

# ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT 2023

# Fremont County Elected Officials

- •Dwayne McFall, Commissioner
- •Allen Cooper, Sheriff
- Debbie Bell, Commissioner
- •Randy Keller, Coroner
- Stacey Seifert, Assessor
- -Justin Grantham, Clerk and Recorder
- •Kevin Grantham, Commissioner
- •Kathy Elliott, Treasurer and Public Trustee (not pictured)



# COMMISSIONER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Pathfinder Park Pavilion with covered arena completed in July

Paving of the roundabout at Pathfinder Park

Electronic Billboard for Pathfinder Park purchased with the help of the Rotary (Florence, & Canon City)

Broadband Study completed by Bohanan Huston

LEED Certification for Pathfinder Events Center

Approved an increase of the County Contribution to staff retirement from 3% to 4%

Approved funding for the digitization of records for Planning & Zoning, Treasures Office, Building Department, Coroners Office. Digitization of these records began on April 6<sup>th</sup>.

Judicial Center Roofing Project approved and completed in November 2023

Approval to fund a new chiller at the FCSO. Went out to bid and Freedom Mechanical was selected to complete the project.



## Covered Arena at Pathfinder

# COMMISSIONER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Notable Hires and Retirements:

- County Administrator Tony Carochi
- Department of Human ServicesDirector Barry Acton
- Tony Adamic retired as the Fremont County Department of Transportation Director after 30 years of dedicated service.
- Department of Transportation Director
   Michael Whitt
- Public Health and Environment
   Director Paula Buser
- Assistant County Attorney Sean R.Biddle



Retirement Recognition of Tony Adamic

# **COMMISSIONER ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Celebrated all Veterans who work for Fremont County with a BOCC Resolution, luncheon and certificates of appreciation.

Allocated funding to purchase new Christmas decorations for the Fremont County Administration Building.

Designed and renovated a new staff breakroom for Fremont County staff on the lower level of the administration building.

Enclosed wrought iron outdoor staff break area with stairway to the downstairs staff break area for safety and security of staff.

Replaced the HVAC coils at the Judicial Building.

Upgraded Administration Building offices with new carpeting and abatement of asbestos; work is ongoing.

Christmas Decorations

Remodeled the Treasurer's office.







Employee Breakroom



Veterans Appreciation

and Veterans App

# EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR NOMINEES

Evelyn Campbell, Supervisory Custodian

Anna Carochi, Homelessness Outreach & support specialist Timothy Fisher, Detention Deputy

