

SIXTH MEETING

The Board of Commissioners of the County of Fremont, State of Colorado, met in Regular Session on March 26th, 2024, 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

Alicia Swearingen from Royal Gorge Vineyard 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. 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 / February 27, 2024, and March 12, 2024
2. Approval of Bills for \$2,647,287.00
3. Reschedule Board of County Commissioners Meeting from May 28, 2024, to Monday, May 20, 2024, at 9 a.m.
4. Reschedule Board of Human Services meeting from Tuesday, May 28, 2024, to Tuesday, May 21, 1:15 p.m.
5. Reschedule Board of Public Health and Environment meeting from Tuesday, May 28, 2024, to Tuesday, May 21, 2024, 2 p.m.
6. Authorize chairman's electronic signature on Helibase Lease Extension with the State of Colorado
7. Schedule Public Hearings:
 - a. Revision of Fremont County Zoning Resolution with final approval on Monday, May 20, 1:30 p.m.

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 3/26/2024 2:40

1. Staff / Elected Officials:

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

Budget & Finance Officer Sutton gave the Sales & Use Tax Report, which can be found in its entirety at <https://fremontcountyco.gov>.

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

Clerk Grantham gave the County Clerk's Monthly Report, which can be found in its entirety at <https://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.

c. County Administrator Report, Tony Carochi, County Administrator

County Administrator Carochi said the Fremont County cleanup campaign in coordination with Twin Enviro and Enviro Landfill will be on April 8th 2024 through May 17th, 2024. The vouchers will be issued to residents that reside in unincorporated Fremont County. There is a limit of one voucher per address which can be picked up at the Fremont County Administration Building in room 106. April 8th Fremont County will be partnering with Three R Technologies to provide an electronic recycling event on May 25th from 9:00am to 12:00pm at the Department of Human Services parking lot.

County Administrator Carochi gave the County Administrator Report, which can be found on in its entirety at <https://fremontcountyco.gov>.

Commissioner Bell said that since the last meeting when the board decided to move the classification of Fremont County from 2C to 2B there have been comments about treating the employees with the same consideration. Over the last three years employees of Fremont County have received a 22% increase in pay and have been given \$1,200 bonuses as well as annual raises. This county would not run without its employees and the board understands their importance and takes them into consideration every day with every decision.

Commissioner Grantham announced that he was asked and agreed to sign on as a designated proponent to a ballot measure. The proposal will be before the title board in April. If it successfully makes it through Title Board, it will then go to petitions to be placed on the ballot in November. The measure is a constitutional amendment that would essentially give preemptive authority to local government over state government regarding land use authority. Petitions will be circulating around the state this summer.

Commissioner McFall said that last week was agricultural week where people are encouraged to visit local farms and meet the farmers. Also to let people know that you can buy beef locally not just from the store and that he encourages people to do that. Commissioner McFall wanted to publicly acknowledge the employees from the Department of Transportation because during the weekend before last, there was a huge snowstorm accumulating two to four feet of snow. It left thousands without power for several days. Saving residents that were stranded on the side of the road, one instance was an elderly lady, it took eight hours to get her off High Park Road. Another example is they had to deliver gas for a generator to a young person that is dependent on an oxygen machine. Commissioner McFall felt it was important to recognize these things because a lot of the time they receive a lot of criticism without people realizing how hard they work. It isn't just a simple nine to five job sometimes it takes days to reach people out in the remote parts of the county.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ref. Fremont County BOCC Meeting 3/26/2024 26:12

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Ref. Fremont County BOCC Meeting 3/26/2024 26:15

1. Proclamation naming April 1 through 7 as National Public Health Week
Representatives: Autumn Dever and Paula Buser, Fremont County Public Health Department

To view the proclamation in its entirety please visit:

<https://fremontcountyco.gov/files/commissioners/additional/9.1%20NPHW%202024%20Proclamation%20-%20signed.pdf>

Commissioner Grantham moved to approve the proclamation naming April 1 through April 7 as National Public Health Week. Commissioner Bell seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner Bell aye; Commissioner McFall, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

Ref. Fremont County BOCC Meeting 3/26/2024 32:25

2. Proclamation naming April as Fremont County Child Abuse Awareness Month
Representatives: Amanda Wright-Whitt and Barry Acton, Department of Human Services

Mr. Acton said the blue ribbon signifies awareness for child abuse prevention throughout the United States and he asks that they all proudly display them on our clothing throughout the month of April.

