

SIXTH MEETING

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Fremont, State of Colorado, met in Regular Session on March 24th, 2026, 615 Macon Avenue, Room LL3, Fremont County Administration Building, Cañon City, Colorado. Chair Bell called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

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

INVOCATION

Grant Adkisson from Canyon Cowboy 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 mentioned that consent agenda item three will be numbered Resolution No. 7, and consent agenda item four will be numbered Resolution No. 8.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes / February 19, 2026, March 10, 2026
2. Approval of Bills for \$3,248,346.48
3. Resolution No. 7, Series of 2026, approving the exclusion of property located at 116 Top Notch Trail from the John C. Fremont Library District, and the inclusion of the same property into the Penrose Community Library District
4. Resolution No. 8, Series of 2026, approving the exclusion of property located at 1331 P Street from the John C. Fremont Library District, and the inclusion of the same property into the Penrose Community Library District

5. Ratification of Chair's Signature on Declaration of Local Disaster Regarding "24 Fire."
Wildland Fire
6. Schedule Public Hearings: None.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE & INFORMATIONAL

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1. Staff / Elected Officials:

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

Shawn Sutton provided the Sales & Use Tax Report, which is available in its entirety at www.fremontcountyco.gov.

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

County Clerk Grantham gave the County Clerk's monthly report for February 2026, which can be found in its entirety at www.fremontcountyco.gov.

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

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

County Administrator Carochi presented the County Administrator Report, which is available in full at www.fremontcountyco.gov.

Commissioner Bell wanted to thank the first responders in our community for their sacrifice and bravery in evacuating citizens and animals.

Commissioner McFall said that the citizens' preparedness helped tremendously in this situation, with trucks and trailers everywhere, loading up and heading to various areas. He also announced that the Sheriff has declared Fremont County as being in Stage 2 fire restrictions.

Commissioner Grantham said the legislature is in session and has been deliberating on the budget.

Commissioner Bell announced that they will be filming a documentary titled Viewpoint by Dennis Quaid on Fremont County's economic growth.

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

Kevin Mahmalji said they were organizing a fundraiser to help the first responders. He contacted Brush Hollow Winery to host a spaghetti dinner for around 40 to 50 first responders. They graciously offered their space, time, and staff. The original goal was to raise \$500, which was accomplished in 12 hours, and they decided to raise the goal to accommodate all the first responders. Since it is currently impossible to pull the firefighters from the front line, they decided to pivot and provide a post-containment dinner. The best way to donate is on Facebook, but they also accept checks and cash.

Commissioner McFall commented that there are so many agencies that help, and most citizens don't realize it. There are wildland firefighters, local, and Pueblo County agencies.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Proclamation naming April as Fremont County Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month
Representatives: Charity Sellars, Scott Mitchell, Joe Roman, Christina Starika, Department of Human Services

Charity Sellars said during a crisis response that investing in children and families can lead to better outcomes. Charity Sellars then recited the Fremont County Child Abuse Prevention proclamation, which will be located at the bottom of these minutes.

Commissioner McFall moved to approve the proclamation naming April as Fremont County Child Abuse Awareness Month. Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner Bell, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

2. Proclamation naming the week of April 6, 2026, as National Public Health Week.
Representative: Autumn Dever, Office, Grant and Financial Administrator, FCDPHE

Autumn Dever recited the proclamation, which can be found at the bottom of these minutes.

Commissioner Bell commented that it is reassuring to see the statistics from 1994 to today showing that Public Health makes a significant difference in the community.

Commissioner Grantham moved to approve the proclamation naming the week of April 6th-12th, 2026, as National Health Week. Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Bell, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

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3. Proclamation naming the week of April 11 – 17, 2026, as the Week of the Young Child
Representatives: Cheryl Gould, Rocky Mountain Children’s Discovery Center
Dorothy Day, Early Childhood General Education Manager, Cañon City Schools

Cheryl Gould recited the proclamation, which can be found in its entirety at the bottom of these minutes.

Commissioner McFall moved to approve the proclamation naming the week of April 11th – 17th, 2026, as the Week of the Young Child. 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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4. Proclamation naming Saturday, April 11, 2026, Honor Flight of Southern Colorado Day in Fremont County
Representative: Jim Sheridan, Honor Flight President, VFW Post 2788

Jim Sheridan explained that the trip is free of charge for Veterans. They have partnered with sponsors such as USAA and Fremont County to use the Pathfinder Park Event Center to host a banquet dinner that raises funds to bring World War 2, Vietnam, and Korean Veterans to visit the appropriate memorial.

Commissioner Bell recited the Proclamation for Honor Flight of Southern Colorado Day in Fremont County. The proclamation will be displayed at the bottom of these minutes.

Commissioner Grantham moved to approve the proclamation naming April 11th, 2026, Honor Flight of Southern Colorado Day. Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Bell, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

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5. Traffic Crash Dashboard Presentation
Michelle Boscia, Public Health Educator, FCPHE

Michelle Boscia began her presentation by noting that the displayed date range is 2021 to 2024 to highlight high-accident areas and identify where impaired driving correlates. Having access to clear, usable data is critical to moving beyond reporting and guiding prevention efforts. The dashboard helps quickly identify trends, high-risk areas, and impaired driving patterns. She showed the filters that can be

added, including time of day, road conditions, and impairment. She showed crash statistics by month: December has the highest crash rate, April has the lowest, and Highway 50 has the most crashes.

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6. Requesting the issuance of a Malt, Vinous, and Spiritous & Fermented Malt Beverage Special Event Permit, Royal Gorge Chamber Alliance for an event at Colorado Shed Co. 155 Shoop Dr, Penrose, CO 81240, on the following date: April 9th, 2026, from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm.
Representative: Emmaly Dennehy

Ms. Dennehy said this is for a Business After Hours event, and they are hosting it in their production area, which will create a rare insight into how their business works.

Commissioner Bell asked whether the servers for the event have training in serving liquor and how this organization will ensure that no one under 21 consumes alcohol.

Ms. Dennehy answered that all servers have received training and that no children are usually in attendance.

Commissioner McFall moved to approve the issuance of a malt, vinous, and spirituous & fermented malt beverage special event permit for the Royal Gorge Chamber Alliance for an event at Colorado Shed Company on April 9th, 2026, from 4 pm to 8 pm. Commissioner Grantham seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

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7. Perfect Performance Recognition on the second 2025 Application Audit
Linda Sand, Autumn Dever, Michelle Boscia

Rick Guiteirrez, Director of Public Health and Environment, said they would like to recognize three employees from the Fremont County Department of Public Health and Environment in the vital records office. Throughout the last year, Autumn Dever, Linda Sand, and Michelle Boscia processed 1,200 birth certificates and over 4,000 death certificates. The state official of vital statistics reviews their work to ensure consistent practices across all offices. This review process consists of checking the application for completeness and accuracy, ensuring proper proof of relationship is provided, and correctly entering information into the state's vital record-keeping system. As a result of these individuals' hard work in completing the aforementioned task, the office received a 100% performance score in the most recent application audit.

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8. Award of Bids for Road Construction Materials
Representative: Michael Whitt, Director, Fremont County Department of Transportation

Director Whitt said the Fremont County Department of Transportation recommends awarding the bid as follows: Dust Guard liquid supplied by Envirotech Services LLC from its storage yard in Florence, Colorado, at \$1.07 per gallon, and FCDOT will pick up and apply the materials to the roads.

Commissioner Grantham moved to approve the bid of \$1.07 per gallon to Envirotech for dust suppressant material, to be stored and transported by FC DOT. Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye; Commissioner Bell, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

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9. Consideration of Extension of Local Disaster Declaration Regarding “24 Fire.”
Wildland Fire

County Attorney Bellas reiterated that the local disaster was enacted over the weekend because it is only valid for 7 days; they must extend it by 7 days. Based on information from the Emergency Management Director, Mykel Kroll, the county is close to completing its involvement in the fire and does not believe the local disaster needs to be extended.

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED 9:30 a.m.

None.

Commissioner Bell adjourned the meeting at 10:40 am.

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=40Vc8Fbm53E>

Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners