



# Colorado Scenic and Historic Byways Commission Meeting

## February 2, 2022 Meeting Minutes

**Time:** Wednesday, February 2, 9:30 am- 11:30 am

**Location:** Online with Zoom

**Attending:** Lenore Bates (CDOT), Nathan Boyless (Commission), Kelli Helpler (Commission), Debbie Lininger (Commission), Ilana Moir (Commission), Heidi Plankow (Commission), John Porco (Tracks Across Borders), Andrew Grossmann (CTO), Traci Stoffel (DNR), John Bush (TABB), Rebecca White (CDOT), Chad Schneckenburger (Commission), Rep. Matt Soper (Commission)

NOTE: Tim Finger (Commission) tried to log in, but could not locate the zoom link.

**Nathan Boyless called the meeting to order at 9:36 am.**

Our thoughts go out to all of our neighbors affected by the Marshall Fire in Boulder County. We are thankful that we live in a state that has offered generous support to those in need.

### [November 2021 Commission Minutes](#)

Minutes have been reviewed. Heidi Pankow moves to approve the minutes as presented, Ilana Moir 2nd, M/P/U.

Welcome to the New and Reappointed Commission and EC Members.

- **Vote to Approve:** Executive Committee slate of new officers
  - Chair - Nathan Boyless
  - Co-Chair - Heidi Pankow
  - Vice Chair - Chris Bowles
  - Secretary - Kelli Hepler

Ilana Moir moves to accept the slate of new officers and presented, Rebecca White 2nds, M/P/U  
Nathan will term out this year and Heidi will take over in the late fall.

### **Update from the Byways**

- **Peak to Peak:** Lenore reported they are working to update their Corridor Management Plan (CMP) and moving into a new organizational structure. They are looking to increase Level 2 charging stations along the byway. Lenore and Kelli are meeting with them on February 14 to review the progress.
- **Unaweeep Tabeguache:** Ilana reported that Excel Energy is looking to put in equipment that would create a significant visual impact to the Byway. It is in the early feasibility stage, but the Land Trust is looking into the progress and plans to see if they might have an opportunity to create a better option.

- **Pawnee Pioneer:** they are moving forward with a full board newly elected. They have plans to also work with DCI to incorporate any opportunities in the area and avoid overlap especially with tourism projects.
- **Top of the Rockies:** they have an updated action plan from their CMP goals. They still need to fill out the Board and Committees.
- **Lariat Loop:** Lenore met with them for a site visit to the pullout known for its geologic significance. This 1970 road cut features the geologic layers and is often visited by students and professors of geology. The site is interpreted, but is in poor condition and also has some safety concerns. Lenore asks for any suggestions for grant ideas to help with a project here would be appreciated.
- **TABB:** John Bush announced that John Porco has volunteered to be their ED. They are moving forward with the CMP updates.

#### Colorado Parks and Wildlife Update (Debbie Lininger)

- Colorado Parks and Wildlife Update (Debbie Lininger) 10 minutes
  - 1. CPW is celebrating our 125th Anniversary in 2022 and holding celebrations in each of our four regions. If you plan to attend, RSVP.
    - Northeast- Thursday, April 7th- 530pm-830pm- Ironton Distillery & Craffhouse
    - Southeast- Friday, May 20th- 530pm-730pm- Pueblo Convention Center
    - Northwest- Thursday, June 23rd -TBA
    - Southwest- Friday, August 19th-TBA
    - RSVP Link (Spreadsheet TAB for each location) -[Reception RSVP](#)
  - 2. Senate Bill 21-249 created a lower-cost annual state park pass that will be available through the vehicle registration renewal process starting in 2023. Development to add the pass to the Division of Motor Vehicle (DMV) Drives database system is underway, and marketing this new opportunity will begin no later than July 1, 2022.

There is a new logo and promotional items to celebrate the 125th Anniversary. There are receptions planned (see above list) please let Debbie know if you can attend any of them.

#### **Other Updates**

**National Scenic Byway Foundation:** Kelli reported on the Foundations request for Award Nominations in the categories of Byway Enhancement, Communications, Hospitality, Interpretation, Leveraging Resources, Partnership, Viewshed Improvement and Visitor Experience. The award criteria and application process guidelines are posted at [nsbfoundation.com](https://nsbfoundation.com). Byway Award winners from 2020, 2021 and 2022 will be recognized at the Heartland Byways Conference Awards Dinner May 4. Each award winning organization will receive one scholarship to attend the 2022 conference in Leavenworth Kansas.

