



YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
November 14, 2023
Minutes¹

On November 14, 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.

Liquor License

Nancy Wright presented for signature, the County Retail Liquor License Kirk Super's LLC, and the Retail Liquor License Renewal for Kirk Supers.

Commissioner Gates moved to sign the County Retail Liquor License Renewal for Kirk Supers. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

Road and Bridge

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

- *Salary Authorization* – Andersen presented a Salary Authorization for a Blade/Equipment Operator. **Commissioner Gates moved to approve the salary authorization for the Blade/Equipment Operator position at \$18.00 per hour. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**
- *Equipment Trade for 2024* – Andersen presented the purchase contract for a 2024 equipment purchase of a CAT Grader and a Walk and Roll Packer. **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the 2024 equipment purchase of a CAT Grader and a Walk and Roll Packer in the amount of \$255,288.04 for the 2024 Budget year. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.**
- *Mowing Progress* – The maintenance team has moved into area Y-10. This is the last big chunk of area to mow. The crew will move back into Y-3 and Y-4 for touch ups and keep looking for areas that need to be re-mowed. Repairs will be made to a culvert East of County Road 59. The maintenance crew will also be trimming up a tree located in the county right of way in Laird that is currently touching a building.
- *Maintenance Summary* – The Commissioners reviewed a report on unit 403 showing all of the expenditures made while the county owned and operated the unit. The group discussed the best possible timeline of trading the graders to make sure the Road and Bridge department is getting the most value out of a piece of equipment.
- *Road Report* – Lorimer provided a road report on current projects throughout the county. The blade crew is working on making repairs to County Road KK. Base is currently being laid down and will be topped with material from the Mek-1 gravel pit. Commissioner Leerar requested that Lorimer and Andersen look at the intersection of County Road M and 42. The intersection is difficult for semis to make turns. Lorimer reported that repairs have been made to County Road N between County Road 47 and 48.

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



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, Income Maintenance Supervisor Dalene Rogers and Child Welfare & Adult Protection Supervisor Hollie Hillman 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.

Yuma County Fair Queens

At 11:00 a.m., Yuma County Fair Queen Jordlynn Wilftang joined the Commissioners to give them program updates and request funding for an opportunity to serve dinner to Pro-Rodeo Athletes at the National Western Stock Show. The Fair Queens have an opportunity to go to the stock show and meet with Pro-Rodeo athletes and tell them about Rodeos at the Yuma County Fair. This opportunity could have the potential to get more rodeo contestants to the Yuma County Fair. **Commissioner Gates moved to approve a \$1,000 donation for the Fair Queens to serve dinner to Pro-Rodeo Athletes and the National Western Stock Show, Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.**

McMahan & Associates, Paul Backes

County Auditor Paul Backes of McMahan & Associates joined the Commissioners virtually to present the annual audit results at 11:30 a.m. Backes reviewed the audit process and results from the conduction of the 2022 audit review and discussed recommendations for financial practices moving forward.

County Treasurer

At 2:00, Yuma County Treasurer Chrystal Hammond joined the commissioners to give them departmental updates. **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the Contract with American Financial Credit Services, Inc. to help recover delinquent taxes Commissioner Gates seconded the motion which passed unanimously.** The treasurer's office is current holding tax sales today. There were 155 parcels that went to tax sale and there are two current foreclosures. Hammond is still seeking to fill an empty position in the treasurer's office.

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 October 30, 2023 regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Correspondence –

The Commissioners reviewed a bill from Wern Air that for a Heat Exchanger that was rejected for warranty replacement. The Commissioners would like to have some questions answered about the warranty and bill before proceeding with payment. The group discussed a deposit made for rental of the fairgrounds and whether or not it needs to be returned. Ritchey will meet with the Fairgrounds Event Manager to review the rental agreement to determine whether or not the deposit needs to be returned. Ritchey reported the Fairgrounds Event Manger is going to take a grant writing class on December 13, 2023.

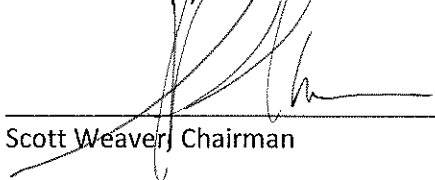


Budget Discussion –

The Board reviewed the current personal leave policy and the financial liability of having a cap of 480 personal leave hours. The board decided it would be a responsible financial decision to cap the personal leave accrual amount for new hires only effective January 1, 2024 to 240 hours. The Commissioners also discussed capping comp time for exempt employees but want to continue discussion on this topic before a decision can be made.

- **Commissioner Leerar moved to cap the personal leave accrual amount to 240 hours for any employee hired January 1, 2024 or after. The employee cannot accrue more than 240 hours. If the employee leaves employment from Yuma County, the max buyout of personal leave is 240 hours for employees hired after January 1, 2024. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.**

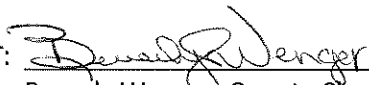
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m. The next regular meetings of the Board of County Commissioners will be on November 30, 2023.



 Scott Weaver, Chairman



 Brandi Ritchey, Administrator

ATTEST: 

 Beverly Wenger, County Clerk

