

Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG) Introduces Its New Executive Director - Pamela S. Caskie

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July 7, 2010 - Silverthorne, Colorado - The Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG) Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Pamela S. Caskie is the new Executive Director of NWCCOG. She officially began her position on July 1st.

Pam brings extensive local government experience to NWCCOG. She most recently served as City Manager of Alliance, Nebraska. During her time in Alliance, Pam led a management team in several successful projects including a program to jump start a depressed housing market, the development of a \$5 million museum, and a major water system upgrade. During her tenure in Alliance she provided leadership in the areas of economic development, comprehensive planning, and strategic planning.

Pam has served as Manager for both the Towns of Ambridge and Stroudsburg in Pennsylvania, as well as Brandon, Vermont. Pam also has extensive experience as a management consultant in the areas of strategic planning, technology development, facilitation, long-range planning, and citizen involvement.

"We are very fortunate to have Pam on board with us at NWCCOG", said Patti Clapper, NWCCOG Chair. "She brings a wealth of experience in local government and strategic planning. We are looking forward to working with her as she brings a fresh new perspective to NWCCOG and leads organization in these changing times".

Her interest in local government came at a very young age, as she was inspired by the encouragement and mentoring of the City Manager in her home town of Miamisburg, Ohio in junior high. She began interning for the City of Dayton in 1981 and so started her career in local government management.

"Local government is a good fit for me" says Pam. "I really enjoy the variety that comes with local government. Its also important to me that the work that we do in local government makes a direct impact on the lives of the residents of the community". Pam is very excited to begin her work with NWCCOG because of the diversity. "With NWCCOG, the range of involvement in the region is so diverse, from the lives of our seniors, to the pine beetle epidemic, to water quality, to being part of the new energy economy with our weatherization program" says Pam. "Our work here with the member communities leads to our member communities being better equipped to serve their constituents" says Pam.

Pam states that, having never lived in Colorado, she brings no pre-conceived ideas about the region. She does, however, have a strong understanding of the issues facing tourism-based communities through her work as a management consultant with Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) in Knoxville, Tennessee. "I am a listener and a synthesizer. Those are the strengths I bring to NWCCOG", says Pam. "I am committed to listening to the membership, synthesizing the thoughts of 'where do we want NWCCOG to go in the future', and guiding

both the staff and the board towards getting there" says Pam. Pam stated that she will draw heavily on the background she gained working with MTAS in the areas of strategic planning and technology in her new role as NWCCOG's Executive Director. "One key benefit of membership in NWCCOG is the strength in numbers on regional issues that you cannot get as individual players" says Pam. "We need to find ways to create economic efficiencies."

Pam will spend the summer visiting member jurisdictions. She has set an ambitious goal of meeting with every member jurisdiction before the August 26th strategic planning session to be held in Kremmling. "I am going to hit the ground running by building bridges with the staff and officials of our member jurisdictions" says Pam.

Pam has made the move from Alliance, Nebraska to Silverthorne. She has 6 children and 5 grandchildren of the heart scattered far and wide across the world. She will be immediately joined by one daughter and her 2 year old granddaughter who will reside with her in Silverthorne, and joined soon after by much of the rest of her family.

Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG) is a voluntary association of county and municipal governments in a five county region that includes Eagle County, Grand County, Jackson County, Pitkin County and Summit County as well as the Town of Carbondale and the Cities of Steamboat Springs and Glenwood Springs. NWCCOG believes that working together on a regional basis provides benefits that could not be obtained alone.