Start your application now...<https://nsbfoundation.com/nsbf-membership/nsbf-awards/>

The Foundation is also putting together the [Heartland Byway Conference](#) where Lenore and Kelli will both be presenting topics. Join Byway leaders from across the country for the **Heartland Byways**

**Conference in Kansas.** This will be the only multi-state conference of Byway Leaders to take place this year.

A full program of keynote presentations and break-out sessions on a wide variety of topics are designed to strengthen Byways and provide up-to-date information. An Awards Dinner honoring the awardees of the National Scenic Byway Foundation Awards, 2020-2021-2022, will take place on May 4th.

**CTO Grants** Byways are eligible for the new Tourism Management Grant offered. For a full presentation you [can watch a recording of the webinar](#). You can also review information about the [Tourism Management Grant on the OEDIT website](#).

Additional considerations are below:

- The applications deadline is 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 3
- Please use [this budget template](#) for your application
- A word document of the application questions is [here](#)

Otherwise, please contact Andrew ([andrew.grossmann@state.co.us](mailto:andrew.grossmann@state.co.us)) with questions about proposed projects and organization eligibility. Please contact Elizabeth ([elizabeth.o'rear@state.co.us](mailto:elizabeth.o'rear@state.co.us)) with questions about the application portal.

This new grant is up to \$20,000 with a \$5,000 match. You don't have to ask for the full \$20,000, just keep in mind that this is a 4:1 grant. In-kind will not be accepted with this grant, only cash.

**Update on EV Byways Designated to Date:**

1. Collegiate Peaks Scenic Byway
2. Flat Tops Scenic Byway
3. Grand Mesa Scenic Byway
4. Lariat Loop Scenic Byway
5. Silver Thread Scenic Byway
6. Top of the Rockies Scenic
7. Trail Ridge Road Scenic Byway
8. Colorado River Headwaters Scenic Byway

Andrew reported on the efforts to get EV lifestyle/auto appropriate photography. He has numerous images taken from several byways around the state. He believes that these images might be made available to the Commission for use in their promotions. The project was funded with some of his budget and the collaboration of the Colorado Auto Dealers who provided the cars and drivers used in the images. Mike King, Matt Mines and Recharge Coaches have been working to connect the dots for this program.

If you need to know more about the Charge Ahead Program or the Electrify Your Byways, contact Andrew at [andrew.grossmann@state.co.us](mailto:andrew.grossmann@state.co.us).

**Debbie added that CPW** also has a program to encourage EV Charging Station installations at State Parks.

**History Colorado** Nathan reported that a letter of intent to get funds from GOCO has been initiated to get funds for an outside consultant to review and inventory of the roadside markers for the purpose of updating and restoring them.

## **Open Floor**

Rebecca is checking in on the status for the signing of the Executive Orders

Preserving the Historic Road Conference September 22 - 23

Annual Meeting will be held (hopefully) in conjunction with the CTO Governor's Conference. Stay Tuned.

The Saving Places Conference begins next week. If you would like to go, Lenore has spaces available, as does Nathan. Lenore will also have a table, stop by and say hello.

Partners in the Outdoors is coming up and has grants available. [Visit this link for more.](#) April 18-20, 2022 at The Hythe, Vail. Conference sessions are 1 hour and 15 minutes long and are scheduled for either Tuesday, April 19th or Wednesday morning, April 20th, 2022.

Byway Leadership Training will be held June 6th and 7th in Cripple Creek

The Denver Travel and Recreation Trade Show will be the last weekend in April. Contact Heidi Pankkow if you would like to learn how to get your materials in the CO Pavilion. Heidi@visitglenwood.com

Representative Matt Soper: Thank you for the opportunity to serve on this Commission. Matt wanted to make us all aware of the upcoming (2026) Colorado's Sesquicentennial. He suggested that we may want to begin working on a plan to incorporate Byways. Maybe we could do something to highlight a series of drives during the 150th celebrations.

Motion to Adjourn by Rebecca White, 2nd Ilana, M/P/U at 10:25 am  
Next meeting will be on May 11th at 9:30 am

### **2022 Byways Commission Meetings to Save the Date:**

Wednesday, February 2, 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Wednesday, May 4, 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Wednesday, August 3, 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Wednesday, November 2, 9:30 am - 12:00 pm