Kyle Mahoney, IT Technician

George Meffley, Maintenance Worker

Angela Near, Case Manager II- Child Care

Jennifer O'Dell, Custodian

Martin Peek, Veterans' Service Officer

Shannon Troutman, Child Welfare Supervisor

Suzie Veatch, Deputy Assessor

Amanda Whitt, Special Projects Coordinator

# AND THE EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR IS....... JENNIFER O'DELL, CUSTODIAN



# **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Fremont County, Colorado							
Summary of Funds							
2023 Budget							
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Fund Name	2023 Budget Beginning Balance	2023 Budget Revenues	2023 Budget Available	2023 Budget Expenditures	2023 Budget Ending Balance		
General Fund	\$ 7,300,654.00	\$ 14,798,334.00	\$ 22,098,988.00	\$ 16,069,227.00	\$ 6,029,76 <mark>1.00</mark>		
Sheriff Fund	3,068,447.00	11,215,983.00	14,284,430.00	12,835,155.00	\$ 1,449,275 <mark>.00</mark>		
Department of Transportation Fund	1,382,903.00	7,526,543.00	8,909,446.00	7,406,203.00	\$ 1,503,243. <mark>00</mark>		
Fair Board	42,355.00	47,300.00	89,655.00	63,900.00	\$ 25,755. <mark>00</mark>		
Department of Health Fund	1,181,862.00	2,219,347.00	3,401,209.00	2,579,693.00	\$ 821,516.00		
Livestock Sale Committee	28,768.00	161,571.85	190,339.85	136,820.26	\$ 53,519.5 <mark>9</mark>		
Waste Disposal Fund	182,059.00	95,000.00	277,059.00	108,500.00	\$ 168,559.00		
County Lodging Tax Fund	97,279.00	345,000.00	442,279.00	385,884.00	\$ 56,395.00		
Airport Fund	439,947.00	1,224,788.00	1,664,735.00	1,233,167.00	\$ 431,568.00		
Capital Expenditures Fund	7,793,451.00	6,356,094.00	14,149,545.00	9,755,000.00	\$ 4,394,545.00		
Public Building & Maintenance Fund	153,424.00	75,000.00	228,424.00	-	\$ 228,424.00		
PILT Fund	1,073,234.00	1,245,000.00	2,318,234.00	1,150,000.00	\$ 1,168,234.00		
Sales & Use Tax Fund	6,809,376.00	2,175,000.00	8,984,376.00	1,389,881.50	\$ 7,594,494.50		
Conservation Trust Fund	553,647.00	173,958.00	727,605.00	72,720.00	\$ 654,885.00		
Marijuana Enforcement Fund	-	115,603.00	115,603.00	129,658.00	\$ (14,055.00)		
Noxious Weed Control Fund	97,430.00	181,700.00	279,130.00	244,274.00	\$ 34,856.00		
Restricted Funds	783,152.00	223,100.00	1,006,252.00	262,100.00	\$ 744,152.00		
Department of Human Services	2,512,916.00	10,011,340.00	12,524,256.00	10,219,925.00	\$ 2,304,331.00		
To <mark>t</mark> al	\$ 33,500,904.00	\$ 58,190,661.85	\$ 91,691,565.85	\$ 64,042,107.76	\$ 27,649,45 <mark>8.09</mark>		

# FREMONT COUNTY AIRPORT

# Wes Brandt, Airport Manager



# **Fremont County Airport**

- 748 Full-Service Fuelings
- 883 Self-Serve Transactions
- 87 Based Aircraft
- 3 Helicopters during Saint Charles Fire

2023 Fuel Statistics		
Туре	Gallons	
AVGAS	27,521	
JET+ADD	41,820	
Total	69,342	

# **Fremont County Airport**

- Grant for FAA Flight Simulator (CDOT)
  - Simulator Generated \$4,275 / 85.5 Hours
- Acquired Front End Loader
- Rehabilitated of Rental Hangars
- In-House Pavement Maintenance
- Annual Fly-In & Drive-In



# FREMONT COUNTY BUILDING DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2023

#### WYATT SANDERS, BUILDING OFFICIAL

PERMITS ISSUED	Inspections	<b>Board of Appeals</b>
<ul> <li>738 Building Permits</li> <li>77 New stick-frame single family dwellings</li> <li>31 Manufactured homes</li> <li>13 Commercial structures</li> <li>1420 Additions, accessory building roofs, siding, etc.</li> <li>2 Agricultural permits</li> </ul>	2 Inspectors 2,882 Inspections 33,122 Miles of travel	0 appeals filed 3 mandatory meetings held <u>The Board consists of</u> 5 regular members 1 alternate
<ul> <li>16 Demolition permits</li> <li>223 Septic Permits</li> <li>174 New systems</li> <li>30 Repairs</li> <li>11 Renewals</li> <li>8 Chemical toilets</li> </ul>		Other Activities 21 Stop work orders / violations 538 Residential and Commercial Plan reviews completed
Total Construction Valuation of Iss	ued	240 Licensed Contractors

117 general

123 specific trades

Total Construction Valuation of Issued Permits in 2023 - \$51,892,739.51

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# BUILDING DEPARTMENT FINANCIALS

• The approved budget for 2023 was \$400,448.

As of January 30, 2024, department expenditures for the year totaled \$343,062.

- Total *revenue generated* by the Building Department for 2023 was \$628,014. This figure represents combined permit fees, re-inspection fees, MHIP program fees, contractor's licenses, commercial plan review fees, etc. This figure is \$227,566 more than our approved budget and is \$199,641 more than our estimated expenditures.
- Our annual deposits also include the following: Fire District Impact Fees \$4,560; State of Colorado Septic Surcharge \$4,669 for a combined grand total of \$637,243.





### **CSU EXTENSION OFFICE**

Julianne Dinkel, Extension Director

#### **EXTENSION OFFICE TEAM**

- JULIANNE DINKEL- EXTENSION DIRECTOR, 4-H/FCS
- SHANAN DAVEY- AG/NATURAL RESOURCES/4-H
- KASSY BARRY-TRACY- 4-H PROGRAM COORDINATOR
- ALLI SPINUZZI OFFICE MANAGER
- JENN STEWART PART TIME EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FACILITATOR
- EMILY RAMBO PART TIME EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM FACILITATOR



- \$6000
- Countywide Bowling Night

- LDC, DTBY, State Conference, Youth Fest

# 2023 4-H Highlights

### 35+ Annual 4-H Events:

- Discovery Day 108 attended
- 4-H Enrollment Night
- New Family Orientations 3
- Welcome to 4-H/Discover 4-H project meetings
- Leader Training
- **Officer Training**
- Fair Orientation
- Record Book Work Night
- **4-H Contests**
- **Cooking Mini Camp**
- Vet Science Mini Camp
- Entomology Mini Camp
- Summer Day Camp
- Fremont County Fair
- State Fair
- Achievement Program
- Fair Concessions Fundraiser -
- Craft Fair Fundraiser \$8000
  - **Countywide Picnic**
  - 4-H Council
- State & Regional Camps CLC,

### 4-H by the Numbers:

- 14 Clubs
- **81 Volunteers**
- 179 members
- 77% of members completed
- 84% of projects completed with a total of 208 completed
- Currently 189 members enrolled for 2024

#### Volunteer Led **Activities:**

- Club Meetings
- **Community Service**
- **Project Meetings** 
  - Foods
  - Poultry & Rabbits
  - Cake Decorating
  - Leatherwork
  - **Shooting Sports**
  - Archerv
  - Shotgun
  - Muzzleloading
  - Air Rifle
  - .22 Rifle
  - Air Pistol
  - Pistol
  - Dog
  - Horse



#### Agriculture/Natural Resources/Horticulture

MASTER GARDENER COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

#### Master Gardener Coordination

14 total volunteers

2 new apprentices

21 Educational Consultations

Master Gardener Classes 2 Offered on Grafting and Seed Saving

**Livestock Judging Team** in partnership with FFA

Partner with Emergency Management for ESF #11 Planning Family and Consumer Sciences (Health, Food Safety, Money Management)

**Health Rocks** – Substance Abuse prevention program that focuses on building life skills - 77 youth reached

**ServSafe** – 36/39 earned Food Safety Manager Certification

AARP Free Tax Preparation 101 people served save taxpayers estimated \$22,220 in prep fees

**Nutrition programming** at Harrison Elementary School for 70 students

#### 2023 Fremont County Fair



- Record attendance for Family Day!
- Livestock shows held under new pavilion
- More food trucks participated
- More vendor participation
- Record Livestock Sale Over \$216,000

2023 Educational Contacts:

**Consultations – 158** 

Consultation Contacts – 189

Classes/ Workshops Held – 57

Class Contacts -940

**CSU Summer Intern** Value of \$5000 for 300 hours of work for Fremont County

Completed Research Project on 4-H Retention

Hired and Onboarded New Ag/4-H Agent Office Manager 4-H Program Coordinator 2 part time program facilitators

## Fremont County Department of Human Services BARRY ACTON, MAED DIRECTOR



- Completed Performance Improvement Plan State Review
- Participated in Blue Ribbon Photo along with many community partners
- Participated in GOAL High School Job Fair
- Hosted Foster Parent Picnic
- Our Eligibility staff received HCPF Grant Funded bonuses for Medicaid processing
- Safety buckets were placed all around building
- Participated in Safety Jam event
- Participated in National Night Out event
- Director met with all teams individually
- Quarterly Professional Development Days provides outstanding training to staff

- Staff donated over 3,000 school supply items to local schools
- 2 DHS Teams participated in the Don't Drink & Drive Softball Tournament
- Hosted and organized Block Party for surrounding partners
- Held a Child Welfare staff appreciation event
- Participated in Fall Harvest Festival at Starpoint
- Hosted 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Trick-or-Treat event for staff children
- Staff participated in annual Art Show at the department
- Celebrated National Adoption Day with 7 adoptions
- Celebrated Veterans with Luncheon and certificates
- Staff participated in CCHS Job Fair
- Staff participated in CCHS Pathways presentation



# FREMONT COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOT) MICHAEL WHITT, DIRECTOR



# **DOT Road Maintenance Summary**

Chip Seal w/level Projects: •7th Street Penrose (00600-(00800)•11<sup>th</sup> Street Penrose (00600-00800 •Ash St (1800) •CR 67 Int (0100-01600) •CR 132 (0100) •Fourtner (01400) •Logan (01200 to 01230) •McKinley (01200 to 01310)

Cattle guards: **Firebox** 

Dust Suppressant: Chip Seal Projects: •CR 2 (31000 to 31600) •CR 28 (12000 to 16000) •CR 67 (00100 to 02000) •Tennessee (1100 to 1200) CR12//Ceda 100/CR19/CR •Lawrence (1100 to 1200) •North (1100 to 1300) Pennsylvania (1200)

**Culverts:** WPA South St CR 26 MM 2/Basswood Misc culverts as needed

CR66/ CR277/ CR143/CR80/CR77/ Cedar/4-Mile Lane Indiana/Melvina/CR84/ 103/CR19/CR49/CR7/C R45/ CR46/CR47/CR4/Holida Hills/FoxCreek/CR6/CR 40/CR27A/CR28/CR29/ CR31/CR61/CR2/CR21

# **DOT Fleet Services**

2,298 Days without Time Loss Due To Injury

Vehicles added:

- •(6) DOT
- •(11) Sheriff
- •(2) Airport
- •(1) Coroner
- •(1) Administration
- •(1) Parks
- •(3) EHS
- •(2) OEM
- •(3) Weed

Vehicles Disposed: •(1) DOT unit (sold) •(1) Sheriff unit (sold) Fleet Shop Repair & Maintenance Hours: •DOT: 2663 •Sheriff: 1301.5 Administration: 229.5 •Airport: 79 •DHS: 58 •EHS: 34 •Clerk & Recorder: 2 •Parks: 83 Total Cost of R&M: \$558,801.65 **Insurance Claims:** •(3) DOT •(6) Sheriff (1) DHS

## FREMONT COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

#### MYKEL KROLL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR















## Fremont County Emergency Management

- Fremont County Cyberattack presentations assisting local agencies, Cybersecurity Infrastructure Security Agency, Department of Homeland Security, military, counties and municipalities around the state and across the country with cyberattack response, support, and best practices.
- Assisted with county and statewide all-hazard events such as wildland fires, floods, power outages, hazardous materials events and critical traffic incidents.
- MOU signed with the American Red Cross for sheltering support.
- Supported and encouraged municipality, HOA, and POA Community Wildfire Protection Plans.
- Coordination and planning with all Fire, Law, EMS, St. Thomas More Hospital, care facilities, schools, local government, and CSP Hazmat for training, communications, and exercises to prepare and respond to emergencies in Fremont County.
- Social media and local media presence with news, weather, planned and emergency event information.
- Conducted FIRE WISE and community preparedness events throughout the county all year long.
- Fremont County Safety Jam and many community outreach events to promote citizen preparedness.
- Supported local planned events with supporting equipment and planning input.
- Hosted all-hazard meetings, classes, workshops and trainings. Attended and prepared, trainings, classes, workshops, tabletop exercises, and functional exercises.
- Attended the Colorado Department of Homeland Security Emergency Mmanagement Advanced Professional Emergency Managers Academy November 2022 through May 2023 and graduated.
- Presented at the Colorado Emergency Managers Conference regarding the Fremont County Cyberattack.
- Return To Nature Mortuary event support and coordination.
- Assisted and supported American Red Cross with disaster assistance for Fremont County residents in need.
- EVERBRIDGE reverse notification system registrations are still rising with EM, FRECOM, and local response agency/municipality outreach.
- Continuing to secure grants for equipment and supplies for all-hazards emergency response support.



# Fremont County Information Technology

Lisa Hall, IT Administrator

# IT Key Highlights

- Moved to much larger office space Admin Building LL10
- Hired a Cybersecurity
   Specialist
- Hired a Network Specialist
- Built a Ticketing System for IT and Maintenance requests
- Hired an Office Assistant

Main Focus of Budgeted Projects:

- Network and Firewall Upgrades
- Multifactor Authentication Implementation
- Telephone System Upgrades

# FREMONT COUNTY PLANNING & ZONING

Dan Victoria, Director



# Applications, Permits, Licenses & Reviews



CUP

SRU

ADU

TUP

Non-Conforming

Home Occupations

**Tower Colocate** 

Zone Change

## Land Use Applications





## **Addresses**



- Non-County Maintained 79
- County Maintained 32
- **Driveway Access** Permits 13
- Addresses Changed 8

## **Code Inspections**

**MMJ Inspections Closed Code Cases** New Code Cases Kennels **New Project Inspections Annual Inspections** 



# Planning & Zoning Revenue





#### Pathfinder Park Event Center 2023

- Held over 340 events in 2023 including Home and Garden Show, Fremont County Fair, and Colorado Outdoorsman Days.
- New covered arena and classroom completed in July.
- New electronic sign installed.
- New large animal scale installed.
- Added a full-time event coordinator position.



# FREMONT COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH & ENVIRONMENT

# PREVENT. PROTECT. PROMOTE.



#### PAULA BUSER, DIRECTOR

#### **CLINIC SERVICES:**

Implemented VaxCare auto replenishment vaccine software

>1,710 Client service contacts

>1,379 Immunizations administered

> 11 Off-site flu clinics (doubled from 2022)

>147 TB tests administered

60 Lead tests administered (doubled from 2022)
92 HIV/Hepatitis C screenings (quadrupled from 2022)

>32 STI Binx Boxes distributed

>Introduced pregnancy testing kit service

## **GRANTS & FUNDING:**

86% Grant funded =17 grants
Region 15 Opioid funding to date = \$1,347,474
Estimated Region 15 opioid funding (2022-2038) = \$6,485,326
32% Increase in immunization payment collections

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH & MORE:**

> Hired new director August 2023
> 5,067 Facebook followers
> Facebook reach 22,141
> Attended RE-1, RE-2 and RE-3 staff kickoff events
> Participated in Red Ribbon Week
> Contributed to safe prom and senior funfest events
> Multiple community events reaching thousands of residents
> Provided community and county Narcan training
> Updated and upgraded FCDPHE website
> Completed lobby refresh phase 1
> Introduced VROOM child development program
> 132 Reach Out and Read books given

### **HEALTH PROMOTION & PREVENTION:**

Tobacco education, prevention and cessation programs
 Substance abuse prevention and treatment programs
 Community based impaired driving prevention programs
 Updated FCDPHE marketing pamphlet

### FCDPHE Revenue/Expenses







#### **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH:**

\*Environmental Health Officer Performed Over 300 Inspections\*

#### **Retail Food Establishments:** 225 Establishments

177 Routine inspections, 27 re-inspections
11 Complaint inspections
14 Pre-operational inspections, consults and interventions
12 Non-Foodborne Illness complaints
23 Retail food plan reviews, 5 change of ownerships
166 RFE license renewals sent, 36 new licenses

School Inspections: 13 Facilities ≻6 High risk, 4 low risk, 2 follow-up

#### **Child Care Inspections:** 21 Facilities

21 Routine9 Follow up, 8 preoperational or complaint

#### **Body Art Inspections:** 10 Facilities

9 Routine1 Preoperational, 1 follow-up

**Complaints:** >8 *Public accommodation and other complaints* 

#### **Temporary/Special Event Food Establishments:**

 5 Fremont County licensed temporary event vendors
 Approximately 25 temporary event inspections

#### **Other:**

Supported Return to Nature abatement
 EH Officer certified as Serv-Safe instructor

