

**Dennis Aldridge**  
Chair of the Board

**Larry Fontaine**  
Vice-Chair



**Jeff Whitson**  
Secretary

**Rocky Buchanan**  
Treasurer

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**Executive Board Meeting**  
**April 20, 2026 | 7:00 p.m.**  
**High Country COG Board Room**

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION**

*Dennis Aldridge, Executive Board Chairman*

**II. CONSIDERATION OF FEBRUARY 2026 MINUTES [ACTION]**

*Dennis Aldridge, Executive Board Chairman*

**III. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

*Caroline Briggs, Finance Officer*

- Financial Highlights as of March 31, 2026 [ACTION]
- Budget Amendment #5 [ACTION]

**IV. FLOOD RISK MITIGATION FOR CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE: A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMMING SUPPORTED BY APPALACHIAN VOICES IN WNC**

**15 MINUTES**

*Kristin Stroup, Senior Program Manager, Energy & Climate Resilience*

**V. BROWNFIELD SITE DEVELOPMENT**

**10 MINUTES**

*Kaili Matiaco, Assistant Grant Coordinator, Brownfields Redevelopment Section, NCDEQ*

**VI. OMBUDSMAN ANNUAL REPORT**

**10 MINUTES**

*Stevie Welborn, Regional Ombudsman*

**VII. MERGER/REGIONALIZATION FEASIBILITY GRANT RESOLUTION [ACTION]**

**5 MINUTES**

*Jackson Marcellus, Lead for NC Fellow*

**VIII. REPORT FROM THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**10 MINUTES**

*Julie Wiggins, Executive Director*

**IX. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

**X. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

- Welcome New Board Members

**XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

**XII. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT [ACTION]**

**\*EXECUTIVE BOARD GROUP PHOTO - APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup> AT 6:30 PM\***