



YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

September 16, 2025

Minutes¹

On September 16, 2025 at 8:00 a.m., the Yuma County Board of Commissioners met in regular session. Chairman Adam Gates, Commissioner Scott Weaver, Commissioner Mike Leerar, 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 Retail Liquor License Renewal Applications for Vernon Liquor LLC and Kirk Super's INC as well as the Special Events Permit State Application and County Special Events Permit for Sandhill Bloomers.

- **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the signature on the Retail Liquor License Renewal Application for Vernon Liquor LLC DBA Vernon Liquor. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**
- **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the signature on the Retail Liquor License Renewal Application for Kirk Super's INC DBA Kirk Super's. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.**
- **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the State Application for a Special Events Permit for Sandhill Bloomers. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the County Special Events Permit for Sandhill Bloomers. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

Road and Bridge

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

- **Capital Equipment** – The group reviewed several blades that are no longer under warranty. Andersen will obtain a quote for the replacement of unit 405 for the 2026 budget. Unit 711, the last of the damaged semis from the 2024 hailstorm is currently at the body shop for repairs.
- **Salary Authorizations** - Andersen submitted two salary authorizations: one for an equipment operator in the amount of \$19.00 and another for maintenance in the amount of \$17.51.
 - **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the Equipment Operator Salary Authorization in the amount of \$19.00/hour. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**
 - **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the Maintenance Salary Authorization in the amount of \$17.51/hour. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**
- **Budget** - The group reviewed the current budget as of today, looked over various line items and discussed the projected revenue for 2026. The HUTF figures are expected to be available soon. Additionally, the group discussed the anticipated health insurance increase and several other factors that will impact the 2026 budget.

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



- *Road Report* - The blading crew has completed hole patching, fixed washouts and other repairs on County Road E South of County Road 54, County Road PP from County Road 9 to County Road 4, County Road DD South of County Road 25, County Road HH North of County Road 54, County Road K South of County Road 13, County Road L South of County Road 23, County Road 46 West of County Road K, County Road N North of County Road 46 and County Road CC and County Road 38.

Human Services

The Board of County Commissioners convened as the Board of Social Services at 9:30 a.m. Human Services Director Kara Hoover, Income Maintenance Supervisor Dalene Rogers, Adult Protection Supervisor Hollie Hillman and Office Manager Lori Summers were present. The entire staff gathered for a virtual presentation from the state for a distinguished service award. The Department of Human Services maintains detailed minutes of the Board of Social Services separately. The Board of County Commissioners reconvened at 11:00 a.m.

City of Yuma

At 11:00 a.m., the Commissioners welcomed Eric Duthie, the new Town Manager of the City of Yuma, for an introduction. City of Yuma Mayor Tim McClung was also present. The group engaged in discussions about various developments across Yuma County, exploring a range of topics including the Eastern Transportation Planning Region, EMS services, and economic development.

Treasurer

At 11:30 a.m., the Commissioners were joined by Yuma County Treasurer Chrystal Hammond for her monthly update. Hammond provided insights on several topics, including investments, tax collection, tax liens, the public trustee report, and office information. Hammond stated that there were not a lot of investment changes at this time. There is a significant number of redemptions coming over the next month that will be reinvested into termed investments. Hammond reported that Yuma County has currently collected 98.77% of 2024 property taxes. There are four active foreclosures. The treasurer's office has begun working with Harris to start the initial steps for a potential software conversion. Hammond received an amendment to the contract from Harris. The county attorney reviewed the contract and saw no issues.

Emergency Management

At 1:00 p.m., the Commissioners received an update from Yuma County Emergency Manager Jake Rockwell. Key topics included fire safety measures, current weather conditions, and relevant public health information. Rockwell gave an update on the 2025 and 2026 EMPG Grant which will be funded through the 2nd quarter of 2026. There will be a Red Cross shelter training on September 27th at the Grass Roots center in Joes from 12:00pm to 4:00pm. Rockwell is in the process of scheduling meetings with local stakeholders to discuss the list of shelters in the county and sharing personnel and resources to help to respond to large fires and emergencies.

Board Member Interviews

At 1:30 p.m., the Commissioners held interviews with interested parties for the RRWCD and Fair board.

- **Commissioner Weaver moved to appoint Baylor Buck, Tom Mekelburg and Bill Sharon to the Fairboard for terms through 8/31/2028. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**
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- Commissioner Weaver moved to appoint Brad Rock to be the representative for Yuma County on the RRWCD Board for a term through August 31, 2028. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

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 Leerar moved to approve the minutes from the August 28, 2025 regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the Yuma County accounts payable check sequence 84192-84222 in the amount of \$39,697.81 ran on 8/29/2025, sequence 84223-84287 in the amount of \$381,120.67 ran on 9/4/2025, sequence 84288-84332 in the amount of \$171,304.49 ran on 9/12/2025 and payroll check 35336 and EFT in the amount of \$269,620.40 ran on 9/3/2025. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

CAPP Report Review & Worker's Compensation Report Review – Ritchey provided an update on the liability insurance for South Y-W and Idalia Ambulance services. The company that previously held the liability insurance policy will no longer offer that type of coverage at renewal. Ritchey is currently awaiting quotes from alternative insurance agencies and will share them with the commissioners upon receipt.

Resolutions/Ordinances/Signatures –

- Commissioner Leerar moved to approve Resolution 09/16/2025 A, a resolution approving the sale for surplus inventory. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.
- Commissioner Weaver moved to approve Resolution 09/16/2025 B, a resolution approving the change of credit card users for the County Clerk's Office that are held at First Pioneer National Bank. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.
- Commissioner Leerar moved to approve signature on the Amended Resolution 08-28-2025D for MIN 0725-02. The Minor Land Use Permit for Sand Lily Wind Farm and Donna Roberts is proposing to install a temporary meteorological tower on an approximately 2-acre footprint within SW 1/4, Section 13, Township 1N, Range 43W for purposes of collecting data on wind speed and direction with the stipulation that the setbacks follow county code. The project is asking for a term of 3(three) years for the tower. Once enough data is collected, the tower will be removed, and the underlying land returned to its current condition. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.




- Commissioner Leerar moved to approve signature on the Amended Resolution 08-25-2025E for MIN0725-03. The Minor Land Use Permit Sand Lily Wind Farm and Clabaugh, proposing to install a temporary meteorological tower on an approximately 2-acre footprint within E ½ SW 1/4, Section 7, Township 1S, Range 42W for purposes of collecting data on wind speed and direction. The project is asking for a term of 3(three) years for the tower. Once enough data is collected, the tower will be removed, and the underlying land returned to its current condition with the stipulation that the setbacks follow county code. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

Department Reports – The Commissioners reviewed several departmental reports, which included an update on the administration of the Eastern Transportation Planning Region and a discussion regarding the activities of the 911 Authority Board.


Correspondence – Ritchey received a Concurrence Letter from Colorado Parks and Wildlife regarding the renewal of the SWA Wieser Access Lease, as well as the 2026 Stratton Equity Propane sign-up letter for several Road and Bridge shops. The Commissioners discussed moving forward with the Prepaid Contract for 2026.

- Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the CPW Concurrence Letter for the SWA Wieser Access Lease Renewal. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed by a 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 September 30, 2025.


Adam Gates, Chairman


Brandi Ritchey, Administrator

ATTEST: 
Haleigh D. Studer, County Clerk