Ms. Whitt said that more than 10 years now pinwheels have been planted in the community, they represent the bright childhoods we all want for children. To show support wear blue on Wednesdays and promote health and positive experiences for children.

To view the proclamation in its entirety please visit:

<https://fremontcountyco.gov/files/commissioners/additional/9.2%202024%20Child%20Abuse%20Prevention%20Proclamation%20-%20signed.pdf>

Commissioner Bell moved to approve this proclamation that names April in Fremont County child abuse awareness month. Commissioner Grantham seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

Ref. Fremont County BOCC Meeting 3/26/2024 39:55

3. Proclamation naming April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month
Representatives: Sarah Fisher, Family Crisis Services

Ms. Fisher said their organization is called Family Crisis Services and it has been serving Custer and Fremont County since 1981, they are a private nonprofit organization dedicated to eliminating domestic abuse and sexual violence providing safety, support, and justice. All services are free and confidential. The organization is requesting the board today to declare April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

To view the proclamation in its entirety please visit:

<https://fremontcountyco.gov/files/commissioners/additional/9.3%20Proclamation%20for%20Sexual%20Assault%20Awareness%20Month%20-%20signed.pdf>

Commissioner Grantham moved to approve the proclamation naming April as sexual assault awareness month. Commissioner Bell seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

Ref. Fremont County BOCC Meeting 3/26/2024 45:32

4. Resolution No. 16, Series of 2024 Amending the March 2019 Edition of the Fremont County Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual, Chapter 6, Working Conditions, Section 6.02 Age of Employment.
Representative: Alicia Stone, HR Director

HR Director Stone said this is a simple amendment to move the age requirement from 21 to 18 years old to hopefully fill some of the ongoing positions for detention deputies.

Sheriff Allen Cooper said detention staffing is one of the issues that has troubled the Sheriff's department since he took office. They are consistently 10 to 15 employees short. They hope by lowering the age requirement they can rebuild the detention division.

Captain Jim Moore wanted to comment on the fact that they are aware that it is going to require more supervision, training, and better preparedness for that younger age group. He said the better part of it is building those relationships that are going to create more successful deputies when they prepare to transition to the Patrol Division.

To view resolution sixteen in its entirety please visit:

https://fremontcountyco.gov/files/commissioners/additional/9.4%20Resolution%202024_01%20Amend%20Chapter%206.pdf

Commissioner Grantham moved to approve resolution number 16 series of 2024, amending the March 2019 addition of the Fremont County Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual chapter 6 working conditions section 6.02 age of employment. Commissioner Bell seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

Ref. Fremont County BOCC Meeting 3/26/2024 50:37

5. Requesting the issuance of a Malt, Vinous, and Spiritous & Fermented Malt Beverage Special Events Permit
Southern Colorado Honor Flight Association for an event at Pathfinder Park Event Center 66550 CO-115 Florence, CO 81226 on the following date: April 6th from 5:00 pm to 11:00pm in 2024.
Representative: Joshua Caverzagie

Mr. Caverzagie said that the benefit is for Southern Colorado Honor Flight so that it's possible to take the veterans maybe for the last time in their life to Washington DC so they can see the monument made for them.

Commissioner Bell asked about the security at the event, how will they know who is of age to drink, how will it be controlled, and if any of the servers are trained.

Jim Sheridan answered that since this event is in conjunction with VFW Post 4061 and 2788 that the bartenders from 2788 will be the servers and they are trained by the Colorado Liquor License Laws. They will be checking identifications and paying attention to anyone over consuming to stop that immediately and offer coffee or water. The security will be sitting at each doorway either going into the building or outside of the building to make sure no alcohol leaves the premises.

BOCC Clerk Samantha Ryan said the 45-day requirement was met, all required checks were submitted, the Sheriff and Public Health recommended approval. The reason for the large gaps in the dates was just because there was miscommunication on the posting date of the public notice poster, it was just a few days late to make it to the last meeting, but everything has been in place for several weeks now. The Clerk's office recommends approval.

Commissioner Grantham moved to approve the request for the issuance of a malt, vinous, spiritous, and fermented malt beverage special events permit for Southern Colorado Honor Flight Association for their event at Pathfinder Park Event Center at 66550 CO-115 in Florence on April 6th from 5:00pm to 11:00pm in 2024. Commissioner Bell seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

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6. Requesting the issuance of a Malt, Vinous, and Spiritous & Fermented Malt Beverage Special Events Permit
Royal Gorge Chamber Alliance for an event at Pathfinder Park Event Center 66550 CO-115 Florence, CO 81226 on the following date: April 11th from 3:00 pm to 9:00pm in 2024.
Representative: Emmaly Dennehy

Ms. Dennehy said that this event is for the Small Business Expo and it gives the opportunity for some of the smaller businesses in the community that don't have the ability to host a Business After Hours event. Royal Gorge Chamber alliance decided to put together this event for Small Businesses to showcase their merchandise and mingle with the rest of the business community.

Commissioner Bell asked about server qualifications and how will they ensure that no one under 21 is drinking.

Ms. Dennehy answered that the servers have been trained by the city and state. Anybody looking questionable drinking age will be IDed, and this is a primarily adult function.

BOCC Clerk Samantha Ryan said that she appreciates Ms. Dennehy always being prompt with turning in the paperwork and that all offices recommend approval.

Commissioner Bell moved to approve the issuance of a malt, vinous, spiritous, and fermented malt beverage special events permit to the Royal Gorge Chamber Alliance for their event at Pathfinder Park Event Center at 66550 CO-115 in Florence on April 11th from 3:00pm to 9:00pm in 2024. Commissioner Grantham seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

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7. Requesting the issuance of a Malt, Vinous, and Spiritous & Fermented Malt Beverage Special Events Permit
Royal Gorge Chamber Alliance for an event at Pathfinder Park Event Center 66550 CO-115 Florence, CO 81226 on the following date: April 12th from 3:00 pm to 9:00pm in 2024.
Representative: Emmaly Dennehy

Commissioner Grantham moved to approve the issuance of a malt, vinous, spiritous, and fermented malt beverage special events permit to the Royal Gorge Chamber Alliance for their event at Pathfinder Park Event Center at 66550 CO-115 in Florence on April 12th from 3:00pm to 9:00pm in 2024. Commissioner Bell seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

Ref. Fremont County BOCC Meeting 3/26/2024 1:04:05

8. Award bids for Aggregate Chip for the Chip Seal Program
Representative: Mike Whitt, County Department of Transportation Director

To view the bid in its entirety please visit:

<https://fremontcountyco.gov/files/commissioners/additional/9.8%20Aggregate%20Bid%20Recommendation%20Packet%203.26.2024.pdf>

Commissioner Bell moved to approve the bid for aggregate chip for our chip seal program to Holcim for the three-quarter inch aggregate chip rock at \$20 a ton and one-half inch aggregate chip rock at \$23.50 a ton. Commissioner Grantham seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner Grantham aye; Commissioner McFall, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

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9. Award bid for Tack Oil
Representative: Mike Whitt, County Department of Transportation Director

To view the bid in its entirety please visit:

<https://fremontcountyco.gov/files/commissioners/additional/9.9%20Tack%20Bid%20Recommendation%20Packet%203.26.2024.pdf>

Commissioner Grantham moved to approve the bid for tack oil to Suncor energy for the \$2.41 per gallon and the \$1.61 per gallon for the 50/50 dilute. Commissioner Bell seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

10. Award bid for Asphalt

Representative: Mike Whitt, County Department of Transportation Director

To view the bid in its entirety please visit:

<https://fremontcountyco.gov/files/commissioners/additional/9.10%20Asphalt%20Bid%20Recommendation%20Packet%203.26.2024.pdf>

