

FOURTH MEETING

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Fremont, State of Colorado, met in Regular Session on February 25th, 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	Absent
Dwayne McFall	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

Joe Garkovich from Mercy Today Ministries 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 McFall moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Grantham seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes from January 28, 2025
2. Approval of Bills for \$2,915,071.81
3. Ratification of Chairman signature on state grant for Fremont County Airport for Runway 11/29 Geotechnical Investigation
4. Schedule Public Hearings:
 - a. Tuesday, March 25, 2025, 9:30 AM
CDP 24-001 Penrose RV & Boat Storage
Request for a **Commercial Development Plan** for storage units for Recreational Vehicles and Boats located at 17225 State Hwy 115 in Penrose, CO
Applicant: Anna Fluckey

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

ADMINISTRATIVE & INFORMATIONAL

Ref. Fremont County BOCC Meeting 2/25/2025 3:27

1. Staff / Elected Officials:

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

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

b. 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.

Commissioner McFall said that Commissioner Grantham and himself spent Thursday and Friday with Colorado Counties Incorporated reviewing 55 bills over the course of the two days that are in the state legislature. They decide collectively whether to support, oppose, amend, monitor, or have no position. He believes that by the bipartisan group a collective response reflects the caliber of these bills. The group voted 33% opposed to bills, 16% support, 15% in the amend category, 29% monitor, and 7% with no position. Most of the bills that they are opposing are unfunded mandates to counties or local governments. He said that some of the other categories involved are Department of Human Services, law enforcement, and so many on local government vehicle transportation. Commissioner McFall explained that they work hard together to get their amendments considered and to get these threatening bills to disappear.

Commissioner Grantham announced that the assessor's office will be doing their remodel next, it is expected to take three months, and they will begin in July. The commissioners will address the public once they decide where the temporary location will be. He said that last fall when the state started discussing the budget for the upcoming year, they expected a \$600 million shortfall and then that quickly rose to a \$1.3 billion shortfall, and it has now landed at \$1.2 billion. Commissioner Grantham showed concern that the state will make mistakes on cuts for certain programs instead of responsibly downsizing unnecessary funding. He said some of the reductions they are considering are cutting state employees pay benefits, this would save \$60 million and that is "decimal dust" in comparison. He moved onto Senate Bill 3 that pertains to the second amendment which would not only ban all semi-automatic firearms but also require more extensive background checks and training. These training would then make the sheriff's office approve trainers by county and take two fingerprint cards to submit to the CBI. Commissioner Grantham said that one of the good bills is increasing the penalty for stealing a firearm although he isn't hopeful that it will come to fruition considering the costs that will increase from it.

Commissioner McFall wanted to mention that another firearm bill is decreasing the penalty for shooting into a crowd and don't hit anybody. He explained that it would be equivalent to slap on the wrist even though shooting into a crowd clearly shows intention of attempting to hurt someone.

Commissioner Grantham said that one bill that Colorado Counties Incorporated supports completely is House Bill 1040 which is adding nuclear energy as a clean energy resource.

Clerk Grantham announced some good news from legislation that new license plates that will be available and on display in Motor Vehicle hallway. He also wanted to let the public know that on your tax bill it will tell you which districts you pay taxes to and those are the districts out of 25 in the county that you can participate in a special election for board selection in May.

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

Larry Richards is a member of the Royal Gorge Promenaders Club, and he went to the meeting to raise awareness of square dancing and lessons taking place at the Golden Age Center. He is an advocate for it since it has health benefits such as mobility and cardio. He also believes it's good for mental health since it is a very social activity.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Ref. Fremont County BOCC Meeting 2/25/2025 53:20

1. Appointment of new member to the Fremont County Airport Advisory Board for a term ending October 1, 2027

Commissioner Grantham moved to appoint Andrew Rath as a new member to the Fremont County Advisory Board for a term ending October 1st, 2027. Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

Ref. Fremont County BOCC Meeting 2/25/2025 55:14

2. Appointment of a new member to the Fremont County Fair Board for a term ending December 31, 2026

Commissioner McFall moved to appoint Gannon Long to the fair board with a term ending December 31st, 2026. Commissioner Grantham seconded the motion. Upon Vote: 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 9:56am.

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

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

Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners