



STOR Committee Meeting

Minutes May 22, 2025

Hybrid Meeting

For STOR Committee Members & Guests: *This meeting will be held in-person at the Blackstock Building – 200 W Virginia Ave, Gunnison, CO 81230.*

For the General Public: *The meeting will also be held virtually on Zoom at the following link:*
<https://gunnisoncounty-org.zoom.us/j/87637105265?pwd=Rkt2d2NoM3NubTJWMIz5bnJzNjVvUT09>

Committee Members Present:

Tim Kugler, Andrew Sandstrom, Cathie Pagano, Derrick Nehrenberg, Laura Pucket-Daniels, Brian Brown, Hedda Peterson, Kimberly Schappert, Jennifer DeBoer, Jay Whitacre, Roman K Kolodziej, Dayle Funka, Jeremy Johndrow, Marisela Ballesteros, Joe Lavorini, LB Mullin, Steve Duke, Brandon Diamond, Dave Ochs, Gabriele Prochaska, Tori Manogue, Joey Carpenter, Beverly Richards

Tim Kugler (Committee Chair) called to order

Approval of April 2025 Meeting Minutes

Daniels made a motion to approve the minutes and Sandstrom seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with amendments.

Finalize Strategic Plan Results Action: Adopt Strategic Plan

The committee reviewed and finalized revisions to the Strategic Plan, focusing on Goal C3. They acknowledged that fee adoption through the Forest Service may not be feasible this year and chose to explore alternative funding options through partnerships and non-fee-based mechanisms. They agreed to amend C3 to allow an additional year for completion and revised the goal to focus on broader, more attainable fundraising efforts, supported by tactics like financial planning, cost/benefit analysis, and evaluating revenue and expenses. Minor wording changes were made to Goals D1 and D2, and final edits were added to the plan, including specific project details.

Daniels made a motion to Adopt the 2025 Strategic Plan and Peterson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

USFS Seasonal Staff Hiring Initiative Update

Matt Quin updated the committee on the hiring initiative, reporting that funding was secured through several organizations, allowing them to hire three trained former USFS employees as rec crew members starting in late May. These employees will assist with trail

work, visitor education, and maintenance through September or October. They chose not to hire a fourth crew member due to time and budget constraints, enabling them to retain the current crew longer. Nehrenberg outlined the contributing organizations and their funding amounts. Briget Eastep from Western College secured funding for three AmeriCorps positions, placed with USFS and BLM. Ballesteros provided an AmeriCorps update, including current resource limitations. Quin also reported challenges with toilet pumping funding, noting it would cost approximately \$80,000 to service 45 toilets in the Gunnison and Paonia areas (\$800-\$1000 per pump), with high-use sites most likely closing. The committee discussed funding options, including outreach efforts by Pagano and Quin asking for potential sponsorships. Quin informed the committee of contracts submitted that may take 4–6 weeks to process. They also agreed to share the issue with congressional representatives and support it with a formal letter.

Sandstrom made a motion to write a letter of support for the GORP act and Nehrenberg seconded

The motion passed unanimously. Funka, Brown, and Diamond abstained.

Kugler adjourned the meeting.