



DIVISION OF OUTDOOR RECREATION DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Meeting Minutes

*Minutes Of The Meeting Held on May 1, 2026 at 8:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.
Virtual*

HOST: *Utah Department of Natural Resources*

Division of Outdoor Recreation

Bryce Canyon Grand Hotel: Ponderosa Room

30 N 100 E

Bryce Canyon City, UT 84764

(Virtual meeting)

IN-PERSON ATTENDEES: Mike McCandless, Scott Strong, Erin O'Brien, Tom Adams, Russell Steadman, Des Barker, Evan Glenn, Jake Deslauriers, Betsy Brynes, Jason Curry, Lance Syrett, Jorge Vazquez, Patrick Morrison, Noemi Molina, Tara Mckee

VIRTUAL ATTENDEES: Maureen Casper, Darwin Cook, Cameron Diehl, Nicole Hanna, Jeffrey McCarty, Emily Meadows, Tracy Meier, Melanie Paxton, Bonnie Roberts, Jeffrey Rosenbluth, Jon Ruedas, Monte Stewart, Dalton Vaughn, Josh Willis

MEETING MINUTES:

(0:00) Call to Order & Initial Dashboard Review: Jason Curry officially called the meeting to order, with the committee using a brief window of open time before scheduled presenter arrivals to review the live scoring dashboard and recap program funding totals.

- A total of \$14.5 million has been approved, successfully moving forward for formal consideration.
- Out of 27 unique counties that applied across the state, every single county has had at least one project approved to advance in the process.

(1:43) Current Funding Allocations by Category: The committee conducted a category-by-category financial overview to assess exactly where current award recommendations stand. Patrick Morrison provided a breakdown of the active live scoring sheet totals:

- **Regional Assets:** 6 awards totaling \$5.2 million.

- **Tier One:** 20 awards spread across 15 counties, sitting at \$4.4 million.
- **RRI:** 12 awards spread across 10 counties, totaling \$1.4 million.
- **CPR:** 25 awards spread across 19 counties, sitting at \$3.2 million.
- **Mini-Grants:** 6 awards spread across 4 counties, totaling \$135,000.

(3:12) Regional Intent vs. Smaller Municipal Grants: The committee engaged in a deeper philosophical discussion regarding the long-term spirit of these funds. There was collective agreement that while local projects like playground slides and swings are beneficial to small towns, the core mandate of the committee should lean toward high-impact, large-scale regional connectivity.

- Concerns were raised that the current \$3.2 million allocation for CPR grants is higher than initially desired, potentially depleting funds that could go toward larger initiatives.
- High-growth urban areas and low-income, smaller communities lacking dedicated grant-writing resources (such as those needed to access federal Land and Water Conservation Funds) will remain a focus, but high-resource counties will face heavier scrutiny.

(5:02) A strategic proposal was put forward to withhold a portion of the current round's funding rather than distributing the entire available amount immediately. This remaining balance would be intentionally earmarked for a mid-cycle or off-cycle allocation to heavily leverage partnership opportunities with the state's transportation frameworks.

- **Leveraging External Networks:** Holding back funds gives the committee the agility to partner with the Utah Trail Network and UDOT, potentially accelerating multi-phase trail projects (e.g., the Parowan trail phases) rather than seeing them drag out over 2 to 3 years.
- **Process Integrity:** Any off-cycle distribution of held-back funds will strictly remain a competitive process, requiring formalized applications from communities rather than direct appropriation.

(9:05) Because the formal Regional Asset presentations are not scheduled to begin until 9:30 AM, the committee determined to maximize the remaining morning time by reviewing specific line items on the active spreadsheet. Final decisions on trimming or shaving down these CPR allocations will be deferred until after the committee views the upcoming 9:30 AM Regional Asset presentations, allowing for total clarity on how much overall money remains on the table.

(14:08) Cameron raised a long-term strategic concern regarding flattening and declining local government sales tax revenues across the state. This prompted a discussion regarding the financial sustainability of the fund and how economic headwinds should impact current year allocations.

- Applications are rising while resources flatten. Cameron suggested withholding capital to bolster next year's fund rather than financing lower-tier projects.
- Unspent balances face potential reclamation and reallocation by the state legislature.
- Forecasts predict \$10–\$10.5 million for the Outdoor Adventure Fund and \$8.5 million from the Transient Room Tax (TRT).
- Rising material and labor costs are reducing the actual purchasing power of awarded funds.

(17:29) To address the risk of the legislature clawing back unspent reserve funds, the committee analyzed alternative accounting and administrative strategies to safely secure held-back capital.

- LFA Notification: If funds are held over, the committee must notify the LFA office. This allows analysts to explain to legislators that the unspent balance is strategically earmarked for future high-impact regional projects.
- Pre-Allocation: Nicole proposed legally pre-allocating funds. However, staff noted this requires firm tentative contract obligations with counties to prevent state reallocation.
- The committee agreed to move large-scale Regional Asset applications to the first day of the cycle. This clarifies remaining capital before evaluating smaller grants.

(22:42) The committee pivoted back to structural issues with the CPR program, attempting to establish clear boundary lines regarding what types of community park initiatives actually align with the fund's intent.

- Regional Focus: The group decided to prioritize multi-city regional projects with clear economic and tourism ties, such as large sports complexes, over strictly local municipal requests like neighborhood shade structures.
- Because the \$200,000 CPR cap is insufficient for multi-million dollar field developments, staff recommended that communities with large-scale concepts apply under the Regional Asset tier if they can demonstrate a regional draw.
- To reduce the committee's workload—where CPR reviews currently consume 50% of effort for 25% of funds—staff proposed a minimum request limit to filter out minor hardware requests.
- Des proposed a trial using AI and custom metrics to screen current CPR applications. This system aims to halve the human review workload by filtering out the bottom 50% of projects that lack regional economic impact.

(51:56) Presentation: Ashley Gorge Via Ferrata (Phase 2)

Following a gap in the agenda and legal clearance from Nicole, the committee voted to advance the schedule. Travis Campbell and the Uintah County community development team presented Phase 2 of the Ashley Gorge Via Ferrata.

- Concept: A Via Ferrata uses anchored steel rungs and cables to allow novice climbers to safely traverse vertical faces while continuously harnessed.
- Scale: Backed by BLM and SITLA agreements, it is the second free public system in the U.S.
- Phase 2 Features:
 - *The Thin Wall*: An exposed bypass using rock fins and bridges to keep climbers on the cliff face.
 - *The Terrace Escape*: An exit path through the upper gorge connecting to rim trails.
 - *Raptor Ridge*: A 800-900 foot vertical exit, potentially doubling Phase 1 length and becoming one of the longest single-pitch climbs in the U.S.
- Infrastructure: Adds perimeter trails for non-climbers, a two-hole vault toilet at the south lot, and a mid-gorge facility accessible via pedestrian bridge and county road.

(1:05:12) Questions & Discussion: The committee cross-examined the Uintah County delegation regarding verified visitation numbers, long-term asset maintenance budgets, search and rescue protocols, and adaptive accessibility features.

- Visitation: To access the course, climbers must view a safety video and sign a waiver, providing accurate data. Despite relying on word-of-mouth, the site logged over 600 unique visitors during last year's soft opening. This season, it has recorded over 1,000 unique climbers from 20 states and 200 zip codes, including 125 repeat local users.
- Economy: Approval of Vernal's first commercial guiding permit has boosted equipment rentals and retail. Rental businesses are also emerging along the Wasatch Front to supply travelers.
- Adaptive Access: Jeff Rosenbluth and Tracy (National Ability Center) discussed accessibility. The county noted that while vertical cliffs are not wheelchair accessible, the Via Ferrata's stable rungs suit ambulatory individuals with disabilities and amputees. The NAC plans to collaborate on specialized adaptive outings.
- Emergency Response: Local SAR teams helped establish high-angle extraction protocols. Dispatchers are mapping GPS coordinates for all climbing sections and trail junctions to ensure rapid emergency deployment.
- Sustainability: Structural maintenance remains inexpensive, with a recent inspection costing \$600. Long-term replacement costs will be subsidized by municipal restaurants and Transient Room Tax revenues from tourism. The Dino Trails Committee is also launching a QR-code donation platform.

(1:21:11) The committee went into a brief ten-minute recess until the next scheduled presenter at 9:30 AM.

(1:22:16) Presentation: Mapleton South Regional Bike Park

Logan Miner, Mapleton Parks Director, presented a bike park project developed since 2021 with local stakeholders.

