



YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

May 14, 2026

Minutes¹

On May 14, 2026 at 8:00 a.m., the Yuma County Board of Commissioners met in regular session. Chairman Scott Weaver, Commissioner Mike Leerar, Commissioner 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 State Retail Liquor License Renewal Application and the County Retail Liquor License Renewal for Casa Tres Amigos LLC D.B.A. El Vaquero.

- **Commissioner Gates moved to approve signature on the State Retail Liquor License Renewal Application and the County Retail Liquor License Renewal Casa Tres Amigos LLC D.B.A. El Vaquero. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.**

Road and Bridge

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

- *Gravel Pits* – Pit inspections have been completed. The highwall has been taken care of at the Witherbee Pit and signage has been added. The Newton Pit application has been extended to June 15th so David can gather additional information that the state is requesting.
- *Road Report* – County Road KK has been completed, and crews have begun resurfacing County Road 9. The dozer has been moved to the Deterding Pit to begin stockpiling material. Lee also received a quote from Simon's for the County Road 39 project. After reviewing the road, he would like the bid to be revised to reflect that the south end does not require full repair, which is expected to reduce the cost by approximately \$200,000. Lee also received a separate quote from Simon's for repairs on County Road 39 from County Road 59 to G, estimated at \$37,000.00.
- *Capital Equipment* – Both new blades have been received. One of the units was having an issue with its DEF system. 4 Rivers Equipment has inspected the equipment and is working toward a solution.
- *Department Updates* – There are two new truck drivers in the process of being onboarded. Ritchey received two more applications for Lee and Lorimer to review.
- *Permit* – Lee presented an Underground and Utility Permit for E-Z Irrigation to bore along County Road 11 to trench in irrigation pipe.
 - **Commissioner Gates moved to approve the Underground Utility Permit for E-Z Irrigation to bore along County Road 11 to trench in irrigation pipe. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

Human Services

The Board of County Commissioners convened as the Board of Social Services at 9:30 a.m. Human Services Director Kara Hoover, Adult Protection Supervisor Hollie Hillman, Office Manager Lori Summers, Income Maintenance Supervisor Dalene Rogers, Foster Care/Child Welfare Caseworker IV Amanda Kerbs and IV-D Administrator Ana Moran were present. The Board of County Commissioners reconvened at 11:00 a.m.

¹ 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 Gates moved to approve the minutes from the April 30, 2026 regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Gates moved to approve the Yuma County accounts payable check sequence 85578-85607 in the amount of \$466,011.26 ran on 5/1/2026, sequence 85608-85657 in the amount of \$331,321.64 ran on 5/6/2026, and EFT Payroll in the amount of \$257,442.62 ran on 5/6/2026. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Resolutions/Ordinances/Signatures/Ratifications:

- **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve signature on the Request for Extension of Time to File Audit. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve signature on the updated Digital Data Shield Contract. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Department Reports – The Commissioners reviewed several departmental reports, including an update on administration of the Eastern Transportation Planning Region and a discussion of activities involving the 911 Authority Board. Ritchey also received a request from Curbside Dynamic, LLC for approval to sell fireworks from June 22nd to July 4th. Curbside Dynamic has also received approval from the local fire department. Fairgrounds Manager Carmen Murray submitted a request from Red Dale Camping Club to reserve camping spaces for June 13th through June 18th, 2027, at the same rate charged in 2025. Ritchey also received a letter of interest for the Planning Commission Board and presented it to the BOCC for review. The group also reviewed the resolution submitted by the EMT Council, as well as the scope of work for the Region 4 Opioid Council. Ritchey also noted that after reviewing the budget, it was determined that additional funds should be budgeted in 2027 to reflect the correct deductible amount for catastrophic Inmate Medical Insurance.

- **Commissioner Gates moved to approve the request from Curbside Dynamics to sell fireworks June 22nd-July 4th. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Gates moved to approve the request for the Red Dale Camping Club to utilize the fairgrounds June 13th-June 18th 2027 for the same rate they were charged in 2025. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**
- **Commissioner Gates moved to appoint Shelby Rockwell to the Yuma County Planning Commission Board with a term ending 12/31/2028. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**



NextEra Energy Resources, Leo Gorgens

At 1:00 p.m., Leo Gorgens of NextEra Energy Resources joined the Commissioners to provide a project update. Also present were Road and Bridge Supervisor David Lee and Land Use Administrator Jodi Brady. Gorgens stated that the project is currently in a holding pattern. He explained that earlier delays were related to tariffs and supply chain uncertainty. Currently, grid capacity constraints remain an issue. NextEra is awaiting a study from WAPA scheduled for release on August 6th, which is expected to provide clarity on the extent of electrical grid upgrades that may be needed. NextEra's project deadline is March 30, 2028.

Eckley Community Center

At 1:30 p.m., Jeannie Leerar from the Eckley Community Center joined the Commissioners to request a donation from Conservation Trust Funds to help with necessary upgrades to the Eckley Community Center. She explained that the requested repairs include updated lighting in the gym and bathroom updates, since replacement parts for the current bathroom fixtures are no longer being made.

- **Commissioner Gates moved to donate \$5,000 to the Eckley Community Center from account 06-000-6480. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion. Commissioner Leerar abstained from voting. The motion passed.**

CTSI

At 2:00 p.m., the Commissioners were joined by Dana Foley, Senior Loss Control Representative for CTSI. Dana provided an overview of the five-year loss analysis for Yuma County.

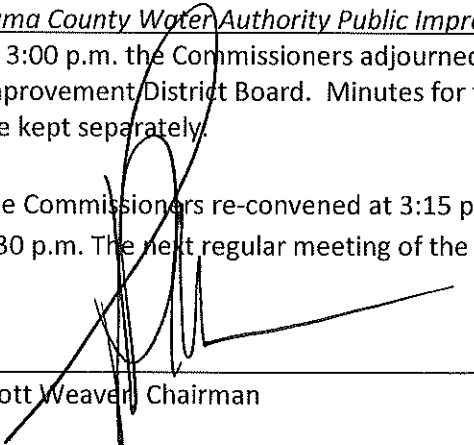
Office of Emergency Management

At 2:30 p.m., Yuma County Emergency Manager Jake Rockwell provided an update to the Commissioners. He discussed current fire safety concerns, recent and upcoming weather conditions, and public health information relevant to the county. Yuma County is in an Extreme drought according to the drought monitor. It would take a significant amount of moisture to bring Yuma County out of drought conditions. Rockwell reported that Hyper Reach should be up and going by the end of the month or the beginning of June. Rockwell is working with WYCC to make sure the contract ends with Code Red.

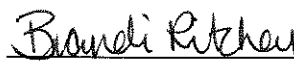
Yuma County Water Authority Public Improvement District

At 3:00 p.m. the Commissioners adjourned and convened as the Yuma County Water Authority Public Improvement District Board. Minutes for the Yuma County Water Authority Public Improvement District are kept separately.

The Commissioners re-convened at 3:15 p.m. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners will be on May 28, 2026.



Scott Weaver, Chairman



Brandi Ritchey, Administrator

ATTEST: 

Haleigh D. Studer, County Clerk

