



YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

June 30, 2026

Minutes¹

On June 30, 2026 at 8:00 a.m., the Yuma County Board of Commissioners met in regular session. Chairman Scott Weaver, Commissioner Adam Gates, 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.

Yuma County Assessor

At 8:15 a.m., Kaci Scholes joined the meeting to provide the Commissioners with 2026 protest information and early abstract information. There were 2 denied protests, 9 adjusted protests, and 23 withdrawn protests. The early abstract information showed a decrease in value of approximately \$6 million, primarily due to property transfers from residential to agricultural classification, which lowered the actual value.

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.

- *Road Report* – Lee and Lorimer reported that crews are working on washout repairs resulting from the recent heavy rainfall. Crews will then move to County Road KK and County Road 19 to complete additional repairs. Commissioner Leerar noted that County Road T needs attention due to soft spots. The paving project on County Road 39 is scheduled to begin the week of July 8 through July 12.
- *Department Updates* – Lee and Lorimer reported that the Road and Bridge Department continues to be short-handed. The group discussed removing the WorkSteps physical from the hiring requirements to help broaden the applicant pool. Ritchey stated that, if the requirement is removed, the six-month probationary policy would need to be used to its fullest extent. Lee also noted that he had not received a response from another bidder for the installation of new lights in the Armel Shop. The Commissioners suggested moving forward with Brophy Electric.
- *Budget/Efficiencies* – The group reviewed the budget to date and the efficiency report for blade operators.
- *Permit* – Lee presented an Underground Utility Permit for Ruben Richardson, who had already installed an irrigation pipeline across County Road 43.
 - **Commissioner Gates moved to approve the Underground Utility Permit Ruben Richardson regarding an irrigation pipeline that had already been installed across County Road 43. 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, 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.

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

Administrator's Report

Administrator Brandi Ritchey reviewed calls, correspondence, and presented the following for discussion and action at 10:30 a.m.:

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

- Commissioner Gates moved to approve the minutes from the June 10, 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 85822-85871 in the amount of \$176,464.59 ran on 06/12/2026, sequence 85872-85892 in the amount of \$456,270.24 ran on 06/19/2026 and sequence 85893-85919 in the amount of \$15,062.68 ran on 06/26/2026. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Resolutions/Ordinances/Signatures –

- Commissioner Gates moved to approve the CAPP Accident/Volunteer Insurance Renewal. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Leerar moved to approve signature on Resolution 06/30/2026A a Resolution Declaring Surplus Vehicles. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the Secure Transport Service License Renewal for Centennial Mental Health. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Gates moved to approve the signature on the salary authorization for the Yuma County Landfill Manager in the amount of \$58,000/annually. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Gates moved to approve adding the LAB employee wellness benefits to offer to county employees. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- Commissioner Leerar moved to approve the Financial Expense Request for the 2026 Yuma County Parade in the amount of \$2,500. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.
- Commissioner Gates moved to approve the updated salary authorizations for the two Assessor's Office employees at a rate of \$18.85 per hour and to correct the one salary authorization accordingly. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

Department Reports - The Commissioners received several department reports, including an update on the administration of the Eastern Transportation Planning Region and a discussion of activities conducted by the 911 Authority Board. Ritchey noted that there had been no interest from citizens regarding the Economic Development Board position and she will re-advertise in the newspaper as well as Facebook. Ritchey also reported that Yuma County was awarded a \$6,500 SIPA grant to upgrade the county website for ADA compliance.

Office of Emergency Management

At 11:45 a.m., Yuma County Emergency Manager Jake Rockwell met with the commissioners to deliver department updates. Key topics covered included fire safety, weather conditions, and public health information. Rockwell presented many forms for approval including a Non-Supplanting Certification for the Emergency Management Performance Grant, the Statement of Work for the SIPA Grant and the 2026 Yuma County Fair Plan. Jake will begin working on the fire evacuation map once the agreement is signed.

- Commissioner Gates moved to approve the Non-Supplanting Certification form for the Emergency Management Performance Grant. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.
- Commissioner Gates moved to approve signature on the Statement of Work for the SIPA Grant. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.
- Commissioner Gates moved to approve the Emergency Plan for the Yuma County Fair. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

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 1:00 p.m. Commissioner Weaver opened the public hearing EFS0526-12, an Exemption from Definition of Subdivision Permit for Randy and Ricky Lundgren is looking to divide a 13.71-acre parcel into a 1.91-acre parcel, a 1.43-acre parcel and a 10.37-acre parcel, located in the NE¼ Section 23, Township 2N, Range 44W, for the purpose of boundary setting. The public hearing closed at 1:04 p.m.

No members of the public were present for this hearing.

Commissioner Gates moved to approve Resolution 06-30-2026 B, for an Exemption from Definition of Subdivision Permit for Randy and Ricky Lundgren is looking to divide a 13.71-acre parcel into a 1.91-acre parcel, a 1.43-acre parcel and a 10.37-acre parcel, located in the NE¼ Section 23, Township 2N, Range 44W, for the purpose of boundary setting. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Jody is hopeful the Planning Commission Board will have a decision on the setback regulations during the August meeting.

Yuma County EMT Council

At 2:30 p.m., Jennifer Kramer, Ted Beckman, Steve Rydquist and Keriann Josh joined the Commissioners to discuss a grant opportunity. Kramer explained that \$200 million will be distributed to awardees across Colorado. The EMT Council is hopeful the funding can be used to build up the community paramedic program, provide support for EMS departments that operate on an on-call basis, and continue working toward a long-term solution for sustainability. Due to rule changes, the grant requires a five-year commitment. Yuma and Wray Hospitals will apply separately for the funding and are hoping to receive letters of support from the Commissioners.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners will be on July 14, 2026.

Scott Weaver, Chairman

Brandi Ritchey, Administrator

ATTEST:

Haleigh D. Studer, County Clerk

