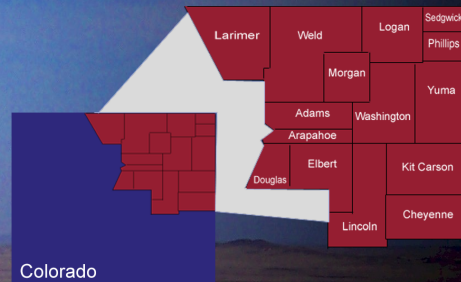


Progressive 15

Providing A Voice for Northeast Colorado



The Briefing

December 8, 2010

Board of Directors

- Adams: Barry Gore
- Arapahoe: Chuck Rech
- Cheyenne: Open
- Douglas: Steve Board
- Elbert: Open
- Kit Carson: Danyel Brenner, Secretary
- Larimer: Open
- Lincoln: Del Beattie
- Logan: Judy Giacomini, Chair
- Morgan: Kari Linker, Treasurer
- Phillips: Nancy Berges
- Sedgwick: Lisa Ault
- Washington: David Foy, Vice Chair
- Weld: Perry Buck
- Yuma: Carol Boden

Executive Director: Cathy Shull

Address: 629 Warner Street,
Fort Morgan, CO 80701

Office/Home: 970-867-9167
Mobile: 970-768-2230
Fax: 1-800-521-9413

E mail: cathy@progressive15.org
Web: www.progressive15.org

Twitter:
@progressive15
Facebook::

Northeast Colorado Voice

From Progressive 15



Merry Christmas & Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



**Board of Directors
Meeting
December 6, 2010**

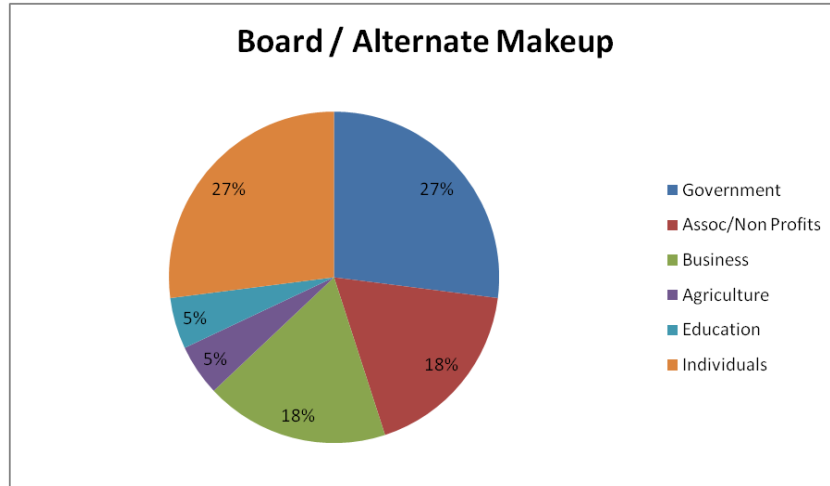
2011-2012

Progressive 15 Officers

L to R: Barry Gore, Vice Chair; Kari Linker, Treasurer; Nancy Berges, Secretary; David Foy, Chair



2011 Board of Directors and Alternates



Adams

Barry Gore, Adams County Economic Development

Alternate: Michael Ellsberry, Civil Engineer

Arapahoe

Chuck Rech, Consultant

Alternate: Erin Messner, City of Aurora Water

Cheyenne

Open

Douglas

Bill Schroeder, Intermountain REA

Alternate: Kyle Fenner, Greater Parker Incorporated and Melanie Worley, M2 & Associates

Elbert

Open

Kit Carson

Bob Churchwell, City of Burlington

Alternate: Danyel Brenner

Larimer

Open

Lincoln

Del Beattie, Town of Limon

Alternate: Pat Vice, Lincoln County Economic Development

Logan

Judy Giacomini

Alternate: Richard O'Connell, Logan County Economic Development

Morgan

Kari Linker, Morgan County Economic Development

Alternate: Laura Teague, Morgan County Commissioner

Phillips

Nancy Berges, Highline Electric Association

Alternate: Julie Wiebke, Scholl Oil

Sedgwick

Lisa Ault, Department of Human Services

Washington

David Foy, Washington County Commissioner

Weld

Perry Buck, Individual

Trish Wiley, Individual (Realtor)

*2011 Issues We Are Monitoring**

- Ag land property tax changes
- State Budget
- Rural Broadband funds distribution
- Severance Tax Distribution
- Renewable energy requirements
- Transportation funding
- Repeal of FASTER
- Transmission lines regulation
- PORE space legislation
- Wind as a mineral right

*This came from board members and members—if you have others you would like added, please let us know.

