

TWENTIETH MEETING

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

Kevin Grantham	Commissioner	Present
Debbie Bell	Commissioner	Present
Dwayne McFall	Commissioner	Present
Justin Grantham	Clerk and Recorder	Present
Eric Bellas	County Attorney	Present
Tony Carochi	County Administrator	Present

INVOCATION

Todd Luce from Grandview 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 change the agenda beginning with adding a consent agenda item numbered six for authorization of chairman's signature on Fremont County Airport taxiway rehabilitation notice of award and contract agreement with Old Castle SW Group doing business as United Companies. Also adding agenda item number four under new business, which is **Resolution No. 17**. Agenda item one under new business will be removed which is to reschedule a Fremont County Board of County Commissioners meeting from February 24th of 2026 to Thursday, February 19th of 2026. Item number one will be replaced with a proclamation recognizing Ralph F. Janousek VFW Post 2788 as a Purple Heart post on October 25th of 2025. Commissioner Bell moved to approve the agenda with those changes. Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes of September 23, 2025
2. Approval of Bills for \$4,317,335.21
3. Ratification of Chairman Signature on the Bylaws for Fremont County Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council.
4. Approval of **Resolution No. 17**, Series of 2025, Zone Change for Department of

Planning and Zoning File #25-001 Kewish

5. Schedule Public Hearing: None.
6. Authorization for Chairman signature on Fremont County Airport Taxiway Rehabilitation Notice of Award and Contract Agreement with OldCastle SW Group, dba united Companies.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE & INFORMATIONAL

Ref. Fremont County BOCC Meeting 10/14/2025 5:44

1. Staff / Elected Officials:

- a. Sales & Use Tax Report, Shawn Sutton, Budget & Finance Officer

Shawn Sutton gave the Sales & Use Tax Report, which can be found in its entirety at www.fremontcountyco.gov.

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

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

- c. Fremont County Public Health & Environment Department Director Rick Gutierrez

Mr. Gutierrez said he was honored to serve as the Fremont County Public Health Director. He spent the last six years working at Hildebrand Care Center as the Plant Operations Director. He earned a master's degree in mental health counseling where he helped provide outreach services and connect homeless individuals to mental health services. He ended by saying that he is truly impressed by all the services Fremont County offers to its citizens and is he is thankful for this exciting opportunity.

Clerk Grantham explained that the elections director and chief deputy are in Pheonix escorting the ballots for the upcoming election. He informed the public to change any information right away to ensure they receive the correct ballot. He also brought to attention that a lot of changes to drop boxes have been made this year, they have moved the location to install drive through drop boxes.

Commissioner Bell reminded the public that as we are approaching the end of the year there will be a lot of appointments and reappointments to various Fremont County boards and she suggested that if anyone is interested in volunteering, please visit fremontcountyco.gov.

Commissioner McFall wanted to remind everyone that fire danger is still high, and the initial fire isn't the only concern because once it rains it causes extreme flooding which Colorado has seen.

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

Karen Hunter was present at the meeting to bring alleged illegal behavior from a company currently called Cardinal Capital LLC they have been known in the Colorado Secretary of State office to frequently change trade names. They are known for subsidized housing, specifically HUD (Housing and Urban Development) subsidized housing. She explained how she has independently researched the company and Colorado law. She believes the company has no right under Colorado law to engage with the courts regarding evictions, collect rent, or receive HUD funds when the company is not acting legally. She informed the board that the state must wait until October 31st to make the company delinquent and possibly dissolve it due to underreporting and other circumstances.

Patti Sedillo, the executive director for Senior Services Solutions Plus explained that they offer non-emergency medical, dental, and optical transportation. She explained that last year they petitioned for the board to give \$800 a month to reimburse Medicaid clients since the state will only reimburse big companies. The company has seen a rise in ride requests, and they ran out of money quickly. Ms. Sedillo is worried about the clients who live outside of city limits and without help from the commissioners they will not be able to serve that demographic.

Commissioner Bell commented that they have already discussed refunding the program in 2026 and thanked Patti for being present.

