



YUMA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
January 29, 2024
Minutes¹

On January 29, 2024 at 8:00 a.m., the Yuma County Board of Commissioners met in regular session. Chairman Mike Leerar, Commissioner Scott Weaver, Commissioner Adam Gate, 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.

- *Unused Equipment* – Lorimer presented a list of unused equipment that could potentially be sent to auction.
- *Mowing Season* – The Road and Bridge Department is gathering prices on leasing/renting tractors for the upcoming mowing season. The BOCC would like bids from other equipment dealers as well. The Road and Bridge crew will have bid presentations ready for the February 16, 2024 meeting. Martin is going to run an equipment report on the County owned tractors with the maintenance cost and hours on each tractor.
- *Fuel Contracting* – The group discussed contracting gas prices with the waves in the economy.
- *Sign Theft* – There has been reoccurring sign left around the county. The maintenance crew is coming up with a plan to remedy this issue.
- *Maintenance* – The maintenance crew has been busy helping at the fairgrounds wrapping up some projects that needed completed. They now are going to the landfill to help assemble recycling trailers.

Human Services

The Board of County Commissioners convened as the Board of Social Services at 9:30 a.m. Human Services Director Kara Hoover, Administrative Assistant Lori Summers and Income Maintenance Supervisor Dalene Rogers 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 10:30 a.m.

Office of Emergency Management

At 10:30 a.m. the Commissioners heard a department update from Yuma County Emergency Manager Jake Rockwell. Rockwell discussed a Funding Match Commitment Letter of Intent to Participate in a Hazard Mitigation project to develop a Hazard Mitigation report that meets the requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, 44CFR Part 201.6 and the most current Federal Emergency Management Agency how-to planning guidance.

Commissioner Weaver moved to sign the letter of intent to participate in the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Commissioner Weaver was opposed. Motion still carried.

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



Finance Office, Sarah Carwin

At 11:30 a.m. the Commissioners were joined by Sarah Carwin to discuss departmental updates. The group discussed CAPP and Workers' Comp billing. The finance office is streamlining prior tasks to make sure billing is being completed in an accurate and timely manner moving forward. Carmen Murray stepped in to discuss ticket and seating structure. Ages 3 and under will be free and First Responders can get tickets 50% off by presenting their EMS or Fire card. Murray will reach out to Emergency Manager Jake Rockwell and get rosters for the local fire and EMS departments. There will be no bulk discounts for large ticket purchases. The group also discussed that the first two rows of bleachers will be set aside for Senior Citizens and ADA Accessibility.

Land Use

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

- **EFS 0124-01 for Box Elder Ranch LLC**, looking to divide a 2.5-acre parcel from a 160-acre (+/-) parcel located in Section 15, Township 1 South, Range 44 West.
- **FPP 0124-04 for Branden Strahm of Olsson, on behalf of BNSF Railway company**, for the bridge replacement project of BNSF's bridge at Mile Post 369.71, Line Segment 0002, Akron Subdivision, in unincorporated Yuma County.
- **DEV 0124-02 for Stanley Shafer and Sand Lily Wind Farm, LLC**, proposing to install a temporary meteorological tower on an approximately 2-acre footprint located in Section 20, Township 1 North, Range 42 West.
- **DEV 0124-03 for Kenton Crossland and Sand Lily Wind farm, LLC**, proposing to install a temporary meteorological tower on an approximately 2-acre footprint located in Section 3, Township 1 South, Range 43 West.

Land Use Hearings closed at 1:39 p.m.

Commissioner Gates moved to approve signature on Resolution 01/29/2024 A approving Exemption from Subdivision Application EFS 0124-01 for Box Elder Ranch LLC, looking to divide a 2.5-acre parcel from a 160-acre (+/-) parcel located in Section 15, Township 1 North, Range 44 West. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Weaver moved to approve signature on Resolution 01/29/2024 B, approving Development Permit for Branden Strahm of Olsson, on behalf of BNSF Railway company, for the bridge replacement project of BNSF's bridge at Mile Post 369.71, Line Segment 0002, Akron Subdivision, in unincorporated Yuma County. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

Commissioner Weaver moved to approve signature on Resolution 01/29/2024 C, approving the Minor Land Use Permit Application for Stanley Shafer and Sand Lily Wind Farm, LLC, proposing to install a temporary meteorological tower on an approximately 2-acre footprint located in Section 20, Township 1 North, Range 42 West. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.



Commissioner Weaver moved to approve signature on Resolution 01/29/2024 D, approving the Minor Land Use Permit Application for Kenton Crossland and Sand Lily Wind Farm, LLC, proposing to install a temporary meteorological tower on an approximately 2-acre footprint located in Section 3, Township 1 South, Range 43 West. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.

Administrator's Report

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 Weaver moved to approve the minutes from the January 16, 2024 regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- *CAPP Report & Claim Review* – The Commissioners heard information on pending CAPP and workers' compensation claims.
 - Ritchey reported on a CAPP Claim in 2021 that has not been completed. Ritchey had Travis Dinsmore gather bids for the structure that was destroyed during a thunderstorm.
 - **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve purchase of a single vehicle carport from Coast-to-Coast Carports and to be purchased through E-Z Irrigation. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.**
- *Signatures and Ratifications* –
 - Resolutions/Ordinances/Signatures:
 - **Commissioner Gates moved to approve signature on Ron Brown's monthly CDMVA Monthly report. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.**
 - **Commissioner Gates moved to ratify Commissioner Weaver's signature on the Contract between War Hippies and the Board of County Commissioners for the 2024 Yuma County Fair Night Show. Commissioner Weaver seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.**
 - **Commissioner Weaver moved to pay the Eckley Community Center for meetings held at the Community Center throughout 2023. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.**
 - **Commissioner Gates moved to approve the changes to the 2024 Yuma County Employee Handbook as presented. Commissioner Leerar seconded the motion. It passed by unanimous vote.**
 - **Commissioner Weaver moved to approve signature on a letter to Mayor Johnston concerning the November 2024 Ballot Measure to Prohibit Slaughterhouses in Denver. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.**
- *Correspondence* – Ritchey presented correspondence received since the last meeting including board appointments, Congressional District Spending and discussion had with Attorney Fellman. Ritchey also reported that the Yuma County CDL Testing Unit has passed their yearly audit with the state.
 - **Commissioner Weaver moved to appoint Chad Towns to Weed and Pest Advisory Board for a term of 3 years. Commissioner Gates seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote.**



There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. The next regular meetings of the Board of County Commissioners will be on February 16, 2024.


Mike Leerar, Chairman


Brandi Ritchey, Administrator

ATTEST: 
Beverly Wenger, County Clerk