2010 Progressive 15 Activities

January

- State Bill Training -Denver
- Civic Engagement meeting - Denver
- Meeting with Sally Henry at Centennial Health Education Center - Greeley
- Biz Cares Education - Denver
- Denver Chamber Policy Briefing – Denver
- Morgan County Horizons Health Care Council – Fort Morgan
- Jobs Summit hosted by Senator Michael Bennett, Mayor Hickenlooper and DOT Director Ray LaHood – Denver
- Civic Engagement mtg – conference call
- Meeting with Board Member Board – Castle Rock
- Briefing with Fort Morgan City Councilman Scott Bryant on Progressive 15 – Fort Morgan
- Legislative Day – Denver
- CACI Business Day Luncheon as guest of Marie Patterson, Anglo Gold – Denver

February

- Meeting with Arapahoe County Commissioners which included Chuck Rech – Denver
- Colorado’s Future – Denver
- CELC – Denver
- Biz Cares – Denver
- HM Consul General Kevin Lynch – Fort Morgan
- Northeast Colorado Association of Local Governments Annual Meeting – Akron
- Interview with Scottsbluff newspaper on Heartland Expressway

March

- CELC – Denver
- Civic Engagement – Adams County
- Alliance for Sustainable Colorado – Fort Morgan
- Civic Engagement Eastern Plains – Conf Call
- Civic Engagement Eastern Plains – Conf Call

April

- Wiggins Telephone – Wiggins
- Civic Engagement – Adams County
- Civic Engagement – Eastern Plains
- Colorado’s Future – Denver
- Meeting with Logan County Commissioners – Sterling
- Spring Conference – Holyoke
- CDOT on Rail Meeting – Denver

May

- Denver Chamber of Commerce State of the State – Denver
- Heartland Express - conference
- Vacation

June

- Colorado’s Future – Denver
- Secretary of State office – Denver
- Interview – KSIR Radio – Fort Morgan
- Rural Solutions Legislative Breakfast – Akron
- Colorado’s Future – Denver
- Heartland Expressway Board Meeting – Scottsbluff

July

- Board Retreat – Fort Morgan
- 60, 61, 101 Train the Trainer with Laura Teague –

Denver

- KFTM radio interview – Fort Morgan
- Governor’s residence garden party
- Meeting with Pat Vice, Heartland and Progressive 15 – Fort Morgan
- Standing Committee Meeting – Fort Morgan

August

- Spring Conference - The Fountains – Loveland
- Website – Carma – Fort Morgan
- Heartland Expressway – conference call
- Fall conference – Conference call with NCLA
- Green Jobs Advisory Council – Denver

September

- 60, 61, 101 – Greeley Rotary
- Fall Conference – the Fountains – Loveland
- Meeting with Sarah MacQuiddy on Fall Conference
- Banner Guy – Greeley
- Fall Conference
- Green Jobs Council – process group (2) – conference call
- 60, 61, 101 – Lions club at request of Bud Biesmeier – Haxtun
- 60, 61, 101 – Exchange Club – Greeley
- 60, 61, 101 – Fort Morgan Area Chamber – Fort Morgan
- Meeting with Meg Corwin, regional director for Senator Michael Bennet – Fort Morgan
- 60, 61, 101 – community presentation sponsored by Morgan County Economic Development – Fort Morgan

October

- 60, 61, 101 – NE Seniors – Wray
- 60, 61, 101 – Morgan County Economic Development

community presentation – Brush

- Colorado’s Future
- 60, 61, 101 – AAA Regional Advisory meeting – Burlington
- 60, 61, 101 – Julesburg community presentation – David Foy
- 60, 61, 101 – Brush Chamber – Laura Teague
- 60, 61, 101 – Washington County – David Foy
- Adams County Members Caucus – Barry Gore handled

November

- AngloGold interview on their partnerships – phone conference
- Senator Michael Bennet – Fort Morgan
- Sent letters of congrats to all newly elected and re-elected officials – state and federal
- Meeting with Club 20 and Action 22 included Barry Gore and Kari Linker
- Colorado Cooperation
- Colorado’s Future
- Meeting with South Metro Chamber which included Chuck Rech
- Arapahoe County Member Caucus
- Heartland Express Meeting - Fort Morgan
- Douglas County Members Caucus – Sedalia
- Waiting for Superman – Denver
- Transmission Line discussion with Denver EDC

