting Landscape Resilience at Scale	Planning & Capacity	Multi-County	\$ 87,000.00	\$ 87,000.00		\$ 152,000.00	3
Rocky Mountain Field Institute	Multi-jurisdictional Stewardship in the Pikes Peak Region	Stewardship Impact	El Paso	\$ 296,700.00	\$ 296,700.00		\$ 626,700.00	5
Gunnison County	Advancing Stewardship in Gunnison County	Stewardship Impact	Gunnison	\$ 300,000.00	\$ 300,000.00		\$ 543,960.00	3
<b>TOTAL RECOMMENDED</b>					<b>\$ 1,679,922.50</b>	<b>\$ 2,911,222.50</b>		

**State Board of the  
GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO TRUST FUND  
Resolution 2023-02  
March 10, 2023**

**A Resolution Approving a Discretionary Investment in the RESTORE Colorado Program**

This resolution is made in view of the following facts:

1. GOCO has participated in a multi-year process to co-create and launch a collaboratively funded grant program with private, state, and national funding partners that will address landscape-scale habitat restoration projects, known as RESTORE Colorado;
2. As provided by Article XXVII of the Colorado Constitution and further articulated in GOCO Board Policy 2.11(E), the board may award funding to ineligible entities for expenditures that accomplish one or more eligible constitutional purposes;
3. GOCO does not currently recognize the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) as an entity eligible to receive GOCO funding under any funding category;
4. As a Congressionally-chartered, national foundation with decades of experience awarding and administering grants, often involving several disparate funding sources, NFWF represents the partner organization most capable of administering the RESTORE Colorado program on behalf of the program partners; and
5. The board allocated a total of \$1,200,000 to this program in its FY23 spending plan with \$100,000 of the total as a direct expenditure to NFWF for program administration.

Accordingly, the board resolves:

1. To exercise its discretionary authority and invest \$1,200,000 in open space purpose funds to accomplish the habitat restoration outcomes envisioned through the RESTORE Colorado program, through NFWF, and to categorize this investment as open space purpose funding;
2. To allocate \$100,000 of the total as a direct expenditure to NFWF for the purposes of grant program administration; and
3. To authorize staff, at the discretion of the executive director, to determine the specific terms and conditions of a contract with NFWF and authorize the executive director to execute such contract. The contract shall include a provision for final reporting on the habitat restoration outcomes of individual grants in addition to the aggregate accomplishments of the RESTORE program.



I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund on March 10, 2023.

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*Turk Montepare*

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Turk Montepare, GOCO Board Secretary

**State Board of the  
GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO TRUST FUND  
Resolution 2023-03  
March 10, 2023**

**A Resolution Approving the Awarding Funds to Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) for outdoor recreation purpose and wildlife purpose program investments**

This resolution is made in view of the following facts:

1. The FY 23 GOCO spending plan allocation for outdoor recreation purpose investments totals \$14,965,626; CPW requests \$16,131,965 which accounts for \$1,166,339 reauthorized from expired grants on June 30, 2022;
2. The FY 23 GOCO spending plan allocation for wildlife purpose investments totals \$9,465,626; CPW requests \$10,012,272 which accounts for \$546,646 reauthorized from expired grants on June 30, 2022;
3. The spending plan does not define amounts for capital or annual operating expenses;
4. Investments in outdoor recreation programs detailed in CPW's FY 22-23 annual Investment Proposal include:
  - a. Establish and Improve State Parks - \$12,039,945
  - b. Public Information and Environmental Education - \$1,653,062
  - c. Trails and River Greenways Program - \$2,352,039
  - d. Water for Recreational Purposes - \$86,919
5. Investments in wildlife programs detailed in CPW's FY 22-23 annual Investment Proposal include:
  - a. Habitat Management - \$3,159,078
  - b. Wildlife Heritage - \$5,228,475
  - c. Wildlife Education and Environment - \$1,479,820
  - d. Wildlife Viewing - \$144,899

Accordingly, the board resolves:

1. That the investments described in CPW's FY 23-24 Investment Proposal for outdoor recreation and wildlife purpose funds are approved for GOCO funding in the amount of \$26,144,237. Operational funds are available through June 30, 2024. Capital funds are available through June 30, 2026 (consistent with the procedures of the State Legislature's Capital Development Committee).
2. Staff is authorized and directed to take the following actions:
  - a. Provide the Joint Budget Committee with a copy of the proposed transfer of funds to Parks and Wildlife for the Committee's review per standard operating procedures;
  - b. Administer the investments in these projects according to the proposal approved by the GOCO Board and the conditions of the MOA; and
  - e. Reimburse Parks and Wildlife for expenditures incurred for the investments approved by the GOCO Board.

3. The executive director is hereby empowered to make minor adjustments and additions in the funding awards, in consultation with the director of Colorado Parks and Wildlife, except that any shift in the use of these funds from capital to operations must be brought to the GOCO Board for approval.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund on March 10, 2023.

DocuSigned by:

*Turk Montepare*

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Turk Montepare, GOCO Board Secretary

**State Board of the  
GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO TRUST FUND  
Resolution 2023-04  
March 10, 2023**

**A Resolution Approving CPW Extension Requests**

This resolution is made in view of the following facts:

1. On February 8, 2023 Colorado Parks and Wildlife's (CPW) formally requested an extension for four non-motorized trail grants, eight capital project grants, and one Resilient Community Program grant through June 30, 2024;
2. Several of CPW's non-motorized trail grantees requested extensions due to delays outside of their control, including those caused by the COVID-19 pandemic;
3. GOCO funds a significant portion of CPW's capital construction program; several projects within the portfolio are experiencing delays including: universal supply-chain shortages; delayed coordination and approval from local, state and federal entities; increased and unforeseen project complexity; and contractor challenges; and
4. GOCO serves as a trusted partner to the Department of Natural Resources and CPW in catalyzing Regional Partnerships in support of the development of a Statewide Conservation, Outdoor Recreation, and Climate Resilience Plan that establishes a shared vision, priorities, and implementation plan.

Accordingly, the board resolves:

1. To approve CPW's extension requests through June 30, 2024 for the following log numbers: 18192, 18230, 18233, 19200, 19201, 19253, 19259, 20171, 20192, 20200, 20223, 20250, 21049.
2. Staff is authorized and directed to take the following actions:
  - a. Provide the Joint Budget Committee with a copy of the proposed transfer of funds to Parks and Wildlife for the Committee's review per standard operating procedures;
  - b. Administer the investments in these projects according to the proposal approved by the GOCO Board and the conditions of the MOA; and
  - a. Reimburse Parks and Wildlife for expenditures incurred for the investments approved by the GOCO Board.
3. The executive director is hereby empowered to make minor adjustments and additions in the funding awards, in consultation with the director of Colorado Parks and Wildlife, except that any shift in the use of these funds from capital to operations must be brought to the GOCO Board for approval.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund on March 10, 2023.

DocuSigned by:

*Turk Montepare*

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Turk Montepare, GOCO Board Secretary



# COLORADO

## Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

Financial and Capital Services Branch  
6060 Broadway  
Denver, CO 80216  
P 303.291.7712

February 8, 2023

Jackie Miller, Executive Director  
Great Outdoors Colorado  
1900 Grant Street, Suite 725  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Director Miller,

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) requests an extension of the following GOCO logs from their current expiration date of June 30, 2023 until June 30, 2024.

- 18192- Trails Grant Program
- 18230- Colorado the Beautiful Trails Grant Program
- 18233- Legacy Loop- Rock Island Trail
- 20192- Trails Grant Program

Although 18192, 18230, and 18233 have previously been extended, CPW respectfully requests one additional year to complete several projects within these grants due to continuing delays that began in 2020. Issues include delayed federal funding, difficulty hiring and retaining qualified staff, supply chain delays, and material cost increases, which required some grantees to secure additional funding. Based on the progress reports submitted to CPW, the project leaders expect the upcoming construction season to be productive and sub-grants within 18192, 19230, and 20192, for Fall River, Evergreen Lake, Tolland Ranch, Partnership for Stewardship, and Nature Connection Pathways, will be ready to be closed out in 2024. Although no spending has occurred on Legacy Loop- Rock Island Trail, the federal grant funding also involved with this project has been approved and city approval is complete. Contractors have been hired and construction will begin soon.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Martha Beavers at [Martha.Beavers@state.co.us](mailto:Martha.Beavers@state.co.us) or (303) 291-7620.

