### January 2023 MINUTES

REAP Monthly Meeting
Colorado Air & Space Port
January 12, 2023
12:00 pm
Zoom Meeting ID 761 014 5598

The Monthly Meeting was called to order at 12:10 pm by Kirk Holwell.

### Members present:

Kirk Holwell Robbin Schincke

Jeff Kloska Jeff Baker

Gary May Casey Clearwater
Mark Harding Karin Thorpe

Frank Linnebur Kevin Hougan
Rachel Gruber Katie Anthony

Gary May

Holly Swain

Tom Turrell

Carrie Bonds

Lynn Myers

Angie Bedolla

Bob Stewart

Drew Goodman

Donna Sus Everett Hale
Zoe Missner John Heywood
Savannah Vickery Ken Bellamy
Steve Hebert Lynn Baca

Fred Davis Carl Onsager
Ryan Nalty Nick Eagleson

Brad Davis Layla

Erin Mellott

# Members attending by Zoom:

Wil Chase Jessica Coffey Michelle Gayeski Kathy Smiley Angie Graf

Liz Gardner

### Approval of November 17, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Minutes were approved as submitted.

### Chairman's Report:

No report

### Adams County Master Plan Presentation

Adams County is 1200 sq miles & contains all 6 interstates. The Advancing Adams Plan was passed in 2022 & it has been 10 years since the plan has been reviewed. The plan was approved by the citizens of Adams County & lays out the community vision, goals, & strategies & helps commissioners write the policy. The plan includes community feedback on housing & what already exist, however, the County does not provide for water & sewer use. The plan covers transportation, parks & open space, trails, & recreation. It also addresses preserving the cultural heritage of the County.

There are several sub-area plans within the Master Plan. Colorado Air & Space Port is one of the sub-area plans. Taxpayers also approved a self-imposed open space sales tax as a share back for the community.

An Economic Development piece will study the pressures from traffic on I-70.

Development regulations will be part of the plan as it pertains to land use. An initiative is being launched to overhaul development standards. Unincorporated areas have not been included since 2002. Responses to marketing & how people want to live or operate a business are part of the plan. Regulations will be developed to govern both residential & subdivision standards, & commercial & industrial standards. The website to review the plan & updates can be found at ADCODSO.com.

**Colorado Air & Space Port sub-area plan** - covers the vision for the future for the next 10-15 years. There is a lot of anticipated growth expected so boundary management will be key along with updating infrastructure. Aerospace innovations, light industrial load, mixed use industrial, & community hubs along the corridor are included in the plan.

Strasburg sub-area plan - adopted in 2002. The plan evaluates existing population & households & encourages appropriate measures to attract & sustain services & employment opportunities while maintaining the small town & agricultural character. It evaluates & promotes connections to enhance walking & biking, especially when connecting to open space & trails. It considers designating an urban growth boundary to limit urban sprawl to reinforce the 20-minute commute to Strasburg. And finally evaluates uses & opportunities to reinforce a vibrant "Main Street" character where appropriate.

Water Analysis – the County has launched a water analysis study. A consultant (Brendle Group) has

been hired to develop a sustainability plan & continues to work with the County. They will develop a baseline analysis to include population trends, land use trends, determine where water comes from & how it is used. An RFP for a larger exiting conditions analysis will be conducted. The final report will help inform future development across the county.

**Rocky Mountain Rail Park sub-area plan** – construction permits have been issued for 600 acres of development. A rail spur will surround the perimeter of the site & will consist of moderate to heavy industrial use. The RMRP will also take advantage of CASP activities.

A permit was approved & issued to Motor Sports for a 420 acre racing facility, It is a privately owned racing facility for hobby cars & provides a small public use for go karts. It will be available as a testing site for car companies & for police vehicle testing. The site is approximately 2 years away from full operations.

**Public Works update** – E470 & Sable, Brighton & Thornton were awarded 7M to focus on bridges & intersections, an I-70 study will look at transportation demand management, & the 120<sup>th</sup> Avenue corridor optimization plan is being developed for Commerce City & Brighton.

CASP update – one of 40 space ports globally. They have a new fuel provider, updating the taxiway lighting, & have signed a lease with Maxar tech to provide satellite imaging once a month. The priorities for 2023 include modernizing the fleet, equipment & infrastructure. CASP will be an aerospace test location for local colleges & create business development strategies. The perimeter fencing will be improved at a projected cost of 7M.

Reaction Engines, a British firm, has their North American headquarters located close to CASP. They are working on hypersonic engine technology called the SABER engine which will take spacecraft from runway to orbit when the engine reaches mach5. Other uses of the engine are being tested at CASP such as running it on other aircraft or anywhere heat comes out of a system to generate electricity.,

Economic Development team is communicating with businesses and through the general assembly changed state law to allow the county to offer restitution for emergencies, other needs & provide funding to help support local businesses.

#### **BRM Biogenics**

BRM Biogenics is a small Australian company that has discovered the capacity to sustain protein through topsoil growth without irrigation. A new method enables replacement of topsoil in place as it applies to thousands of acres. They have been able to manufacture water into the soil without irrigation by capturing organic residues that no one wants to incubate & interface within the natural community based in the soil & in the atmosphere. A series of mechanisms have been invented for the conversion of organic material that does not create a greenhouse gas effect. May Farms is being used as an example case study for the application. BRM is working to develop a pool of young people who would like to be farmers using this method.

# **Executive Director's Report:**

REAP is submitting a proposal due mid-February to COEDIT for a \$25-\$40 grant. REAP is proposing a 1 day water conference to address groundwater constrained communities and possible solutions. The objective is to explain the state of eastern plains aquifers & ideas for water reuse, new technologies for preservation/conservation, reuse & recycling. REAP is partnering with Pro15 & counties that are distressed.

# **Other Business**

None

Meeting was adjourned at 1:20 pm