



YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

May 14, 2024

Minutes¹

On May 14, 2024 at 8:00 a.m., the Yuma County Board of Commissioners met in regular session. Chairman Mike Leerar, Commissioner Scott Weaver, Commissioner Adam Gate, 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

Deputy County Clerk Nancy Wright joined the Commissioners at 8:15 a.m. to present for signature the Application for Renewal for Papa's Bait Shop and Signature on the County Liquor License for Jo's Liquor LLC DBA Jo's Liquor.

- **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the Retail Liquor License Renewal Application for Papa's Bait Shop. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.**
- **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the County Liquor License for Jo's Liquor LLC D.BA. Jo's Liquor. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.**

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.

- *Equipment Reports* – Andersen presented maintenance logs for the three tractors that will possibly be traded in for leased tractors. The group is still discussing whether or not that is the path that they will take.
- *Road Report*– Andersen presented a road report for current and new projects. Four miles has been rebuilt on County Road 54. There is a road access being installed on County Road R and County Road 2, repair will be done on a smashed culvert on County Road LL South of Highway 36.
- *Repair Invoice*– The group discussed an invoice received for repairs made to a Cat Blade. The commissioners would like Andersen and Martin to gather all of the prior maintenance logs and then go discuss the repairs with the mechanics at the repair shop.
- *Budget* – The group discussed creating a depreciation chart that would help trigger when to replace equipment to alleviate cost once the machine starts needing more repairs.

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, Bookkeeper Melanie Fisher, Legal Tech Ana Moran, Eligibility Program Specialists Sheena Fix and Nicole Frerichs and Income Maintenance Supervisor Dalene Rogers 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 10:50 a.m.

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



Yuma County Treasurer

At 11:00 the Commissioners met with Yuma County Treasurer, Chrystal Hammond. Hammond gave an update on investments, tax collection, tax liens and office updates. Hammond has provided 3+1 access to accounts so they can begin their evaluation on investments. The county is 82% collected for the year on taxes. The Treasurer's office has been doing several trainings through the Treasurer's Association on the new Treasurer's Deed process. There are currently two open foreclosures. The group also discussed property tax bills that are running through the state.

Yuma County Water Authority Public Improvement District

At 11:24 a.m. the Commissioners adjourned and convened as the Yuma County Water Authority Public Improvement District Board. Minutes for the Yuma County Water Authority Public Improvement District are kept separately.

Yuma County Land Use

At 11:30 p.m. Land Use updates were provided by Brandi Ritchey and Cindy Taylor. A land Use issue was discussed, and it was determined that there is no significant proof that proper notices had been received by landowners regarding an approved exemption from Subdivision. As a result, the issue will need to be heard again by the Planning Commission and BOCC in June. Additionally, the group discussed the county's 1041 powers, and Ritchey and Taylor will present these powers at the next Planning Commission meeting for review and discussion on updating the land use code.

Fairgrounds

At 1:00 the Commissioners met with Carmen Murray to discuss Fairground Updates. Discussion was had about a bid received for a remodel in the Home-Ec building. The Commissioners requested a revised bid including a vaulted ceiling. Murray will also obtain a bid for electrical work. The group discussed the wage of the employee cleaning at the fairgrounds. The Commissioners suggested that the employee coordinate his cleaning schedule with trips through Yuma, rather than making separate trips just for cleaning. Murray is going to find a conference table for the Fairgrounds office. The Commissioners would like to schedule a meeting with Randy Mekelburg to discuss ongoing repairs and projects at the fairgrounds.

Administrator's Report

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

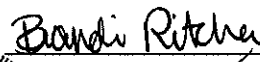
- *Minutes* – The Commissioners reviewed the minutes from the previous BOCC meetings.
 - **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the minutes from the April 30, 2024 regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
 - **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the minutes from the May 7, 2024 special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- *Signatures and Ratifications* –
 - Resolutions/Ordinances/Signatures:
 - **Commissioner Gates moved to approve the salary authorization for an employee moving from part time to full time. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.**

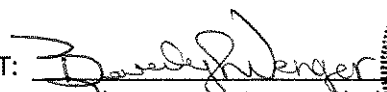


- **Commissioner Gates moved to approve the salary authorization for the new Veteran Service Officer. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.**
- **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve signature on the Letter of Support for Y-W Electric to improve their microwave communications network. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.**
- *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 and Washington Yuma Combined Communications Board. There was also discussion on Resolution 5.14.2024 A, A Resolution Adopting a Fine Structure for the Non-Reporting of Controlled Burns. The group discussed a recent CORA request and the unforeseen expenses that have accrued. Ritchey will reach out to the City of Yuma, Yuma Police Department and the District Attorney to see if Yuma County can receive assistance in covering a portion of these fees.
 - **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve Resolution 5.14.2024 A, A Resolution Adopting a Fine Structure for the Non-Reporting of Controlled Burns with Amendments adding exemptions. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**
- *Correspondence* – Ritchey presented correspondence received since the last meeting including a letter of interest for the open Fair Board position, a quote to have Plains Telephone install a VOIP system at the Landfill, ADA Compliance and a prospective grant for the removal and replacement of trees in the County. Ritchey reported that she will be applying for a grant to help ease the burden of the cost for document remediation for ADA Compliance and will look into the grant for the trees. The Commissioners would like to see the old trees removed and replaced along 7th Street/CR 35 headed out to the Wray Schools. Ritchey reported that the County owned Idalia house has been appraised and as soon as the report is turned in, she will begin the bidding process to get the house sold. The BOCC discussed the effectiveness of utilizing ARPA funds to hire contracted semi drivers to improve the efficiency of hauling material to complete numerous road projects.
 - **Commissioner Weaver moved to appoint Jessica Murray to the Fair Board with a Term Date of August 31, 2026. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**
 - **Commissioner Gates moved to approve the quote for VOIP installation by Plains Telephone at the Yuma County Landfill. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**
 - **Commissioner Weaver move to approve a budget allocation of \$100,000 to allow the road and Bridge Department to hire contracted semi drivers for material hauling purposes this year. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m. The next regular meetings of the Board of County Commissioners will be on April 30, 2024.


Mike Leerar, Chairman


Bandi Ritchey, Administrator

ATTEST: 
Beverly Wenger, County Clerk

