



GREATER RIFLE IMPROVEMENT TEAM (GRIT) ADVISORY BOARD WORKSHOP AND REGULAR MEETING AGENDA



June 9, 2026
12:00 PM
202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO 81650

The Board may act on any of the following agenda items as presented or modified before the meeting, and items necessary or convenient to effectuate the agenda items.

12:00 PM - Regular Meeting

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Visitor Introductions**
4. **Consent Agenda**
 - 4.a. GRIT Minutes May 12, 2026
5. **Presentation**
 - 5.a. Presentations from GRIT Grant Applicants
6. **Regular Agenda**
 - 6.a. Discussion and possible action regarding Railroad Ave light pole banners
 - 6.b. Discussion regarding Barks, Brews, and BBQ
7. **Administrative Reports**
8. **Adjournment**

The order and times of agenda items listed above are approximate and intended as a guideline for the Board

The GRIT Advisory Board has two grant cycles. The grant cycle and deadlines to submit an application are:

January Cycle – Application Deadline: December 31st = Funding: February

June Cycle – Application Deadline: May 31st = Funding: July

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

The City of Rifle values full inclusion and access for all of our facilities, programs, activities and services. We are pleased to provide meaningful accommodations to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and reasonably provide translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, auxiliary aids, and services. To request special assistance, call Community Development at 970-665-6490 or email our ADA Team at ADAteam@rifleco.org. Please allow 48 hours for your requests to be met.

La Ciudad de Rifle valora la plena inclusión y acceso para todas nuestras instalaciones, programas, actividades y servicios. Nos complace proporcionar alojamientos significativos para cumplir con la Ley de Estados Unidos con Discapacidades (ADA) y proporcionar razonablemente traducciones, interpretaciones, modificaciones, adaptaciones, formatos alternativos, ayudas auxiliares y servicios. Para solicitar asistencia especial, llame a Community Development al 970-665-6490 o envíe un correo electrónico a el equipo ADA a ADAteam@rifleco.org. Por favor, permita 48 horas para que se atiendan sus solicitudes.



Agenda Item #4.a.

Agenda Item Name:

GRIT Minutes May 12, 2026

Presenter:

Zach Higgins, Community Development Director

Item Description:

Action Minutes from the May 12, 2026 regular GRIT Advisory Board Meeting.

Recommended Action:

Move to approve the May 12, 2026 GRIT Meeting Minutes as presented.

Fiscal Impact:

N/A

Operational Impact:

Meeting Minutes are required to be recorded per State of Colorado Open Meetings law.

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Background Information:

N/A

Executive Summary:

N/A

Notification Requirements:

N/A

Prepared By:

Zach Higgins, Community Development Director

Attachments:

1. City_of_Rifle_GRIT_Action_Minutes_2026-05-12



RIFLE GRIT ADVISORY BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

ACTION MINUTES

May 12, 2026

12:00 p.m.

Rifle City Hall, 202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle, CO

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

A regular meeting of the Rifle GRIT Advisory Board was called to order at approximately 12:03 p.m. at Rifle City Hall.

Present at Roll Call: Chair Slappey, Vice Chair Young, Board Members Mackley, Rogers, Allen, Pruett, and City Council Representative Roberts.

Absent: Board Member Frontella.

Others Present: No visitors were reported. City Staff were present and participated in the meeting discussion.

A quorum was present.

CONSENT AGENDA

No minutes were available for approval because the prior gathering was not a formal meeting. No consent agenda action was taken.

REGULAR AGENDA

Strategic Planning Recap

The Board reviewed strategic planning materials and the draft work plan developed from the prior facilitated session. Discussion focused on confirming whether the proposed priorities still reflected the Board's desired direction and whether the Board should focus on projects rather than additional recurring events.

- Connect Downtown remained a relevant priority, including trail connections, downtown activation, alley or streetscape enhancements, crosswalks, safe routes to school, and wayfinding.
- Members emphasized building on existing community assets and organizations, including the farmers market, youth theater, the heritage museum, Third Thursday, and other current events, rather than overextending the volunteer base.
- Members discussed retail vacancies and pop-up opportunities, including the potential role of the coworking space and possible future commercial kitchen or pop-up retail uses.
- Staff noted the Board functions as the business-community advisory voice for use of lodging tax resources and related staff time.
- Staff requested that Board members provide economic development, downtown vibrancy, and project-related feedback on the comprehensive plan materials within the next several weeks.

General Board Direction: Staff will schedule an extended GRIT meeting, likely in July, to continue strategic planning after community survey information and comprehensive plan work advance. The preferred format was to extend a regular meeting rather than schedule a separate evening workshop.

Lodging Tax and GRIT Visibility

The Board discussed potential lodging tax ballot timing, public messaging, and the importance of clear communication that the tax applies to lodging rather than residential property. Discussion included possible consultant support, timing constraints, grant-recipient visibility, and GRIT-branded materials.

- Members supported clearer public-facing messaging such as "Powered by GRIT, Funded by Lodging Tax" and the use of banners or signs at funded projects and events.
- Staff reported that GRIT swag and "Powered by GRIT, funded by Lodging Tax" banners had been obtained for use at events and by grant recipients.
- No formal Board action was recorded on a lodging tax ballot measure.

Community/Event Sign

The Board discussed a community event sign or electronic message board, including possible locations, visibility, traffic safety, sign brightness, sign speed, two-sided visibility, and consistency with sign regulations.

- Members discussed potential locations including the area near the elk, the park-and-ride area, City Hall, and other visible corridors.
- Members preferred a sign that is readable, not overly bright, not distracting, and not overloaded with too much information.
- Members discussed whether a monument-style sign, two-sided sign, digital sign, or simpler changeable-letter sign would be appropriate.

General Direction: Staff may proceed with developing an RFP or similar process for sign design, including evaluation of potential locations, design alternatives, visibility, and cost considerations.

GRIT Facade Grant Program

The Board reviewed proposed revisions to the GRIT Facade Grant Program. Staff summarized prior discussion and explained that the revisions would allow certain permanent landscaping or exterior features visible from the right-of-way, such as permanent planters, retaining walls, and similar improvements, while not funding plants themselves.

- The Board discussed the prior barrier created by requiring architectural renderings and the difficulty applicants had obtaining multiple bids for smaller projects.
- The Board discussed whether the grant amount is sufficient to encourage projects and whether the program should support more smaller projects rather than fewer larger awards.
- The Board discussed a second-bid threshold and agreed that \$5,000 was an appropriate threshold.

Motion	Approve the proposed changes to the GRIT Facade Grant Program with the inclusion of a \$5,000 threshold for requiring a second bid.
Mover	Not identified in transcript
Second	Not identified in transcript
Vote	6-0 in favor
Result	Passed

Rifle Creek / Centennial Park Improvement Discussion

Staff presented the Rifle Creek restoration concept for Centennial Park and asked for feedback on downtown connections, especially near Fifth, Fourth, and Third Streets. Staff described the opportunity to create stronger physical and economic connections between the creek, Centennial Park, and downtown businesses.

- Members discussed the potential for creek access, seating, rocks, water interaction, and a more active connection between downtown, the park, and the creek.

- Members discussed a possible riverwalk-style concept, outdoor dining, retail or restaurant connections, and pop-up or seasonal vendor spaces.
- Members cautioned that nearby residential areas, floodplain conditions, parking, public access, and neighborhood impacts should be considered.
- Members identified wayfinding, signage, sidewalks, lighting, and pedestrian safety as important elements of downtown-to-park connectivity.

General Direction: Staff will communicate general Board support for stronger connections between downtown and Centennial Park/Rifle Creek, with attention to wayfinding, sidewalk conditions, lighting, safety, and potential future activation near the creek.

REPORTS AND UPDATES

Barbecue Event

Staff reported on planning for the barbecue event scheduled for Saturday, May 16, 2026.

- Volunteer help was requested for setup, teardown, the foam cannon, and the GRIT information tent.
- Staff reported 12 barbecue teams and approximately six breweries, with additional teams added after a Palisade event was postponed.
- Staff discussed state festival permitting, food and drink options, safety considerations, barricade setup, and a backup plan if needed.
- The cornhole tournament had limited sign-ups; staff may cancel the tournament portion and leave boards available for casual play.
- Admission was reduced from the prior year, with discussion that proceeds would support Journey Home and that food options would be broader than barbecue alone.

Downtown Shade / Mister Improvements

A member reported on possible shade structures for a public downtown area, including discussion of metal structures versus fabric shade structures and the potential addition of a mister. Staff noted that the city was still working through tax-exempt purchasing steps for selected mister equipment.

ACTION ITEMS

Item	Responsible Party	Status / Notes
Schedule extended strategic planning discussion, likely in July.	Staff	Use an extended regular meeting format if feasible.
Collect Board feedback on comprehensive plan materials related to economic development, downtown vibrancy, and projects.	Board members / Staff	Feedback requested within the next several weeks.
Develop RFP or design process for a community/event sign.	Staff	Include location, visibility, brightness, traffic safety, two-sided/digital options, and cost considerations.
Implement GRIT Facade Grant Program revisions.	Staff	Include \$5,000 second-bid threshold and eligible permanent exterior/landscape features visible from the right-of-way.
Share Rifle Creek/Centennial Park feedback with project partners.	Staff	Emphasize downtown connectivity, wayfinding, sidewalks, lighting, safety, and potential activation.
Coordinate GRIT banners/signage and grant-recipient recognition.	Staff	Use "Powered by GRIT, Funded by Lodging Tax" materials where appropriate.
Coordinate volunteer coverage for the barbecue event.	Staff / Board members	Setup, teardown, foam cannon, GRIT tent, and related event roles.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:25 p.m.

PREPARED BY / APPROVAL

Prepared from the raw transcript for review by City staff and the GRIT Advisory Board.

Approved by the GRIT Advisory Board on: _____

Chair Signature: _____

Staff Signature: _____



Agenda Item #5.a.

Agenda Item Name:

Presentations from GRIT Grant Applicants

Presenter:

Zach Higgins, Community Development Director

Item Description:

Spring GRIT Grant Applications have been received. Applicants have been asked to attend the meeting, present to the Board, and answer any questions that GRIT may have about the requests.

Recommended Action:

No action required at this time.

Fiscal Impact:

Grantees have requested funds that have been allocated out of the VIF for 2026.

Operational Impact:

N/A

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Background Information:

Executive Summary:

The GRIT Board has received three (3) total grant requests for a combined total of \$17,200. These requests come from NUTS, Symphony in the Valley, and Young Guns. More information can be found in the packet.

Notification Requirements:

N/A

Prepared By:

Zach Higgins, Community Development Director

Attachments:

1. GRIT Grant Application_NUTS
2. GRIT Grant Instructions and Application 2026_TouchaTruck
3. grant application - Symphony in the Valley 2026



GRIT logo with text: Greater Rifle Improvement Team. Tagline: Better, together.

NUTS

GRIT Grant Application and Process

The Greater Rifle Improvement Team Advisory Board has two grant cycles a year. The grant cycles are February and July. The application deadline for each cycle is listed below.

GRIT grant cycles and deadlines

Grant cycle	Application deadline	Presentation to board	Vote by advisory board
February	December 31st	2nd Tuesday in January	2nd Tuesday in February
July	May 30th	2nd Tuesday in June	2nd Tuesday in July

Grant Application

1. Complete the grant application and submit it to Kim Burner at kburner@rifleco.org or 202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle Colorado 81650. For questions regarding the grant application, please contact Kim Burner at [970-665-6496](tel:970-665-6496).
2. GRIT event grants are for non-profit or not-for-profit organizations. For-profit organizations/businesses are encouraged to partner with a non- or not-for-profit organization.
3. If the GRIT Board has questions regarding your grant application, they may request additional information or ask you to attend an additional meeting.
4. At its discretion the GRIT Board may fund all or part of the grant request.
 - a. The GRIT Board reserves the right to outline what expenses may be covered by grant funds.
5. The applicant will be notified by email at the address supplied of the outcome of the grant application.
6. GRIT grant funds cannot be used for operating expenses of the applicant organization or any associated organization including but not limited to payroll/staff expenses, utilities, supplies (event supplies exempted), etc.
 - a. For questions regarding covered expenses please contact Kim Burner.
7. After the GRIT Board decides on grant applications, the GRIT manager will take the board recommendations before the Rifle City Council for final approval or denial before funds are distributed.

Project/Event Evaluation

Once the project/event funded by the grant is complete, a Project Evaluation Form is required within 90 days.

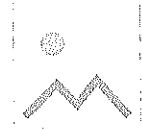
The GRIT Board may require additional items with the evaluation form. These items will be listed in the notification email sent at the time of application or may be requested after review of the evaluation form.

Failure to complete the evaluation may result in the organization being ineligible for future funding.

Evaluations may be submitted to kburner@rifleco.org or 202 Railroad Ave., Rifle, CO 81650 no later

than 60 days after the completion of the project/event.

Note about transcribed forms: this format exists to remove accessibility barriers, but some recipients prefer the original printed format. If you'd like help moving your entries into the original form, please use the live assistance options in the sidebar or contact the author.



GRIT logo with the words 'Greater Rifle Improvement Team' arched above 'GRIT' and the tagline 'Better. Together.'

GRIT Grant Application for Funding

Applicant Information

Date:

5.27.26

Organization Name:

New Ute Theatre Society

Address:

P.O.Box 84

Contact Person:

Helen Rogers

Phone Number:

970-274-6147

Email Address:

hrinteriordesign@msn.com

Federal Tax ID:

27-1061203

State Tax ID:

98008018

Organization Information

Organization's Current Board of Directors or Trustees

Name	Phone #	Email Address
Helen Rogers	970-274-6147	hrinteriordesign@msn.com
Tanya Giard	970-309-2113	tgiard@giardhomes.con
Elissa Nye	970-309-0803	elissamnye@gmail.com
Kelly Thompson	970-456-5278	conductor@sitv.com
Aundrea Ware	970-471-4509	aundreaaware@yahoo.com

Name	Phone #	Email Address
Kaitlyn Giard	970-404-7811	kgiard@giardhomes.com

Brief summary of Organization’s History

Brief summary of Organization’s History

The New Ute Theatre Society (NUTS) formed in 2009 in order to return the UTE Theater to what it is today. A thrift store wanted to buy it at the time and a group of community activists felt the theater needed to be saved. The mission of NUTS is to provide a community owned non-profit organization to promote, market, and financially support the city owned theater. Our goals for the theater have been to revitalize it into a performing arts venue , in which live theater, dance, film, comedy and a wide variety of musical genres can perform from across the country. We also support other non-profits to be able to rent the theater. We feel the UTE enhances the downtown and has an economic impact to businesses in the City of Rifle.

Grant Request

Amount Requested:

How many people will benefit from the funding?

In what way will they benefit?

The adult theater group wants to return to the UTE after a successful comedy performance last November. They prefer to do comedies and with today's political and economic climate, comedies bring joy and levity to people's lives. Also, people can't afford to travel to Denver to experience live theater.

Has your organization applied for a grant in the past?
 Yes No

If Yes, what year?

How much was the grant for?

Brief description of request.

There was a concensus from the GRIT Board to try and continue the Third Thursday Events in the downtown. Two Bands were selected, A Band Called Alexis (January) and Hwy 82 (March), both 'country' bands. Unfortunately, they were not well attended but the UTE Staff would like to create a 'western swing' and 'line-dance' opportunity in the future.

Description of current programs, activities and accomplishments:

Currently, this year we have provided rental fees to other area non-profits such as RAMBO, Rifle Heritage Center, and Western Colorado Watershed Partnership. We also support the Symphony in the Valley to perform at the UTE. In May, we have Thursday Night Patio Series to help promote local bands. Every July we hold a Children's Theater Camp and keep the fees low so local kids can experience live theater. Other entities supported are High School Proms, 5Point Film Festival, Rifle Elks Club Veterans Lunch and Hoot at the UTE for Journey Home Animal Shelter (2023-25).

If funds are granted, what is your plan to create a self-sustainable program/event?

The Theater Group is asking for support in order to bring adult live theater to the Rifle Community. Previously, they were called Aspen Community Theater, performing at the Wheeler Opera House with financial help from Aspen. They would like to become their own non-profit in the future, possibly in 2027, but need help getting started and want to become the 'UTE Players'.

Timetable for implementation:

The Comedy they want to put on is called 'Lend Me a Tenor'. Dates for the performances are over two weekends, November 6,7, and 8, and November 13, 14, and15, to include Sunday matinee's. The comedy is a fast-paced farce through unexpected twists, turns and surprises. The characters are eclectic and powerful in their comic qualities.

The funding for the Greater Rifle Improvement Team is generated through the Lodging Tax. The proceeds of the lodging tax shall be used primarily for the following:

Please check the area(s) your request falls under:

Request area categories

- Visitor Improvement and Attractions
- Historic Preservation
- Special Events
- City Beautification
- City Promotion

Program/Project Budget

Revenues or other funding sources

Individually list all sources of funds (including sponsors) and the level of funding provided:

- Revenue or funding source 1
- Revenue or funding source 2
- Revenue or funding source 3
- Revenue or funding source 4
- Revenue or funding source 5
- Revenue or funding source 6

Total funds available to the program:

Expenses:

Amount:

Expense 1

Amount 1

Expense 2

Amount 2

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

CERTIFICATE OF FACT OF GOOD STANDING

I, Jena Griswold, as the Secretary of State of the State of Colorado, hereby certify that, according to the records of this office,

NEW UTE THEATRE SOCIETY, INC.

is a

Nonprofit Corporation

formed or registered on 10/06/2009 under the law of Colorado, has complied with all applicable requirements of this office, and is in good standing with this office. This entity has been assigned entity identification number 20091528314 .

This certificate reflects facts established or disclosed by documents delivered to this office on paper through 05/26/2026 that have been posted, and by documents delivered to this office electronically through 05/27/2026 @ 16:14:21 .

I have affixed hereto the Great Seal of the State of Colorado and duly generated, executed, and issued this official certificate at Denver, Colorado on 05/27/2026 @ 16:14:21 in accordance with applicable law. This certificate is assigned Confirmation Number 18610131 .



Jena Griswold

Secretary of State of the State of Colorado

*****End of Certificate*****
Notice: A certificate issued electronically from the Colorado Secretary of State's website is fully and immediately valid and effective. However, as an option, the issuance and validity of a certificate obtained electronically may be established by visiting the Validate a Certificate page of the Secretary of State's website, <https://www.coloradosos.gov/biz/CertificateSearchCriteria.do> entering the certificate's confirmation number displayed on the certificate, and following the instructions displayed. Confirming the issuance of a certificate is merely optional and is not necessary to the valid and effective issuance of a certificate. For more information, visit our website, <https://www.coloradosos.gov> click "Businesses, trademarks, trade names" and select "Frequently Asked Questions."

NUTS Project Worksheet

Adult Community Theater at the UTE Theater/November, 2026

Expenses

UTE Rental		\$	4,200.00
Full Load In Day: \$600, Four Rehearsal Days: \$1,200			
Six Performance Days: \$2,400			
Licensing and Material - scripts, sound cues	paid	\$	1,650.00
Costumes - 1934 time period	est	\$	1,500.00
Props	est	\$	500.00
Set Materials	est	\$	3,000.00
Furniture - Rental and Purchase	est	\$	700.00
Make-up	est	\$	200.00
Rehearsal Space	est	\$	900.00

Total Expenses		\$	14,150.00
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Revenues

GRIT Grant	\$4,200.00
Program Underwritten/NUTS or Others	\$1,500.00
Total Revenues	\$5,700.00

Remaining Needed for Production - Out of Pocket or Others	\$8,450.00
Anticipated Ticket Sales (2025 - \$9,664)	\$10,000.00
Anticipated Profit	\$1,550.00

3:39 PM

05/28/26

Accrual Basis

NEW UTE THEATER SOCIETY, INC

Profit & Loss

January 1 through May 28, 2026

	<u>Jan 1 - May 28, 26</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
DONATION IN HONOR OF	3,436.94
INCOME - PROGRAMMING	2,614.00
Merchandise Revenue	378.98
Programming Fund Donations	6,684.23
SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIPS	1,093.73
	<hr/>
Total Income	14,207.88
Expense	
Accountant Fees	325.00
DONATIONS / CONTRIBUTIONS	6,500.00
Insurance	1,141.00
Marketing	
Programming	10,619.21
Supplies for Performers	377.17
	<hr/>
Total Marketing	10,996.38
PATIO CONCERT SERIES EXP.	3,093.55
Theater Camp Expenses	500.00
	<hr/>
Total Expense	22,555.93
	<hr/>
Net Ordinary Income	-8,348.05
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Interest	8.97
	<hr/>
Total Other Income	8.97
	<hr/>
Net Other Income	8.97
	<hr/>
Net Income	<u><u>-8,339.08</u></u>

3:40 PM
05/28/26
Accrual Basis

NEW UTE THEATER SOCIETY, INC
Balance Sheet
As of May 28, 2026

	<u>May 28, 26</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Alpine Bank- OPERATING	5,362.10
Programming Fund - GRANTS ETC.	11,965.32
Total Checking/Savings	<u>17,327.42</u>
Total Current Assets	17,327.42
Other Assets	
Start-up Costs	750.00
Total Other Assets	<u>750.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>18,077.42</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Unrestricted Net Assets	26,416.50
Net Income	-8,339.08
Total Equity	<u>18,077.42</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>18,077.42</u></u>







GRIT Grant Application and Process

The Greater Rifle Improvement Team Advisory Board has two grant cycles a year. The grant cycles are February and July. The application deadline for each cycle is listed below.

