



## YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

October 16, 2025

### Minutes<sup>1</sup>

On October 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.

#### 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.

- **Asset Acquisition** – Andersen would like to sell Yuma County a 2014 Dodge Pickup he acquired for \$200.00. Andersen stated that it would not take much in parts to get the pickup running and it would make a great replacement for older area pickups that are in the fleet.
  - **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the purchase of the 2014 Dodge for \$200.00. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**
- **Road Damage** – A grader operator reported that the road he was overseeing had lost its crown, which was caused by a box blade being used by a nearby landowner. The group discussed potential solutions. Without the crown, it could lead to water accumulation during rain, making the road slick. Andersen plans to reach out to the landowner to find a resolution.
- **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 purchase of new equipment for the budget year of 2026.
  - **Commissioner Leerar moved to ratify the purchase of a new fleet pickup for the Road and Bridge Department to come out of the 2025 capital line 02-702-8940.**
  - **Commissioner Leerar moved to proceed with the purchase of two John Deere graders from 4Rivers Equipment for the 2026 budget year totaling \$518,697.46 to be paid out of the capital line 02-702-8940.**
- **Road Report** - The blading crew has continued to repair road damage from fall harvest and hauling materials to area blades. No major projects are currently taking place.

#### 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 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.

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

### Administrator's Report

At 11:00 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 Weaver moved to approve the minutes from the September 30, 2025 regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the Yuma County accounts payable check sequence 84382-84451 in the amount of \$630,851.79 ran on 10/6/2025, sequence 84452-84478 in the amount of \$53,147.02 ran on 10/10/2025, and payroll check 35337 and EFT in the amount of \$270,572.35 ran on 10/2/2025. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

*Resolutions/Ordinances/Signatures* –

- **Commissioner Weaver moved to amend Resolution 05/29/2025 A to be renamed 05/29/2025 E a resolution regarding the extension of time for completion of the Major Land Use Permit for Leo Gorgens on behalf of Nextera, a registered agency for Niyol Solar LLC. Commissioner Leerar 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. Ritchey reported that the Court Security Grant reimbursement of \$5,870.06 for the first quarter of Fund Year 2025-2026 had been approved. Ritchey also received a response from the new landowners of the Dreher gravel pit, who indicated that they are not interested in renewing the lease with Yuma County. Ritchey stated that the landowners have yet to provide an official letter confirming their intention to withdraw from the lease. As it stands, the county can continue to remove gravel from the Dreher pit under the existing lease until August 2026.

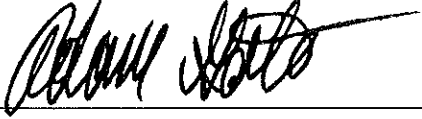
### Emergency Management

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 stated that tornado siren testing will remain ongoing as the warm weather continues. The group also reviewed the 2026 OEM Budget The EMPG grant is anticipated to extend through the first and second quarters of 2026. Rockwell indicated that the state will need to find an alternative grant unless it commits to following the current federal administration's immigration policies in order to continue to secure the EMPG grant.

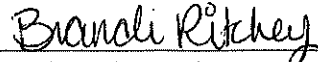
### Veteran Service Officer

At 1:30 p.m., the Veteran Service Officer Adam Beauprez joined the Commissioners to give them an update on the Veterans Service Officer department. Beauprez had a visit from the Regional Veteran Service Officer recently and expressed concerns about new stringent restrictions being imposed by the state, which are complicating his ability to effectively operate as a part-time Veteran Service Officer. He indicated that, after April 2026, he will no longer be able to serve in this role for Yuma County. Beauprez suggested that Yuma County consider approaching Kit Carson County to see if there is a possibility of their VSO providing coverage for Yuma County as well.

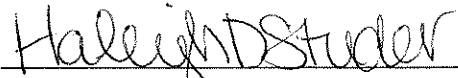
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m. and conducted a budget work session. The next regular meetings of the Board of County Commissioners will be on October 30, 2025.



Adam Gates, Chairman



Brandi Ritchey, Administrator

ATTEST:   
Haleigh D. Studer, County Clerk

