

MINUTES OF THE CHEYENNE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Thursday, March 20, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Ronald Smith called the meeting to order at 9:00 am with Commissioners RJ Jolly and Rick Pelton, Administrator Marcy Brossman, Clerk to Board Allison Brown, Public Health Director Kelli Adamson and James Harlow present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/PRAYER

APPROVE AGENDA

Additions: 1) Asphalt Request 2) Settlement 3) Greg Etl. Commissioner Pelton moved with a second from Commissioner Jolly to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVE MINUTES

Commissioner Jolly moved with a second from Commissioner Pelton to approve the March 10, 2025 minutes as written. Motion passed unanimously.

Republican River Water Conservation District Update – James Harlow, County Board Representative.

The RRWCD wants to introduce a late bill, taking the billing back to the district, instead of through the County Assessor's Office. Cheyenne County has about 7,905 acres at \$30 an irrigated acre, for a potential loss to the County of around \$7000 annually. They would also like to eventually split the fee structure, with a certain amount per irrigated acre, but also a fee per acre-foot of water pumped.

Grant Coordinator Autumn Pelton joined the meeting at 9:07 am.

Harlow left the meeting at 9:15 am.

Recess as Board of County Commissioners at 9:15 am.

MINUTES OF THE CHEYENNE COUNTY
BOARD OF PUBLIC HEALTH

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Smith called the meeting to order at 9:16 am.

APPROVE AGENDA

Commissioner Pelton moved with a second from Commissioner Jolly to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL PRESENTATION

Commissioner Jolly moved with a second from Commissioner Pelton to approve the Public Health financial report. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM UPDATES

a. Epidemiology

There is still some influenza going around. There was one reportable dog bite in the county this month.

b. School Nursing Contract – Kit Carson

Discussion regarding amending the annual contract with Kit Carson School, in order to cover increasing costs.

COMMUNITIES THAT CARE

a. School Innovative Summit Request – Cheyenne Wells

Pelton requested permission to send 3-4 people from the Cheyenne Wells School District to the School Innovative Summit this July, in either Las Vegas or Nashville. It would be approximately \$9000 for registration, travel and lodging. Meal expenses would have to be covered by the school district. Commissioner Jolly moved with a second from Commissioner Pelton to approve the request. Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Jolly moved with a second from Commissioner to adjourn the meeting at 9:33 am. Motion passed unanimously.

Adamson and Pelton left the meeting at 9:33 am.

Human Services Director Jane Tallman joined the meeting at 9:33 am.

MINUTES OF THE CHEYENNE COUNTY BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES

Commissioner Smith called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

APPROVE AGENDA

Commissioner Pelton moved with a second from Commissioner Jolly to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

UPDATE FROM DHS

a. CMP Updates

Commissioner Jolly moved with a second from Commissioner Pelton to approve and sign the amended agreement. Motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIALS

a. Signatures for EBT

Commissioner Pelton moved with a second from Commissioner Jolly to approve and sign the EBTs. Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Jolly moved with a second from Commissioner Pelton to adjourn the meeting at 9:46 am. Motion passed unanimously.

Reconvene as Board of County Commissioners at 9:47 am.

OLD BUSINESS:

a. Prowers County Letter of Support Request

Commissioners reviewed and suggested changes to the draft letter.

Commissioner Pelton moved with a second from Commissioner Jolly to sign and send the letter after revisions. Motion passed unanimously.

EMS Directors Laine Mitchek, Kenny Echols and Theresa Echols joined the meeting at 9:58 am.

Various Ambulance Matters

a. Supply Ordering

The EMT Directors met with Keefe Memorial Hospital to discuss supply ordering and stocking. KMH is working with their legal team to provide a Memorandum of Understanding, allowing EMTs to restock the ambulance from a supply closet at the hospital. This would decrease the ambulance team's workload, as well as the amount of waste due to supply expiration dates. Consensus of the Board is to allow for the partnership.

b. iPad Request

Mitchek explained the use of iPads in ambulance run reporting. Three iPads have been donated to the Ambulance Service; however another one is needed. Kenny Echols presented a quote for an iPad and keyboard to match the current three. They also discussed the need for adding a data plan to the iPads.

c. Driver Recruiting

Discussion regarding the need for more ambulance drivers and ways to recruit them. The Directors would like to advertise for drivers, and want the Board's blessing to have a \$20/hr wage for drivers. Consensus of the Board is to approve.

d. Doors

Echols informed the board that a roller on the east door is catching and needs replaced, as well as the bottom two panels on the west door. The walk-in door is also catching. Consensus of the Board is to allow them to get quotes for repair from local providers.

Commissioner Jolly moved with a second from Commissioner Pelton to approve the purchase of the iPad. Motion passed unanimously. Brossman will get a quote for Verizon accounts on all four iPads, and Echols will get a quote from Starlink.

The Board informed the directors that they are looking into getting air conditioning in the ambulance shed and requested the square footage for the building.

Rubi Aragon and Danielle Pelton joined the meeting at 10:26 am.

County Baseball Field

Aragon read a letter from the Cheyenne Wells Recreation Association, requesting the Board assume responsibility for the east field and all associated costs and to increase funding to the association. Commissioner Smith explained that the County does not own the baseball field, it owns the property and allowed the Recreation Districts to build the field.

Discussion regarding a project proposed by the Board last year, to combine the electrical boxes, saving in cost. The project was put off after a vehicle collision damaged one electrical box near the south field. Aragon will reach out to Casey Hyle with KC Electric.

Pelton and Aragon left at 10:50 am.

Recess at 10:54 am.

Reconvene at 10:59 am.

OLD BUSINESS (Cont.)

- b. Cheyenne Ridge II Wind Project, LLC Right to Build Letter
Commissioners signed the Right to Build Letter, as the impact fee payment has been received.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Construction Permit Application for Installation of Utilities in Public Right-of-Way from Henry Mockelmann III
Commissioner Pelton moved with a second from Commissioner Jolly to approve the permit application. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. Agreement with PRCA Rodeo Announcer Doug Mathis

Commissioner Pelton moved with a second from Commissioner Jolly to sign the agreement. Motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS:

a. Asphalt Request

Tanner Kern inquired about receiving a load of asphalt for his driveway. The Board is willing to sell him a load, but won't deliver into Kansas. The cost is \$25/ton, and Pelton will let him know.

b. Dog Bite Settlement

John Calderra was not willing to sign the settlement agreement sent by the county, and requested an explanation as to why we'd need that. County Attorney Kelly Lowery will reach out to Calderra.

Recess at 11:26 am.

Sheriff Mike Buchanan joined the meeting at 12:28 pm.

Reconvene at 12:29 pm.

OLD BUSINESS: (Cont.)

c. Sheriff's Office Vehicle Purchase Update and Option to Sell Pickup

Discussion regarding a black Tahoe for sale in Burlington, and white ones available at John Elway Chevrolet. Consensus of the Board is to purchase a white one from John Elway, and to request Vince's GM to notify us before their fleet vehicle ordering window passes next year.

The Conejos County Sheriff's Office has expressed interest in buying the 2019 Ram Pickup. Discussion regarding the mileage, condition and value of the pickup. Buchanan will offer it at \$17,000.

Buchanan left the meeting at 1:00 pm.

EXPENSE VOUCHERS AND WARRANTS

Commissioners reviewed and approved expense vouchers on the various funds.

CORRESPONDENCE

a. Monthly reports from various departments

ADJOURN

Commissioner Jolly moved with a second from Commissioner Pelton to adjourn the meeting at 1:01 pm. Motion passed unanimously.