



**Montelores Coalition – Executive Committee**

***Balancing Sustainable Outdoor Recreation and Conservation of Natural Resources to Serve the Unique Needs of Colorado's Southwest Corner.***

**Dolores Public Lands Office  
29211 CO-184, Dolores, CO 81323 or on [ZOOM](#)**

**July 22, 2025, 1-2:30 PM**

**AGENDA**

**Attendees: Cara Gildar, Tom Rice, Kelsey Girod, Eric Stiasny, Skip Zeller, Jamin Grigg, Kalin Grigg, Lanea Donahoo, James Dietrich, Joe Manning**

**Bolded statements with asterisks are actionable/to-do items\***

- 1. Kelsey Girod, new Executive Support Assistant - Introductions**
- 2. Financial update (see Grant Progress Report)**
  - a. Cara shares that the budget progress report is in a good place. There are no concerns regarding the budget, and the committee shares those feelings
  - b. The committee gives kudos to Cara for preparing the budget and progress report.
  - c. The committee would prefer to see a monthly financial update.
- 3. Discuss frequency of meetings**
  - a. There are some conflicts for the group on the 3rd Tuesday in the afternoon, but the present committee asked about **8:30AM every 3rd Tuesday at the same location every month**
  - b. We will check on the meeting room schedule and confer with group members that are not present and **update when a final decision has been made\***
- 4. Letters of Support for RPI Grant Proposal**
  - a. Cara informs the group that the Letter of Intent was submitted for the new grant. The coalition should hear back in a few weeks and if we are invited to apply, the application is due on August 20.
  - b. Cara expresses that we will need Letters of Support from the Executive Committee and the represented organizations to include in our grant proposal application, preferably in the next two weeks
    - i. **Cara will send a template or example of a letter of support to the group with Kalin's assistance\***

- ii. **Cara to send the Letter of Intent to the group along with a potential one-pager on the Montelores Coalition\***
- iii. Joe will draft a letter of support from the Executive Committee as a whole and will be signed by all who can
  - 1. The Letter of Support may be for the functionality of the coalition rather than the fundraising aspect so that all can sign, some of the present agencies may not be able to write letters of support because of their government affiliation

**5. Preparation for Draft Plan meeting with the public and local governments**

- a. The hope is to start the public meetings in the Fall and have them completed by the holidays
- b. Plan to work with the governments before going out to the public
  - i. For the governments/municipalities usual meeting schedules
    - 1. Rico Town Board - 3rd Wednesday of every month at 7pm
    - 2. Montezuma County - Board workshop every Monday at 1:30pm, every Tuesday documents can be signed (get documents in the previous Thursday at noon) (plan a 10–15-minute Power Point presentation)
    - 3. Dolores County - 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 9:30AM (3rd is lighter on business); August 18th to present the ask; August 4th potentially (plan a 10–15-minute Power Point presentation)
    - 4. Dolores - 2nd and 4th Mondays at 5:30pm
  - c. For the public meetings to bring the draft plan for comment:
    - i. The meetings will take place in the various towns between mid-September to November from 5:30-7:30PM
    - ii. Format will include a presentation from the Coalition and include time for comments and questions and include an open-house/tabling format with Executive Committee members in attendance

**6. Discuss Montelores Coalition participation in Dolores Watershed Collaborative Unauthorized Travel Routes Working Group**

- a. Cara shares that she has been sitting on this group because of the connection to Montelores Coalition. The goal is to organize who is doing what and how we can support each other.
- b. Cara asks if there are any issues with her being in the working group and the group agrees that it is a good idea for her to be on the team and be connected to another group that shares interests

**7. Executive Committee Member updates (if time allows)**

- a. James - Working on same process for GOCO grant for the Paths to Mesa Verde project; Hope is to be building next Summer

- b.** Rico - Rico has a nonprofit organization that has been stagnant, but Skip would like to get it going again; sent out letter asking what the private landowners have planned for their property to see if their plans or lack of plans could impact the work of this Coalition
- c.** Lanea - Ranchers are moved out of Boggy Draw. They had a great cattle drive experience. It could be an educational tool on how to wait and be patient when cattle drive is happening.