

TWENTY-THIRD MEETING

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Fremont, State of Colorado, met in Regular Session on December 12, 2023, 615 Macon Avenue, Room LL3, Fremont County Administration Building, Cañon City, Colorado. Chairman Kevin J Grantham called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Kevin Grantham	Commissioner	Present
Dwayne McFall	Commissioner	Present
Debbie Bell	Commissioner	Present
Justin Grantham	Clerk and Recorder	Present
Eric Bellis	Assistant County Attorney	Present
Tony Carochi	County Manager	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 Bell moved to approve the agenda with the exception that the County Clerks monthly report be removed, and County Managers Report be changed to a. 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 / November 30, 2023
2. Approval of Bills for \$2,204,55.58
3. Ratification of submittal of a Department of Local Affairs Energy and Mineral Application to match the underfunded courthouse grant for courthouse improvements.
4. Resolution No. 42, Series of 2023 Zone Change Department of Planning and Zoning File # 23-002 Berry
5. Schedule Public Hearings for January 9, 2024, at 10:00am.

a. Request: Rewrite Chapter 2

Planning and Zoning has recognized the need for a review and update to the regulations. Staff has made no changes to the following chapter 2 besides a new format and referenced the new proposed chapter.

b. Request: Rewrite Chapter 5 General Requirements

Planning and Zoning has the need for a review and update to the regulations. Staff has made a few new changes, deletions, and additions to this chapter.

c. Request: Rewrite Chapter 7 – B.O.Z.A

Planning and Zoning has recognized the need for a review and update to the regulations. Staff has made no changes to the following chapter 7 besides a new format, and referenced the new Colorado Revised. Statutes.

Representative: Dan Victoria, Planning Director

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

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1. Staff / Elected Officials:

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

a. County Manager Report, Tony Carochi, County Manager

County Manager Carochi gave the County Manager Report, which can be found in its entirety at www.fremontco.com.

Commissioner McFall said that since hiring a grant writer it has opened a lot of doors for Fremont County. The Courthouse is receiving funding to redo the carpet on the first floor and a new front door that is secured. Another grant that has been approved is for a bridge repair on Phantom Canyon Road.

Clerk Grantham said that in the beginning of November he called City of Canon City Road and Bridge Department asking them to repave the alleyway in between the Garden Park Building and the 88 parking spots. It was deteriorating to the point weren't they weren't going to be able to be used for the three elections coming up this year. Now it is almost done, the parking lot has been repaired and the sidewalk was repaired, and he was very grateful that they were so responsive and efficient.

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

George Hall presented the Board with a letter asking why a client of his does not have his lot lines adjusted officially, considering it was recorded in 2021 and is now causing issues with taxes. Mr. Hall also requests the audience of the Planning and Zoning Meeting to discuss a new development that he is currently working on.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

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NEW BUSINESS:

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1. 2023 Employee of the Year

Commissioner Grantham addressed that there was full crowd for the meeting due to the 2023 Employee of the Year and how this is a great opportunity to highlight all the great work Fremont County employees are doing. There were several nominees and a letter for each of their nominations and asked if they would please stand in place while their letter is being read. After that the winner will be announced and would ask all nominees and winner to come up to the front for pictures.

Commissioner Bell started the reading of the nominee letters beginning with Evelyn Campbell, the supervisory custodian. She was nominated because she cares about her staff, she goes above and beyond. She communicates well and is a team player.

Commissioner McFall read the nomination letter for Suzie Veatch. She is the Deputy Assessor, she was nominated because she is dedicated, hardworking, has outstanding customer service, she's always positive, takes pride, and is easy to work with.

Commissioner Grantham read the nomination letter for Timothy Fisher. He is a detention deputy, and he was nominated because he is a great communicator, making sure tasks are carried out morally, legally, and in a timely manner. He also has knowledge and experience that is priceless, so he is very valuable.

Commissioner Bell read the nomination letter for Amanda Whitt, DHS Special Project Coordinator. She was nominated because she expanded the Fremont Interagency Oversight Group involvement in the community to provide beneficial services to families and children. She has performed many hours of outreach to promote services available to community members. She is also a huge asset to the department and an even greater asset to the community.

Commissioner McFall read the nomination letter for Shannon Troutman, a Child Welfare Supervisor was nominated because she took her position with enthusiasm, she took on extra and difficult cases while increasing her skillset and she provided expert testimony. She also had a lot of empathy in her work with families.

Commissioner Grantham read the nomination letter for Jennifer O'Dell. She is a Custodian for the County building; she was nominated because she is very kind and considerate with a smile on her face always. She always goes above and beyond and cares about the comfort of staff.

Commissioner Bell read the nomination letter for Martin Peek; he is a Veteran Service Officer, and he was nominated because he uses exceptional knowledge of veterans benefits to improve quality of life for local veterans. He attends community outreach during days off and evenings. He works tirelessly to deliver high-quality accurate customer service and benefit information.

Commissioner McFall read the nomination letter for George Meffley; he works in the maintenance department. He is always quick to respond when asked for help, spends a lot of time taking care of the Administration building lawn and always works hard.

Commissioner Grantham read the nomination letter for Angela Near, a Case Manager for DHS. She was nominated because she ensures the optimal efficiency of the Childcare Assistance Program. She always keeps a smile on her face amidst the chaos of increased loads and department needs. She takes time assisting internal and external customers to the best of her ability.

Commissioner Bell read the nomination letter for Kyle Mahoney; he is an IT Technician. He was nominated because he goes above and beyond, he is resourceful and hard-working. He is always finding solutions and never backing down from a challenge.

Commissioner McFall read the nomination letter for Anna Carochi; she is a Homelessness Outreach & Support Specialist. She was nominated because she has true caring compassion for serving the homeless population. She assists with meal delivery and making sure clients have the necessities. She is always there in times of need regardless of the time of day.

Commissioner Grantham announced that the winner of the 2023 Employee of the Year is Jennifer O'Dell.

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2. Resolution No. 43, Series of 2023 Appointing the Veteran's Service Officer for a term from January 10, 2024, to January 9, 2026

To view the full resolution please visit:

<https://www.fremontco.com/files/commissioners/additional/9.2%20Resolution%20Appointing%20Veteran%27s%20Service%20Martin%20Peek%2012%20Dec%202023.pdf>

Martin Peek began the update by saying that the Veteran Service Office will start being open at the same hours as the rest of the building. Mr. Peek also stated that there is a plan to expand the veteran service brick wall at the Col. Leo Sydney Boston War Memorial Park as well as enlarging their technological capabilities, being able to help from anywhere and more Veterans at a time. Last week the first Women's' Veteran Group meeting was held, 12 women showed up and the meetings will continue.

Commissioner Bell moved to reappoint Martin Peek as a County Veteran service officer. 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. Update from Congresswoman Brittany Pettersen's (CO-7)
Representative: Justin Kurth, Regional Director, and Outreach Coordinator

Mr. Kurth said that he and Congresswoman Petterson greatly appreciate Commissioner McFall's help with the wording for the PILT Bill (Payment in Lieu of Taxes Bill) which has been assigned to the committee on natural resources. There is another Bill that McFall gave input on called the 1099 Bill. This Bill has been assigned to the Ways and Means Committee. This would reduce tax liability in mitigation efforts to prevent wildfires from impacting them. Healthy Watersheds Healthy Communities Act has recently been submitted as a bill. The community project funding request submitted applies to Fremont County requesting \$255,000 to assist in purchasing land to develop for single families, for that to be granted the THUD (Transportation Housing and Rural Development) Bill needs to pass. Mr. Kurth said they are chasing down the prospect of opening a local VA Clinic, but it looks like the building will not be looked for until 2026 but Mr. Kurth informs the Board, he will push for it to be sooner.

Commissioner Grantham adjourned the meeting at 10:31 a.m.

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

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

Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners