



YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
December 13, 2024
Minutes¹

On December 13, 2024 at 8:00 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.

Road and Bridge

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

- *Sale of Assets* – Andersen took the following items to the Brush Auction in December; two 1983 Chevy Dump Trucks, a 2002 Chevy Pickup, various saddle tanks for diesel, three air compressors and used truck tires. The estimated revenue from this sale was \$15,500.
- *Dozer Repair* – Andersen received a detailed bid back from Wear Parts and Equipment for the repair of the D8 Bulldozer. The group was in agreement to proceed with the bid. Andersen will have the parts ordered so the dozer can be repaired during the winter months.
- *Snow Plowing Permit* – Andersen attended a Right-of-Way law meeting at the CCI winter conference, where the topic of Snow Plowing Permits was discussed. A few counties in Colorado implement Snow Removal Permits for Public Roads to maintain compliance with the county standards. Before Yuma County considers establishing a Snow Removal Permit, the Commissioners would like Andersen and Lorimer to engage in discussions with local landowners who provide snow removal services. The goal is to clarify Yuma County’s expectations regarding snow removal practices to prevent damage to the road crown.
- *Road Report* – County Road Q had base material laid down from County Road 30 to County Road 26. Next week, a three-mile stretch on County Road M from County Road 39 to County Road 42 will be ripped and relayed along with a two-mile stretch on County Road 42 East of County Road M. After Christmas, trucks will start hauling material to area blades to patch holes during the winter season. Big projects will start back up in the spring when the weather warms up allowing water to be sprayed on the roads.

Administrator’s Report

At 9:30 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 November 27, 2024 regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

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

- *Resolutions/Ordinances/Signatures and Ratifications –*
 - **Commissioner Gates moved to approve signature on the Colorado Division of Veterans Affairs County Application for Semi-annual Payment. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.**
 - **Commissioner Gates moved to sign the Commercial Property Appraisal contract with Value West. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion. The motion 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. Jolynn Midcap from the CSU Extension office stopped by to request funds for mileage for shooting sports events and a five-dollar contribution towards the 4-H entry fee for the kid's state dues.
 - **Commissioner Gates moved to contribute \$300 towards the shooting sports mileage and a five-dollar contribution paid to Yumex for the kids state 4-H dues. The funds will be paid out of fund 05-000-6480.**

- *Correspondence –* Ritchey shared recent correspondence including discussion on an amended IGA between surrounding counties and Northeast Colorado Health Department. Commissioner Leerar suggested having a quarterly county meeting with the municipalities. Ritchey will reach out to the municipalities and schedule a luncheon meeting.

Yuma County Fair Queens

At 11:00 a.m. the Commissioners heard a department update from Yuma County Fair Queens. Michelle Smith and Jalynn Archer were present. Archer presented a brochure outlining the Fair Queens' goals, information about the queens, and plans for 2025. Smith noted that there has been an increase in prices for various items impacting the budget and is requesting an additional \$200 for the Fair Queen budget. Archer is planning a Cajun boil fundraiser combined with goat roping to help generate more funds. Additionally, Smith suggested moving the eligibility date of birth to December of the year of tryouts to allow for a broader pool of contestants.

CDL Testing Unit

At 11:30 a.m. the Commissioners met with Thomas Morgan and Carmen Murray from the Yuma County CDL Testing Unit. After assessing the 2025 budget, it is clear that the CDL Testing Unit is costing the county over \$40,000 annually. The commissioners proposed to discontinue bus testing in January 2025 and CDL testing in June 2025. However, they expressed willingness to consider Thomas continuing testing on a part-time basis after June 2025 if his schedule allows. The Commissioners expressed their gratitude for Morgan and Murray for their effective management of the testing unit.

Yuma County Treasurer

At 1:00 the Commissioners were joined by Yuma County Treasurer, Chrystal Hammond. Hammond gave many updates including Tax Collection. The county is currently 99.29 % collected on taxes. There was a tax role correction related to a property that went to tax lien sale which included Republican River Water fees. This caused the Republican River Water account to enter a negative balance. After discussions with the county auditor, Hammond will transfer funds from Fund 39 to correct the issue. After January 1st, when pre-collected tax money can be released, Chrystal will prepare a resolution to return the transferred funds to Fund 39.



- Commissioner Weaver moved to approve signature on Resolution 12-13-2024 D, A Resolution Transferring \$4,260.00 from Fund 039 to Fund 047. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Yuma County Water Authority Public Improvement District

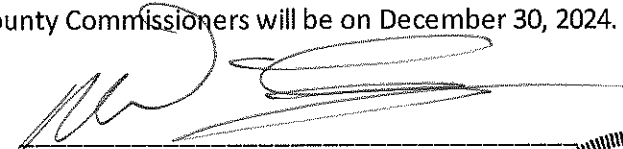
At 1:15 p.m. the Commissioners adjourned and convened as the Yuma County Water Authority Public Improvement District Board. Minutes for the Yuma County Water Authority Public Improvement District are kept separately.

