



YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
September 30, 2022
Minutes¹

On September 30, 2022 at 8:00 a.m., the Yuma County Board of Commissioners met in regular session. Chairman Trent Bushner, Commissioner Scott Weaver, Commissioner Mike Leerar, and Administrator Andrea Calhoon 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 and Blade Foreman Justin Lorimer joined the meeting at 8:30 a.m. to provide department updates.

- *Fuel Contracting* – Andersen presented information on fuel contracting for the first quarter of 2023.
- *Road Report* – Lorimer provided updates on work done by the blade team last week following rain and the results of road maintenance efforts that took advantage of the moisture. Lorimer reported current work on County Road M near 13 and upcoming work on County Road 51 east of the highway. The group discussed constituent feedback on road conditions received since the last meeting.
- *Training* – Lorimer reported on training courses held at the Yuma County Fairgrounds by 4 Rivers Equipment since the last meeting. Lorimer expressed the value of the training and discussions with 4 Rivers to hold the training on a cyclical basis. An LTAP training class is scheduled at the fairgrounds in November with a large contingency of blade staff scheduled to attend.

Judge Kris Jones

At 9:00 a.m. Yuma County Judge Kris Jones joined the Commissioners to discuss concerns over plans to update jail operations and contract inmates to jails in surrounding counties. Inmate contracting has been suggested by Sheriff Todd Combs and Jail Sergeant Joe Wells due to staffing challenges. Judge Jones expressed concern over the contracting of inmates and the impact on judicial management for the County and iterated his opinion that housing inmates elsewhere is not in the best interest of the constituents of Yuma County.

The Commissioners expressed their support for keeping the jail open. The group reviewed the current information received from the Yuma County Sheriff's Office and shared the current strategy including a request to the Yuma County Sheriff's Office to present an alternative budget with intention to return the jail to full staffing as well as a comprehensive review of recruitment protocols.

Human Services

The Board of County Commissioners convened as the Board of Social Services at 9:30 a.m. Human Services Director Kara Hoover and Bookkeeper Melanie Fisher were present. Detailed minutes of the Board of Social Services are maintained separately by the Department of Human Services. The Board of County Commissioners reconvened at 10:00 a.m.

¹ Minutes prepared by Andrea Calhoon are a summary of discussions, not a verbatim account.



Indian Hills Golf Course, Lonnie Metzler, et al

At 10:15 a.m., Lonnie Metzler, Steve Caughlin, Chad Baucke, and Barbie Corey presented a funding request to the Yuma County Commissioners for the Indian Hills Golf Course in Yuma to support the install of a new sprinkler system. The group discussed additional funding availability including savings and grant programs. The group requested support in the form of governmental entity sponsorship for a grant application. The City of Yuma is submitting a competing grant application and is unable to fulfill that request at this time. The Commissioners took the information under advisement for the 2023 budgetary process. **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve Yuma County as the fiscal agent and grant sponsor for a GOCO grant application for the purchase and installation of an updated sprinkler system for the Indian Hills Golf Course in Yuma. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.**

County Treasurer, Chrystal Hammond

County Treasurer Chrystal Hammond joined the Commissioners at 11:00 a.m. to provide office updates. Hammond provided updates on County investment activities to date this year as well as discussing the recent increase in interest rates by the fed and updates on delinquent possessory interest tax and foreclosure activity in the County. Hammond also provided updates on efforts to collect delinquent taxes owed by Omimex Petroleum including listing delinquent assets for sale as well as legal actions under consideration against Omimex officials.

Emergency Management, Jake Rockwell

Yuma County Emergency Manager Jake Rockwell met with the Commissioners at 11:30 a.m. to provide department updates and discuss 2023 funding plans for budget preparation. County Administrator Andrea Calhoon provided updates on a recently conducted EMPG grant desk audit and recommendations from that audit. The group discussed fire ban protocols and recent meetings attended as well as upcoming planning and training efforts currently under review.

Land Use

County Land Use Administrator Andrea Calhoon was heard at 1:00 p.m. to review Land Use and GIS business and conduct Land Use Hearings.

- *Land Use Hearings* – Land use hearings opened at 1:00 p.m. Calhoon presented the following applications for signature.
 - **DEV 0822-01 for Industrial Tower West LLC (dba Viaero Wireless) and Mountain Tower & Land LLC on behalf of Mary Lou Rose** to construct a 330' guyed communication tower and associated equipment in the NW ¼ of Section 18, Township 2 South, Range 43 West.

Rick Bailey representing Industrial Tower West was present to issue public comment.

Land Use Hearings closed at 1:02 p.m.

Commissioner Weaver moved to approve signature on Resolution 09-30-2022 A approving Major Land Use Permit DEV 0822-01 Industrial Tower West LLC (dba Viaero Wireless) and Mountain Tower & Land LLC on behalf of Mary Lou Rose to construct a 330' guyed communication tower and associated equipment in the NW ¼ of Section 18, Township 2 South, Range 43 West. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

- *Administrative Permits* – Calhoon presented two administrative permits for approval.



Commissioner Weaver moved to approve signature on Resolution 09-30-2022 B for Sand Lily Wind Farm to install a 197'8" meteorological tower in the SE ¼ of Section 26, Township 1 North, Range 43 West as presented. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion. It passed unanimously

Commissioner Weaver moved to approve signature on Resolution 09-30-2022 C for Robin McCasland to complete a lot line adjustment in the SE ¼ of Section 11, Township 2 North, Range 47 West as presented. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- *Pending Land Use Applications* – Calhoon reported one exemption from subdivision received for hearing in the month of October.
- *Dresen Lot Line Adjustment* – The Commissioners were joined by County Assessor Cindy Taylor to discuss a lot line adjustment approved for Kevin Dresen in May of 2022.
- *1041 Powers* – Calhoon provided updates on questions referred to County Attorney Ken Fellman related to Yuma County's 1041 powers.
- *Laird Encroachment* – Calhoon presented for consideration an easement deed to resolve an encroachment issue into the County right-of-way at 35615 Campbell Avenue in Laird. Jeff Wingfield from Wray State Bank was present to answer questions about the property and deed. **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve signature on the easement deed to Dar Benton at 35615 Campbell Avenue in Laird as presented. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.**
- *Proposed Land Use Code Change* – Calhoon provided updates on recent discussions related to Yuma County land use code.
- *Staffing* – Calhoon reported on the status of recruiting for the vacancy at Land Use Administrator/GIS Coordinator.

GIS

- *Current Projects* – Calhoon provided updates on recent GIS activities conducted by contracted GIS Coordinator Colten Yoast.

Administrator's Report

Administrator Andrea Calhoon 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 14, 2022 regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- *CAPP Report & Claim Review* – The Commissioners heard information on pending CAPP and workers' compensation claims.
- *Signatures and Ratifications* –
 - Resolutions/Ordinances/Signatures:
 - **Commissioner Leerar moved to approve signature on the CCI Legislative Designee assignment naming Commissioner Weaver the legislative designee for 2023. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.**
 - Grant Updates:
 - The Commissioners reviewed information regarding pending and submitted grant applications including the Eckley Road chip seal.




- *Department Reports* – The Commissioners received various department reports including a progress on Yuma County's recent appointment as the administrative agent for the Eastern Transportation Planning Region with CDOT, the status of a record correction with the Office of the State Auditor on behalf of the 911 Authority Board, the results of a recent desk audit of the EMPG Grant program, the August 2022 TV System Maintenance Log, and the September 2022 Veteran's Service Officer report.
- *Prior Meeting Follow-Up* – The group discussed project updates on the status of properties in Eckley.
- *Correspondence* – Calhoon presented correspondence received since the last meeting including various board vacancies planned for advertisement in October, a letter to partner entities updating payroll processing fees and Treasurer's fees for 2023, and attendance at the upcoming Pro15 Fall Conference in Yuma. **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve the letter to outside agencies updating protocols for payroll processing fees and Treasurer's fees beginning January 1, 2023. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.**
- *CDL Testing Unit* – Calhoon provided updates on the status of the Yuma County CDL testing unit and the planning of an Entry Level Driver Training community education program recently established with Northeastern Junior College.
- *IT Updates* – Calhoon presented updates on various IT-related topics including the status of the VOIP phone transition and an assessment of security options for remote system access, both of which will be assessed during 2023 budget planning efforts.
- *Maintenance Updates* – Calhoon reported on various facilities maintenance topics.
- *HR Updates* – Calhoon reported updates on county Human Resource topics including recruitment and retention, the 2022 employee BBQ, the impending implementation of the Colorado FAMLI Leave program, and the status of job description review efforts.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m. and the Commissioners entered into a 2023 budget work session. The next regular meetings of the Board of County Commissioners will be on October 14, 2022 and October 31, 2022.


Trent Bushner, Chairman


Andrea Calhoon, Administrator

ATTEST: 
Beverly Wenger, County Clerk

