



YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

June 10, 2026

Minutes¹

On June 10, 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.

Road and Bridge

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

- *Gravel Pits* – Lee has submitted the paperwork requested by the state to open the Newton Pit and is awaiting a response. Ritchey stated that she contacted the Dreher Pit landowners to determine how they would like to proceed with closing the pit. Once she receives a response, she will notify Lee so the County can work with the state to either close the pit or transfer it to the new landowners.
- *Road Report* – Crews are working on County Road 54, and the contracted trucks have completed hauling for the county. Lee projects the contracted truck expense will be slightly under budget. Lee inspected guardrails on a bridge and received a quote from Simon's for pavement replacement on County Road M and the railroad tracks, which came in over \$400,000. Lee also received pricing for the 96" culverts, which came in at \$96,000.00. The group determined they would hold off on the purchase until the end of 2026, after reviewing the budget closer to year-end.
- *Capital Improvements* – Lee noted that the Armel shop is in desperate need of new lighting, he will get one more quote before proceeding. The fairgrounds needs concrete chips from the landfill, and the group determined that the normal rate will be charged to the fairgrounds budget.
- *Permit* – Lee presented two Underground and Utility Permits for Viaero to bore along County Road 54 from County Road B to County Road C and along County Road E from the Yuma Substation North to County Road 54 to install conduit for fiber optics. Lee also discovered that a county road had been trenched without a permit. He plans to amend the current permit application to include a fine for permits that are not submitted before work is completed.
 - **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the Underground Utility Permits for Viaero to bore along County Road 54 from County Road B and County Road C and County Road E from the Yuma Sub Station North to County Road 54, to install conduit for fiber optics. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**
- *Department Reports* – Ritchey advertised the mechanic and parts clerk positions for the upcoming vacancies. Lee presented a salary authorization for an equipment operator who missed his six-month increase. The group also discussed whether to pay for CDL training and determined that it should be based on longevity and position.
 - **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the salary authorization for the Equipment Operator position at \$19.56/hour. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

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, Adult Protection Supervisor Hollie Hillman, Office Manager Lori Summers, IV-D Administrator Ana Moran, Child Support Legal Tech Andrea Valenzuela, Colorado Case Works Manager II/CCCAP Eligibility Brooke Sybrant and Eligibility Program II Specialists Phyllis Miller and Ixsel Soto were present. The Board of County Commissioners reconvened at 11:00 a.m.

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 May 28, 2026 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 85745-85765 in the amount of \$93,900.68 ran on 6/1/2026, sequence 85766-85816 in the amount of \$307,335.23 ran on 6/4/2026, EFT Payroll in the amount of \$257,721.18 ran on 6/4/2026, sequence 85814-85821 in the amount of \$5,658.93 ran on 6/9/2026, and payroll check 35349 in the amount of \$881.17 ran on 6/9/2026. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Resolutions/Ordinances/Signatures/Ratifications:

- **Commissioner Gates moved to approve Economic Development Director, Darlene Carpio to proceed with the Opportunity Zone Designation Nomination Package for Yuma County. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Department Reports – The Commissioners reviewed departmental reports, including updates on the Eastern Transportation Planning Region and the 911 Authority Board. Ritchey reported that several applications had been received for the WYCC Director position and that she will work with the Hiring Committee to select qualified candidates for interviews. Ritchey also reported that the cooling unit in the courthouse server room had stopped working and that she is working with the maintenance department to select a replacement that meets the specific needs for the server room and fits within the 2026 budget. Lastly, Ritchey reported that the 2026-2027 Colorado Court Security Grant she applied for has been approved in the amount of \$41,385, and Commissioner Weaver should receive the contract through DocuSign for approval.

Office of Emergency Management

At 1:00 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. 81% of Yuma County is in some classification of drought on the drought monitor. NOAA is predicting that June will be wetter than normal followed by a dry summer and a wetter and colder fall. The new Hyper Reach alert system shows that approximately 3,500 Yuma County residents have signed up to receive alerts. Rockwell also said that there will be a pipeline training July 22nd in Wray that will focus on local pipelines and hazmat.



Yuma County Treasurer

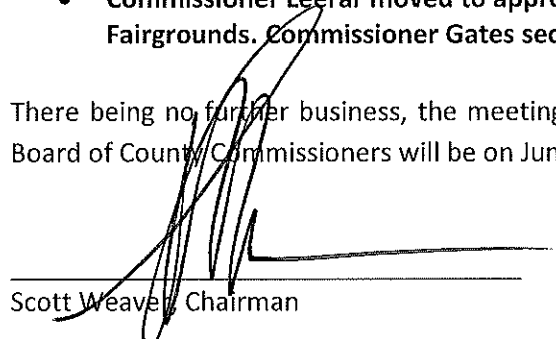
At 1:30 p.m., Yuma County Treasurer Chrystal Hammond met with the Commissioners to provide updates from her office. Hammond reported that there have been no significant changes in county investments. She noted that the full payment deadline for 2025 property taxes is June 15 and that the county has collected approximately 85% of the taxes. Hammond also informed the Board that her office is working through several deeds and currently has six active foreclosures. She has advertised her vacant position, received several resumes, and is hopeful she will be able to hire a good candidate.

Cowboys Hospitality Tent

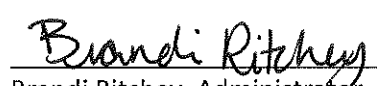
At 2:00 p.m. the Commissioners were joined by Cassidy Rogers and Deb and Ron Higgins. Deb and Ron along with other contributors would like to purchase and donate a storage shed to the Yuma County Fairgrounds that would be placed close to the carport on the North side of the road leading into the arena. It would be utilized for storage for rodeo equipment, meal prep equipment and supplies for feeding the cowboys and families during the Yuma County Fair and Rodeo. Electricity will be added as well as a refrigerator and freezer for food storage at no cost to the county.

- **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the donation of the storage shed for the Yuma County Fairgrounds. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

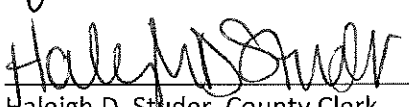
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners will be on June 30, 2026.



Scott Weaver, Chairman



Brandi Ritchey, Administrator

ATTEST: 

Haleigh D. Studer, County Clerk

