



Providing A Voice for Northeast Colorado



The Briefing

February 22, 2011

Board of Directors

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

Executive Director: Cathy Shull

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Progressive 15 Updates

IMPORTANT MEETINGS

Redistricting:

- Attend one of these public meetings on redistricting :
 - Loveland - Saturday, February 26th 8:00 - 11:00 am Loveland City Council Chambers - 500 East 3rd Street
 - Fort Morgan - Saturday, February 26th 1:00 - 4:00 pm Fort Morgan High School 709 East Riverview Avenue
 - Castle Rock - March 14th 6:00 - 9:00 pm Fairgrounds and Event Center, 500 Fairground Drive
 - For other meetings around the state:

<http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CGA-ReDistrict/CBON/1251581558170>

Governor's Bottom Up Economic Development Plan Initiative:

The Region 1 meeting will be Logan, Morgan, Phillips, Sedgwick, Washington and Yuma Counties and is scheduled for **Thursday, March 3, 6:30-9:00 pm** at the Haxtun High School. Dinner will be served so please **RSVP to Darlene Scott at Darlene.scott@state.co.us or 719.342.5246 by February 28, 2011.**

The Region 5 meeting will be Cheyenne, Elbert, Kit Carson and Lincoln Counties and is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 2, 6:00-9:00 pm** at the Limon School District. Dinner will be served so please **RSVP to Darlene Scott at Darlene.scott@state.co.us or 719.342.5246 by February 28, 2011.**

Region 2 and Region 3 dates have not been set

Legislation Update

Support:

HB11-1072 - transparency in representatives of initiatives
HB11-1123 - Prohibit Severance Related Revenue to Gen Fund
SJR11-005 - No Unfunded Mandates
SRC11-001 - Raising Bar on Constitutional Changes

Oppose:

HB 11-1025 - Repeal of Hospital Provider Fee

Updates From Around the State

Restoring Colorado's Capitol Dome

Current economic conditions have seriously hampered the ability of the State to fund the much-needed repairs on the Capitol Dome, now estimated to exceed \$12 million. In response to the urgency, the Legislature diverted \$4 million from the State Historical Fund in May of 2010 to initiate the restoration effort. However, this decision has resulted in cutting the grant-making capacity of the Historical fund by fifty percent. Regrettably, should the remaining \$8 to \$12 million needed to complete the job be appropriated from the Fund, other essential preservation projects throughout the State will have to be cancelled or postponed.

How to get involved:

According to the U.S. 2010 Census, the population of Colorado is 5,029,196. If each citizen were to donate just \$1.60, the additional \$8 million that is currently needed to restore the dome could be raised. The ***Share in the Care Colorado*** campaign is designed to allow all Coloradans to share in the opportunity to be part of the history of the building that serves as the symbol of us all. Please consider going on-line at www.ShareInTheCareColorado.org to make a donation of any amount.

In cooperation with AT&T, you can also text 5055 and type "DOME" for a \$5.00 donation. This amount will show up on your next cell phone monthly bill.

Salazar Announces Additional Steps toward Smarter Development of Renewable Energy on U.S. Public Lands

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar today announced a number of initiatives designed to encourage rapid and responsible development of renewable energy on public lands. The proposals from the Departments Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the policy guidance from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) provide clarity and guidance to stakeholders, including developers and employees, about smart siting and effective mitigation for renewable energy projects. Taken together, today's initiatives are another positive step toward making sure we are building a clean energy economy that is smart from the start.

Fact Sheet on Draft Voluntary Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines:

<http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/loader.cfm?csModule=security/getfile&pageid=188931>

Fact Sheet on Draft Eagle Conservation Plan Guidance:

<http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/loader.cfm?csModule=security/getfile&pageid=188929>

Governor Hickenlooper names Romaine Pacheco as Director of Boards & Commissions Office

Governor John Hickenlooper announced today that Romaine Pacheco is the Director of the Boards and Commissions Office. The office manages the process for more than 3,000 appointments made by the Governor to more than 300 state boards and commissions. Pacheco was previously the State Director of Constituent Services for Sen. Michael Bennet and before that for former Sen. Ken Salazar. She has 19 years of experience in constituent and public service.

To learn what opportunities are available and for an application, visit www.colorado.gov, call (303) 866-5232 or send an e-mail to boards@state.co.us.

Governor Hickenlooper announces grants to improve airport infrastructure in Colorado

Governor John Hickenlooper announced today he approved distribution of \$11.5 million in state aviation fuel tax revenues through 46 grants to Colorado airports under the Aviation Discretionary Grant program administered by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Division of Aeronautics. The grants, ranging in size from \$3,947 to \$400,000, will leverage local and – in 22 of the projects – federal funds to total \$94.68 million for various airport projects. The projects include runway lighting improvements, runway maintenance and construction to wildlife fencing. A complete listing of all grants is attached.

“We must have an accessible airport system if Colorado is going to continue as a world-class, year-round destination,” Hickenlooper said. “These airports are vital to the state’s economic development, quality of life, recreational access and our overall mobility. Combining the state aviation fuel taxes with local and federal funding will fund much-needed projects that might not otherwise have been possible.”

Communities/airports receiving the grants in Progressive 15’s territory are listed below:

- Akron/Colorado Plains Regional Airport
- Burlington/Kit Carson County Airport
- Erie Municipal Airport
- Ft. Collins-Loveland Municipal Airport
- Fort Morgan Municipal Airport
- Greeley-Weld County Airport
- Holyoke Municipal Airport
- Limon Municipal Airport
- Wray Municipal Airport
- Yuma Municipal Airport

For more information: <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite?c=Page&childpagename=GovHickenlooper%2FCBONLayout&cid=1251588706608&pagename=CBONWrapper>

Membership Investments

Renew:

Black Hills Energy	Lucile Bledsoe	Centennial Area Health Education Center
Mountain View Electric	High Plains Bank	Union Pacific
Northeastern Junior College	Newland Communities	Qwest
NE Colorado Housing	Allen Mitchek Feed & Grain	Grant Bledsoe
Washington County	First Pioneer Bank-Holyoke	Don Ament
Eastern Colorado Workforce Ctr	United Power	NE Association of Local Governments
Town of Hugo	Yuma County	City of Brush
Town of Bennett	Morgan County	Sedgwick County
City of Holyoke	Morgan County EDC	Brush Chamber of Commerce
City of Yuma	Douglas County	Morgan County REA
YW Electric	Wiggins Telephone	Lincoln County
Don Rutledge	Burlington Record	Phillips County
Town of Julesburg	PC Telecom	Colorado Asphalt Association
PowerTech	Town of Hillrose	Town of Limon
Arapahoe County	Town of Akron	CHAFA

New:

Judy Giacomini

2011 Calendar

(Progressive 15 events in Blue)

February

- 24 Governor's Forum on Agriculture 303.239.4100 www.colorado.gov/ag/forum
- 24 Progressive 15 Legislative Day To register: www.progressive15.org
- 25 Morgan Community College Gala

March

- 4th The Road Ahead 2011—"Making the Connection- Expanding Transportation Connectivity in the Denver Region" JW Marriott Denver Cherry Creek For More Info: <http://theroadahead2011.eventbrite.com/>

April

- 6-8 Ports-To-Plains Alliance Energy Summit Omni Interlocken Resort in Broomfield, CO
- 14 - Fort Morgan Workforce Center Job Fair, Clarion Inn, Fort Morgan 970-867-9401
- [14-15 Progressive 15 Spring Conference - Akron](#)

May

June

July

- [21 - Progressive 15 Standing Committee Meetings - Fort Morgan](#)

August

September

- [15-16 Progressive 15 Fall Conference - Wiggins](#)

October

- [17 Progressive 15 member caucus Phillips County](#)
- [24 Progressive 15 member caucus Kit Carson County](#)
- [31 Progressive 15 member caucus Weld County](#)

November

- [7 Progressive 15 member caucus Logan County](#)
- [14 Progressive 15 member caucus Morgan County](#)

December

- [5 Progressive 15 Board Retreat - Fort Morgan](#)