December

- Heartland Express Conference Call
- Lincoln County Members Caucus
- Meeting with Kari Linker on P15 books
- Board Retreat

2010 Progressive 15 Activities

- Green Jobs Council
- Colorado's Future
- Biz Cares Conference Call
- Bell Policy Center meeting – Hudson

Correctional Healthcare Mgmt
M2 & Associates
Robin VanAusdall
Randy Grauberger
Greater Parker Incorporated

Actions/positions Taken On:

- Fracking
- Immigration
- Support letter of merger Qwest / CenturyLink
- Support letter for ARRA for Viaero Wireless & Qwest
- Support Letter for Don Marostica for OED
- Partnership with BizCares
- Neutral on 1365 – Clean Air Act
- Support of CRP program
- Sponsorship for Ports to Plains Energy Summit
- Support letter for C3 council
- Support to join on with civility letter

Other Activities

- Briefings
- New Website – final steps pending to launch
- Completion of Banner for P 15
- Tracking legislation at both federal and state level

Membership

- Total Membership: 132
- New Members:
 - Wiggins Telephone
 - Patricia Wiley
 - COGA
 - Danny Tomlinson
 - Clint Cresawn

- Lost Members:

KnockOut Partners Real Estate (replaced with Trish Wiley)
Parsons Brinckerhoff (replaced with Randy Grauberger)
Colorado Rural Health Association (replaced with Teri Hurst and then Clint Cresawn)
Steve Gabel
Fort Morgan Area Chamber
Northeast Colorado Health Department
Norma Pankratz
Ann Soehner
Curt Soehner
Darris Cumming
Maye Gene Lee
Town of Iliff
Bob Mailander
Jared Polis

- Membership by County:

Adams – 7
Arapahoe – 13
Cheyenne - 0
Douglas – 5
Elbert – 0
Kit Carson – 9
Larimer – 3
Lincoln – 10
Logan – 9
Morgan – 19
Phillips – 8

2010 Progressive 15 Activities

Sedgwick – 3
Washington – 4
Weld – 6
Yuma – 16
Statewide – 17

- Gardner, C
- Looper
- May
- McFadyen
- McNulty
- Nikkel
- Primavera
- Priola
- Rice
- Riesberg
- Roberts
- Sonnenberg
- Stephens
- Todd
- Vaad

Interaction with:

- Governor Bill Ritter
- Lt. Governor
- Attorney General
- State Treasurer
- Secretary of State
- CDOT
- OED
- Labor & Employment
- DOLA
- Agriculture
- Natural Resources
- State Senators:
 - Brophy
 - Heath
 - Hodge
 - Kopp
 - Lundberg
 - Mitchell
 - Penry
 - Renfroe
 - Spence
 - Tapia
 - Tochtrop
 - White
 - Williams
- State Representatives:
 - Acree
 - Court
 - Curry
 - Fischer
- US Senators:
 - Bennet
 - Udall
- US Representatives:
 - Coffman
 - Markey

In The News

Creative Industries Tour & Grant Information

Dates, time and locations of the Colorado Creative Industries' (CCI) Listening Tour "Redux" and *Colorado Creates* grant information sessions are finalized. CCI staff will share the agency's new strategic plan and provide grant training Dec. 2 - Jan. 15. We're looking forward to being out around the state and meeting lots of "creatives." Get more information at http://www.coloarts.org/news/releases/pressrelease_11-18-10.html

Colorado's Minimum Wage to Raise in 2011

Colorado's minimum wage will increase by 12¢ next year, rising to \$7.36 . A calculation based on this year's inflation rate, an update of a formula approved by voters in 2006, is the reason for the wage increase. The minimum wage also will go up for tipped employees, increasing 12¢ to \$4.34. Colorado's Minimum Wage Amendment allows employers to pay tipped workers \$3.02 less than regular workers.

Secretary Salazar Establishes New Directorate For National Landscape Conservation System

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar today issued a Secretarial Order elevating the Office of the National Landscape Conservation System and Community Partnerships in the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to the level of a directorate within BLM. "This action reflects the growing importance of the 27-million acre National Landscape Conservation System to local economies, to the health of communities, and to the conservation of some of America's greatest landscapes," Salazar said at the National Landscape Conservation System Summit in Las Vegas.

The directorate will be called the National Landscape Conservation System and Community Partnerships. The Assistant Secretary – Land and Minerals Management is responsible for ensuring implementation of this order within 120 days. This responsibility may be delegated, as appropriate. The signing of the Secretarial Order followed Salazar's remarks to a summit of the National Landscape Conservation System, attended by several hundred BLM officials and employees as well as non-government stakeholders and state and local representatives.

Governor Ritter Launches College Degree Completion Initiative

Gov. Bill Ritter, Jr. today launched Complete College Colorado, an action campaign to increase postsecondary degree attainment in Colorado. This new initiative aims to enhance awareness of programs and services available across Colorado to help individuals reach their goal of completing higher education degrees or certificates. The campaign also emphasizes the importance of post-secondary degrees for Colorado's economic future, a key point made in newly released recommendations from the Governor's Higher Education Strategic Planning Committee. "Colorado's ability to compete in the 21st century economy will depend on how well we prepare our children for the jobs of the future, which will increasingly require a college degree." said Gov. Ritter. " More information on the Campaign can be found at www.completecollegecolorado.com and <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Complete-College-Colorado/141798672535148>.

Gardner named to GOP Transition Team

Representative-elect Cory Gardner has hit the ground running in Washington. He was named by Oregon Representative Greg Walden to the Republican Transition Team.

Free Webinar for Specialty Crop Block Grant

As a service to the green and produce industries, USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service presents **free** interactive webinars hosted by Red Book Credit Services as part of the Red Book University educational offering. The webinar entitled "Grant Opportunity: Enhancing the Competitiveness of Specialty Crops" will be held on Thursday, December 16, 2010 at 2 p.m. ET. Find out what the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program is and how you can apply for grant funds to enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops—fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery

crops, including floriculture. Webinar registration is required. For more information contact Christopher Purdy, Business Development Specialist, USDA AMS Fruit and Vegetable Programs, (202) 720-3209, christopher.purdy@ams.usda.gov or visit www.ams.usda.gov/fv. More information regarding the Colorado 2011 Specialty Crop Block Grant Program will be available soon at www.colorado.gov/ag/specialtycropgrant.

Enter Annual Photo Contest Before Time Runs Out

The deadline is quickly approaching to enter the 13th Annual “Colorado...it’s AgriCultural” photography contest. Entries must be postmarked by December 31, 2010. Entries must be submitted to the Colorado Department of Agriculture with an official entry form by December 31, 2010, and all photographs must relate to Colorado agriculture in some way. Prizes will be awarded in four subject areas: agritourism, crops, livestock and people. A \$150 gift card will be awarded as the grand prize for the photograph that best portrays the *spirit* of Colorado agriculture. Judging will be based on theme, creativity and technical quality. All winning photographs will be displayed in the Beede-Hamil Agriculture Building at Northeastern Junior College in Sterling, Colorado. Visit www.coloradoagriculture.com or call (303) 239-4119 for complete contest rules and an entry form.

Membership

Re-Investing:

Robert Bledsoe

Colorado REA

First National Bank of Hugo

Rural Solutions

Ports-to-Plains

New Members:

Greater Parker Incorporated

Randy Grauberger

Calendar

December 16

Specialty Crop Block Grant Webinar

Denver

Christopher Purdy, 202.720.3209, christopher.purdy@ams.usda.gov

*Save The Dates / Mark Your Calendars / Tell others
Progressive 15 Events*

January

7th – Board & Chair online training

26th – Legislative Day at State Capitol

February

March

April

14th – 9 am Board meeting at Spring conference

14-15th – Spring Conference - Akron

May

June

July

21st – 8:00 to 4:00 Standing Committee Meeting –
Fort Morgan

21st – Board Meeting – 4:30 pm

August

September

15th – 9 am Board Meeting at Fall Conference

15th – 16th Fall Conference - Wiggins

October

17th – 12 noon – Member Caucus – Phillips

24th – 12 noon – Member Caucus – Kit Carson

31st – 12 noon – Member Caucus – Weld

November

7th – 12 noon – Member Caucus – Logan

14th – 12 noon – Member Caucus – Morgan

December

5th – 10 am Board Planning Retreat

Board Conference Call 4th Monday
of each month at 11:00 am except in April, July,
September and December where meetings