- **Location & Land:** The 50-acre site near Spanish Fork Canyon was acquired through development agreements, including 30 acres from Edge Homes and a subsequent 29.5-acre negotiation.
- **Features:** To facilitate mountain biking entry, the layout includes progressive flow trails, rock gardens, and tiered downhill gravity lines around a central event hub.
- **Pump Tracks & Costs:** Three paved pump tracks (beginner to advanced) are included. Lighting is limited to these tracks to manage costs.
- **Regional Impact:** Supported by the Utah High School Cycling League and "Nebo Mountain Goats," the park uses Placer AI and Explore Utah Valley data to track visitors and drive local economic growth.
- **Budget:** Total cost is \$6 million. With \$3.5 million in city funds and \$1.5 million from the state already secured, \$1 million is requested to close the gap.

(1:30:27) Questions & Discussion: The committee discussed expanding the 50-acre site to match facilities like Snake Hollow; Logan mentioned ongoing easement talks with Rocky Mountain Power near Maple Mountain.

- To address track degradation, Mapleton hired a full-time technician for construction and maintenance, with operational funds earmarked in the tentative budget.
- The committee considered splitting the \$1 million request over multiple years. Logan accepted partial funding, but members praised the budget detail and November 6 completion timeline by Caliber Construction and Avid Trails.
- Tracy (NAC) inquired about adaptive bike access; Logan confirmed ADA-compliant pump tracks and a northern trail network designed with wider, flat profiles for adaptive athletes.

(1:36:59) Presentation: Tooele City Boulevard Bike Park

Darwin Cook, Parks and Recreation Director for Tooele City, stepped in ahead of schedule to present a \$3.8 million regional bike park development.

- \$3.8 million regional bike park developed with American Ramp Company, featuring a bike playground, jump line, asphalt pump track, and underground automated timing sensors. Musco track lighting is planned, and the project is endorsed by the Tooele County Composite Mountain Bike Team.

- Requested \$1 million from the board, committing \$2.1 million in municipal funds, and secured PUD funds from Bach Homes.
- Buried hardware carries a lifetime guarantee matching the track's expected 20–25 year lifespan. Construction is currently scheduled for delivery by late Spring 2027.

(1:45:13) Questions & Discussion:

- **Equipment Durability:** Members questioned maintenance for buried sensors. Dalton (American Ramp Company) confirmed hardware is protected in conduits with a lifetime guarantee matching the asphalt track's 20–25 year lifespan.
- **Digital Timing:** Dalton explained the underground sensor framework allows users to track speed and lap times via mobile apps, populating a live leaderboard.
- **Adaptive Access:** Darwin confirmed the track's widths and radii are engineered specifically to accommodate multi-width, three-wheeled adaptive mountain bikes.

(1:51:12) Presentation: Vineyard All-Wheels Concrete Skate Park

Brian Budrey, Parks and Recreation Director for Vineyard City, presented a regional request for a 16,000-square-foot all-concrete skate park and pump track asset.

- As a rapidly growing municipality, Vineyard faces a shortage of teenage sporting outlets. Brian Budrey emphasized that declining team sports participation makes a dedicated all-wheels facility a master plan priority.
- **Phase 1 Scope:** Located near City Hall for municipal surveillance, the 16,000-square-foot park features Hunger Skate Parks concrete designs and an American Ramp Company pump track. Infrastructure includes 24 parking stalls, trail connections, bilingual signage, utility conduits, and a restroom.
- Placer AI data shows over 60% of visitors travel more than two miles to such parks. Vineyard anticipates 30,000+ annual visits, with the Utah Amateur Skateboarding League endorsing the design for regional tournament use.

(2:02:16) Questions & Discussion:

- **ADA Staging Accommodations:** The committee noted that adding only one ADA stall for 24 might not be enough, urging the city to add more dedicated spaces closer to the park ramp. Brian agreed, stating that adjacent City Hall stalls can support the layout and extra spaces can easily be added during civil grading.
- **Value Engineering Thresholds:** When pressed on fallback plans if the board could not award the full amount, Brian explicitly stated the city could accept a minimum floor of \$500,000. Dropping to \$500,000 would force the city to cut the dedicated restroom facility out of Phase 1, relying instead on the adjacent City Hall restrooms and extended weekend library hours to supply facilities.

(2:04:52) Presentation: Ogden City Lester Commons Project

Monty Stewart, Parks, Cemetery, and Trails Director for Ogden City, presented a revitalization proposal for Lester Park, one of the city's oldest historic public squares established upon Ogden's incorporation in 1851.

