



YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
December 30, 2025
Minutes¹

On December 30, 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 Blade Foreman Justin Lorimer joined the meeting at 8:30 a.m. to provide department updates.

- *December Fires* - Andersen presented the overtime hours accrued by the crew who assisted in fighting the recent fires. During the discussion, the group discussed the damage incurred by one of the graders, which had damage from an electric wire fence. Ritchey stated that, if the damage were submitted to insurance, the repair costs would amount to approximately \$5,000 after the deductible. The group opted against filing a claim with insurance.
- *Budget/Efficiencies* - The group assessed the grader operators efficiency report as well as the current 2025 budget. Commissioner Weaver requested clarification regarding the Tax Apportionment revenue line. Finance Officer Sarah Carwin explained that this account tracks the incoming and outgoing allocated tax apportionments for the cities and towns, ultimately balancing to zero by the end of the year. Additionally, Andersen presented a salary authorization for the new Blade Operator.
 - **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the Blade Operator salary authorization at \$18.50/hour. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- *Road Report/Mowing* - Currently, crews are top coating County Road 9 and County Road KK in the Armel area with gravel. Lorimer is keeping a close eye on the burn scar area from the fire where sand has been blowing onto the roads. Lorimer mentioned that one employee is set to retire in February. Until then, he plans to have this employee share his expertise with other blade operators throughout the county. The maintenance crew plans to be finished mowing this week and then plans to help clean up a shed that blew over at the fairgrounds during the windstorm.

Human Services

The Board of County Commissioners convened as the Board of Social Services at 9:30 a.m. Human Services Director Kara Hoover, Bookkeeper Kim Langley, 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 10:30 a.m.

DOLA

At 10:30, the Northeast Regional Manager for the Department of Local Affairs, Greg Etl and Emergency Management Officer, Jake Rockwell joined the commissioners to discuss potential assistance for damage that was caused by recent fires. Etl indicated that if needed, the county could do a DAC (Emergency Disaster Assistance Center). After discussing the extent of the damage, it was determined that a DAC wouldn't be necessary. Since the BOCC adopted resolution 12-19-2025 A, A Declaration of Emergency,

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



DOLA may be able to offer 25% matching grants that could assist the Town of Eckley with their generator issue. For the loss of trees, Etl suggested reaching out to CSU and FSA offices to see what they could offer citizens.

Administrator's Report

Administrator Brandi Ritchey reviewed calls, correspondence, and presented the following for discussion and action at 11:00 a.m.:

Minutes – The Commissioners reviewed the minutes from the previous BOCC meetings.

- **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the minutes from the December 15, 2025 regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the minutes from December 19, 2025 special meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the Yuma County Accounts payable check sequence 84822-84842 in the amount of \$35,243.08 ran on 12/19/2025. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

Resolutions/Ordinances/Signatures –

- **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve Resolution 12/30/2025 A, a Resolution Organizing County Operations. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the City of Yuma Ambulance Service License. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the South YW Ambulance Service License. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the 2025 HUTF Mileage Certification. 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 and discussion of business undertaken by the 911 Authority Board. Ritchey noted that it is time to review the IGA between Washington-Yuma Combined Communications and Yuma County, noting that there are necessary updates needed to address the Human Resource and Finance services that Yuma County provides. The group discussed the need to replace the boilers in the courthouse as well as a storage request for the Fair Queens in Yuma. Ritchey stated that Fairgrounds Manager, Carmen Murray will clean out the old CDL training storage shed and make it available for the Fair Queens.

- **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the bid submitted by Glassman's, having them order the necessary items and hold off on repairs for the meantime. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

Land Use

County Land Use Administrator, Jodi Brady was heard at 1:00 p.m. to review Land Use business and conduct Land Use Hearings.



At 12:58 p.m. Chairman Gates opened public hearing EFS1025-03, an Exemption from Definition of Subdivision Permit for Peggy Traphagan, looking to divide a 4.99-acre parcel into a 1.55-acre parcel and a 3.44-acre parcel located in NE corner of NW1/4, Section 26, Township 2N, Range 48W for purpose of settling an estate. The public hearing closed at 1:03 p.m.

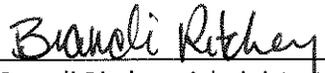
At 1:03 p.m. Chairman Gates opened the public hearing EFS1125-02, Exemption from Definition of Subdivision Permit for Ben and Resa Gardner (RRCF, LLC) is looking to split a 25.97-acre parcel into 4 parcels. Parcel #1 13.88-acres, Parcel #2 1.89-acres, Parcel #3 1.03-acres and Parcel#4 8.88-acres at the location of NE 1/4, Section 11, Township 1N, Range 44W for purpose of separating specific land associated with the resident houses and separating the AG land from the houses. The public hearing closed at 1:31 p.m.

Commissioner Weaver moved to approve resolution 12-30-2025B, for Exemption from Definition of Subdivision Permit for Peggy Traphagan, dividing a 4.99-acre parcel into a 1.55-acre parcel and a 3.44-acre parcel located in NE corner of NW1/4, Section 26, Township 2N, Range 48W for purpose of settling an estate. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Weaver moved to approve resolution 12-30-2025C, for the Exemption from Definition of Subdivision Permit for Ben and Resa Gardner (RRCF, LLC), splitting a 25.97-acre parcel into 4 parcels. Parcel #1 13.88-acres, Parcel #2 1.89-acres, Parcel #3 1.03-acres and Parcel#4 8.88-acres at the location of NE 1/4, Section 11, Township 1N, Range 44W for purpose of separating specific land associated with the resident houses and separating the AG land from the houses. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m. The next regular meetings of the Board of County Commissioners will be on January 15, 2026.


Adam Gates, Chairman


Brandi Ritchey, Administrator

ATTEST: 
Haleigh D. Studer, County Clerk