Sincerely,

Justin Rutter  
Chief Financial Officer





# COLORADO

## Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

Financial and Capital Services Branch  
6060 Broadway  
Denver, CO 80216  
P 303.291.7712

February 8, 2023

Jackie Miller, Executive Director  
Great Outdoors Colorado  
1900 Grant Street, Suite 725  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Director Miller,

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) requests an extension of the following GOCO logs until June 30, 2024.

19259- Fort Collins Service Center  
19253- Aquatic Habitat Improvement  
19200- Park Improvements  
19201- Park Improvements 2  
20171- Land Acquisition and Leases  
20200- Park Improvements  
20223- Fuels Mitigation Management Program  
20250- Protection and Restoration of Wildlife Habitat  
21049- Colorado Outdoor Regional Partnerships (comp)

**Fort Collins Service Center-** This grant is for the final design of the Fort Collins Service Center and was extended from 2022 to 2023 due to delays in contracting. CPW is requesting an additional year because the initial design came in over budget, and is being revised to minimize costs.

**Aquatic Habitat Improvement-** This grant funds several aquatic habitat projects in the Northwest region. All have been completed except for one, Upper Chuck Lewis State Wildlife Area (SWA). The project has a tight construction window due to location and was delayed because of water level fluctuations caused by snowpack.

**Park Improvements (19200)-** Two projects in this grant need additional time, including North Park Campground Renovations at State Forest State Park, and Lake Pueblo State Park Wastewater Repairs and Renovations. At State Forest State Park, the campground electric design did not work with the power constraints seen in this rural location and had to be re-designed, delaying completion. At Lake Pueblo State Park, the state permitting process has taken longer than expected.

**Park Improvements 2-** Three projects in this grant need additional time, including Lake Pueblo State Park mentioned above, Crawford State Park Volunteer and Employee Campsites

and Playground, and Mancos State Park Entrance Landscape and Outdoor Education Facilities. At Crawford State Park, additional time is needed to receive and install the playground equipment due to supply chain delays, but the rest of the project is complete. At Mancos State Park, CPW has struggled to find a General Contractor to bid on the project. This required the project to be broken into components for bidding the work, with General Contractor duties managed internally, which has led to a delay in completing the work.

**Land Acquisition and Leases-** One project totaling approximately \$100,000 needs additional time to complete due to relocation barriers related to the transaction, including time to complete ADA modifications and other property improvements.

**Park Improvements (20200)-** The John Martin Road Rehabilitation project needs additional time, due to a delayed start.

**Fuels Mitigation Management Program-** CPW has experienced delays for work at Jackson Lake State Park, including vendor employee turnover and cost increases.

**Protection and Restoration of Wildlife Habitat-** CPW needs additional time to complete the Dams Wildlife Hydrology Update and Crystal River Relocation of Springwater Collection System. Reasons for delays include turnover of CPW dam engineers and complications in awarding bids.

**Colorado Outdoor Regional Partnerships (comp)-** CPW expects the majority of grantees to complete the work by June 30, 2023. Two grantees need additional time due to extensive turnover in local land management and local government agency staff. Grantees need more time to engage new stakeholders as they come into their new roles. This extension for these two partnerships will allow time for the overall program and grant deliverables to be most effective. Changing the end date will also align this competitive funding with the non-competitive grant (matching funds) which expires June 30, 2024.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Martha Beavers at [Martha.Beavers@state.co.us](mailto:Martha.Beavers@state.co.us) or (303) 291-7620.

Sincerely,

Justin Rutter  
Chief Financial Officer



MEMORANDUM

To: GOCO Board  
From: Leah Kahler, Grants Officer  
Date: March 2, 2023  
Re: Grant Extensions

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Consistent with the board's procedure on overdue grants, staff sent reminder notices to grantees with approaching due dates. Subsequent communications with grantees led staff and the programs committee to make the following recommendations.

**Stewardship Impact Grant**

**#19506 Purgatoire Watershed Restoration and Recreation Enhancement Project - \$286,296**

On June 13, 2019, the board awarded \$286,296 in open space purpose funds to the City of Trinidad in partnership with the Purgatoire Watershed Partnership (PWP), to focus on restoration and recreational enhancement of the Purgatoire River, the Trinidad Riverwalk and Boulevard Addition, and Fisher's Peak Ranch. The Purgatoire Watershed Outdoor Stewardship Program will also be established as part of this project to ensure successful implementation and sustainable stewardship of these efforts into the future. The original completion date for the project was September 30, 2022. The project is on staff extension through March 31, 2023.

Although the pandemic drastically delayed the city and PWP's progress, there has been progress on many goals. The city has received an advance payment for the total award amount, and to date, approximately 70% of this funding has been expended. The city has also contributed \$44,000 of in-kind work toward the project, with an initial target of just \$11,000. All contractual work with Mile High Youth Corps has been completed, with over 30 acres receiving multiple, extensive and successful woody invasive removal efforts. The city and the PWP are in the midst of finalizing work with the fire department in order to safely address the remaining areas of woody invasive vegetation removal where more trained sawyers and fire-related mitigation strategies are needed. The city and PWP will complete re-vegetation and erosion control work, which was dependent on the completion of woody invasive removal projects with Mile High Youth Corps and the fire department. *The city is requesting an extension through December 31, 2023 to allow for additional stewardship work and submission of a final report.*

**Recommendation:**

Approval of extension request with the following conditions:

- Complete the project and submit the final report to GOCO by December 31, 2023.
- If the project is not closed by its extension date deadline, funds allocated to it shall be automatically deauthorized with no further action by the board being necessary.

**Planning and Capacity Grant**



### **#20371 Kendall Mountain Recreation Area Master Plan - Spring 2019 Application - \$37,500**

On September 26, 2019, the board awarded \$37,500 to the Town of Silverton to support a master planning process at park and ski hill, Kendall Mountain Recreation Area (KMRA). GOCO staff approved a modification request to focus on a priority amenity identified through the master plan by the community - a riverwalk that would connect to the town perimeter trail. The original completion date for the project was March 31, 2022. The project is on board extension through March 31, 2023.

The Town of Silverton plans to immediately initiate the development of implementation strategies and further planning efforts surrounding the assets identified in the adopted 2022 Town Master Plan and Kendall Mountain Recreation Area Planning/Project Sheets. The town will complete necessary alignments, engineering and drainage considerations, surveying, and title work/clarification of ownership (if necessary) as well as bridge alignment considerations to procure shovel-ready documents for the construction of the Kendall Mountain Recreation Area riverwalk by September 2023. Construction will start in summer 2024. *The town requests an extension through September 30, 2023 to complete work and submit final reporting.*

#### **Recommendation:**

Approval of extension request with the following conditions:

- Complete the project and submit the final report to GOCO by September 30, 2023.
- If the project is not closed by its extension date deadline, funds allocated to it shall be automatically deauthorized with no further action by the board being necessary.

#### **Connect Grants**

### **#20801 High Plains Trail/Cherry Creek Regional Trail Connection Project - \$2,000,000**

On September 27, 2019, the board awarded \$2,000,000 to Arapahoe County to construct a 1-mile east-west connector trail to bridge two regional trails in the southeast Denver metro area – the High Plains Trail and Cherry Creek Trail. The original completion date for the project was September 30, 2022. The project is on staff extension through March 31, 2023.

The connector trail is comprised of multiple segments, with the GOCO project scope relevant to segments 1, 2 and 4. After a series of delays related to CDOT approvals, finalizing a long-term maintenance agreement among three jurisdictions, and COVID-related shutdowns, construction on segment 1 began in April 2022 and was expected to be completed in September 2022; however, the limited availability of steel has delayed the bridge fabrication and delivery. Arapahoe County has continued to make progress despite these delays, and this segment is approximately 60% complete. Delivery and installation of the bridge are now scheduled for late May 2023, and this segment is expected to be completed in July 2023.

Segments 2 and 4 will be constructed by the county and partner agencies using local matching funds; however, the trail corridor is part of a land dedication from the planned residential



development on the east side of Parker Road. There have been delays since the site was sold to Oakwood Homes in June 2021, with nearly a year of negotiations between the developer and the City of Aurora, finally reaching a resolution in September 2022. The developer has been unwilling to commit to a timeline for the development and the trail project due to uncertainty in the housing market and overall economy. The City of Aurora is working with the developer to secure easements by October 2023 in order to move forward with segments 2 and 4. Initially, the county planned to construct these segments after the developer had completed overlot grading, but the county is prepared to take on the additional grading work and proceed with construction without waiting for the developer. Design for segment 2 began in January 2023, with completion expected by June 2023. As soon as the easements are secured, the county will be ready to construct segment 2 (expected completion in May 2024) and move forward with segment 4 (expected design completion in May 2024; expected construction completion by the December 2024).

The county and its partners are committed to completing this trail connection and are confident in the above approach in order to complete the trail connection sooner than the developer would. They are also prepared to provide periodic or milestone-dependent status updates to GOCO staff, if desired. *The county requests an extension through March 31, 2025 in order to complete the work and submit final reporting.*

**Recommendation:**

Approval of extension request with the following conditions:

- Complete the project and submit the final report to GOCO by March 31, 2025.
- If the project is not closed by its extension date deadline, funds allocated to it shall be automatically deauthorized with no further action by the board being necessary.

**#20802 Pueblo Arkansas River Levee Trail Project - \$1,238,500**

On September 27, 2019, the board awarded \$1,238,500 in local government purpose funds to the City of Pueblo to develop a trail and trail amenities within the newly redeveloped levee corridor along the north/northeast bank of the Arkansas River, along with two new pedestrian bridges to connect with existing park and trail infrastructure on the south/southwest bank. The new bridge connections will provide river and trail access to Pueblo's currently disconnected lower westside neighborhood. The original completion date for the project was September 30, 2022. The project is on staff extension through March 31, 2023.

An unanticipated redesign, scope change, and additional engineering needs delayed the initial ordering of the bridge cables and towers from April to May of 2022, with another delay in June 2022, due to requiring additional dimensions to finalize fabrication. All trail amenities of the Pueblo Arkansas River Levee Trail Project are complete, or over 90-percent of the project, with the Main Street Pedestrian Bridge being the final portion of the project yet to be constructed. *The City of Pueblo anticipates completion of the Main Street Bridge construction in June 2023 and requests an extension through September 30, 2023.*

**Recommendation:**



Approval of extension request with the following conditions:

- Complete the project and submit the final report to GOCO by September 30, 2023.
- If the project is not closed by its extension date deadline, funds allocated to it shall be automatically deauthorized with no further action by the board being necessary.

**#20805 Colorado Front Range/Poudre River Regional Trail Initiative - \$2,000,000**

On September 27, 2019, the board awarded \$2,000,000 in local government purpose funds to Larimer County to address the three remaining gaps in the 45-mile Poudre River trail between Fort Collins and Greeley, totaling 4.7 miles of new trail. Larimer County is in partnership with the Towns of Timnath and Windsor and the City of Fort Collins, each of which is leading construction of their respective final trail segments to complete the Poudre River Regional. The original completion date for the project was September 30, 2022. The project is on staff extension through March 31, 2023.

The project partners have made tremendous progress to-date with several unanticipated delays for two of the four entities. To date, the county has requested approximately \$405,000 of their total award. The Towns of Timnath and Windsor have completed their portions of the trail.

1. Fort Collins (10% progress)

The City of Fort Collins is working through negotiations with a landowner for the northernmost trail gap (1.2 miles) and needs additional time to work through the city's development review process, anticipated to take 12-18 months. The city's second trail segment immediately west of I-25 through Arapaho Bend Natural Area (.44 miles) is fully designed and ready to be constructed. Construction will begin in coordination with a new I-25 bridge and trail underpass currently under construction by CDOT to be complete in the spring of 2023. Construction of this trail segment is anticipated to be completed later this year.

2. Larimer County (20% progress)

The trail segment in Larimer County, between Folsom Parkway and County Road 32E (1.35 miles), is in the final design phase and awaiting final approvals from CDOT, another funder of the project. The construction of the trail is expected to begin this spring/summer and expected to be completed by the end of 2023.

The Poudre River Trail Initiative remains the project partners' highest priority to complete. In light of the project delays due in part to the supply chain challenges, and landowner negotiations and the corresponding adjusted project timeline, *Larimer County and its partners request a two-year board extension for the Poudre River Regional Trail Initiative through March 31, 2025.*

Recommendation:



Approval of extension request with the following conditions:

- Complete the project and submit the final report to GOCO by March 31, 2025.
- If the project is not closed by its extension date deadline, funds allocated to it shall be automatically deauthorized with no further action by the board being necessary.

### **Resilient Communities Program Grants**

#### **#21005 Southern Colorado Community Resiliency Project - \$303,700**

On August 4, 2020, the board awarded \$303,700 in open space purpose funds to Palmer Land Conservancy (PLC) to expand capacity through two new two-year positions focused on urgent community conservation projects and emerging needs in Pueblo and around the Pikes Peak region. The city has received an advance payment for the total award amount. The original completion date for the project was September 30, 2022. The project is on staff extension through March 31, 2023.

PLC has continued to experience delays in hiring these two positions, as they had in their prior staff extension request. Originally planned for October 2020, PLC ultimately hired one staff member in January 2021 and one in April 2021. Additionally, there were delays with office expenses due to the hiring delays, as well as the continuation of the global pandemic and its impacts on employee's physical presence in an office. Today, PLC is fully staffed, has opened the new office in Pueblo focused on community-building and agricultural conservation work, and is expending funds as planned in the grant. All project components are on track and significant progress has been made toward grant deliverables since the grant start date. *PLC is requesting additional time to fully expend the grant funds, which will also allow additional progress on the target projects and programs, and submission of final reporting, and requests a board extension through March 31, 2024.*

#### **Recommendation**

Approval of extension request with the following condition:

- Complete the project and submit the final report to GOCO by March 31, 2024.
- If the project is not closed by its extension date deadline, funds allocated to it shall be automatically deauthorized with no further action by the board being necessary.

#### **#21094 Nederland Shoreline Trails and Stewardship Project - \$181,029.75**

On March 11, 2021, the board awarded \$181,029.75 in open space purpose funds to the Town of Nederland to develop stewardship and recreation improvements at Barker Meadows. The town is proposing closing social trails and providing vegetation management while formalizing a recreational trail to handle the high volume of traffic that is causing rapid trail degradation and erosion. In addition, the town will restore the adjacent former sludge pond into a natural meadow. To date, the county has requested approximately \$65,500 of their total award. The



original completion date for the project was September 30, 2022. The town is on staff extension through March 31, 2023.

The town has experienced challenges that have delayed work, including a short summer season, materials shortage, loss of an employee responsible for grant administration, and delay in negotiating a legal agreement with partner. The project is approximately 70% complete. *The city requests an extension through September 30, 2023 in order to acquire remaining materials and hire a staff member to assist with grant administration and submit final reporting.*

#### Recommendation

Approval of extension request with the following conditions:

- Complete the project and submit the final report to GOCO by September 30, 2023.
- If the project is not closed by its extension date deadline, funds allocated to it shall be automatically deauthorized with no further action by the board being necessary.

#### **#21056 Parking & Trailhead Enhancements for COVID Compliance & Capacity - \$250,000**

On November 17, 2020, the board awarded \$250,000 in local government purpose funds to Grand County to improve trailheads and trailhead infrastructure at 15 locations across the county. The original completion date for the project was September 30, 2022. The project is on staff extension through March 31, 2023.

The implementation of the full scope of work for this project has been challenged by several environmental and community factors, including weather impacting construction, supply chain issues due to the pandemic, and staffing shortages. The county has requested an interim payment of \$125,000 and approximately 60% of the project components have been completed to date. Outstanding work comprises five trailhead enhancement components, which are in progress, and have an expected completion date of June 2023, with the completion date for the remaining seven in July or August 2023. *The county requests an extension through September 30, 2023 in order to complete construction and installation work and submit final reporting.*

#### Recommendation:

Approval of extension request with the following conditions:

- Complete the project and submit the final report to GOCO by September 30, 2023.
- If the project is not closed by its extension date deadline, funds allocated to it shall be automatically deauthorized with no further action by the board being necessary.

**State Board of the  
GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO TRUST FUND  
Resolution 2023-05  
March 10, 2023**

**A Resolution Opting Out of the Family Medical Leave Insurance Program**

This resolution is made in view of the following facts:

1. The Family Medical Leave Insurance Program ("FAMLI Program") automatically enrolls Colorado local governments as a participant in the program;
2. Colorado local governments, the definition of which includes the State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund ("GOCO"), may opt out of participation in the FAMLI Program;
3. If GOCO opts out of participation in the FAMLI Program, GOCO is not obligated to pay into the FAMLI Program; and
4. GOCO can choose to participate in the FAMLI Program in the future if circumstances change.

Accordingly, the board resolves:

1. GOCO, a political subdivision of the State of Colorado, chooses to opt out of participation in the Family Medical Leave Insurance Program.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund on March 10, 2023.

DocuSigned by:  
*Turk Montepare*  
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Turk Montepare, GOCO Board Secretary



THE STATE BOARD OF THE GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO TRUST FUND  
BOARD MEETING  
December 8-9, 2022

<u>ACTION ITEM INDEX</u>	<u>RESOLUTION</u>	<u>ATTACHMENT</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Consent Agenda			
<a href="#">Base Programs Resolution</a>	2022-21		
<a href="#">Fellowship Program Resolution</a>	2022-22		
<a href="#">Conservation Service Corps Program Resolution</a>	2022-23		
Grant Extensions			
KIC Transaction Cost Assistance Program Grants	2022-24		
Minutes Approval			
<a href="#">September 2022 Board Meeting</a>			





*A meeting of The State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund convened at 9:00 A.M. on December 9, 2022*

**Board Present** In-person: Brenda May, Carrie Curtiss, Charley Garcia, Craig Hughes, David Cockrell, Jahi Simbai, Krithika Prashant, Leticia Martinez, Mara Brosy-Wiwchar, Mina Liebert, Mo Siegel, Pam Denahy, Patty Imhoff, Turk Montepare  
Virtual: Alice Horgan\*, Tom Lee  
*\*Alice Horgan votes for Dan Gibbs (DNR) in his absence*

**Board Absent** Jay Tutchton, Marie Haskett, Ray Tschillard, Dan Gibbs\*

**Staff Present** In-Person: Adrian Varney, Alex Castino, Chris Aaby, Chris Yuan-Farrell, Christy Reeves, Courtney Bennett, Crystal Medrano, Dan Zimmerer, Jackie Miller, Josh Tenneson, Leah Kahler, Liz Bowen, Rosemary Dempsey, Tilah Larson  
Virtual: Dan Omasta, Diane Metzger, Emily Robinson, Erika Meyer, Estrella Woods, Katie Smith, Madison Brannigan, Sammie George

**Staff Absent** Matt Brady

**Public Present** Scott Segerstrom (Executive Director, CYCA), Phillip Ponce (MHYC), Daniela Young (Civic Canopy), Bill Fulton (Civic Canopy), Sukle Advertising (virtual), Ruth Aponte & Dave DeNovellis (Aponte & Busam Public Affairs, virtual), Crystal Dreiling (CPW, Fishers Peak State Park), Martha Beavers (CPW, virtual), Ty Hamer (City of Fort Morgan, virtual), Melissa Daruna (KIC, virtual), Travis Custer (Montezuma Land Conservancy, virtual), Regina Lopez Whiteskunk (Montezuma Land Conservancy, virtual), Ross Mittleman (virtual), Julia Feder (City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department, virtual), Heide Sherk (TNC, virtual), Hannah George (virtual), Jenn Almstead (Larimer County, virtual), Abby Henry (Town of Haxtun, virtual), Mark Leidal (Town of Silverthorne, virtual), Tara Watkins (TNC, virtual), Ryan Hyland (Town of Silverthorne, virtual), Zac Wiebe (Larimer County, virtual), Meegan Flenniken (Larimar County, virtual), Amber Palmeri (Mile High Youth Corps, virtual),

**Welcome & Introductions** Mr. Siegel invited board members to introduce themselves to the group and share any updates. Ms. Prashant, the newest board member, gave a brief introduction of herself.

**Regional Spotlight** Mr. Aaby gave a presentation of GOCO funded projects and upcoming projects in the southern front range region: Douglas County, Pueblo Levee Trail Connect, Cheyenne Mountain State Park, Fishers Peak Land Acquisition, Outdoor Pikes Peak Initiative, and Stewardship Impact. He also presented on the impact of Generation Wild in the region.

**Board Member Updates** Board Members provided updates on activities since the last board meeting.

**Director Updates** Ms. Miller provided a report summarizing GOCO's major areas of staff activity since the last board meeting: Statewide Planning Meeting and Interviews, BoardSpot, staff engagements in Shared Learning in Keystone Policy Training, Generation Wild Legislative Breakfast, and thanking Chris Aaby, Tilah Larson, and Mina Liebert for hosting us in Colorado Springs and all their work in the area.



**September Board Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Siegel introduced the September board meeting minutes for a vote

*Ms. Curtiss made a motion to approve the September board minutes; Ms. Martinez seconded. **Motion Carried Unanimously (16-0, 3 board members were absent).***

**Finance Update**

Ms. Reeves provided a report summarizing the GOCO finances since the last board meeting including details such as: the audit, updated balance sheet, revenue & expenditures, GOCO lottery proceeds, YTD budget to actuals, and outstanding grants for FY23

**KIC – Transaction Cost Assistance Program Grants**

Ms. Castino presented the Transaction Cost Assistance Program, regranting funds to Keep It Colorado members to help cover the costs associated with conservation easement transactions, enabling landowners with financial barriers to protect their land.

\*Pam Denahy noted the date on the resolution is dated 12/9/2023. This will be adjusted before signing of the resolution

*Ms. Brosy-Wiwchar made a motion to approve the KIC-Transaction Cost Assistance Program Grants; Ms. May seconded. **Motion Carried Unanimously (16-0, 3 board members were absent).***

**Consent Agenda**

Ms. Liebert introduced the consent agenda for a vote

- Base Programs
- Fellowship Program
- Conservation Service Corps
- Grant Extensions

*Mr. Montepare made a motion to approve the consent agenda; Ms. Denahy seconded. **Motion Carried Unanimously (16-0, 3 board members were absent).***

**Generation Wild Campaign Update**

Ms. Dempsey and Sukle Advertisement presented to the board members the Generation Wild Campaign Phase 7: 2023 Communications Approach.

**CPW Southeast Region Spotlight**

Ms. Dreiling, the Park Manager at Fishers Peak State Park, presented to the board the start to finish process of opening Fishers Peak State Park.

**Legislative Update**

Ms. Aponte and Mr. DeNovellis, from Aponte & Busam Public Affairs, informed the board of legislative activity post-election and pre-legislative session of 2023. GOCO Policy Priorities: Education and Engagement with Lawmakers and Administration; Implementation and Continuing Engagement; Wildfire Mitigation, Suppression and Recovery; and Water Quality Rights and Access.

**Generation Wild Grant Program Strategy Discussion**

Ms. Young & Mr. Fulton from Civic Canopy, along with Ms. Miller, facilitated a discussion on the Generation Wild Grant Program Strategy for the upcoming year.

Board reached consensus about moving the Generation Wild Grant Program into Base Programs and continuing the program into the next spending plan.

**Colorado Youth Corps Association Spotlight**

Mr. Segerstrom, Executive Director from Colorado Youth Corps Association, provided the board information on the Colorado Youth Corps Association's plans on filling in the eastern plains with a new program model: educating climate concerns in underrepresented communities and



developing more high school programming. Mr. Ponce, the Senior Crew Leader at Mile High Youth Corps, shared his experience with MHYC and how the opportunity impacted him.

**GOCO Board  
Officer Elections &  
Steps for  
Committee Chair  
Appointments**

Mr. Siegel led the vote for the 2023 officer election. Encouraged board members to submit interest to Ms. Denahy by January if they are interested in serving as a committee chairperson.

*Mr. Garcia made a motion to approve the slate as proposed; Ms. Brosy-Wiwchar seconded. **Motion Carried Unanimously (16-0, 3 board members were absent).***

**Discussion  
Reflections &  
Future Meeting  
Topics**

Mr. Garcia asked Ms. Miller and the GOCO staff to finalize the July dates for the site visit to Chaffee County.

Mr. Montepare thanked Mr. Siegel for his leadership as chairperson. Ms. Miller thanked the outgoing Executive Committee, leading us through a new GOCO structure, transitions, and guiding her as the new Executive Director.

Ms. Denahy thanked the GOCO staff and Ms. Liebert who put together the Colorado Springs meeting.

*The State Board of the Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund meeting adjourned at **2:29 PM on December 9, 2022.***

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Turk Montepare, GOCO Board Secretary