YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS April 24, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes¹

On April 24, 2023 at 9:00 a.m., the Yuma County Board of Commissioners met for a special meeting. Chairman Scott Weaver, Commissioner Mike Leerar, and Commissioner Adam Gates were present throughout the meeting.

At 9:00 a.m., the Commissioners met with Sheriff Todd Combs, Undersheriff Larry Gilliland, Patrol Sergeant Matt Allacher, and Office Manager Stacy Post. The group started discussion with Starting Salary for Patrol Staff. The group discussed the option of working a 171-hour schedule instead of the current ran 160-hour schedules. Sheriff Combs suggested that the Sheriff's office go back to grade and step raises. The county faces issues competing with surrounding counties and hire wages. Sheriff Combs suggested the starting annual salary to be \$55,000 for a new deputy out of the academy. Ranges for salaries across the Eastern Region is between \$20.50/ hour and \$24.03. The group discussed hiring two candidates at \$47,174.40 as interns and once the candidates are through Academy and FTO training, they will be bumped to \$50,000/year. Sheriff Combs will start the Intern Candidates with FTO training. Sheriff Combs will present the Commissioners with a proposed Grade and Step for his employees at 3% and 5% increases. Commissioner Gates moved to approve a starting wage of 22.68 per hour for interns. Once the candidate is a certified FTO the employee will be moved to \$24.00 per hour. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

The Commissioners and Sheriff Combs would like clarification on the price for reimbursing and paying municipalities to transport inmates to Logan County. The jail is having trouble recruiting employees. Currently the Jail has 6 Deputies and 4 office staff. Sheriff Combs is working different scenarios to restaff the office without losing any current Staff. Commissioner Leerar requested a list of current Sheriff Office vehicles inventory. Combs requested to decommission Sheriffs Office vehicles at 100,000 miles. The Commissioners would like to see a 5-year plan on cycling vehicles in and out of the Sheriff's Office. The Board discussed the purchasing threshold for the Sheriffs office. Currently the cap is \$1,000. Sheriff Combs requested it get raised up to \$10,000. The Commissioners are going to discuss the request. The Sheriff's office suggested signage to be posted at every entrance of the fair ground that four-wheelers are not permitted unless okayed by the Commissioners office. Sheriff Combs mentioned an upcoming firearm training for local school administration. Sheriff Combs does not foresee the Jail opening with the current starting salary at \$18.00 per hour. Sheriff Combs is going to come up with a plan for current staffing and present it to the Commissioners at the end of May.

Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the Sheriff's purchasing threshold to \$3,500. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.

At 11:40 a.m., the Commissioners discussed the Contract for the Night Show for the 2023 Fair. Commissioner Gates moved to not pursue the Madi and Tae Contract for the 2023 Fair, Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Gates moved to approve the purchase of the 2024 Tahoe to not exceed the amount of \$74,500. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners will be April 27, 2023.

Scott Weaver, Chairman

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