

YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

September 4, 2020

Special Meeting Minutes¹

On September 4, 2020 at 2:00 p.m., the Yuma County Board of Commissioners met for a special meeting as members of the local Yuma County COVID Task Force. Chairman Dean Wingfield, Commissioner Trent Bushner, Commissioner Robin Wiley, and Administrator Andrea Calhoon were present throughout the meeting with meeting members joining via teleconference. Also in attendance were various municipal and hospital officials as well as Northeast Colorado Health Department Director Trish McClain.

Event Plan – Ms. Angela Johnson of Dance Fuzion joined the meeting to provide additional information on a dance recital planned at the Eckley Community Center. The Task Force heard Ms. Johnson’s updates and provided guidance on compliance.

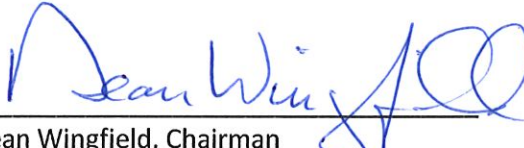
COVID Task Force – The group reviewed event plans submitted for a fundraiser at the Yuma County Fairgrounds for Ducks Unlimited. Food service, parking, and auction protocols were reviewed and guidance was issued regarding compliance with public health best practices and mandates.

The group reviewed the status of the submitted variance request and the Protect Your Neighbor status request. County Administrator Andrea Calhoon and Director of Northeast Colorado Public Health Trish McClain provided updates on a conversation had with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment regarding the permissiveness of variances and Protect Your Neighbor status and noted that, while the State is not issuing significantly more local control with either option, there are indications that there is room for conversation with the State regarding options. A representative from CDPHE will be invited to an upcoming meeting to discuss and potential for conversation with Governor Polis during his regional visit next week will be explored.

The group reviewed the State’s new dial metrics for gauging local COVID instances and control and discussed finding ways to work with the state to initiate discussions on ways to allow more elasticity for rural communities in local decision-making. Also discussed were ways to work with the state on increasing business capacities and negating further impacts on businesses as seasons change and capacity limitations continue. The group discussed how the dial metric interplays with the existing Yuma County schools plan.

The local small business grant program was reviewed and finalized for recommendation to the local governing bodies. An MOU between county and municipal governments has been proposed and all local governments will review and present for approval no later than September 15.

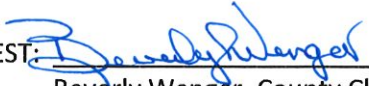
The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m. The next COVID Task Force meeting will be set for the week of September 7, 2020 based on group availability.



Dean Wingfield, Chairman



Andrea Calhoon, Administrator

ATTEST: 

Beverly Wenger, County Clerk



¹ Minutes prepared by Andrea Calhoon are a summary of discussion and do not constitute a verbatim account.