2025 Budget Hearing

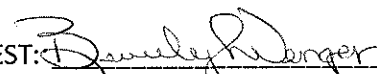
At 1:30 p.m., Chairman Leerar opened the hearing to accept public comment on the proposed 2025 budgets for Yuma County, Yuma County Landfill, Yuma County Water Authority, and the Yuma County Water Authority Public Improvement District. The Commissioners reviewed the budget documents. No member of the public was present to make comments. The hearing was closed at approximately 3:00 p.m.

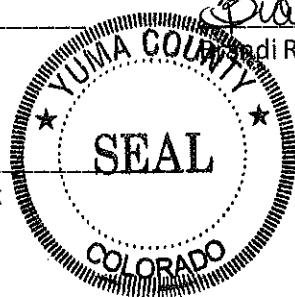
- Commissioner Weaver moved to approve Resolution 12-13-2024 A setting Yuma County's Mill Levy for the year 2024 to defray costs for the 2025 budget year. The total Yuma County Mill Levy is set at 21.714 mills with the General Fund receiving 16.685 mills, with no abatement of mills. Road and Bridge is to receive 2.529 mills; Human Services 1.000 mill; Insurance Fund 1.250 mills; and Recreation Fund 0.250 mills. The total tax revenue expected to be collected for all County Funds is \$7,037,208. The 2024 County Assessed Valuation, as certified with the County Assessor is \$324,086,200. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.
- Commissioner Gates moved to approve Resolution 12-13-2024 B to adopt the 2025 budget which summarizes expenditures and revenues for each fund and adopts a budget for the County of Yuma, Colorado, for the calendar year, beginning the first day of January 2025 and ending on the last day of December 2025. Total Expenditures approved \$26,267,689.55. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Gates moved to approve Resolution 12-15-2022 C which appropriates sums of money to the various Yuma County funds and spending agencies for the 2025 budget year. Commissioner Weaver seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:45p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners will be on December 30, 2024.


Mike Leerar, Chairman


Brandi Ritchey, Administrator

ATTEST: 
Beverly Wenger, County Clerk





**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF YUMA, STATE OF COLORADO
ORDINANCE NO. 2024-01**

A YUMA COUNTY ORDINANCE TO PROTECT THE RIGHT TO CARRY FIREARMS IN SENSITIVE SPACES IN ACCORDANCE WITH SB24-131.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Yuma County, State of Colorado, has convened a duly and lawfully called regular meeting on the 27th day of November, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.R.S. § 30-11-103, the Board of County Commissioners of Yuma County, Colorado (hereinafter the “Board”), has the authority to exercise all County powers for the unincorporated areas of Yuma County; and

WHEREAS, on May 9, 2024, the Colorado legislature approved the adoption of SB 24-131, *Prohibiting carrying a Firearm in Sensitive Spaces Recognized by the United States Supreme Court as Places at Which Longstanding Laws Prohibited Carrying Firearms*, which describes certain sensitive spaces at which the state can regulate carrying firearms; and

WHEREAS, SB 24-131 expressly permits a local government to enact an ordinance, regulation, or other law that permits a person to carry a firearm in local government places, described in C.R.S. § 1812-105.3(1)(b); and

WHEREAS, Yuma County, a local government and political subdivision of the State of Colorado, exercises its authority through this Ordinance to permit persons not otherwise prohibited from owning or carrying firearms to carry such firearms on the property or within any building listed in C.R.S. § 18-12-105.3(b)(I-III), including the places in Yuma County listed in this Ordinance, except as specifically provided herein; and

WHEREAS, carrying a firearm in Yuma County “courthouse or any other building or portion of a building used for court proceedings” remains prohibited, except for law enforcement or security personnel for a courthouse or other building used for court proceedings, pursuant to C.R.S. § 18-12-105.3(2)(a)-(e); and

WHEREAS, the Board has the authority pursuant to C.R.S. § 30-11-101(2) to adopt and enforce ordinances and resolutions regarding health, safety and welfare issues.



NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Yuma, State of Colorado, as follows:

Section 1. Purpose

The purpose of this Ordinance is to protect and promote the public health, safety and general welfare of the citizens and residents of Yuma County, Colorado; to maintain fundamental constitutional rights and liberty; and to maintain the Second Amendment rights of Yuma County citizens after passage of SB 24-131 by the Colorado legislature.

Section 2. Definitions

- 2.1 Unless otherwise specified or the context otherwise requires, any terms used herein shall have same meanings and definitions as provided in C.R.S. § 18-1-901 and SB 24-131.
- 2.2 “Firearm” means any handgun, automatic, revolver, pistol, rifle, shotgun, or other instrument or device capable or intended to be capable of discharging bullets, cartridges, or other explosive charges.

Section 3. Applicability

This Ordinance shall apply throughout unincorporated Yuma County, including County buildings which may be deemed “sensitive spaces” as defined by SB 24-131. This Ordinance shall in no way limit application and enforcement of any statutes of the State of Colorado but shall be in addition thereto.

Section 4. Permission to carry firearms in the following places in Yuma County.

The Board of County Commissioners permits persons who are not otherwise prohibited from owning or carrying firearms to carry firearms to carry firearms on the property or within any building listed in C.R.S. § 18-12-105.3 (b)(I-III), including the following places in Yuma County and including the adjacent parking areas:

- (I) The Yuma County Courthouse at 310 Ash Street, Suite A, Wray, Colorado, including the Yuma County Board of County Commissioners’ meeting room the offices of the County Administrator, except as provided in Section 5; and
- (II) Any other County Offices or County-owned facilities.



Section 5. Prohibition on carrying a firearm in the Yuma County courthouse.

Carrying a firearm in the Yuma County “courtroom or any other building or portion of a building used for court proceedings” remains prohibited, except for law enforcement or security personnel for a courthouse or other building used for court proceedings, pursuant to C.R.S. § 18-12-105.3(2)(a)-(e). Additionally, firearms are prohibited in the office of the County Clerk and Recorder, the chief election official of Yuma County, and any County offices in which election work is undertaken by County employees, officials, election workers and similar individuals.

Section 6. Severability

Should any section or provision of this Ordinance be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional or invalid, such declaration shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance as a whole or any part thereof other than the part so declared to be unconstitutional or invalid.

Section 7. Interpretation

This Ordinance shall be so interpreted and construed as to maintain as status quo the ability to carry firearms which existed prior to the passage and adoption of SB 24-131 within the unincorporated areas of Yuma County, Colorado.

Section 8. Safety Clause

The Board hereby finds, determines and declares that this Ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation and protection of the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Yuma County, Colorado Pursuant to C.R.S. § 30-15-405, this Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption on the second and final reading.

Section 9. Effective Date

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon adoption on the second and final reading and shall remain in effect until such time as this Ordinance is amended, suspended, or repealed.

Section 10. Certification

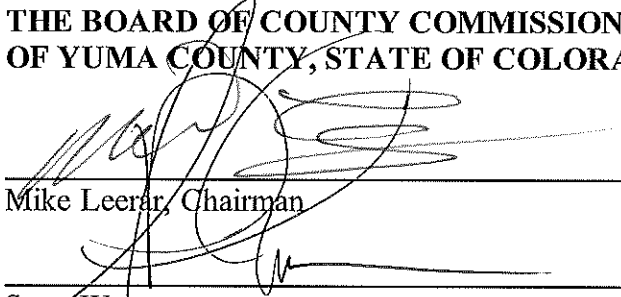
The Yuma County Clerk shall certify to the passage of this Ordinance and shall have on file copies of this Ordinance available for inspection by the public during normal working hours.



MOVED, READ AND ADOPTED ON SECOND READING by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Yuma, State of Colorado, at its regular meeting held on the 30th day of December, 2024. The above and foregoing Ordinance was, on a motion duly made and seconded, adopted by unanimous vote of the Board of Yuma County Commissioners and ordered published by reference and title only in the Wray Gazette and Yuma Pioneer.


EFFECTIVE DATE: Pursuant to C.R.S. § 30-15-405, this Ordinance No. 2024-01 shall take effect immediately upon adoption on the second and final reading on December 30th, 2024.

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF YUMA COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO**



Mike Leerar, Chairman

Scott Weaver

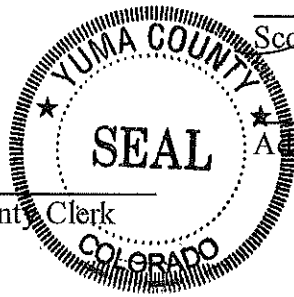


Adam Gates

ATTEST:



Beverly A. Wenger, County Clerk



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF YUMA, STATE OF COLORADO**

RESOLUTION NO. 12-13-2024 C

A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING \$4,260.00 FROM FUND 039 TO FUND 074

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Yuma County, State of Colorado, has convened a duly and lawfully called regular meeting on the 13th day of December, 2024; and,

WHEREAS, a tax roll correction completed by the Yuma County Assessor has caused Fund 074 (Republican River Water Conservation District) to have a negative fund balance;

WHEREAS, the Yuma County Treasurer is currently holding sufficient monies in the Fund 039 (Prepaid Taxes) custodial account to be credited to Fund 074 for 2024 Prepaid Tax;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Commissioners of Yuma County, State of Colorado approve the transfer of Four Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Dollars and no cents (\$4,260.00) from the Prepaid Tax Account #039 to the Republican River Water Conservation District Fund #074.

MOVED, READ, AND ADOPTED by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Yuma, State of Colorado, at its regular meeting held on the 13th day of December, 2024. The above and foregoing Resolution was, on a motion duly made and seconded, adopted by unanimous vote of the Board of County Commissioners.


**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF YUMA COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO**



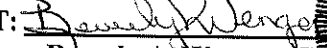
Mike Leerar, Chairman



Scott Weaver, Commissioner



Rebecca Gates, Commissioner

ATTEST: 

Beverly A. Wenger, County Clerk

