



## YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

March 17, 2026

### Minutes<sup>1</sup>

On March 17, 2026 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.

#### Road and Bridge

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

- *County Road M Updates* – The group reviewed the current status of the easement requiring repairs at County Road M. Andersen suggested delaying the project until the start of the County Road 39 project. This will prevent repairing the easement twice and would also help avoid the costs associated with obtaining permits and hiring BNSF flaggers on two separate occasions.
- *Surplus Equipment* – Andersen mentioned that a screen deck is available for sale. Additionally, five vehicles have been transported to the Brush Auction to be sold.
- *Budget* – The group reviewed the current budget to date. Additionally, Andersen presented a Salary Authorization for a grader operator, along with the Simon Construction Proposal for County Road 39.
  - **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the Salary Authorization for the Grader Operator at \$19.51 per hour. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**
  - **Commissioner Gates moved to approve the Simon Construction Proposal for repairs on County Road 39. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- *Road Report* – Lorimer provided an update on road work in several areas. Crews have been transporting materials from the Deterding Pit to a three-mile section of road extending from County Road HH to the north of County Road 54. Additionally, materials from the Deterding Pit have been used on another three-mile stretch of road extending from County Road 39 east of Highway 385.

#### Human Services

The Board of County Commissioners convened as the Board of Social Services at 9:30 a.m. Human Services Director Kara Hoover, Adult Protection Supervisor Hollie Hillman, Office Manager Lori Summers, Income Maintenance Supervisor Dalene Rogers, Eligibility Program Specialist Danielle Krehmeyer and IV-D Administrator Ana Moran. were present. The Department of Human Services maintains detailed minutes of the Board of Social Services separately. The Board of County Commissioners reconvened at 11:00 a.m.

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



Administrator's Report

At 11:00 a.m., 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 February 26, 2026 regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Gates moved to approve the Yuma County accounts payable check sequence 85220-85242 in the amount of \$72,700.89 ran on 2/27/2026, sequence 85243-85310 in the amount of \$432,286.48 ran on 3/5/2026, check sequence 85311-85358 in the amount of \$172,592.67 ran on 3/13/2026.**

Resolutions/Ordinances/Signatures/Ratifications:

- **Commissioner Gates moved to approve Resolution 03-17-2026 A, a Resolution Placing a Moratorium on Data Centers until 12/31/2026. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Gates moved to approve Resolution 03-17-2026 B, a Resolution Adopting Rules for Authorized Operation of Ambulance Services in Yuma County. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the budgeted Fair Queen buckle reimbursement to be paid out of 01-511-6995. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the budgeted Fair Queen annual contribution to be paid out of 01-511-6805 in the amount of \$1,200.00. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve Brandi Ritchey's signature on the Agreement for Professional Land Surveying Services for a property located in the E1/4 of Section 33 and the W1/2 of Section 34, T2N, R45W. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the Stratton Equity Coop Refined Fuels Contract for the 2026 Budget year. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Gates moved to approve the 2026 Fair Queen pickup lease with Bonanza Ford in the amount of \$800.00. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the budget property tax reimbursement for the WRAC in the amount of \$293.53. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Gates moved to Approve Jodi Brady, Land Use Administrator to apply for the DOLA Local Planning Capacity Grant (LPC), and the DOLA Housing Planning Grant (HPLN) to assist with completing the Comprehensive Plan, Housing Needs Assessment and Water supply element. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.**

Department Reports – The Commissioners reviewed several departmental reports, which included an update on the administration of the Eastern Transportation Planning Region and a discussion regarding the activities of the 911 Authority Board.



County Clerk and Recorder

At 1:00 p.m., Halleigh Studer, Yuma County Clerk and Recorder, met with the Board of County Commissioners to provide updates on her department. Following a recent retirement within her office, Haleigh has restructured her staffing model and presented updated salary authorizations for the BOCC's review and approval. She also provided two salary authorizations for employees who have completed their six-month probationary period. Additionally, the group discussed the upcoming County Assembly and the upcoming election.

- **Commissioner Gates moved to approve the Chief Deputy Clerk salary authorization in the amount of \$25.40. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Gates moved to approve the Chief Motor Vehicle Deputy salary authorization in the amount of \$22.12. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Gates moved to approve the MV/Recording Clerk salary authorization in the amount of \$17.40. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Gates moved to approve the MV/Recording Clerk salary authorization in the amount of \$17.40. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

County Treasurer

At 1:30 p.m., Yuma County Treasurer Chrystal Hammond met with the commissioners to provide updates on her office. Hammond was asked to join the Client Advisory Board for 3+1, where she will offer feedback on the needs and priorities to improve the services and products provided by the organization. Hammond reported that the first half of the tax deadline was successful, with Yuma County currently having collected 27% of the 2025 taxes. The Treasurer's office is preparing to research minerals for parcels eligible for deed in November. Currently, there are five active foreclosures. Hammond presented two resolutions for the Board of County Commissioners to review and approve. One resolution seeks to establish a savings account at Bank of Colorado for the Fair Queens account; the other resolution is intended to update the authorized signers for accounts held at First Pioneer National Bank.

Fairgrounds Manager

At 2:00 p.m., Carmen Murray met with the commissioners to provide updates on the Yuma County Fair. She presented the final invoice for the HVAC unit installed at the fairgrounds and discussed an invoice for a large screen intended for the rodeo at the 2026 Fair. Murray mentioned that the price had increased significantly. In response, Commissioner Weaver suggested that the rodeo could benefit from having its own budget line items to facilitate better planning and greater caution regarding future expenses. The group agreed to hold a meeting with Cassidy Rogers to explore ways to restructure the rodeo's budget for 2027. Murray also presented the budgeted expense request form for the Yuma County Fair. Commissioner Weaver brought up that a citizen would like to donate the materials and labor to create a VIP seating section at the Yuma County Fairgrounds Arena.

- **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the budgeted fair contribution in the amount of \$100,000.00 to be paid out of 01-101-6352. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**



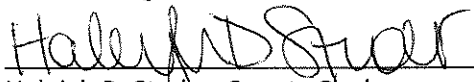
Veteran Service Officer

At 2:30 p.m., Brian Uhrich met with the commissioners to discuss the possibility of taking on the role of part-time Veteran Service Officer for Yuma County. Currently serving as a part-time VSO for Morgan County, Uhrich expressed his willingness to expand his services to Yuma County. The commissioners indicated that they would like to establish an Intergovernmental Agreement between Yuma County and Morgan County. However, this arrangement would increase Uhrich's hours to full-time status which Morgan County had not budgeted for the 2026 year. Uhrich would have to remain a part-time employee until an IGA or other arrangement is finalized in 2027. The commissioners raised questions about whether mileage would be reimbursable, considering Uhrich's need to travel to Yuma County twice a month. For the remainder of his duties, Uhrich could provide VSO services remotely, unless otherwise required to be on-site. Ritchey will reach out to the Regional VSO, Glen Marciniak, to clarify the mileage reimbursement before extending an offer to Uhrich

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners will be on March 31, 2026.

  
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Scott Weaver, Chairman - Acting

  
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Brandi Ritchey, Administrator

ATTEST:   
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Haleigh D. Studer, County Clerk

