

BOCC Agenda Request Checklist

Garfield County – **External**

NAME OF PERSON PREPARING THIS: Tod C. Tibbetts

ORGANIZATION: West Elk Trails

FOR AGENDA (Date): May 4, 2026 _____

BOCC Agenda Item(s) Checklist:

DONE		DESCRIPTION
x	1.	Agenda request form submitted by Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. prior to Monday meeting.
x	2.	Email your agenda request form to vmercerc@garfieldcountycogov and cballard@garfieldcountycogov
x	3.	Seven (7) paper copies of your item delivered to 108 8 th Street, Suite 101, Glenwood Springs, CO no later than Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. prior to Monday meeting.
x	4.	Staple and 3-hole punch your seven (7) copies.
	5.	Will your item require a signature by the BOCC? No
	6.	If your item requires a signature, please include an extra copy on top of the seven (7) paper copies with a note stating needs signature.
N/A	7.	Will you have a Power Point presentation? No
N/A	8.	If you have a Power Point presentation, please email it to vmercerc@garfieldcountycogov and cballard@garfieldcountycogov
N/A	9.	If you have a Power Point presentation, please bring it on a flash/thumb drive with you to the meeting. **DO NOT BRING YOUR OWN COMPUTER TO PRESENT.
	10.	Do you have any needs not listed above? If so, please explain.
	11.	Please email this completed form with your agenda request to vmercerc@garfieldcountycogov and cballard@garfieldcountycogov
	12.	Questions – please call Vola Mercer at 970-945-5004 x1040 or Carrie Ballard at 970-945-5004 x1028

Rev. 01.12.2026



Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request Form for Discretionary Grant Requests

This form must be completed and attached to all supporting documentation for items to be included in the Garfield County Board of Commissioners Agenda. One (1) form is required per agenda item.

Note: The BOCC occasionally receives requests for funding through its discretionary fund. Entities that are eligible for funds are either non-profit organizations with current 501(c)3 status or are public entities including special districts. All such requests must be for bonafide public purposes, must be for **\$5,000 or less**, and usually require matching funds after the grant is awarded.

Requesting Entity (public or non-profit): West Elk Trails, Inc. 439 Orchard Ave., Silt, CO 81652 – 501(c)3

Submitted By: Tod C. Tibbetts

Phone Number: 970-366-6857 E-mail: todt@siltnet.net

Date of Board of County Commissioners Meeting to consider this item: May 4, 2026
(Must be submitted by **Wednesday, 11:00 a.m.** prior to Monday meeting)

Topic: **Discretionary Grant Request, to support the West Elk Trails recreation program.**

The West Elk Trails, Inc. (WETI), is a local not-for-profit, whose mission is to mark, maintain, and promote trails for cross-country skiing and snowshoe recreation, in the West Elks area of the White River National Forest. Trails are accessed from the Buford Road winter parking lot. User days have grown from a few hundred (2002) to consistently over 1,600 in the past five years. The West Elk trails are free for users and are dog friendly. The trails have also been used by local schools, Mountain Valley Developmental Services, and outdoor recreation clubs. One user stated, "I had no idea there was this amazing and free opportunity on the Flat Tops, to go skiing and snowshoeing with my dog!" (DF, 2025).

The WETI board serves on a voluntary basis and spend many hours contributing to the program, as well as maintaining a Special Use Permit with the U.S. Forest Service.

Financial support comes from voluntary user donations, GarCo BOCC (2025), Towns of New Castle and Silt, the Rifle Community Foundation, Alpine Bank, Holy Cross, Walmart and other Companies, and our board members.

The BOCC has generously supported the West Elk Trails in the past, and we are seeking support again, for our 2026-27 winter season.

Name(s) of presenters: Nicole Christianson and Tod Tibbetts

Board Action Requested: Approve grant request for \$ 3,500.00

Funding Requested: \$ 3,500.00

Specifically explain what the funding will be used for: \$3500 for grooming program for 26-27 season.

Fund Balance (Current Year): \$ 5,564.00
(Please provide summary of current year P&L Statement)

PLEASE PROVIDE: Seven (7) paper copies and one (1) E-mail copy of all documentation to support the agenda request to **Vola Mercer**, email: vmercerc@garfieldcountyco.gov or mail to 108 8th Street, #101, Glenwood Springs, CO 81601, no later than Wednesday, 11 a.m. prior to the Monday meeting. Failure to provide backup material timely and as requested may result in removal or continuance of your agenda item at the County's discretion.

West Elk Trails, Inc.
Profit & Loss
September 2025 through August 2026

Sep '25 - Aug 26

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income

Individual Contributions	9,217.30
Fund Raising Dinner	5,405.65
Corporate Support	7,595.00
Governmental Support	1,500.00
Interest, Short-term	4.47

Total Income **\$23,722.42**

Expense

Administrative Expenses

Office Expenses	1,084.18
Fund Raising Expenses	2,720.77

Total Admin Expenses **\$3,804.95**

Trail Grooming Program Expenses

Grooming Equipment Maintenance	6,534.88
Groomer Wages ** Normally \$ 10,000/season	4,950.00
Insurance/Workers Comp	2,271.09

\$13,755.97

Total Expense **\$17,560.92**

Net Income **\$6,161.50**

West Elk Trails Budget Summary for Season 2026/2027
Fiscal Year 9/1/2026 through 8/31/2027

SUMMARY

ANTICIPATED INCOME

	Trail User Contributions	\$9,000.00
	Fund Raising Dinner	\$3,500.00
	Regional Government Contributions	\$6,500.00
	Corporate Contributions	\$8,175.00
	Total anticipated funds for 2026/27 season	\$27,175.00
	Reserve Funds carried forward from 2025-26 Season	\$5,564.00
	Total Anticipated Income	\$32,739.00

BUDGETED EXPENSES 2026/27 Season

Admin (Required Liability Insurance & Office Supplies)	\$5,200.00
Trail Maintenance Program	\$23,000.00
Total Expense	\$28,200.00

2026/27 Season Budget Details

Budgeted Revenue

		% of Revenue
User Contributions	\$9,000.00	32%
Fund Raising Dinner	\$3,500.00	12%
Governmental & Corporate Support		
	Rifle Community Foundation	\$1,000.00 4%
	Town of New Castle	\$1,500.00 5%
	Town of Silt	\$500.00 2%
	Garfield County	\$3,500.00 12%
	Corporate Donations	\$8,175.00 29%
Total Estimated Income	\$27,175.00	

Budgeted Expenses

Administrative Expenses

Trail Maps/Publicity/Office Supplies	\$775.00
Salary	\$3,500.00
Liability Insurance	\$925.00
Total Administrative	\$5,200.00

Trail Maintenance Program

Trail Marking Supplies (new signage)	\$1,000.00
Groomer Salaries and Insurance	\$12,000.00
Trail Grooming (Grooming and Equipment Maintenance Expenses)	\$10,000.00
Total Trail Maintenance	\$23,000.00

Total Trails Program Expenses	\$28,200.00
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Since 2002, **West Elk Trails Inc** has marked, maintained, and promoted trails in Colorado's White River National Forest, north of Rifle, Silt, and New Castle, for cross country skiing, snowshoes, mountain biking, horseback riding, and hiking.

West Elk Trails Inc has a Special Use Permit with the White River National Forest Rifle Ranger District to install trail marker signs and groom cross country ski trails during the winter months along a 3-loop trail system, approximately 10 miles in length, starting on Forest Road 819, on the Buford Road, which is located in the Flat Tops Mountains, west of Glenwood Springs, CO.



West Elk Trails Inc
is a volunteer organization,
that manages and maintains trails for
cross country skiing and snowshoes
during the Winter months.

The West Elk Trails
are a no-fee area.
Voluntary donations
are encouraged to help cover
the costs of grooming operations.

We welcome new members!

PO Box 129
Silt, CO 81652

Visit our blog at:
<https://wemuc.wordpress.com>



West Elk
Trails Inc

Brought to you by
West Elk Trails Inc
in partnership with the
White River National Forest
Rifle Ranger District



HOW TO GET THERE

From Silt: North on 7th Street which turns into Peach Valley Road(214) to Silt Mesa Road(233). Turn L on 233 to Gott Road(261). Turn R on 261 to Bendetti Road(250). Turn L on 250 to Harvey Gap Road(237). Turn R on 237 to Grass Valley Road(226). Turn R on 226 to Cutoff Road (247). Turn L on 247 to New Castle/Buford Road(245). Turn L on 245 to the Trailhead Parking Lot.
Total Distance: 17 miles

From New Castle: North on 7th Street which turns into Buford Road(245), past East Elk Road & Main Elk Road. Turn R past the sign for West Elk at junction of Buford Road (245) and Grass Valley Road(226). Stay on 245 to the Trail Head Parking Lot. Total Distance: 16 miles

From Rifle: North on CO Hwy 13 to CO Hwy 325. Turn R on 325 past Rifle Gap to Grass Valley Road(226). Turn R on 226 to Cutoff Road(247). Turn L on Cutoff Road to New Castle/Buford Road(245). Turn L on 245 to the Trailhead Parking Lot. Total Distance: 22 miles

WEST ELK TRAILS

JAMES LOOP

3.5 MI/5.7KM

!No Track Set!
Snowshoes or
Backcountry Skis
Recommended

KAY'S LOOP

1.4 MI/2.2KM



Caution
Steep Hill

Caution
Steep Hill

ERIC'S LOOP

2.2 MI/3.5KM

Caution
Steep Hill



Highway 819



East Cutoff
0.2M/0.3K

Zeus' Cutoff
0.2M/0.4K

0.6M/1.0K

Background is not a depiction of actual terrain

Cross-Country Skis or Snowshoes only

