

YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

January 14, 2025

Minutes¹

On January 14, 2025 at 8:00 a.m., the Yuma County Board of Commissioners met in regular session. Commissioner Scott Weaver, Commissioner Mike Leerar, Chairman 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.

Yuma County Clerk

At 8:00 a.m. Yuma County Clerk, Beverly Wenger joined the Commissioners to swear in Commissioner Scott Weaver and Commissioner Mike Leerar for their elected 4-year terms.

Public Comment

At 8:15 a.m. Larry Hibbert joined the Commissioners to offer a prayer for their guidance and for a prosperous year for Yuma County.

Road and Bridge

Road & Bridge Blade Foreman Justin Lorimer joined the meeting at 8:30 a.m. to provide department updates.

- *Permit Update* – After review, it had been noticed that there was not a pole and wire fee on the Underground and Utility Pricing. Ritchey updated the permit to reflect similar rates in the area. The Commissioners would like the verbiage on the utility poles
**Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the permit update with the verbiage change.
Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- *Excess Tires* – The road and bridge crew are going to haul excess tires to Burns Wyoming. There is an excess amount of grader tires. Commissioner Leerar would like Lorimer or Andersen to call the Yuma County Landfill and see if they would at least take the excess semi tires to avoid hauling them to Wyoming.
- *Road Report* – Lorimer provided the Commissioners with an update on road projects, noting that a 2 mile stretch of County Road M has been completely redone, with one mile remaining. The next project will focus on County Road 42, West of Highway 385. Commissioner Weaver would like Lorimer to reach out to Schaffner’s regarding a product that can be sprayed on the roads to maintain the road. The Commissioners also reported receiving positive feedback from the public regarding various road sections. Additionally, they discussed plans for leasing trucks this summer, with the intention of utilizing them for the reconstruction of County Road KK and potentially County Road PP.5. A request to extend County Road J ¼ of a Mile South of County Road 26 was also discussed. It was determined to leave the road as it is.
- *Bids for F450* – Andersen presented a bid for an F450 at \$68,176.44 from Bonanza. The Commissioners would like Andersen to reach out to Korf for a bid on the 2024 Dodge they have available.

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, Child Welfare & Adult Protection Supervisor Hollie Hillman 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 10:30 a.m.

Payroll Office

At 11:00 a.m. Payroll Officer Jessica Lippert joined the Commissioners to discuss various payroll items. The group evaluated a payroll request and decided to maintain the current payroll process for that employee. The group also discussed Workman's Compensation for Fund 7. The Commissioners would like the Finance Office to reach out to Fund 7 and CTSI to ensure that CTSI works with Fund 7 agencies on claims processing.

Yuma County Clerk

At 11:30 a.m. the Commissioners were joined by Yuma County Clerk, Beverly Wenger and Deputy County Clerk, Pam Zuege. Wenger joined the Commissioners to discuss precinct redistricting. Sidwell estimated approximately \$1,300 dollars to draw up a new precinct map. Re-designing the precinct map would significantly decrease the amount of ballot styles and decrease printing costs for the Clerk's office. Wenger is going to see if there are any other possible ways to distribute the precinct map and discuss the options with the Commissioners before a decision is made. Wenger reported that she has a potential new hire that will start the following Monday. With retirement coming up, the Commissioners would like Wenger to interview the other potential candidates to make sure the potential vacancies are filled.

Office of Emergency Management

At 1:00 p.m. the Commissioners received an update from Yuma County Emergency Manager Jake Rockwell. Key topics included fire safety, weather conditions, and public health information. Rockwell reported that despite dry conditions, Yuma County is currently classified as drought-free. He also indicated that winter-like conditions are expected to persist. Additionally, he noted the completion of the Quarter 4 EMPG Narrative and the submission of the 2025 Grant application.

County Treasurer, Chrystal Hammond

At 2:00 PM, Yuma County Treasurer Chrystal Hammond met with the Commissioners to provide departmental updates. The discussion included Resolution 1-14-2025C, which addressed the investment policy recommendations of 3+1. Treasurer Hammond confirmed that the tax rollover process is complete and that tax statements have been sent to the printer. The Commissioners also reviewed Resolution 1-14-2025F, which pertains to the removal of uncollectible taxes from the tax roll. Hammond presented her 4th Quarter Trustee Report for approval, noting seven open foreclosures, including one with an outstanding overbid. The meeting concluded with a review of the Treasurer's semi-annual report.

Commissioner Leerar moved to approve signature on the 2024 fourth quarter Public Trustee report as presented. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motions, which passed by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the account activity. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.



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 December 30, 2024, regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

- *Signatures and Ratifications* –
 - Resolutions/Ordinances/Signatures:
 - **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve signature on Resolution 1-14-2025 A transferring \$29,412.50 Soehner Water Rights payment from Fund 10 to Fund 1 for 2024. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
 - **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve signature on Resolution 1-14-2025 B transferring \$5,000 from Fund 11 to Fund 21 for Landfill Post Closure costs for 2022 as presented. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.**
 - **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve signature on Resolution 1-14-2025 C Authorizing the Yuma County Treasurer to Deposit and Invest Funds. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.**
 - **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve signature on Resolution 1-14-2025 D Approving Authorized Signers on All Accounts. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
 - **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve signature on Resolution 1-14-2025 E approving the transfer of \$100,000.00 from Fund 1 to Fund 22. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.**
 - **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve signature on Resolution 1-14-2025 F Approving Removal of Uncollectable Taxes from the Tax Roll. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.**
 - **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the 2025 Salary sheets as proposed in the 2025 budget presented. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.**
 - **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the Service agreement between UBEO and Yuma County for \$1,108. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.**
 - **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve payment to the Eckley Community Center for \$980 for building rent. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.**
 - **Commissioner Leerar moved to ratify Commissioner Gates signature on the 2025 EMPG Grant. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**



- *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. Additionally, the Commissioners addressed an invoice from CTSI related to administrative charges on run-out claims, requesting Ritchey to investigate the basis for the billed amount. The group also discussed recent happenings at the Yuma County Fairgrounds, including the expenses associated with operating a borrowed generator to power the air conditioning in the concessions building.

Commissioner Weaver moved to make a donation from the Fairgrounds Budget to the Fair Premium account in the amount of \$688.70. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

- *Correspondence* – Ritchey provided an update on correspondence received since the last meeting. She reported the approval of the court security grant in the amount of \$5,845.51. The group reviewed a letter prepared by Ritchey to inform the EMS of their approved reimbursable budget allocation for 2025. Additionally, discussions were held regarding the CTSI steering committee letter of interest and proxy designation, as well as the upcoming municipalities meeting and desired outcomes for that event.

Commissioner Leerar moved to designate Brandi Ritchey as Proxy on behalf of Yuma County Commissioners for the 2025 Steering Committees. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

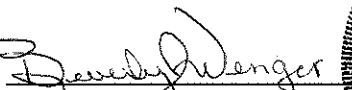
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. The next regular meetings of the Board of County Commissioners will be on January 29, 2025.



Adam Gates, Chairman



Brandi Ritchey, Administrator

ATTEST: 

Beverly Wenger, County Clerk

