

FIRST MEETING

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Fremont, State of Colorado, met in Regular Session on January 14th, 2025, 615 Macon Avenue, Room LL3, Fremont County Administration Building, Cañon City, Colorado. Chairman McFall called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Dwayne McFall	Commissioner	Present
Debbie Bell	Commissioner	Present
Kevin Grantham	Commissioner	Present
Justin Grantham	Clerk and Recorder	Present
Eric Bellas	County Attorney	Present
Tony Carochi	County Administrator	Present
Dan Victoria	Planning & Zoning Director	Present

INVOCATION

Todd Luce from Grand View Christian Church gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Bell moved to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Grantham seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes from December 10, 2024, December 17, 2024, and December 23, 2024
2. Approval of Bills for \$3,082,324.03
3. BLM Lease Amendment
4. Ratification of Chairman's Signature on Union Ditch Notice of Stockholders' Meeting Proxy
5. Ratification of letter of support with a \$3,000 funding commitment to participate in the Colorado Department of Higher Education's Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative

6. **Resolution No. 1**, Series of 2025, Ratification of letter of support for a \$3,000 funding commitment to participate in the Colorado Department of Higher Education's Colorado Opportunity Scholarship Initiative.
7. Approval of the December 31, 2024, HUTF verification and signature sheet Submittal
8. Schedule Public Hearing: None.

Commissioner Grantham moved to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Bell seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

ADMINISTRATIVE & INFORMATIONAL

Ref. Fremont County BOCC Meeting 1/14/2025 3:10

1. Staff / Elected Officials:

- a. County Clerk's Monthly Report, Justin Grantham, County Clerk

Clerk Grantham gave the Count Clerk's Monthly Report, which can be found in its entirety at www.fremontcountyco.gov .

Commissioner Bell moved to accept the County Clerk's monthly report. Commissioner Grantham seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

- b. Semi-Annual Treasurer's Report and Public Trustee Quarterly Report, Kathy Elliott, County Treasurer & Public Trustee

Commissioner Grantham moved to accept the Semi-Annual report of the Public Trustee and the Treasurer's Quarterly report. Commissioner Bell seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

Treasurer and Public Trustee Elliot gave the Quarterly and Semi-Annual Report, which can be found in its entirety at www.fremontcountyco.gov.

- c. County Administrator Report, Tony Carochi, County Administrator

County Manager Carochi gave the County Manager Report, which can be found on in its entirety at www.fremontcountyco.gov.

2. Citizens who wish to address the Commissioners on a matter not scheduled on the agenda.

Commissioner Bell announced that the legislative session in Colorado is underway, and the Commissioners will begin to meet with the Colorado Counties, Incorporated on January 24th to discuss the new proposed legislation.

Commissioner Grantham said that the local radio station shutting down is a tragedy and inconvenience for the local governments, and that this has caused all of us to start brainstorming about a new way to spread time sensitive information.

County Assessor Seifert announced that there was a printing error on Veterans and Homestead exemption tax assessments. The assessed values are correct and the tax dollars on the tax notices are correct. The printing error is just on the total assessed value showing \$90,000 something instead of the full \$100,000. The amount due is correct, and she said that she has put in a critical ticket to the software to get it fixed as soon as possible.

Commissioner McFall said that January is Human Trafficking Awareness Month and that it is necessary to spread awareness because it happens right under our noses all the time and we are not aware. He also commented on the radio station shutting down and he encourages the public to sign up for the 911 reverse emergency alert notifications.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

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1. Reorganization of Board of County Commissioners

Commissioner Bell moved to appoint Commissioner Grantham as the Chairman of the board for 2025. Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent

Commissioner McFall moved to appoint Commissioner Bell as the Chairman Pro Tem. Commissioner Grantham seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner Bell, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

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2. Appointment of County Attorney

Commissioner Bell moved to appoint Dr. Eric Bellas, Esquire as County Attorney. Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

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3. **Resolution No. 2**, Series of 2025 Designating and Approving Official Depositories for Fremont County, Colorado in 2025.