#### **COMMUNICABLE DISEASE:**

 5/11/23, COVID-19 Public Health Emergency ended after 1,169 days
 Transitioned COVID-19 response to general surveillance

Converted FremontHealthData.com website from COVID only data to general health data

#### **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS:**

- Supported Return to Nature Incident Command
- Participated in South Region Healthcare Coalition

Received additional \$60,000 in Public Health Emergency Preparedness grant funding



### VITAL RECORDS: > 1,151 Birth Certificates

4,376 Death Certificates
Implemented new Colorado Vital Events Operating System





# SHERIFF'S OFFICE

# Allen Cooper, Sheriff





# Derek Irvine, Undersheriff





# Fremont County Treasurer & Public Trustee

Kathy Elliott, Treasurer & Public Trustee



# **Treasurer Key Highlights**

## Tax Collections:

- 31,472 tax notices sent to the printer and being mailed
- Property taxes for 2022 payable in 2023
- Collected 95.85 percent of property taxes owed
- Online payments collected \$2,288,616.77
- In office credit cards collected \$893,475.02

## Tax Lien Sale:

- Published 578 delinquent tax schedules
- 312 schedules paid by property owners

266 sold to investors at the tax lien sale

## Tax Distributions:

- Prepared monthly reports for each entity and semi-annual reports of all funds for the Fremont County Commissioners
- Distributed taxes to all of Fremont County's constituents (County, City, & Districts)

### **Documentation:**

- 1967 Certificates of taxes due to title companies and lending institutions
- 58 Manufactured home authentications

## Traffic Violations:

- Received 48 Tickets from Fremont County Sheriff for traffic violations
- 18 Tickets were paid
- 30 Tickets were referred to the courts
- 730 VIN Inspections were paid

# Public Trustee Key Highlights

## **Foreclosures:**

- Processed 64 foreclosures of real estate deeds
- By state statute to allow lenders to obtain payment of loans or ownership of the collateral property

## **Releases of Deeds of Trust:**

- Processed 1343 Releases of Deeds of Trust
- Removed lender's lien on an owner's property, when the loan obligation has been successfully satisfied

# Fremont County Veteran Services Office

MARTY PEEK VETERAN SERVICES OFFICER

TRICIA HILL VETERAN SERVICES OFFICER

# 2023 Veteran Services Office By The Numbers

- Completed 1774 telephone calls and voicemails
- Conducted 3124 office visits and appointments including received and Written Correspondences (including emails)
- Participated in 121 outreaches (home visits and meetings)
- Processed a large volume of federal government and Veterans Administration Forms

# FREMONT COUNTY WEED MANAGEMENT

Brittany Pierce, Noxious Weed Director





Landowners attended a local weed walk to introduce and educate the public on identifying and controlling noxious weeds.

Over 25 biocontrols were released on private and public lands, controlling 6 species of noxious weeds.



Elongated mustard aerial application in Wellsville. Recovered 128 acres of land infested with List A species.

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 Outreach Events
 Public Weed Walk on Riverwalk with Upper Arkansas
 Weed Managers
 Home & Garden

Show

Area of	Acres
Treatment	Treated
26 Landowners	25
Fremont DOT	12
BLM	169
City of Canon City	20
City of Florence	2
Fremont County	5
CDOT	21
Biocontrol releases	25
TOTAL	281
Over 16,000 acres were covered!	
were covereu:	



- <u>Removal of select List A species:</u>
  ✓ Giant Reed
  ✓ Japanese knotweed (pictured)
  ✓ Myrtle spurge
- ✓ Elongated mustard

Pesticide Applicator Training /Conference with Upper Arkansas Weed Cooperative Management Area (UACWMA) THANK YOU, FREMONT COUNTY, FOR ANOTHER GREAT YEAR!