



## YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

July 29, 2022

Minutes<sup>1</sup>

On July 29, 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.

### Liquor License

Deputy County Clerk Nancy Wright presented for approval the retail liquor license renewal for Ballyneal and presented for signature the previously approved retail liquor license renewal for Papa's Bait Shop. **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the retail liquor license renewal for Ballyneal. Commissioner Bushner seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.**

### Road and Bridge

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

- *Blade Pricing* – Steve Gilliland of 4 Rivers Equipment and JR Harsh of Wagner Equipment presented bids for the purchase of road graders for the 2023 budget year. Andersen and Lorimer presented their opinions on the proposals and the financial impact of available trades. The Commissioner compared and reviewed warranties bid per model. **Commissioner Bushner moved to approve the 2023 purchase of 2 John Deere 772G motor graders, one CAT 150 motor grader, and 3 handi hitch packers with accumulators for a total of \$680,805 net of trades as presented. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.**
- *Road Report* – Lorimer reported on finalization of base work on County Road 54, work on County Roads 28, U, and T. Also discussed was the planned repair of minor flood damage in the Armel area where drainage exceeding culvert capability and continued work in the Wauneta area. Andersen also reported that mowing efforts have commenced throughout the County.
- *Eckley Road* – Andersen provided updates on the striping of the Eckley Road following last year's chip seal. The quote for striping services by American Striping Company was presented to the Commissioners for consideration. **Commissioner Bushner moved to approve the American Striping quote as presented. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.**
- *Financial and Operational Reports* – Andersen presented current financial and operational reports for the department. The group discussed the accuracy and interpretation of data on the Fleet Intelligence reports. Andersen reported that the representative from Fleet Intelligence is scheduled to be here on August 4 for training and review of the data.
- *Permits* – Andersen presented a road crossing permit for Y-W Electric to install overhead 3-phase lines along County Road 3 at County Road L going east. **Commissioner Bushner moved to approve the road crossing permit for Y-W Electric as presented. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.**

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

### Human Services

The Board of County Commissioners convened as the Board of Social Services at 10:00 a.m. Human Services Director Kara Hoover, Bookkeeper Melanie Fisher, and Administrative Assistant Asalia 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 11:00 a.m.

### Office of Emergency Management, Jake Rockwell

Yuma County Emergency Manager Jake Rockwell met with the Commissioners at 11:00 a.m. to provide office updates. Rockwell presented the fair emergency response plan as developed to date and requested input on plan elements. Also reported was the status of the second quarter grant report filings, meetings attended, and trainings completed and planned. Also discussed was a recent anthrax outbreak in cattle in a nearby county and work on the Bonny Dam emergency response work with the Bureau of Reclamation. The group discussed fire district boundary feedback received during WY Comm and 911 Authority Board meetings.

### Congressman Ken Buck's Office, Darlene Carpio

Darlene Carpio of Congressman Ken Buck's office joined the Commissioners at 11:30 a.m. to provide federal legislative updates and discuss local support opportunities and priorities. Among topics discussed were recent federal legislative bills and efforts. Specifically discussed were local efforts to address the proposed closure of Veteran's Administration clinics. The Commissioners requested continued federal support on the Republican River Compact Compliance work as well as the river restoration project and various water management issues and concerns. Also discussed were concerns over the communication related to abbreviated contraception Medicaid services for non-citizens causing client frustration and an upcoming regional tour by Congressman Buck and other legislators.

### Land Use

County Land Use Administrator Andrea Calhoon was heard at 1:00 p.m. to review Land Use and GIS business.

- **Administrative Land Use Permit** – Calhoon presented for approval the Administrative Land Use Permit for Kit Robertson and Judy Turvey. **Commissioner Bushner moved to approve signature on Resolution 07-29-2022 A approving the Lot Line Adjustment for Kit Robertson and Judy Turvey in Section 32, Township 2 North, Range 46 West as presented. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.**
- **Pending Land Use Applications** – Calhoon reported one application received for hearing in the month of August with one additional major land use permit for September.
- **Ameresco Solar Project Introduction** – Calhoon provided updates on an informational introductory meeting with Ameresco Solar for a proposed solar farm south of Yuma.
- **Proposed Land Use Code Change** – The group discussed a proposed land use code received from a community group set for presentation later in the day.
- **Planning Commission Vacancy** – Calhoon reported on the status of the Planning Commission vacancy and interested parties.

### GIS

- **Current Projects** – Calhoon provided updates on recent GIS activities conducted by contracted GIS Coordinator Colten Yoast.



Settje Agri-Services/Blackshirt Feedlot, Dean Settje & Nicole Berry

At 2:00 p.m., the Commissioners held a meeting with Dean Settje and Nicole Berry from Settje Agri-Services/Blackshirt Feedlot currently proposed in Dundy County, Nebraska to discuss potential Yuma County impacts. Settje provided information on the tentative facility plan including size, dust and smell mitigation, economic impacts, and timelines. Numerous members of the public were present to hear the plan and ask questions including neighboring land owners. The Commissioners inquired as to water and road impacts and requested a truck traffic analysis and estimates as well as clarification on the average salary of the bottom 50% of employees. The group also discussed the traffic impacts at the bridges and railroad crossing immediately proximal to the facility. The feedlot construction is estimated to begin in the spring of 2023.

Land Use Code Proposal, Yuma County Citizens for Responsible Wind Energy

At 3:00 p.m. the Commissioners heard from the citizen group Yuma County Citizens for Responsible Wind Energy, led by Elise and Beth Wenstrom to review the group's proposed changes to the Yuma County Land Use Code.

The group requested a moratorium on wind and solar in Yuma County until such time as the group can conduct a series of public hearings with the Commissioners. The Commissioners unanimously responded that they would not consider a moratorium at this time as they are confident in the current code, though they are willing to review any suggestions for code changes the group chooses to submit. The Commissioners did request a redline version of the current code with proposed changes as opposed to the entirely rewritten code that was submitted.

The group and the Commissioner reviewed various components of the process and suggestions including the process for submitting public feedback, ballot questions, and the previously undertaken process for reviewing land use code. The Commissioners shared that the wind code was just reviewed earlier in the year and no public feedback was received during that process. The Commissioners also reiterated Yuma County's focus on personal property rights and every individual property owner's right to utilize their land to their best advantage, so long as they do not harm their neighbor's use.

The group was requested to submit a redline version of their proposed changes that would be routed through the review processes.

Administrator's Report

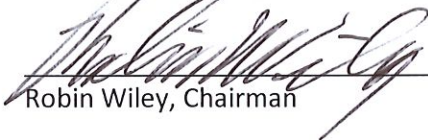
Administrator Andrea Calhoon reviewed calls, correspondence, and presented the following for discussion and action:

- *Minutes* – The Commissioners reviewed the minutes from the previous BOCC meetings. **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the minutes from the July 15, 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 Weaver moved to approve signature on the light and sound contract with Kinnon Entertainment for the 2022 Yuma County Fair Night Show as presented. Commissioner Bushner seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.**
  - Grant Updates:

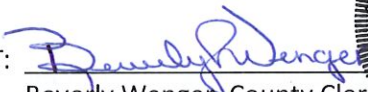


- The Commissioners reviewed information regarding pending and submitted grant applications including the Eckley Road chip seal and the status of the second tranche of American Rescue Act funds.
- *Department Reports* – The Commissioners received various department reports including the June 2022 TV System Maintenance Log and the July 2022 Veteran’s Service Officer Report.
- *Prior Meeting Follow-Up* – The group discussed project updates on the status of properties in Eckley. Updates were discussed regarding the Yuma Life Care Center committee in Yuma.
- *Correspondence* – Calhoon presented correspondence received since the last meeting including a report of no appeals received for the County Board of Equalization, planning efforts for HB21-1085 for secure transport licensure, and a report that the Pro15 fall conference will be held in Yuma. **Commissioner Bushner moved to approve the donation of \$1,000 to Pro15 for expenses associated with the hosting of the 2022 Fall Conference in Yuma. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.**
- *CDL Testing Unit* – Calhoon provided updates on the status of the Yuma County CDL testing unit and the planning of an Entry Level Driver Training community education program currently being developed with the Yuma Campus of Northeastern Junior College. The first class is tentatively scheduled for the weekend of September 16. **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve signature on the MOU and costing structure with NJC for the partnership to provide FMCSA compliant Entry-Level Driver Training courses. Commissioner Bushner seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.**
- *IT Updates* – Calhoon presented updates on various IT-related topics including the status of the VOIP phone transition and an assessment of security options for remote system access. **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve signature on the Avaya phone systems maintenance renewal agreement as presented. Commissioner Bushner seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.**
- *Maintenance Updates* – Calhoon reported on various facilities maintenance topics. **Commissioner Bushner moved to approve the waiver of fees for The Streetdog Coalition for hosting of a health fair at the Yuma County Fairgrounds as presented. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- *HR Updates* – Calhoon reported updates on county Human Resource topics including recruitment and retention and fairgrounds maintenance staffing.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m. The next regular meetings of the Board of County Commissioners will be on August 15, 2022 and August 31, 2022.

  
Robin Wiley, Chairman

  
Andrea Calhoon, Administrator

ATTEST:   
Beverly Wenger, County Clerk