Rich Keilman said he would like to discuss the state of Oak Creek Grade and adjoining county roads. He explained that he is present representing a large group of people that are very frustrated with the road conditions since they were not kept in this condition three or four years ago. He explained that he understands the commissioners have bigger problems and he does appreciate the way this county budgets and the resources available, but he thinks there is a lack of transparency with DOT concerning when things might be maintained or fixed. He asked the commissioners to discuss in more detail to consider tree mitigation or possibly putting asphalt in the areas that are constantly in the shadows or notorious troubled areas. Mr. Keilman said the community has started a Facebook page to report to each other on the conditions of the road and then to hear from DOT that citizens should have a four-wheel drive vehicle and they are only required to grade the road twice a year only creates more frustration amongst citizens.

Commissioner Grantham responded that he appreciates Mr. Keilman being present and the email conversations they have had discussing long-term and short-term solutions and that they should be having more conversations soon.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

- ~~1. Reschedule Board of County Commissioners Meeting from February 24, 2026, to~~

~~Thursday, February 19, 2026, at 9 a.m.~~

Ref. Fremont County BOCC Meeting 10/14/2025 46:47

1. Proclamation recognizing the Ralph F. Janousek VFW Post 2788 as a Purple Heart Post on October 25, 2025.

Commissioner Bell recited the proclamation, and to view the proclamation in its entirety refer to the bottom of these minutes.

Commissioner Bell moved to approve the proclamation for the Purple Heart Post, Ralph F. Janousek, VFW, Post 2788 in Penrose. Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

Ref. Fremont County BOCC Meeting 10/14/2025 51:10

2. Reschedule Board of Human Services Meeting from February 24, 2026, to Thursday, February 19, 2026, at 1:15 p.m.

Commissioner McFall explained the reason for the reschedule is because the commissioners will be attending a legislative conference in Washington DC with the National Association of Counties.

Commissioner McFall moved to approve the rescheduling of the Board Human Services meeting from February 24th to February 19th, at 1:15 p.m. in 2026. Commissioner Bell seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

Ref. Fremont County BOCC Meeting 10/14/2025 52:48

3. Reschedule Board of Public Health and Environment Meeting from February 24, 2026, to Thursday, February 19, 2026, at 2 p.m.

Commissioner Bell moved to reschedule the Board of Public Health and Environment meeting from February 24th, 2026, to Thursday February 19th, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

Ref. Fremont County BOCC Meeting 10/14/2025 53:11

4. Reappointment of Linda Valdez to the Fremont County Fair Board with a term expiring December 31, 2028.

Commissioner McFall moved to reappoint Linda Valdez to the Fremont County Fair Board with a term expiring December 31st, 2028. Commissioner Bell seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

5. Appointment of new member to the Fremont County Heritage Commission for a term ending December 31, 2028.

Commissioner Bell moved to appoint new member Heidi Ritter to the Fremont County Heritage Commission for a term that will end on December 31st of 2028. 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 9:55am.

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N9zJe9-l0n8>

Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners



Fremont County Board of Commissioners

Proclamation

PURPLE HEART POST PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, The Ralph F. Janousek VFW Post 2788, Department of Colorado, has always supported its military and veteran population; and

WHEREAS, The Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration in present use and was initially created as the Badge of Military Merit by General George Washington in 1782; and

WHEREAS, The Purple Heart was the first American service award or decoration made available to the common soldier and is specifically awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces who have been wounded or paid the ultimate sacrifice in combat with a declared enemy of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, The mission of the Military Order of the Purple Heart is to foster an environment of goodwill among the combat-wounded veteran members and their families, promote patriotism, support legislative initiatives, and most importantly, make sure we never forget; and

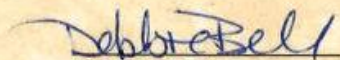
WHEREAS, The Ralph F. Janousek VFW Post 2788 area has a large, highly decorated veteran population including many Purple Heart recipients; and

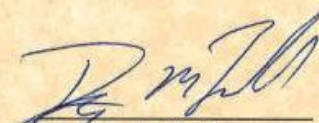
WHEREAS, The Ralph F. Janousek VFW Post 2788 has been declared a Purple Heart Post by the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE PROCLAIMED by the County Commissioners of Fremont County that the sacrifices that Purple Heart recipients have made in defending our freedoms, acknowledging their courage, and showing them the honor and support they have earned. Further, the Commissioners urge all citizens of Fremont County, Colorado, to recognize Purple Heart recipients for their selfless actions.

Signed this 14th Day of October, 2025.


Kevin Grantham
District 1 Commissioner


Debbie Bell
District 2 Commissioner


Dwayne McFall
District 3 Commissioner