

YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

July 17, 2023

Minutes¹

On July 17, 2023 at 8:00 a.m., the Yuma County Board of Commissioners met in regular session. Chairman Scott Weaver, Commissioner Mike Leerar, Commissioner Adam Gates, and Administrator Brandi Ritchey were present throughout the day.

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

Public Comment

At 8:00a.m John Westerberg, Brian and Greg Brueggeman joined the Commissioners to express issues with suspected criminal activity they have been experiencing. Westerberg has expressed he hasn't had any luck getting help with this matter. The Commissioners encouraged Westerberg to continue to work with the Sheriff and the District Attorney.

Liquor License

Deputy County Clerk Pamela Zuege joined the Commissioners at 8:15 a.m. to present for signature the County Liquor License for Bally Neal; which was approved at the June 30, 2023 BOCC Meeting.

Human Services

The Board of County Commissioners convened as the Board of Social Services at 9:30 a.m. Human Services Director Kara Hoover, Administrative Assistant Lori Summers, Child Welfare & Adult Protection Supervisor Hollie Hillman, Eligibility Supervisor Dalene Rogers and New Hire Rebekah Henson 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 10:30 a.m.

Congressman Ken Buck's Office, Darlene Carpio

At 11:00 a.m. the Commissioners were joined by Darlene Carpio of Congressman Ken Buck's Office to hear federal legislative updates. Among discussion was new legislation to support Enhancing the Dryland Farmable CREP Program, legislation to Require Energy Companies to Remove Decommissioned Wind Turbines, the National Defense Authorization Act and the Agricultural Tax Reform (Water) Act.

Idalia Sanitation

At 1:30 p.m., Margaret Clark, representative for Idalia Sanitation joined to the Commissioner's to request funding to go towards the repair of the pond liner in Idalia. The Commissioner's would like the official request presented by the Board Members of the Idalia Sanitation District.

Yuma County Treasurer

At 2:00 p.m., the Commissioners heard from Yuma County Treasurer, Chrystal Hammond. Hammond presented the Semi-Annual investment report and discussed the various held accounts and the varied interest rates. Hammond also discussed the Account Activity for the period beginning January 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023. Delinquent tax notices were sent out July 3, 2023. Hammond presented her 2nd quarter Public Trustee report. Delinquent tax notices were sent out July 3, 2023.

¹ Minutes prepared by Brandi Ritchey are a summary of discussions, not a verbatim account.



Commissioner Gates moved to approve the signature on the Account Activity report from the Treasurer's Office for the period from January 1, 2023 through June 30, 2023. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the Yuma County Public Trustee report for quarter 2, Commissioner Gates seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Public Comment

At 1:00 p.m. the Commissioners heard from Rick Perry. Perry stated his concern with a property in Laird that has become overgrown with weeds and become a fire hazard causing insurance premiums to raise. The board suggested that Perry get with the Laird Community members to start a special district to create some stipulations that in hopes will alleviate the problem Perry is experiencing in Laird.

Yuma County Assessor

At 3:00, Yuma County Assessor, Cindy Taylor joined the Commissioners to give the board a report on Appeal Value Changes, Assessed Values as well as discussion of an Early Abstract Information Report. The group also discussed Proposition HH and the affects it will have on county revenue if it is passed.

Road and Bridge

Road & Bridge Supervisor Tom Andersen joined the meeting at 3:30 a.m. to provide department updates.

- Fair Ground Arena – The road and bridge crew has moved sand to the fairground getting it ready for the upcoming Yuma County Fair and Rodeo. The crew will wrap up the project in the next couple following days.
- Spray Guns – Andersen presented pictures of roads that have been damaged due to end guns of irrigation sprinklers washing out county roads. The group discussed the impact and dangerous outcomes that can result due to this road damage. The group is going to work on getting informative information to the public to help deter this problem.
- Budget – The group went over the current budget and discussed the current expenses.
- Road Report – The Road and Bridge Department is currently working on County Road 43 moving towards County Road W. The crew has a few miles left on that project and then will start repairing a 3 mile stretch on County Road 58 and then move to County Road KK.

County Clerk

At 4:40 County Clerk, Beverly Wenger presented for signature a Special Liquor Permit for the Vernon Volunteer Fire department and a salary authorization for a new hire. **Commissioner Gates moved to approve the Special Liquor Permit for the Vernon Volunteer Fire Department. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.**

Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the salary Authorization for Genesis Cardenas-Castro, Recording Clerk. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

Administrator's Report

Administrator Brandi Ritchey reviewed calls, correspondence, and presented the following for discussion and action:

- *Minutes* – The Commissioners reviewed the minutes from the previous BOCC meetings. **Commissioner Gates moved to approve the minutes from the June 30, 2023 Regular Meeting of**



the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- Commissioner Gates moved to approve the minutes from the July 12, 2023 Special Meeting the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- *CAPP Report & Claim Review* – The Commissioners heard information on pending CAPP and workers' compensation claims.
- *Signatures and Ratifications* –

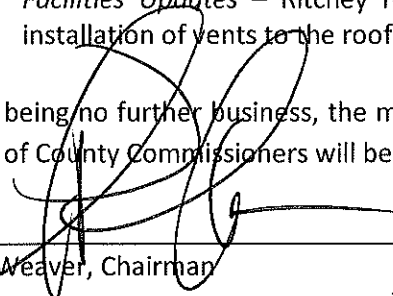
Commissioner Leerar moved to sign the Salary Authorization for Jeff Behrendsen, Part Time Fairground Maintenance. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Gates moved to sign the Salary Authorization for Railyn Akey, Part Time, Finance Office Position. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Gates moved to sign the Financial Expense Request Form for the Yuma County Fair Parade. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- *Department Reports* – The Commissioners received various department reports including an update on the administration of the Eastern Transportation Planning Region, discussion of business undertaken by the 911 Authority Board. The Commissioners also looked over a bid for Replacement Air Conditioner Units and repair.
- *Prior Meeting Follow-Up* – Finance and Compliance Clerk Brandi Ritchey provided project updates on a pending Work Comp Claim.
- *Correspondence* – The group discussed lending some kitchen utensils to the 55 and Over Club to help them get the kitchen running again. The board will get a clearer list of the items needed and discuss again. Ritchey presented correspondence received since the last meeting including a report of no appeals received for the County Board of Equalization
- *IT Updates* – Ritchey presented updates on various IT-related topics including updates on server replacements and the pros and cons of moving the server to Microsoft 365.
- *Facilities Updates* – Ritchey reported on various facilities maintenance topics including the installation of vents to the roof of the County owned Vernon house.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m. The next regular meetings of the Board of County Commissioners will be on July 31, 2023.

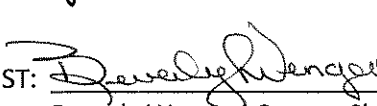


Scott Weaver, Chairman



Brandi Ritchey, Administrator



ATTEST: 

Beverly Wenger, County Clerk