Commissioner Bell moved to accept the bid and award the bid to Fremont Paving at \$75 a ton for asphalt mix with the understanding Fremont County will pick up and deliver to job sites. Commissioner Grantham seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

11. Award bid for Dust Guard Liquid Suppressant

Representative: Mike Whitt, County Department of Transportation Director

To view the bid in its entirety please visit:

<https://fremontcountyco.gov/files/commissioners/additional/9.11%20Dust%20Suppressant%20Bid%20Recommendation%20Packet%203.26.2024.pdf>

Commissioner Grantham moved to approve the bid for the dust guard liquid supplied from the GMCO storage yard in Florence at \$.87 cents a gallon and Fremont County Department of Transportation will deliver. Commissioner Bell seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

12. Award bid for Emulsion Oil

Representative: Mike Whitt, County Department of Transportation Director

To view the bid in its entirety please visit:

<https://fremontcountyco.gov/files/commissioners/additional/9.12%20Emulsion%20Bid%20Recommendation%20Packet%203.26.2024.pdf>

Commissioner Bell moved to approve this bid for emulsion oil from Suncor Energy for \$2.81 a gallon from the Pueblo plant understanding Fremont County will pick up. Commissioner Grantham seconded the motion. Upon Vote: Commissioner Bell, aye; Commissioner Grantham, aye; Commissioner McFall, aye. The motion carried by unanimous consent.

13. Presentation of Fremont County 2023 Accountability Report

Commissioner McFall began the Accountability Report with the Commissioner accomplishments, one of them being the increase in retirement contribution going from 3% to 4%. There were a lot of improvements to Pathfinder Park such as the roundabout, the covered arena, an electronic billboard, and LEED certification. The Fremont County Airport had new hangars built and the airport acquired a grant for a flight simulator. The Building Department issued 1,738 building permits; the two inspectors performed 2,882 inspections totaling 33,122 miles traveled. The CSU Extension Office offers a lot of programs and hosts many events. A popular program being the Master Gardener and the most popular event is the Fremont County Fair with 2023 having the highest recorded attendance for Family Day.

Commissioner Grantham took over the update and began at the Fremont County Department of Human Services. DHS participated in many events such as GOAL High School Job Fair, Safety Jam, and National Night Out. They hosted a Foster Parent Picnic and celebrated National Adoption Day with seven adoptions. Next was the Department of Transportation. Their yearly projects included eight chip seals with level projects, used dust suppressant on over 30 roads, added a cattle guard, and several culverts. Moving on to the Fremont County Emergency Management department assisted with county

and statewide all-hazard events such as wildland fires, floods, and power outages. Coordinated and planned with all Fire, Law, EMS, St. Thomas Moore Hospital, care facilities, and schools to prepare and respond to emergencies in Fremont County. The Fremont County Information Technology department built a ticketing system for IT and Maintenance requests. The Fremont County Planning & Zoning department had over 32 different Land Use Applications and over 100 Code Inspections.

Commissioner Bell took over finishing up the Accountability Report. The Fremont County Department of Public Health & Environment administered over 1,00 immunizations, provided community and county Narcan training. Inspected 265 establishments including retail food, schools, childcare, and body art. The Sheriff's office investigated 288 cases, had 663 concealed carry permit applications, and 1,286 pieces of evidence/impounds. The County Treasurers office processed over 30,000 tax notices and collected over 3 million dollars in property taxes. For the Public Trustee side there was a total of 64 foreclosures, which isn't bad considering three years ago it was over 300. The Fremont County Veterans Service office completed 1,774 phone calls. 3,124 office visits, 121 outreaches, and processed countless federal government forms. The last department is Fremont County Weed Management, over 25 biocontrols were released on public and private lands, controlling six species of noxious weeds. They educated landowners by attending a local weed walk and treated over 16,000 acres.

To view the 2023 Accountability Report in its entirety please visit:

<https://fremontcountyco.gov/files/commissioners/additional/9.13%202023%20Accountability%20Report%20Final.pdf>

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED 9:30 a.m.

Ref. Fremont County BOCC Meeting 3/26/2024

None.

Commissioner McFall adjourned the meeting at 10:36am.

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HinyZ4FR-2Q>

Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners