

YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

March 12, 2025

Minutes¹

On March 12, 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.

Liquor License

County Administrator, Brandi Ritchey joined the Commissioners at 8:15 a.m. to present for signature the Colorado Retail Liquor License Applications for Valson's Restaurants LLC and Whiskey and Waves LLC.

- **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve signature on the Colorado Retail Liquor License Application for Valson's Restaurants LLC. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.**
- **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the signature on the State Retail Colorado Retail Liquor License Application for Whiskey and Waves LLC. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.**

Road and Bridge

Road and Bridge Supervisor Tom Andersen joined the meeting at 8:00 a.m. to provide department updates.

- **Equipment** – Andersen updated the Commissioners on the status of equipment repairs. Currently, two motor graders are undergoing warranty work. The new Cat grader is receiving a motor replacement, while the new John Deere grader is having repairs done on a hub. Both graders are covered under warranty, and the dealers have provided loaner blades until the repairs are completed and the graders are returned. Andersen is going to start gathering quotes for next year's budget. He is predicting that he will need to replace a few mowers and possibly one of the F-150 pickups.
- **Efficiency's** – The group reviewed the efficiency report submitted by Andersen. Efficiency levels have increased compared to last month. However, they are expected to remain lower until the blades currently undergoing warranty repairs are back in operation.
- **Road Report**- Andersen provided the Commissioners with a road report. Topcoat is being hauled to the Y-14 area and to County Road 45 West of County Road M. Repairs have been started on County Road 42 West of Highway 385 where they will be ripping and relaying material.
- **New Hire** – Andersen presented two salary authorizations and job descriptions for approval. Andersen has hired two new employees, one mechanic and one equipment operator.
 - **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the Job Description and Salary Authorization for the mechanic position for \$70,000/year. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.**
 - **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the Job Description and Salary Authorization for the Equipment Operator position for \$38,480.00/year. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.**

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, Child Welfare & Adult Protection Supervisor Hollie Hillman, Income Maintenance Supervisor Dalene Rogers, Legal Tech Ana Moran and Administrative Assistant Lori Summers 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.

Region 1 Grant Navigator

At 11:00 a.m., the commissioners were joined by Kent Vance, the Region 1 Grant Navigator from NECALG. Kent provided an update on the current grants available. While he typically focuses on federal grants for organizations, he is also open to exploring other opportunities that could benefit Yuma County. Vance highlighted the BRIC Grant, which would support EMS services, and the SS4A Grant aimed at promoting Safer Streets for All. He noted that it can be challenging for rural counties to qualify for the SS4A Grant, as it requires a comprehensive safety plan to be in place.

Yuma County Treasurer

At 11:30 a.m., the Commissioners were joined by Yuma County Treasurer Chrystal Hammond for her monthly update. Hammond provided insights on various topics, including investments, tax collection, tax liens, the public trustee report, and office information. The deadline for the first half of tax collections has passed without any significant issues. Hammond discussed the delayed printing problem with the printing company, which they issued her a credit to apply towards the next round of printing. Currently, the county has collected 28.87% of the 2024 property taxes. There are two foreclosure sales scheduled, and six foreclosures remain open. Hammond has been in contact with Senator Byron Pelton regarding the oil and gas issues Yuma County is facing with Omimex and is working to coordinate a time to discuss a bill aimed at addressing this matter.

Office of Emergency Management

At 1:00 p.m., the Commissioners received an update from Yuma County Emergency Manager Jake Rockwell. The key topics covered included fire safety, weather conditions, and public health information. Rockwell reported that cases of RSV and flu remain elevated. He and the Commissioners also discussed a tornado shelter plan for the courthouse, during which they visited the area to address various concerns. Additionally, Jake provided an update on the verbiage of the State Fire Operating Plan.

- **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the updated Yuma County Operating Plan. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.**




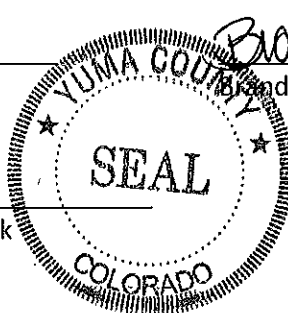
Administrator's Report

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 Weaver moved to approve the minutes from the February 27, 2025, regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- **CAPP Report** – Ritchey updated the Commissioners on the 2024 Hail Claim. The new adjuster is waiting on a few more measurements from Rockwell Construction. After receiving those reports, they will provide CTSI with an updated adjuster's report.
- **Department Reports** – The Commissioners received various department reports including an update on the administration of the Eastern Transportation Planning Region and discussion of business undertaken by the 911 Authority Board. Additionally, Ritchey reported that she sent an appeal letter regarding the Run-Out Claims Invoice to CTSI and has not had any communication from the CTSI board yet.
- **Correspondence** – Ritchey provided an update on the correspondence received since the last meeting. She reported that a Property Tax Reimbursement Agreement Request had been received from the WRAC, along with a request from the Yuma Prom Committee to reduce the rental rate for their after-prom party at the Fairgrounds building. Additionally, Ritchey presented the annual Pro-Green lawn care agreement for approval.
 - **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the property tax reimbursement request for the WRAC in the amount of \$122.72. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.**
 - **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the lawn care contracts for DHS, Yuma County and the Fairgrounds. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion. The motion 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 March 27, 2025.


Adam Gates, Chairman




Brandi Ritchey, Administrator

ATTEST: 
Beverly Wenger, County Clerk