

YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
March 15, 2022
Minutes¹

On March 15, 2022 at 8:00 a.m., the Yuma County Board of Commissioners met in regular session. Chairman Robin Wiley, Commissioner Trent Bushner, Commissioner Scott Weaver, and Administrator Andrea Calhoon were present throughout the day.

The Commissioners reviewed and signed accounts payable and discussed various meetings attended throughout the prior month.

Road and Bridge

Road & Bridge Supervisor Tom Andersen, Blade Foreman Justin Lorimer, and Truck Foreman Jeremy Lund joined the meeting at 8:30 a.m. to provide department updates.

- *Staffing* – Andersen presented updates on continued efforts to fill various vacant positions including a recent interview for a mechanic and upcoming interviews for the Maintenance crew. **Commissioner Bushner moved to approve the salary authorization for mechanic Jose Maldonado as presented. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.**
- *Fuel Contracting* – Andersen gave a report on bid pricing for fuel contracts from local vendors. **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the fuel contract bid from Stratton Equity Co-op as presented. Commissioner Bushner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**
- *Road Report* – Lorimer provided updates on current road work including the rebuild project on County Road LL.5.
- *New Trucks* – Lund provided updates on the delivery of the 2021 trucks including an assessment of the mechanical soundness and fuel usage of the new trucks.
- *Rights of Way Utility Installation* – The group discussed the strategy for maintenance of utility lines under approved permits in the road rights-of-way. The group discussed a recent conversation with Plains Telephone Company regarding utility maintenance in the road right-of-way and how line maintenance that falls within the roadway will be handled.
- *Training* – Lorimer reported on his arrangement of a locally hosted LTAP training class at the Yuma County Fairgrounds on April 25. Lorimer reported on the attendance of 5 employees at that course and three attending a training course in March.
- *Permits* – Andersen presented for approval a road access permit for YW Electric to bore along County Road 42 at the intersection of County Road LL for purposes of installing utility line. **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the road access permit for YW Electric as submitted. Commissioner Bushner seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.**

Human Services

The Board of County Commissioners convened as the Board of Social Services at 9:30 a.m. Human Services Director Kara Hoover, Eligibility Supervisor Dalene Rogers and Administrative Assistant Asalea Bencomo were present. Detailed minutes of the Board of Social Services are maintained separately by the Department of Human Services. The Board of County Commissioners reconvened at 10:25 a.m.

¹ Minutes prepared by Andrea Calhoon are a summary of discussions, not a verbatim account.



Congressman Ken Buck's Office, Darlene Carpio

At 10:30 a.m. the Commissioners were joined by Darlene Carpio of Congressman Ken Buck's office to hear federal legislative updates and discuss local priorities. The group discussed statewide transportation planning and the importance of highway 385 to regional, state, and national transport. Carpio provided updates regarding the Omnibus Spending Bill and Congressman Buck's position on the Bill including concern for earmarked funding and national debt additions. Carpio also discussed Congressman Buck's position on Russian invasion-related policy including a ban on Russian fuel imports. The group discussed the Congressman's position on national energy policy and domestic energy production as compared to foreign energy imports. Carpio shared current conversation concerning the Akron Agricultural Research Station and the future of the research station and reported on a USDA meeting later today in Yuma.

The Commissioners reviewed local priorities including Republican River compact compliance conversations and partnership between state and federal partners and the Republican River Water Conservation District. The group discussed the importance of having Senator Bennet actively involved in compact compliance conversations and the benefit of his service on the Senet Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

CSU Extension Office

At 11:30 a.m. the Commissioners met with the CSU Golden Plains Extension team Joy Akey, JoLynn Midcap, and Travis Taylor to hear program and planning updates. The group discussed recent and upcoming community programming efforts including the 2022 Spring Round-Up, various community health programs including A Healthier Weigh, PROSPER, and KidPhit/MyPhit, youth programming including 4H enrollment, market beef weigh-in, and AgFest activities this spring.

