



YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

June 13, 2024

Minutes¹

On June 13, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., the Yuma County Board of Commissioners met in regular session. Chairman Mike Leerar, Commissioner Scott Weaver, 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.

Fairgrounds

At 9:00 a.m. the Commissioners met with Carmen Murray to discuss Fairground Updates. Murray received a cleaning bid that she will be presenting to the Fair Board for approval. The A/C unit is being installed on the concession building today. Commissioner Weaver asked Murray to get in touch with Todd from Mega Music to get ahold of speaker wire. Murray will be sending Ritchey advertisements to put on the county Facebook page in hopes to increase ticket sales for the night show and rodeo.

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 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 10:50 a.m.

Road and Bridge

Road & Bridge Supervisor Tom Andersen and Parts Foreman Matt Martin joined the meeting at 11:00 a.m. to provide department updates.

- *Structure Change/Parts Position* – After a few weeks without having a Parts Clerk, Andersen and Martin are confident they can manage without filling that position. They are going to do a trial run for 60 days and see how well it works. If that seems to put a burden on Martin, Andersen will re-open the Parks Clerk position. Martin stated he still has an interested party in the mechanic position. The Commissioners suggested that Martin and Andersen look at their budget and come up with a reasonable salary and present it to the board for approval.
- *Road Report*– Andersen presented a road report for current and new projects. County Road 54 has been rebuilt. County Road 51 is currently being rebuilt. There is a section of that road between County Road LL and MM that will be getting new base due to the road being too sandy.
- *New Equipment*– Andersen contacted J.R. Harsh with CAT, to inquire about the whereabouts of a new blade. The blade still hasn't been delivered to the port. Harsh will contact Andersen when the blade is delivered to give him an expected delivery date for the county.
- *Department Reports* – The group discussed the disposal of excess tires that the county has. Andersen and Martin will be looking into a place that takes old tires in Burns, Wyoming. Andersen was also curious if any feedlots would like any of them to cover the pits.

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



Fair Board/Knights of Columbus

At 1:30 p.m. the Commissioners heard from members from the Fair Board and Knights of Columbus. Present were Baylor Buck, David Blach, Tom Mekelburg and Ruben Richarson. Also present was Sheriff Combs, Deputy Allacher and Stacy Post from the Sheriff's office. Sheriff Combs stated that the Yuma County Sheriff's office does not have enough man power to fulfill the security needs at the fairgrounds this year. The Fair Board is going to have to come up with an alternative plan with the Knights of Columbus and present it to the Commissioner's. Baylor Buck and David Blach will submit the Beer Garden plan to Ritchey for the Commissioners to review.

Yuma County Finance

At 2:00 p.m. the Commissioners met with Yuma County Finance Officer, Sarah Carwin. Carwin gave an update on the merge of 911 Authority and the Washington- Yuma Combined Communications Departments. Carwin is working with the Yuma County Treasurer on the technicalities of the banking portion of the merge. Carwin had a phone call with Scott Szabo discussing dissolving the 911 Authority and the original entity number so the State Auditors won't b expecting more audits from 911 Authority.

Office of Emergency Management

At 2:30 p.m. the Commissioners heard a department update from Yuma County Emergency Manager Jake Rockwell. Among topics discussed were fire, weather, Covid & Public Health updates. With all of the moisture received, Yuma County is not currently on the drought monitor. Fast moving storms are likely to continue. Rockwell has an intern helping him update all of the emergency maps throughout the county buildings and has been pleased with all of her help. The group also discussed the recent hail storm and updates on repairs at Hillcrest.

- **Commissioner Gates moved to extend Resolution 05-21-2024 A, A Resolution Declaring A Local Disaster Emergency Declaration until August 30, 2024. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.**

Administrator's Report

At 3:00 p.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 May 31, 2024 regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- *Signatures and Ratifications* –
 - Resolutions/Ordinances/Signatures:
 - **Commissioner Weaver moved to ratify Commissioner Leerar's signature on the 2024 Court Security Grant. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.**
 - **Commissioner Gates moved to approve Resolution 06-13-2024 A, A Resolution Extending the Declaration of a Local Disaster Emergency Declaration until August 30, 2024. Commissioner Weaver 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. The group discussed a recent CORA request and the unforeseen expenses that have accrued. Ritchey will

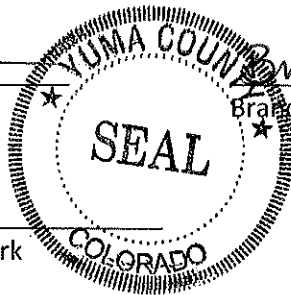


reach out to the City of Yuma, Yuma Police Department and the District Attorney to see if Yuma County can receive assistance in covering a portion of these fees. With the rise in green energy throughout Colorado, the board discussed adding battery storage regulations to the Yuma County Land Use Code. Ritchey will be presenting battery storage regulations from Morgan County to the Planning Commission on July 18, 2024 for review. Ritchey discussed the Conservation Trust Fund with the Commissioners. Ritchey will prepare a resolution to transfer interest funds from the General Fund to the Conservation Fund for the auditor to review in July and then it will be presented to the BOCC for approval.

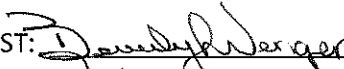
- *Correspondence* – Ritchey presented correspondence received since the last meeting including an application for volunteer insurance from CTSI and e-mail received from NEO Connect. NEO Connect would register Yuma County with the FCC and the CBO (Colorado Broadband Office) to work on the county's behalf to evaluate the fabric data and begin preparations for potential BEAD Grant funding and eligibility determination.
 - **Commissioner Gates moved to approve payment to CTSI for Volunteer Insurance. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.**
 - **Commissioner Gates moved to approve the application with NEO Connect to evaluate the fabric data and begin preparations for potential BEAD Grant finding applications. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. The next regular meetings of the Board of County Commissioners will be on June 27, 2024.


Mike Leerar, Chairman




Brandi Ritchey, Administrator

ATTEST: 
Beverly Wenger, County Clerk