Grant Cycle	Application Deadline	Presentation to Board	Vote by Advisory Board
February	December 31 st	2 nd Tuesday in January	2 nd Tuesday in February
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GRANT APPLICATION

1. Complete the grant application and submit it to Kim Burner at kburner@rifleco.org or 202 Railroad Avenue, Rifle Colorado 81650. For questions regarding the grant application, please contact Kim Burner at 970-665-6496.
2. GRIT event grants are for non-profit or not-for-profit organizations. For-profit organizations/businesses are encouraged to partner with a non- or not-for-profit organization.
3. If the GRIT Board has questions regarding your grant application, they may request additional information or ask you to attend an additional meeting.
4. At its discretion the GRIT Board may fund all or part of the grant request.
 - a. The GRIT Board reserves the right to outline what expenses may be covered by grant funds.
5. The applicant will be notified by email at the address supplied of the outcome of the grant application.
6. GRIT grant funds cannot be used for operating expenses of the applicant organization or any associated organization including but not limited to payroll/staff expenses, utilities, supplies (event supplies exempted), etc.
 - a. For questions regarding covered expenses please contact Kim Burner.
7. After the GRIT Board decides on grant applications, the GRIT manager will take the board recommendations before the Rifle City Council for final approval or denial before funds are distributed.

PROJECT/EVENT EVALUATION

Once the project/event funded by the grant is complete, a Project Evaluation Form is required within 60 days.

The GRIT Board may require additional items with the evaluation form. These items will be listed in the notification email sent at the time of application or may be requested after review of the evaluation form.

Failure to complete the evaluation may result in the organization being ineligible for future funding.

Evaluations may be submitted to kburner@rifleco.org or 202 Railroad Ave., Rifle, CO 81650 no later than 60 days after the completion of the project/event.



GRIT Grant Application for Funding

Applicant Information

Date: 05/30/2024 _____

Organization Name: Young Guns of Rifle Inc _____

Address: 100 E. 4th Street, Rifle CO 81650 _____

Contact Person: Larry Stewart _____

Phone Number: 317-473-2528 _____ Email Address: larrystewart2389@gmail.com _____

Federal Tax ID: 88-1994254 _____ State Tax ID: _____

Organization Information

Organization's Current Board of Directors or Trustees

Name	Phone #	Email Address
Klayton Costanzo	970-319-3669	klaytoncostanzo@hotmail.com
Larry Stewart	317-473-2528	larrystewart2389@gmail.com.com
Tyler Davis	970-319-3920	TDavis@ShelterInsurance.com
Evin Sartin	970-319-6099	evinsartin@alpinebank.com

Brief summary of Organization's History

The Young Guns started the Touch a Truck event in 2022. Our goal was to get kids excited about careers in heavy machinery, trades, and emergency services. The event lets families get up close to big trucks and equipment to learn how they work. Thanks to support from GRIT and local businesses, the event grew quickly over the next three years. It became a popular and lasting community tradition. In 2026, the event grew even bigger. The Young Guns teamed up with Colorado River Fire Rescue to host a joint event alongside the fire department's annual Open House. This partnership brought together big construction trucks and emergency rescue vehicles in one place. Families got to explore the trucks, meet local firefighters, and learn important safety tips. This team effort helped connect neighbors and inspired kids to think about future careers as tradespeople or first responders. We estimated close to 2000 attendees came through during this event.

Grant Request

Amount Requested: \$5,000

How many people will benefit from the funding? 2,000.00

In what way will they benefit? This is a family friendly event that will pull in children of all ages for the entire community. Beyond a fun day for families, the event brings neighbors together to support local tradespeople and first responders. It also connects young people directly with future career paths

Has your organization applied for a grant in the past?

Yes

No

If Yes, what year? 2025

How much was the grant for? \$5,000.00

Following the incredible success of our 2025 event, we are expanding our vision for this year. We aim to bring in over 2,000.00 attendees to the 2026 joint event. Our main goal is to keep Touch a Truck completely free for families. To make that happen, we are growing the event in several ways: More Variety: We are bringing in a wider diversity of businesses, participants, and vendors. Broader Reach: We want to pull in families from all across Western Garfield County by ramping up our marketing efforts. More Food: We will invite additional food trucks to comfortably feed the larger crowds. Better Experience: We are working closely with our corporate partners, using their feedback to build a smoother, higher-quality event

Description of current programs, activities and accomplishments: The Young guns proudly hosts the Austin Booth Memorial Golf tournament which allows us to provide our annual trade school scholarship. This will also be our 5th year of touch a truck and we are regular supporters of the Garfield County Fair and the Salvation Army.

If funds are granted, what is your plan to create a self-sustainable program/event?

Last year, the Young Guns were lucky to have the support of GRIT. Those funds were key to making our biggest year a huge success. We are still looking for sponsors, and we are incredibly grateful for the high demand and community feedback asking for a bigger event. As we grow, we want to show businesses that sponsoring us brings real value. Our goal is to build strong partnerships that help the event grow and eventually become self-funding

Timetable for implementation: Achieving financial self-sustainability remains a realistic 3-to-5-year goal. However, we remain highly responsive to feedback. Strong community demand has driven us to prioritize immediate expansion so we can maximize our positive local impact.

The funding for the Greater Rifle Improvement Team is generated through the Lodging Tax. The proceeds of the lodging tax shall be used primarily for the following:

Please check the area(s) your request falls under:

- Visitor Improvement and Attractions
- Historic Preservation
- Special Events
- City Beautification
- City Promotion

Program/Project Budget

Revenues or other funding sources

Individually list all sources of funds (including sponsors) and the level of funding provided:

Please see attached sheet for a more concise breakdown

Expenses:

Please see attached sheet for a more concise breakdown

Please attach a balance sheet or profit and loss statement for requesting organization.

Please see attached

Measure of Success

What will be the measurable results? Example: How many people are expected to attend/benefit?