Land Use

County Land Use Administrator Colten Yoast was heard at 1:00 p.m. to review Land Use and GIS Business.

- *Pending Land Use Activity* – Yoast reported no land use hearings for the month of March and currently no applications received for consideration in the month of April.
- *Land Use Code* – Yoast reported on land use code changes to be considered and reviewed by the Planning Commission at the next meeting.

GIS

- *Current Projects* – Yoast reported on various GIS topics including work on the master map, emergency dispatch maps, and general maps for upload to the County website.

County Treasurer, Chrystal Hammond

At 2:00 p.m. the Commissioners met with County Treasurer Chrystal Hammond to discuss monthly reports and hear Office updates. Hammond discussed unrealized investment losses to date and the long-range nature of invested funds. Hammond provided updates on her Office staffing, the status of County-held liens, foreclosures following the ending of the COVID foreclosure moratorium, and updates on the status of the updated bank signature cards following the staffing transition in the Treasurer's Office.

Also discussed were updates to valuation protocols at the State level that have impact on tax revenue for Yuma County. Hammond discussed the potential impact of exempted personal property for businesses valued at less than \$50,000 that is supposed to be reimbursed by the State of Colorado as a COVID relief mechanism. Hammond reported that this exemption has always been in place, however the threshold was increased from \$7,500 to \$50,000.



Administrator's Report

Administrator Andrea Calhoun reviewed calls, correspondence, and presented the following for discussion and action:

- *Minutes* – The Commissioners reviewed the minutes from the previous BOCC meetings. **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the minutes from the February 28, 2022 regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Bushner seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- *CAPP Report & Claim Review* – The Commissioners heard information on pending CAPP and workers' compensation claims.
- *Signatures and Ratifications* –
 - Resolutions/Ordinances/Signatures:
 - **Commissioner Bushner moved to approve signature on the Region 4 Opioid Council contract for services with OMNI Institute. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.**
 - **Commissioner Bushner moved to authorized Chairman Wiley's electronic signature on the State of Colorado elections grant for laptops for Voter Service Poling Centers for the County Clerk's Office. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.**
 - Grant Updates:
 - The Commissioners reviewed information regarding pending and submitted grant applications including the Eckley Road chip seal, American Rescue Act funds, and the CDPHE recycling grant.
- *Department Reports* – The Commissioners received and reviewed the February 2022 TV System Maintenance Log.
- *Prior Meeting Follow-Up* – Finance and Compliance Clerk Brandi Ritchey provided project updates on the status of properties in Eckley. The group also discussed the status of a recent application to host a horse race at the Yuma County Fairgrounds and completed a review of the Yuma County Fairgrounds Rental form and associated policies. The Commissioners updated the end-of-month May meeting date to May 26.
- *Correspondence* – Calhoun presented correspondence received since the last meeting including an update on Yuma County Ag Appreciation Week planning and a request letter from the WRAC for reimbursement of property taxes paid. **Commissioner Bushner moved to approve the reimbursement of WRAC property taxes paid as requested. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.**
- *CDL Testing Unit* – Calhoun provided updates on the status of the Yuma County CDL testing unit.
- *IT Updates* – Calhoun presented updates on various IT-related topics including updates on the transition to VOIP phones for County operations.
- *Maintenance Updates* – Calhoun reported on various facilities maintenance topics.
- *HR Updates* – Calhoun reported updates on county Human Resource topics including recruitment and retention, employee training offerings, follow-up on the recently held Emergency Manager interviews, various staffing structure updates, and the status of various County vacant positions. **Commissioner Bushner moved to approve the salary authorization for new hire Yuma County Patrol Deputy Matt Yost as presented. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**




There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m. The next regular meetings of the Board of County Commissioners will be on March 31, 2022 and April 15, 2022.



Robin Wiley, Chairman



Andrea Calhoon, Administrator

ATTEST: 

Beverly Wenger, County Clerk