Commissioner Bell moved to approve **Resolution No. 2** series of 2025 designating and improving official depositories for Fremont County, Colorado in 2025 of Sunflower Bank of Canon City, Colorado Surplus Asset fund Trust and Bank of the San Juans also known as Glacier Bank. Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

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4. **Resolution No. 3**, Series of 2025 Designating Schedule for Regular Meeting for the Fremont County, Colorado, Board of County Commissioners.

Commissioner McFall moved to approve **Resolution No. 3**, which states the Board of County Commissioners meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month commencing at 9:00am. Commissioner Bell seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

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5. **Resolution No. 4**, Series of 2025 Designating Official Newspaper for Fremont County, Colorado.

Commissioner Bell moved to approve **Resolution No. 4** series of 2025 designating the official newspaper for Fremont County Colorado as the Cañon City Daily Record. Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

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6. **Resolution No. 5**, Series of 2025 Designating Official Posting Place for Notice of Public Meetings for the Fremont County, Colorado Board of County Commissioners.

Commissioner McFall moved to approve **Resolution No. 5** posting places, being designated as the website of Fremont County Colorado which is fremontcountyco.gov, the bulletin board in the hallway outside the office of the Board of County Commissioners, and the bulletin board located at the main south entrance of the Fremont County Administration Building. Commissioner Bell seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

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7. Requesting the issuance of a New Liquor License for a Malt, Vinous, and Spiritous License for an Optional Premises at 6655 CO-115, Florence, CO

81226.

Bar 409 Events Representative: Gerald Meloni

Mr. Meloni said that he responded to the county's request for a vendor to handle the beverage concessions at Pathfinder Park like any event center. He said that this process has taken a few months between making sure the building is in compliance with the Public Health department which included having access to water and sinks. The contract was approved by the County Administrator Tony Carochi and County Attorney Bellas. After that was completed, Mr. Meloni applied for the liquor license. He said that there were some concerns with some organizations in wanting the proceeds from their alcohol sales and he said he is willing to work with them if he can waive all liability for the event. He also intends to have a basic menu but will also work with each event on curating a special menu based on requests and budget.

Commissioner Bell asked Mr. Meloni how he will ensure that everyone that attends the event is of the legal drinking age and if the servers are TIP certified.

Mr. Meloni said all servers that will be serving at the event center will be TIP certified, and these servers work regular bar service all the time, so they are more than capable of carding everyone and have the ability to spot a fake ID.

County Clerk Grantham began the Clerk's report by saying that the application for a new liquor license as an optional premise was turned in in full on November 25th of 2024. Gerald Meloni, the owner of Bar 409 Events submitted the appropriate checks for the fees as required. The Sheriff's report came back recommending approval; however, the Public Health report came back not recommending approval. The County Attorney reviewed the application in its entirety and found no deficiencies, meaning he recommends approval. Mr. Meloni sent proof of publication 10 days before the meeting and proof of public notice poster well before the required 10 days. After reviewing the entire application and all the reports, the Clerk's office recommends approval. There is note of concern about the temporary fencing outside, typically the Sheriff's office checks that the fencing is permanent.

Commissioner Bell addressed the issue of Public Health recommendation of denial. That recommendation was made because ice will be used at the location, and Public Health thought a restaurant license might be more appropriate. She said the Commissioners will take that recommendation into consideration when making this decision. Commissioner Bell moved to approve the issuance of a new liquor license for a malt, vinous, and spirituous license for an optional premises at Pathfinder Park 6655 CO-115 in Florence, Colorado. Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

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8. Reappointment of Beth Katchmar to the Fremont County Tourism Council with a term expiring December 31, 2027.

Commissioner McFall moved to reappoint Beth Katchmar to the Fremont County Tourism Council with a term expiring December 31, 2027. Commissioner Bell seconded the motion. Upon Vote:

Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

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9. Reappointment of Kevin Cundiff to the Fremont County Tourism Council with a term expiring December 31, 2027.

Commissioner Bell moved to reappoint Kevin Cundiff to the Fremont County Tourism Council with a term expiring December 31, 2027. Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED 9:30 a.m.

None.

Commissioner Grantham adjourned the meeting at 9:45am.

To view the YouTube Video for Commissioner Meeting, go to the following website:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3wvYE7ftgbA>

Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners