AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

Agenda Item: Ratification of Vice-Chairperson's Signature; Lett

Action Requested:

Parties to the Agreement:

Term Begins: **Term Ends:** **Grant Contract #:**

Summary:

Please see the attached letter of support for ratification

Fiscal Impact:

Submitted by: Josh Ost **Submitter's Email Address:** jost@gunnisoncounty.org

Finance Review: ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by: Discharge Date:

County Attorney Review: ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reveiwed by: Discharge Date: Certificate of Insurance Required

Yes ○ No ○

County Manager Review:

Comments:

Reveiwed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mbirnie Discharge Date: 3/13/2018

◉ Consent Agenda ○ Regular Agenda ○ Worksession Time Allotted: 0

Agenda Date: 3/27/2018

Revised April 2015

Gunnison County
COLORADO

Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners
Phone: (970) 641–0248 • Fax: (970) 641–3061
Email: bocc@gunnisoncounty.org • www.GunnisonCounty.org

Mary Karen Lynn-Klimenko
Grants Program Manager
The Laura Jane Musser Fund

March 9, 2018

Gunnison County Commissioners
200 E. Virginia Avenue
Gunnison, CO 81230

Dear Mary Karen Lynn-Klimenko,

Gunnison County provides the quintessential Colorado experience, with landscapes ranging from sagebrush country to deep canyons to rugged peaks and rolling aspen forests. It provides world-class public land hunting and angling, as well as outstanding recreational opportunities for mountain biking, rafting, and skiing, all while supporting the county's historic ranching economy. Given this heritage, and cognizant of the increased pressures bearing down on public lands, there is broad local support for comprehensive, visionary legislation that would permanently protect some of our most important habitat, headwaters, and ecosystems. That support has coalesced around the Gunnison Public Lands Initiative's (GPLI).

We see the GPLI proposal to protect Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management lands in Gunnison County with Congressional designation as a key element to maintaining our communities health and quality of life. The proposal seeks to ensure that critical wildlife habitat, headwaters, and pristine recreation will remain unspoiled.

Our quality of life and the strength of our economy in Gunnison County depend on the health of our public lands. Agriculture and tourism are mainstays of our economy – providing jobs and good salaries to hundreds of people. Protected healthy wild lands are essential to our diverse land- and water-based economy, and they provide the high quality of life that western slope residents ceaselessly work to protect.

The GPLI has been careful, methodical, and inclusive in putting together their proposal. They have chosen areas that have strong community consensus behind them and will prove most beneficial to our communities in their natural state. The lands that they have proposed for protection include some of our most important places.

Supporting the Gunnison Public Lands Initiative makes sense: for our ecosystems, for our lifestyle, and for our economy. We hope the Musser Fund will help in making the proposal a reality.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Houck, Commissioner