Building on the success of 2025, our goals for 2026 are driven directly by community and vendor feedback. To address requests for higher visibility, we are expanding our marketing to attract over 2,000 attendees. Additionally, we are optimizing the event layout and diversifying our vendor list to create a more balanced, high-quality experience for both businesses and families

How will the organization define and measure success of the event or project?

Success means delivering a highly professional, family-friendly event that unites Rifle and surrounding communities to celebrate the local trades that form our backbone. Through our 2026 partnership with Colorado River Fire Rescue and their annual Open House, we aim to scale attendance to 2,000 visitors. This milestone will drive significant foot traffic to local businesses and establish this as a signature regional event. Ultimately, we want to transition our corporate participants into long-term stakeholders who will help drive our future growth

To what degree will the project and/or organization have a long-term sustainable value to Rifle?

Driven by a passion to make our community a better place, the Young Guns are deeply committed to giving back. Touch a Truck allows Rifle to honor the industries that built our region while inspiring the next generation of skilled tradespeople. Our exciting joint effort with Colorado River Fire Rescue for year two takes that mission even further. As the event grows annually, this gathering is fast becoming a cherished, family-friendly tradition for our community.

Additional information you would like the GRIT Advisory Board to consider:

By sponsoring the Young Guns' 2026 Touch a Truck event, you are investing in a premier regional tradition that directly addresses our local skilled labor shortage. In a historic joint effort with Colorado River Fire Rescue, this year's combined event and Open House will draw over 2,000 residents from across Western Garfield County into Rifle. Your funding keeps this impactful day 100% free for families, drives immediate foot traffic to our local businesses, and gives your brand powerful visibility alongside trusted first responders. GRIT has always been our biggest supporter and as this event continues to grow, we owe our success to you all, so thank you!

Touch a Truck 2026 Projections

Sponsorships

Grit	\$	5,000.00
Western Slope Materials	\$	575.00
Casey Concrete	\$	575.00
Grand River Health	\$	575.00
TEP	\$	250.00
Total	\$	6,975.00

Expenses

Jean's Printing	\$	1,100.00	Signage	
Rifle Parks and Rec	\$	110.00	Banner	
First String	\$	2,000.00	Advertising	Banners and tents and Hats
Garfield County	\$	220.00	Rental	
Tyler Davis Insurance	\$	250.00	Insurance	
QR Code Subscription	\$	200.00	Registration	
Micro Plastics	\$	330.00	Signage	
Redi Services	\$	550.00	Facilities	
Colorado West Broadcasting	\$	2,200.00	Radio	
Total	\$	6,960.00		

Total Income \$15.00

Sponsors

GRIT

Casey Concrete

Western Slope Materials

Grand River Health

TEP

Food Trucks

The Well

Hunger Tech

Chilled Out

Vendors/Participants

Colorado River Fire Rescue

Colorado Workforce Center

Gallegos Corporation

Johnson Construction

Screaming Eagle Trucking

Twin Guns

Native American Crane

KMTS

Care Flight

Rifle Equipment LLC

Colorado State Patrol

Garfield County Road and Bridge

Dad's Towing

Mountain Waste & Recycling

Rifle Parks and Recreation

Kuersten Construction LLC

Holy Cross Energy

Colorado Division of Wildlife

Journey Home Animal Care Center

Protestio Brothers Equipment

A-1 Heating & Cooling, Inc

Ryder Towing and Recovery

Alpine Waste & Recycling



GRIT Grant Application for Funding

Applicant Information

Date: **5/29/2026**

Organization Name: **Symphony in the Valley**

Address: **P.O. Box 1831, Glenwood Springs, CO 81602**

Contact Person: **Kelly Thompson**

Phone Number: **(970) 456-5278** Email Address: **conductor@sitv.org**

Federal Tax ID: **84-1265543** State Tax ID:

Organization Information

Organization's Current Board of Directors or Trustees

Name	Phone #	Email Address
Ruth Mollman, President	970-319-0062	president@sitv.org
Sharon Young, Vice President	970-319-4976	sharonyoung429@gmail.com
Adrienne Prosser, Treasurer	970-618-6283	treasurer@sitv.org
Jay Duclo	970-366-7696	yakerjay@gmail.com
Warren Lucio	951-333-3953	462ref@gmail.com
Barry Melton	214-315-7582	b.melton@lvg.net
Jennifer Carden	970-987-2635	littleredheadjen@gmail.com
Matt Weisbrod, Manager	970-988-7478	manager@sitv.org

Brief summary of Organization's History

Symphony in the Valley has been performing in the Roaring Fork Valley since 1993. Comprised of volunteer musicians, we perform concerts in October, December, February, May, and July each year. The Symphony is dedicated to providing musical opportunities to musicians of all ages and enriching our community through live musical performance.

Grant Request

Amount Requested: **\$8,000**

How many people will benefit from the funding? **500+**

In what way will they benefit? **During Hometown Holidays those who attend our Nutcracker show will experience the only performance including live musicians and dancers on the Western Slope.**

Has your organization applied for a grant in the past? **Yes** **Via NUTS** **No**

If Yes, what year? **2025** How much was the grant for? **\$3,200**

Brief description of request. **The Symphony will be performing Nutcracker again this year with professional dancers from Colorado West Ballet from Grand Junction. We also perform other holiday favorites at this concert during Hometown Holiday.**

Description of current programs, activities and accomplishments: **Symphony in the Valley has an Instrument Lending/Gifting program for local youth who want to play in band or orchestra but do not have an instrument. We also have a Student Enrichment Program to connect music students to private lessons. We provide a musical outlet for musicians of all ages to perform.**

If funds are granted, what is your plan to create a self-sustainable program/event? **Our Holiday Nutcracker performance is one of our fundraiser events. Our other fundraiser is our Symphony Swing in February. With professional dancers this is an expensive endeavor.**

Timetable for implementation: **We will have four performances total, 2:00PM and 7:00PM (or after the parade) on December 5, and 2:00PM and 4:30PM on December 6**

The funding for the Greater Rifle Improvement Team is generated through the Lodging Tax. The proceeds of the lodging tax shall be used primarily for the following:

Please check the area(s) your request falls under:

- Visitor Improvement and Attractions
- Historic Preservation
- Special Events
- City Beautification
- City Promotion

Program/Project Budget

Revenues or other funding sources

Individually list all sources of funds (including sponsors) and the level of funding provided:

Symphony in the Valley has numerous sponsors throughout the year, specifically for
Nutcracker in 2025: GRIT: \$3,200; Alpine Bank: \$3,000;
NUTS: \$1,250 (\$5,000 for our 4 main concert series); Seth Green: \$1,000; Ruth
Mollman: \$1,000; Town & Country Vet: \$1,000; Darrell Green: \$1,000; Morgan Green: \$500;
Zachary Green: \$500

Total funds available to the program: **\$12,450 in 2025**

Expenses:	Amount:
Dancers	\$8,000
Hotel for Dancers, 2 nights	\$1,728
Ute Rental, 2 days	\$1,600
Music purchase / arrangements	\$800
	\$12,128

Please attach a balance sheet or profit and loss statement for requesting organization.

Measure of Success

What will be the measurable results? Example: How many people are expected to attend/benefit?

Through four performances we can seat approximately 500. With dancers on stage the Symphony takes a portion of the floor, limiting audience space. I believe this is a draw for Hometown Holiday and is a huge asset to the event being the only venue on the Western Slope providing The Nutcracker with live orchestral music and dancers.

How will the organization define and measure success of the event or project?

Nutcracker at the Ute has been a very successful event over the past several years. We have collaborated with Colorado West Ballet for the past 3 years. Our goal is to have four sold-out performances and be a major reason people come to Hometown Holiday from throughout the region.

To what degree will the project and/or organization have a long-term sustainable value to Rifle?

The Symphony has been performing at least one of our concerts at the Ute for each of our four concert series. The Ute and Rifle have become our unofficial "home base." The Nutcracker, specifically, is so enjoyable for the audience, orchestra members, and dancers as it is a unique opportunity to collaborate with dance and music.

Additional information you would like the GRIT Advisory Board to consider:

Due to rising costs, ticket prices have increased over the years. We would like to get enough sponsors this year that we can lower the cost to attend.

Symphony in the Valley Profit & Loss September 2024 through August 2025

	Sep '24 - Aug 25
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
40000 · Contributions	
40005 · Grants	20,710.00
40010 · Individual Donors	
40012 · Masterpiece \$3,000 - \$4,999	3,000.00
40013 · Composer's \$1,000 - \$2,999	4,000.00
40014 · Bravo Circle \$500 - \$999	4,984.00
40015 · Conductor's \$250 - \$499	2,935.50
40016 · Encore Circle \$100 - \$249	2,757.50
40017 · Friends - Less than \$99	700.78
Total 40010 · Individual Donors	18,377.78
40020 · Business Donations	
40023 · Composer's Biz \$1,000 - \$2,999	4,000.00
40024 · Bravo Biz \$500 - \$999	750.00
Total 40020 · Business Donations	4,750.00
40050 · Chair Sponsors	3,250.00
Total 40000 · Contributions	47,087.78
41000 · Income Other	
41300 · Checking Account Interest	0.60
Total 41000 · Income Other	0.60
47200 · Program Income	
47201 · Fall Concert	
47201 A · Fall Concert A	1,565.00
47201 B · Fall Concert B	1,643.00
Total 47201 · Fall Concert	3,208.00
47202 · Winter Concert	11,815.00
47203 · Spring Concert	
47203 A · Spring Concert A	1,497.00
47203 B · Spring Concert B	1,630.00
Total 47203 · Spring Concert	3,127.00
47215 · Gigs	2,000.00
47220 · Season Tickets	2,080.00
Total 47200 · Program Income	22,230.00
47210 · Swing Ticket Sales	
47211 · Swing Concert A	5,593.00
47212 · Swing Concert B	15,325.00
Total 47210 · Swing Ticket Sales	20,918.00
48000 · Golf Tourney	
48010 · Golf Sponsorships	300.00
48020 · Golf Registrations	13,045.00
Total 48000 · Golf Tourney	13,345.00
49930 · Noodle Soup Income	4,874.00
Total Income	108,455.38
Gross Profit	108,455.38

