

**GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
September 17, 2024**

The September 17, 2024 meeting was held in the Board of County Commissioners' meeting room located at 200 E. Virginia Avenue, Gunnison, Colorado. Present, either in person or via Zoom, were:

Jonathan Houck, Chairperson	Matthew Birnie, County Manager
Elizabeth Smith, Vice-Chairperson	Holly Perry, Deputy County Clerk
Laura Puckett Daniels, Commissioner	Others Present as Listed in Text
Alex San Filippo-Rosser, Deputy County Attorney	

GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING:

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Houck called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

AGENDA REVIEW: There were no changes made to the agenda.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Moved** by Commissioner Puckett Daniels, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the minutes from September 3rd as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

1. September 3, 2024

SCHEDULING: The Upcoming Meetings Schedule was discussed and updated.

CONSENT AGENDA: **Moved** by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Puckett Daniels to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Acknowledgment of County Manager's Signature; Agricultural Lease Agreement; Kelly and Vicki Hildreth; 9/6/2024 to 9/6/2025; \$500
2. Grant Award Letter; Health and Human Services; CTGG1 QAAA 2025-TBD; Fiscal Year 2025; \$75,000
3. Grant Application; Cover All Coloradans Community Ambassador Application; Multicultural Resource Services; Health and Human Services; 1/1/2025; \$25,000
4. Acknowledgment of County Manager's Signature; Engagement Letter; Goodspeed Merrill; County Attorney's Office
5. Purchase Order; POGG1 IHFA 2025-150; Family First Grant; Health and Human Services; 8/2/2024 to 6/30/2025; \$175,000
6. Intergovernmental Contract Amendment #8; Contract No 21 IHIA 159833; CTGG1 QAAA 2025-294; Fiscal Year 2025; \$100,041
7. Contract Amendment #4; Contract No 23 QAAA 178558; Health and Human Services; 10/27/2022 to 6/20/2025; \$64,054
8. Acknowledgment of County Manager's Signature; Grant Application; Homelessness Resolution Program; Health and Human Services; \$50,000
9. Licensing Request Form; Criterion Pictures; Juvenile Services; Home Alone; 12/13/2024
10. Professional Services Agreement; Community Language Cooperative; Community Development; 9/17/2024 to 12/31/2024; \$4,517.34
11. Ratification of County Manager's Signature; Trade Contractor Agreement; K&K Concrete; 8/20/2024 to 12/31/2024; \$772,115
12. Resolution; A Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of Gunnison County, Colorado Pertaining to the Obligation and Expenditure of 2023 U.S.D.A. Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act, Title III Awards
13. Intergovernmental Agreement; Behavioral Health Administration Grant; 8/1/2024 to 7/11/2025; \$42,000
14. Grant Application; Town of Crested Butte Community Grant; Juvenile Services; \$15,000
15. Acknowledgment of County Manager's Signature; Bid; United Companies; Public Works; \$183,880
16. Task Order; 2025*0244; Health and Human Services; 10/1/2024 to 9/30/2025; \$82,930
17. Standard Agreement; Stericycle; Health and Human Services; 8/9/2024 to 8/8/2025; \$2099.50

COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORTS:

1. Hwy 135 Grant – CM Birnie announced that the County has received a large grant for improvements on Highway 135 which include projects in Crested Butte and in Gunnison. It is one of the largest awards in the nation and the largest in the State of Colorado.
2. International City/County Management Association – CM Birnie relayed the County also received a Voice of the People Award which is for the use of the citizen input and data to guide their programming.
3. Airport Award – CM Birnie stated that he, Assistant County Manager for Operations and Sustainability John Cattles, Airport Manager Rick Lamport, and Stephanie Petsch were invited to the Colorado Chapter of the American Institute of Architects where they won an award for the design of the airport project as well as the interior design award for the State.
4. Sawtooth Phase 2 – Commissioner Puckett Daniels asked about the status. CM Birnie replied that some drywall needed patched and some errors in the sprinkler system needed fixed as well as

some issues with the well drilling for the heat pumps, but it is almost complete now. He noted that there is a chance that the parking lot may not get paved this year.

LETTER OF SUPPORT; TROUT UNLIMITED; GUNNISON BASIN DROUGHT RESILIENCY AND RESTORATION GRANT PROPOSAL

Commissioner Houck opened the discussion with a brief overview of what is asked of the Board. The Board then had no questions but would like the letter to have all three signatures. **Moved** by Commissioner Smith seconded by Commissioner Puckett Daniels to approve the letter of support requested by Trout Unlimited for the projects described in the packet, and also in the support letter and include the signature of the whole Board. Motion carried unanimously.

VOUCHERS AND TRANSFERS APPROVAL: Commissioner Houck presented the voucher approval report dated August 20, 2024 and the cash transfer authorization dated August 2024 in Chief Financial Officer Perry Solheim’s absence for discussion and approval. **Moved** by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Puckett Daniels to approve the vouchers in the amount of \$3,454,371.30. Motion carried unanimously. **Moved** by Commissioner Smith seconded by Commissioner Puckett Daniels to approve the cash transfer in the amount of \$5,402,893.48. Motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER’S MONTHLY REPORT: Commissioner Houck presented the August 2024 Treasurer’s report, an investment report dated August 31, 2024 in County Treasurer Debbie Dunbar’s absence for discussion and acceptance. **Moved** by Commissioner Puckett Daniels, seconded by Commissioner Smith to accept the Treasurer’s Report and authorize the Chair’s signature. Motion carried unanimously.

SCHEDULE CHANGE: Due to a gap in the meeting Commissioner Houck recommended starting Commissioner Items.

COMMISSIONER ITEMS:

Commissioner Puckett Daniels:

1. Irwin Community Association – Commissioner Puckett Daniels convened a meeting with Undersheriff Josh Ashe and Assistant County Manager for Public Works Martin Schmidt with the Irwin Community Association to discuss the short-term management of the Kebler Pass Trailhead. She stated there were two requests she wanted to offer for consideration: A standing meeting between the County Representatives and Irwin Community Association such as their annual meeting in July and to have a conversation about the mid-term and long-term plan with the Board for the future.

GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MEETING:

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Houck called the meeting to order at 8:54 am.

2024 ASSESSOR’S REPORT Co-Deputy Assessor Appraisal Alexandra Cohen was available for discussion.

Co-Deputy Assessor Cohen noted that there were some issues with the copies given and gave corrected copies to the Board. She explained there were 105 real property appeals and 19 personal property appeals. **Moved** by Commissioner Puckett Daniels, seconded by Commissioner Smith to accept the Assessor’s Report for the real and personal property of 2024 appeal period dated September 17, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN: Commissioner Houck adjourned the meeting at 8:59 am.

SCHEDULE CHANGE: Due to a gap in the meeting Commissioner Houck recommended continuing Commissioner Items.

GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING (cont’d):

COMMISSIONER ITEMS:

Commissioner Puckett Daniels:

2. Stand With Me Luncheon – Commissioner Puckett Daniels attended in Crested Butte which is an annual fundraiser for Project Hope. She stated it was a wonderful event and it was well attended.
3. Gunnison Valley Regional Housing Authority – Commissioner Puckett Daniels noted they had their monthly Board meeting. On the September 30th dinner meeting, they will be discussing what they have been up to, their strategic plan, what their focus is, and their funding.

GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH REGULAR MEETING:

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Houck called the meeting to order at 9:02 am.

WEST CENTRAL PUBLIC HEALTH PARTNERSHIP (WCPHP) & COMMUNITY HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CHIP)

Community Health Manager Margaret Wacker noted the partnership includes Delta, Hinsdale, Montrose, Ouray, Gunnison, and San Miguel County and the public health assessment is done every 5 years, which was last done in 2023. She briefly discussed the current projects that are being worked on including Public Health Improvement Plan Implementation, Regional Tobacco Prevention and Education Project (STEPP), Regional Child Fatality Prevention, New Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) regional shared services, and grant writing for building behavioral health resources. Commissioner Smith asked for clarification on how the dialogue goes between state and regional levels for higher level cases. Regional Health Services Supervisor Erika Stoerkel explained a lot of focus goes on safety efforts and she would be open to having a discussion with Commissioner Smith.

RHSS Stoerkel noted the behavioral health landscape was broken into two different parts and six people were interviewed for the Regional Landscape Analysis as well as their responses being analyzed by the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) analysis.

CHM Wacker presented the Region 10 Secondary Data. Commissioner Puckett Daniels asked how it relates to previous years, however CHM Wacker noted they haven't gotten to the trends yet. Medical Health Officer Dr. John Tarr mentioned possibly going deeper into the data and finding causal trends. RHSS Stoerkel presented the Region 10 Continuum of Care which maps out resources in Region 10 that addresses different levels of care. A Public Health Workforce BH Readiness Assessment has been created and they plan to distribute it in September with a report in October. She also presented the capacity building efforts and the timeline.

Commissioner Houck asked for clarification on the difference between the regional plan and the Gunnison Community plan. CHM Wacker noted that the focus is more around the Delta/Montrose area and Gunnison has less access due to its remoteness. Assistant County Manager for Health, Human and Safety Services Joni Reynolds stated they do not do a public health improvement plan for Gunnison County and it is through the region. However, they do look at Gunnison County services based on the data and customize that in program delivery.

PROCLAMATION; SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH; SEPTEMBER 2024

Commissioner Houck presented the proclamation. **Moved** by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Commissioner Puckett Daniels to approve and push out the Proclamation of Suicide Prevention Awareness Month in Gunnison County for September 2024 and have the full Board endorse that proclamation. Executive Director Meghan Dougherty from CB State of Mind thanked the Board for making the proclamation. Commissioner Houck stated there is an event at Western Colorado University on September 24th from 5:30 to 7:30 pm about mental health in Colorado's modern day agriculture.

ADJOURN: Commissioner Houck adjourned the meeting at 9:49 am.

GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WORK SESSION:

This work session took place from 9:49 am to 9:57 am. No minutes were taken.

Break from 9:57 am to 10:02 am

GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING (cont'd):

GUNNISON COUNTY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS APPOINTMENTS; HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION; FILL TWO VACANCIES FOR THREE-YEAR TERMS (2/1/2024 – 2/1/2027) Moved by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Puckett Daniels to reappoint David Russell and to appoint Zoe Keith for these terms for the Historic Preservation Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

1. David Russell
2. Zoe Keith

SCHEDULE CHANGE: Commissioner Houck requested to finish Commissioner Items while waiting for anyone in the room or online for unscheduled public comment.

COMMISSIONER ITEMS:

Commissioner Smith:

1. Welcoming Week – Commissioner Smith attended the Community Paint Day on Friday. She relayed the big final event is on Sunday which is a diversity walk from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm starting from the Gunnison Valley Community Foundation to Jorgensen Park where there will also be a celebration for Hispanic Heritage Month from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

- 2. Attorney General’s Office – Commissioner Smith expressed she had a conversation yesterday with the Attorney General’s Office regarding the proposed merger of Kroger and Albertsons. She relayed that Gunnison County may be invited to testify.
- 3. Poverty Law Project – Commissioner Smith noted that she attended a presentation from Poverty Law Project for Mobile Home Park Resident Advocacy. She stated she is still in contact with the residents of Country Meadows and their attorney, Will Edwards.

Commissioner Houck:

- 1. Gunnison Outdoor Resource Protection (GORP) Act – Commissioner Houck relayed that Senator Bennet is planning either late this week or early next week to introduce the GORP Act to the Senate, so he has been working on getting individual letters from the people who was a part of the Coalition as well as the Upper Gunnison River Water Conservation District.
- 2. Public Land Pieces – Commissioner Houck has continued to work on these plans.
 - Gunnison Sage-Grouse – Commissioner Houck stated the Resource Management Plan Amendment has been finalized.
 - Forest Plan – Commissioner Houck is continuing to work with County Attorney Matthew Hoyt on anything they would like to address.
- 3. National Public Lands Day – Commissioner Houck participated last Saturday and went up Gunnison Trails along with the Bureau of Land Management. He relayed there were about 50 volunteers on the trail.

UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT:

- 1. Donita Bishop – Ms. Bishop expressed that the Gunnison Valley Parent Teacher Association (PTA) bought and distributed shirts for elementary students to show their pride. She emphasized the help that OffCenter DeSIGNS gave with the shirts.
- 2. Marcus Martin – Mr. Martin stated he is a resident of Crested Butte and is encouraging a Major Impact Use route under the Gunnison County Land Resolution which allows two hearings for Whetstone. He also discussed concerns he has regarding the impending recusal from Commissioner Puckett Daniels. Lastly, he is asking to consider appointing an independent outside legal review of this process. Commissioner Houck thanked him for his input and advised Mr. Martin to address any comments and all issues at the public hearing on October 8th.

EXECUTIVE SESSION, PURSUANT TO C.R.S. SEC. 24-6-402(4)(B) CONFERENCE WITH THE COUNTY ATTORNEY, DEPUTY COUNTY ATTORNEY OR ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY FOR GUNNISON COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING LEGAL ADVICE RELATED TO SKI TOWN VILLAGE MOBILE HOME PARK IN GUNNISON COUNTY, COLORADO. Moved by Commissioner Houck seconded by Commissioner Smith to enter an executive session pursuant to Colorado Revised Statute section 24-6-402(4)(B), Conference with the County Attorney, Deputy County Attorney or Assistant County Attorney for Gunnison County for the Purpose of Receiving Legal Advice Related to Ski Town Village Mobile Home Park in Gunnison County, Colorado.

The board went into executive session at 10:21 am. *Executive sessions of the Board of County Commissioners are conducted as per C.R.S. 24-6-402(4). This specific session was conducted as per C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b).*

Attorney Statement Regarding Executive Session

Pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4), I attest that I am the Gunnison County Attorney, that I represent the Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners, that I attended all of the above referenced executive session, that all of the executive session was confined to the topic authorized for discussion pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4) and that, because in my opinion all of the discussion during the executive session constituted a privileged attorney-client communication, no record of the executive session was required to be kept and no such record was kept.

Date: _____

Matthew Hoyt
Gunnison County Attorney

Chairperson Statement Regarding Executive Session

Pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4), I attest that I am the Chairperson of the Gunnison County Board of Commissioners, that I attended all of the above referenced executive session, and that all of that executive session was confined to the topic authorized for discussion pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4).

Date: _____

Jonathan Houck, Chairperson
Gunnison County Board of Commissioners

The Board came out of executive session at 12:55 pm. Commissioner Houck confirmed that the discussion remained on-topic, that all parties stated to be in attendance were, in fact, in attendance and that no decisions were made. Commissioner Houck asked for the County Attorney’s office to do a deeper legal analysis of the statute and timelines associated with the Mobile Home Park Act, work with the Impact Development Fund and the residents of Country Meadows to develop a possible plan for compliance of outstanding violations, to investigate Colorado Proposition 123, and to look for ways to explore resources. **Moved** by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Commissioner Puckett Daniels to come out of executive session. We were there to receive advice from the Attorney’s Office. We stayed on task. The participants included the full Board of County Commissioners, County Manager Matthew Birnie, County Attorney Matthew Hoyt, Assistant County Attorney Alex San Filippo-Rosser, Assistant County Manager for Public Works Martin Schmidt, Assistant County Manager for Community and Economic Development Cathie Pagano, and Assistant County Manager for Health, Human and Safety Services Joni Reynolds.

ADJOURN: Commissioner Houck adjourned the meeting at 12:57 pm.

Jonathan Houck, Chairperson

Elizabeth Smith, Vice-Chairperson

Laura Puckett Daniels, Commissioner

Minutes Prepared By:

Holly Perry, Deputy County Clerk

Attest:

Kathy Simillion, County Clerk

GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TEXT INCLUSION INTO MINUTES

Note: For all the details of each resolution including any exhibits, please refer to gunnisoncounty.org

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
THE COUNTY OF GUNNISON, COLORADO
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-31**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GUNNISON COUNTY,
COLORADO PERTAINING TO THE OBLIGATION AND EXPENDITURE OF 2023 U.S.D.A. SECURE
RURAL SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY SELF-DETERMINATION ACT, TITLE III AWARDS**

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Gunnison County ("Board"), pursuant to C.R.S. §§ 30-11-101(2) and 30-15-401, et seq. has the general enabling power to adopt ordinances, resolutions, rules and other regulations as may be necessary for the

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Title III of the United States Department of Agriculture Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, as amended through P.L. 115-141, participating counties may receive and utilize funds for certain fire mitigation activities.

WHEREAS, Utilize the Title III Funds for fire mitigation activities within Gunnison County, Colorado pursuant to the United States Department of Agriculture Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, as amended through P.L. 115-141, ONLY for the following:

1. Carry out activities under the Firewise Communities program to provide to homeowners in fire-sensitive ecosystems education on, and assistance with implementing, techniques in home siting, home construction, and home landscaping that can increase the protection of people and property from wildfires;
2. Develop and carry out community wildfire protection plans in coordination with the appropriate Secretary concerned.

3. Maintain all necessary and appropriate records regarding receipt and expenditures of the Title III Funds and provide all records requested by Gunnison County and/or the United States Department of Agriculture to satisfy its obligations under this Agreement and in accordance with the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, as amended through P.L. 115-141.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Gunnison Colorado, that:

2023 U.S.D.A. SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY SELF-DETERMINATION ACT, TITLE III funds are hereby obligated to the above purposes.

INTRODUCED by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Puckett Daniels, and adopted this 17th day of September 2024.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF GUNNISON, COLORADO

Houck – yes; Puckett Daniels – yes; Smith – yes.