- Urban Revitalization: Near historic 25th Street and the Nine Rails Creative District, the park serves a dense, diverse population. Previous design attempts stalled for decades due to lack of funding.
- The project focuses on multi-generational use, including an inclusive playground launching in August and new pickleball courts. State funding is sought for ADA paths, lighting, an arts pavilion, a sport court, and a gaming plaza.
- A "Perky Pave" recycled surface will reduce joint impact for seniors and manage drainage. Future plans include a year-round skating ribbon.

(2:14:11) Questions & Discussion:

- The committee spoke to Ogden's budget sheet wondering what it would look like to partially fund this project. Monty mentioned they would have to move some things around and would move forward to get as far as they can.

(2:16:12) Presentation: Elkridge Goose Nest Adventure Park

Melanie Marsh presented a regional outdoor recreation project for the Goose Nest area of Elkridge, located on an 8.5-acre parcel owned by the city since 2009 at the southern tip of Utah County.

- The master plan includes a bike skills zone, all-abilities playground, event center, and water asset. Phase 1 focuses on utilities, trails, and water features; Phase 2 adds an ice ribbon; and Phase 3 targets the community center.
- Elkridge and Payson City will cross-market the park with Gladstone Golf Course, combining skiing and sledding with the park's ice ribbon.
- Secured from Representative Doug Welton, Salem City, Explore Utah Valley, Nebo Goats, and impact fee reserves.
- Addressing steep grades, Melanie noted a \$125,000 MAG grant for a feasibility study. The park will stage users for Forbay and Payson Canyon trails.

Questions & Discussion:

- Addressing steep grade concerns, Melanie explained that a \$125,000 MAG grant was secured for a trail feasibility study. The park will serve as a valley staging area for the Forbay and Payson Canyon trail networks.
- Melanie noted the city would accept reduced funding, prioritizing utilities and bike skills infrastructure. The committee suggested an initial \$250,000 for foundational parking and dirt trails.

(2:31:00) The committee entered a brief recess to wait for the final regional asset presentation team to return from lunch.

(2:40:27) Presentation: Glendale Regional Park (Phase 2)

John Ruedas, Senior Landscape Architect with Salt Lake City Public Lands, presented a \$1 million grant application for Phase 2 construction within the Glendale Regional Park framework.

- Located on the abandoned site of the old "Raging Waters" water park, this project marks Salt Lake City's first new regional park in roughly 60 years. Following severe vandalism and abandonment, a 2021 community engagement push finalized a master plan to turn the local eyesore into a public asset.
- **Sustainability Milestone:** The development is Utah's first "Sites Gold Certified" project (the landscape equivalent of LEED), featuring engineered wetlands and native flora.
- Phase 1 opened in December 2025 with an all-abilities playground, trails, and 12 pickleball courts. Phase 2 introduces an event lawn, a winter ice/summer wheel ribbon trail, splash pads, and a kayak launch linking to the Jordan River Trail.
- The park entrance gateway and Phase 2 splash park features will be constructed out of salvaged, re-engineered fiberglass slide sections from the original water park.
- The core of this grant request focuses on building Salt Lake City's first professional asphalt pump track and a massive concrete skate park. The skate park will be built directly inside the depressions left by the old swimming pools, utilizing the existing topography to create unique, tiered vertical concrete bowls.

(2:47:57) Questions & Discussion:

- Glendale is a diverse, underserved area lacking foothill access or sports fields. The city chose free admission over a pool to eliminate financial barriers. Because local vehicle ownership is low, the park's direct link to the Jordan River Trail provides a vital non-motorized route for youth.
- The track uses the "World App" timing ecosystem for a digital leaderboard to engage youth. Built alongside Wasatch Adaptive Sports, the design explicitly supports adaptive trikes. Following Salt Lake's X Games, both the X Games and UCI have expressed interest in using Phase 2 for competitions and World Qualifiers.
- **Funding & Advocacy:** Backed by \$1.7 million in city GO bond matching funds, John noted Phase 2 is not fully funded. A partial grant forces value-engineering cuts, while a full \$1 million award unlocks the entire skate and pump track build.

(2:52:32) With the formal presentations concluded, the committee reviewed the remaining capital matching pools. The board noted that they had previously advanced the top six projects on the ranking sheet at full value (totaling \$5.2 million), which represents roughly 25% of their total target capital.

- **Federal Infrastructure Funds:** The committee debated an impending \$11 million federal funding pool for 25 rural counties. Criteria are still being finalized, but UDOT must formally allocate the money within the calendar year.
- Salt Lake County voters face a major ZAP tax renewal this November, alongside a highly probable county parks and recreation investment bond release set for August.
- Due to a rising cost of living, tourism, hotel occupancy, and gas tax revenues are pacing downward. The committee agreed to audit budgets to fund pure recreational infrastructure while stripping non-essentials like landscaping and drainage.

(3:01:02) Tom Adams makes a motion for full funding for Mapleton City/South Valley Regional Bike Park. Erin O'Brein seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

(3:03:31) Ogden City (Lester Commons): Members approved reducing the \$1 million ask to \$500,000. This tier funds the high-impact hardscaping and the rubberized "Perky Pave" senior walking trails while cutting general irrigation and landscape budgets.

(3:05:20) Elkrigde City (Goose Nest): The committee set a \$250,000 funding mark to cover the primary parking footprints, dirt trails, and concrete foundations, cutting out the \$500,000 standalone natural water feature.

(3:07:48) Morgan City (Riverstone Park): The city's 3-acre urban fishery expansion request was evaluated. While members noted it is a small economic driver, they recognized that Morgan City has an extremely limited local tax base. The project draws heavy consultation and fish-stocking support from the Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR). The committee approved an investment allocation of \$717,000 to cover primary bank construction.

(3:08:47) Vineyard City (All-Wheels Skate Park): The committee approved funding the project at \$694,000. This tier provides the complete concrete park footprint but removes the standalone restroom facility from the phase 1 budget, requiring users to utilize the adjacent City Hall facilities.

(3:13:32) Tooele City (Boulevard Bike Park): The board approved an allocation of \$500,000 to cover the core American Ramp Company construction contract, stripping the auxiliary track lighting out of the state grant allocation.

(3:24:44) Des Barker made a formal block motion to advance Ogden City at \$500,000, Elkrigde at \$250,000, Morgan City at \$717,000, Vineyard City at \$694,000, and Tooele City at \$500,000 to the next round. The motion was seconded by Lance Syrett and passed unanimously.

(3:25:34) The committee addressed the remaining unallocated regional assets left on the table:

- **Timpanogos Canal Water Enhancement:** Deferred to next year. The project is not shovel-ready, capital match remains unsecured, and permits require extensive coordination with the Army Corps of Engineers for a fish bypass. Utah County has also already received two major advancements.
- **Silo Slopes Bike Park:** Managed by the privately backed Bastian Foundation, the applicant requested a flat \$1 million block grant. Dr. Rosenbluth clarified the request covers only the bike park, not the adjacent year-round ski hill.

(3:31:41) Lance Syrett moved to advance the application at a reduced rate of \$664,671, specifically targeting jump lines and bridge elements. Seconded by Tom Adams and passed unanimously.

- **Salina Motocross Park & Campground:** Denied advancement under the Regional Asset tier. The committee cited confusion over combining a motorized track with a commercial RV campground, raising concerns about liability, EMS access, and noise. Additionally, Salina lacks a signed land agreement; the property owner voiced casual support but refused to execute binding easements. The city was advised to separate the assets and resubmit under Tier One or fall cycles.

(3:40:17) The committee officially paused proceedings at 12:00 PM to break for lunch, scheduling a return window to align with the 12:30 PM public comment period.

(3:57:54) The committee returned from recess and unmuted their recording channels at 12:28 PM. Staff noted an administrative update regarding unallocated trail maintenance funds, reporting an available balance of \$226,000.

(3:58:54) Des Barker made a motion to absorb the extra \$226,000 directly into the active Regional Asset fund pool to maximize matching flexibility. The motion was seconded by Mike McCandless and approved unanimously.

(3:59:34) Staff confirmed that following the morning's partial funding decisions and the inclusion of the trail balance, the board possesses roughly \$1.4 million in unallocated capital to play with. The chair requested that members review the Tier One and Restoration lists to pull forward high-value projects before concluding the session.

(4:01:09) The board analyzed several lower-tier projects that slipped through previous voting rounds:

- **State Parks Life Jacket Loaner Revitalization:** Modernizes safety kiosks across Utah. Stand-up paddleboarding and kayaking have caused a spike in drownings from users misjudging weather and treating boards as flotation devices. Private

groups donated life jackets, but the division lacks storage. New stations will replace wordy regulatory signs with high-impact safety messaging ahead of a water safety campaign launching in two weeks.

- **Midway Ice Rink Upgrade:** Midway requested \$250,000 to overhaul its rink infrastructure, which drew 81,000 guests last winter. Operating seven days a week, it relies on aging cooling equipment donated after the 2002 Olympics that has reached the end of its operational life. The project is shovel-ready with a secured local match.
- **Antelope Island Fielding Garr Ranch Boardwalk:** A \$23,000 request to replace deteriorating boardwalks and viewing platforms. A new legislative-funded visitor center theater on the island is projected to spike school field trips and tourism traffic. The replacement will secure ADA accessibility through marshy sections.
- **Scott M. Matheson Preserve Trail:** Seeks funding to harden a 10-foot-wide pathway near research parks and new university housing. Cameron dissented, citing limited data proving an urgent winter need. Other members countered that the project accelerates a necessary multi-year push to harden urban trail infrastructure facing high growth.

(4:18:44) Des Barker made a motion to fully fund the five active RRI and Tier One projects (Matheson Preserve, Statewide Life Jacket Kiosks, Midway Ice Rink, Antelope Island Boardwalk, and Canyon View Pond Restoration) for a total of \$595,000. The motion was seconded by Russell Steadman . The subsequent voice vote yielded a majority of "Ayes," but recorded a clear "Nay" from Cameron Diehl online. Scott Strong abstained.

(4:22:20) The chair officially opened the floor for the scheduled public comment block at 12:31 PM.

(4:23:25) Legal Clarification: Legal counsel Nicole intervened, noting that because the voice vote was not unanimous, the committee should immediately execute a formalized roll-call vote to eliminate any future liability or ratification issues.

- **Formal Roll-Call Execution:** The chair rescinded the voice vote and initiated a formal roll call for the \$595,000 allocation:
 - **Result:** The motion carried with a 4-1 majority (with one abstention), moving the five items into the final approved funding package.

(4:25:49) Tom Adams makes a motion to approve remaining projects from a tentative list to a final approved project list. Russell Steadman seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

(4:26:34) With the final project lists compiled, the board evaluated how to handle the remaining cash surplus of approximately \$1 million.

- **The Strategy:** The committee debated formally tying the remaining \$1 million to the Utah Trails Network/UDOT active transportation matching fund discussed in the morning session.
- **Legal Guidance:** Nicole issued a legal warning stating that under state finance laws, the board cannot pass a binding motion to allocate funds to an uncontracted general pool. To remain compliant, held-back funds must exist as an unspent surplus that rolls over into the next cycle.
- **The Solution:** The committee resolved to treat the \$1 million as an informal, non-binding "earmark." This records their strategic intent for legislative auditors, proving the balance is an intentional reserve for upcoming federal transit allocations rather than unassigned fluff. If matching negotiations fail, the funds will dissolve back into the general grant pool.

(4:33:11) Des Barker makes an initial motion that it is the explicit intent of the recreation infrastructure advisory committee to hold back approximately \$1 million in remaining funds from the current cycle, leaving it unallocated to remain agile and open to high-value matching partnerships with the Active Trails Network and UDOT transportation frameworks over the next six months." The motion was seconded by Lance Syrett. At Nicole's request, a roll-call vote was conducted to formalize the policy record. The motion passed unanimously, closing out the financial allocations for the fiscal year.

(4:37:59) The committee wrapped up internal business by exchanging expressions of gratitude across the table. Members thanked the administrative staff for processing hundreds of hours of raw scoring metrics, with Russel reflecting that despite the heavy workload, it remains a privilege to "play Santa Claus" for the state's outdoor infrastructure.

- **Staff Recognition:** Special recognition was extended to Naomi, who joined the division shortly before the prior cycle and successfully managed one-on-one coordination and compliance checks for all active applicants.
- Staff announced that once their incoming compliance officer is fully integrated into the department, the board will receive regular fieldwork updates, complete with on-the-ground photos and construction milestones, to track the life cycles of awarded funds.

(4:43:55) Des Barker made a final motion to adjourn the 2026 funding cycle meeting was put forward, seconded, and passed unanimously at 12:45 PM.

