

COLORADO CREDIT UNIONS

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Q3 2022 Committee Notes

July 27th from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Held at The Curtis Hotel, Denver CO

Attendees:

Chad Graves	Ent CU	Charlie Watts	Aurora FCU
Tracie Wilcox	On Tap CU	Mike Williams	Colorado CU
Darin Atteberry	Elevations CU	Arick Williams	Columbine FCU
Meagan Barrett	Northern Colorado CU	Troy Stang	GoWest
Philecyia Moore	Harrison FCU	Jennifer Wagner	GoWest
Steve Bouras	The District CU	Joe Adamack	GoWest
Dave Brown	Weld Community CU	Jordan Beyer	GoWest
Jay Champion	Westerra CU	Dan Diorio	GoWest
Justin Dickson	Fidelis Catholic CU	Ryan Fitzgerald	GoWest
Bob Fryberger	Fitzsimons CU	Patti Hazlett	GoWest
Matt Gendron	Ent CU	Lynn Heider	GoWest
Ben Metzger	Canvas CU	Chris Kemm	GoWest
Janice Mehle	SunWest CU	Pam Leavitt	GoWest
Karen Troester	Grand Junction FCU	John Trull	GoWest

Welcome, introductions and kick off

- Committee co-chair Chad Graves opened the first meeting of the Colorado Governmental Affairs Committee provided an overview of expectations for the day.
- Committee members all provided brief introductions.
- Troy Stang provided additional background and perspective on what lies ahead for Colorado credit unions and a robust advocacy process and gratitude for Colorado credit union leaders making it a priority to engage advocacy efforts

Committee charge and expectations

- Jennifer Wagner of GoWest reviewed the advocacy resources, structure, and team that resulted from the merger.
- Discussion of committee expectations moving forward through the advocacy lifecycle.

Colorado State Advocacy Discussion

- Dan Diorio provided an update on the results of the primary election and reviewed some of the most competitive races.
- Committee members discussed some of the shifts in the state legislative priorities including new paid family leave and salary disclosure requirements as well as climate legislation.
- Dan provided an overview of the upcoming development of state-specific policy positions and invited committee members to share any priorities or topics that they wanted to include in the first draft.

- GoWest advocacy team members highlighted the importance of the upcoming sunset review process kicking off formally in 2023 and the role it will play in charter modernization efforts and alongside other legislative priorities. Primary recap
- Committee members shared feedback on policy requirements and issues that were creating operational impacts including:
 - Lack of access to public deposits, challenges with the state's auto titling program both interstate and inter-county, various employer-focused laws including the salary disclosure requirement, GAP policy refund issues stemming from the AG's office, and the ability to purchase bank assets.
- Committee members discussed other issues including retaining staff especially at smaller credit unions, ensuring new hires fully understand the credit union mission, and continued efforts to provide services to underbanked communities that are transient and have a high number of languages spoken and some regulatory barriers exists to providing certain services to underserved communities.
 - Committee members also flagged potentially deceptive trade practices regarding interest rate rebates, how credit unions can support affordable housing initiatives, and other items of interest.
 - Troy Stang and committee members had a broader discussion on how to be effective in advancing legislative priorities and in participating in elections, as well as the need to continue discussing these and other issues in order to advance them as one united voice.

Federal Issues Discussion

- Ryan Fitzgerald provided an outlook on what federal advocacy efforts and engagement will look like in the new GoWest Association including coordination and partnership with GoWest credit unions and with other leagues.
- Ryan provided an update on the board modernization act, NDAA negotiations, and digital asset legislation.
- Committee members provided feedback on what they were hearing from members and what they were seeing in transactions related to digital currencies and other like products.
- Discussion of upcoming opportunity to join a Fall Hike the Hill and how those will be available and focused moving forward.
- Mike Williams provided an overview of the Spring Hike the Hill.

Regulatory Advocacy Update

- John Trull reviewed the GoWest Regulatory Promise and sought input from committee members on priorities for building a regulatory improvement agenda.
- Committee members discussed the importance of defining the future of exams in a post-pandemic environment.

Grassroots Advocacy

- Jordan Beyer and Chris Kemm provided an overview of recent state and federal PAC expenditures as well as CULAC fundraising efforts.
- Jordan and Chris discussed some key upcoming races in the general election as well as future steps on the grassroots evolution and creation of key contacts in the coming months.

Committee adjourned

- Committee co-chair Chad Graves asked for any final comments, thanked participants for a great first meeting, and adjourned.