Symphony in the Valley Profit & Loss September 2024 through August 2025

	Sep '24 - Aug 25
Expense	
60000 · Concert Expenses	
60015 · Music Arrangements	200.00
60020 · Music Purchase	459.67
60040 · Piano Tuning	200.00
60070 · Program Printing	1,088.56
60000 · Concert Expenses - Other	9,036.00
Total 60000 · Concert Expenses	10,984.23
60900 · Business Expenses	
60920 · Biz Registration Fees (S of S)	35.00
60925 · Music License	
60926 · Licenses (ASCAP & BMI)	748.00
Total 60925 · Music License	748.00
60940 · Square / PayPal fees	331.80
60900 · Business Expenses - Other	174.18
Total 60900 · Business Expenses	1,288.98
61000 · Special Programs	
62050 · Instrument Gifting	
62051 · Instrument Distribution Repair	100.00
Total 62050 · Instrument Gifting	100.00
Total 61000 · Special Programs	100.00
62000 · Enrichment Lessons	
62001 · Lessons - Weisbrod	900.00
Total 62000 · Enrichment Lessons	900.00
62890 · Rent, Utilities, & Maintenance	
62892 · Musical Instrument Storage	1,080.00
62893 · Performance Space Rental	1,840.00
62894 · Rehearsal Space Rental	250.00
Total 62890 · Rent, Utilities, & Maintenance	3,170.00
62900 · Direct Fundraising Expenses	
62910 A · Swing Rental Space - A	1,250.00
62910 B · Swing Rental Space - B	9,937.78
62920 A · Swing Food Expenses - A	3,789.59
62940 · Swing Music Purchase	292.34
62945 · Swing Square / PayPal Fees	80.10
62946 · Swing programs, posters, printi	465.55
62950 · Swing Advertising	250.00
Total 62900 · Direct Fundraising Expenses	16,065.36
63100 · Fundraising Expense - Golf	11,893.52
65000 · Operations	
65010 · Books, Subscriptions, Reference	200.00
65020 · Postage, Mailing Service	182.00
65030 · Printing and Copying	
65035 · Toner & Paper	74.99
65030 · Printing and Copying - Other	15.35
Total 65030 · Printing and Copying	90.34
65050 · Telephone, Telecommunications	
65055 · Constant Contact	707.00
Total 65050 · Telephone, Telecommunications	707.00
65070 · Grant Subscription	199.00

Symphony in the Valley
Profit & Loss
September 2024 through August 2025

	<u>Sep '24 - Aug 25</u>
65120 · Insurance - Liability, D and O	1,732.00
Total 65000 · Operations	3,110.34
65100 · Other Types of Expenses	
65170 · Noodle Soup Musician Payments	2,571.38
Total 65100 · Other Types of Expenses	2,571.38
72000 · Contract Labor	
72001 · Artistic Director/conductor	12,000.00
72005 · Manager	10,200.00
72010 · Webmaster	2,400.00
72020 · Librarian	1,000.00
72050 · Concertmaster	
72055 · Concertmaster - Fundraiser	900.00
72050 · Concertmaster - Other	2,700.00
Total 72050 · Concertmaster	3,600.00
72060 · Treasurer	6,000.00
72070 · Grant Writer	2,400.00
Total 72000 · Contract Labor	37,600.00
Total Expense	87,683.81
Net Ordinary Income	20,771.57
Net Income	20,771.57



Agenda Item #6.a.

Agenda Item Name:

Discussion and possible action regarding Railroad Ave light pole banners

Presenter:

Delaney Passmore, Administrative Assistant

Item Description:

Staff is requesting funding to purchase themed light pole banners to use during the summer. Depending on feedback, Staff may request funding in the future to purchase other seasonal banners. DDA has agreed to cover the cost of the banners on Railroad Ave within their district boundary.

Recommended Action:

Move to approve purchase of banners for Railroad Ave in an amount not to exceed \$1,500.

Fiscal Impact:

Operational Impact:

If approved, this request would allocate additional Staff time to install and remove the purchased banners seasonally.

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Background Information:

Staff believes this is a good option for increasing civic pride in the City of Rifle.

Executive Summary:

Notification Requirements:

N/A

Prepared By:

Zach Higgins, Community Development Director

Attachments:

None



Agenda Item #6.b.

Agenda Item Name:

Discussion regarding Barks, Brews, and BBQ

Presenter:

Delaney Passmore, Administrative Assistant

Item Description:

Discussion regarding 2026 Barks, Brews, and BBQ and looking to 2027 event. Budget, location, and scope discussion.

Recommended Action:

No action required. Provide Staff with general direction regarding planning for 2027 event.

Fiscal Impact:

Staff budgeted \$25,000 for the 2026 Barks, Brews, and BBQ event and spent \$20,682.59.

Operational Impact:

Prior Board Motions:

Background Information:

Barks, Brews, and BBQ has been held in Deerfield Park over the last two years. Peak hourly attendance according to Placer.ai was 1,000 (2pm) in 2025 and 856 (2pm) in 2026. As a reminder, these attendance numbers from Placer.ai do NOT include juveniles under the age of 18.

The City of Rifle Police Department has been holding their Bicycle Rodeo on the same date in May at 9am. The Rifle Rendezvous Days event takes place over the same weekend at the Fair Grounds. Rendezvous had a peak hour attendance of 6,800 at 8pm and overall attendance of 10,700 on May 17th.

Executive Summary:

Notification Requirements:

N/A

Prepared By:

Zach Higgins, Community Development Director

Attachments:

1. BBQ Budget 2026

Budget Allocations		Actuals	Difference	Scope
Signs/ Banners	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,165.36	34.6400000000001	Advertising that we provide for the event around the City and at the event
Sanction/ Host Fees (Kim Purdy)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 894.13	105.87	Pays for the BBQ portion
Entertainment	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,600.00	400	Band/ Stage fees
Tents/ Tables	\$ 3,150.00	\$ 3,089.60	60.4000000000001	Provide for shade and judging
SWAG	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,770.00	-270	Giveaways branded w/ JH provided logo
Trophies/ Awards	\$ 500.00	\$ 396.00	104	BBQ Competitor awards
Marketing	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	0	Align- digital marketing
Barricades	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 266.00	734	Provided in order to secure venue to our standards
Supplies	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 768.05	231.95	Needed for BBQ competitors, GRIT members, etc
Foam Cannon	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	0	Fee for the solution
Prize Money	\$ 3,250.00	\$ 3,250.00	0	BBQ Competitor awards
Pork Butts	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 383.45	1116.55	BBQ Competitors
Misc Expenses	\$ 1,800.00		1800	
Total	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 20,682.59	4317.41	
Budgeted	\$ 25,000.00			