



Chaffee County Commissioners Meeting  
April 8, 2025

These minutes have been taken remotely via Zoom. Some County staff, representatives from other governments and government agencies, and others from the public may attend, including participating in the public hearing portion of the meeting, remotely via Zoom.

**A. Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on April 8, 2025, at the Chaffee County Courthouse, 104 Crestone Ave., Salida. Board members present were Chair P. T. Wood, Commissioner Dave Armstrong, and Commissioner Gina Lucrezi.

Others present in person were County Administrator Don Reimer, Deputy County Administrator Beth Helmke, Director of Finance Dan Short, Interim County Attorney Lynda Knowles, Assistant County Attorney Mark Olguin, and Planning Director Miles Cottom.

Others present remotely were Planning Manager Garry Baker, Planner Brandon Wolff, GIS Coordinator Eric Lubell, and Deputy County Clerks Barbara Tidd, Kit Kuester, and Julia Rivera.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Chair Wood called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

2. Approve Agenda

Commissioner Lucrezi moved to approve the Agenda. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Review Public Meeting List

The Board reviewed the public meeting list.

4. Public Comment

Chair Wood asked for public comment.

Public Comment was given by:

Cheryl Hardy-Moore, Salida Aspen Concerts Vice President on behalf of Salida Aspen Concerts, 31 Silver Spruce Dr., Salida.

Commissioners commented regarding Hardy-Moore's public comment.

**B. Minutes for Approval**

1. Consider for Approval the Minutes of the April 1, 2025 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Armstrong moved to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2025 Commissioners' regular meeting. Commissioner Lucrezi seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**C. Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Lucrezi moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

1. Pay the Bills
2. Approve the Veteran's Service Officer's Monthly Report for March 2025
3. Approval of the Proclamation Declaring April 2025 Child Abuse Prevention Month  
Chair Wood read the Proclamation into the record.

**D. Contracts/Grant Consideration**

There were none.

**E. Regular Agenda Items**

1. Update from Forest Health Council and annual Community Wildfire Protection Plan report - Envision / Kim Marquis

Envision Executive Director and Co-Lead Cindy Williams addressed the Board regarding the Forest Health Council and annual Community Wildfire Protection Plan report.

The following introduced themselves:

Sam Pankratz - National Forest Foundation (NFF) Program Manager

Kent Maxwell - Colorado Firecamp Fire & Forestry Coordinator

JT Shaver - Colorado State Forest Service Southwest Area Supervisor and Lead Forester

Perry Edwards - USFS Salida District Ranger

Williams provided an update from the Forest Health Council and gave an annual Community Wildfire Protection Plan report.

Edwards addressed the Board continuing the update followed by Shaver and Maxwell.

Williams spoke further.

Commissioners commented.

Maxwell, Shaver, and Edwards responded to Commissioner's questions and spoke further.

No formal action was taken.

2. Update from Xcel Energy - Ashley Valdez  
Xcel Energy Area Manager Community & Local Governmental Affairs Ashley Valdez provided an update to the Board and responded to Administrator Reimer's question.

Xcel Director of Operations Coral Breidenbach addressed the Board.  
Valdez spoke further and responded to Administrator Reimer's comment.  
Breidenbach spoke further followed by Valdez.  
Breidenbach responded to Commissioner's question.  
Valdez spoke further and responded to Commissioner's questions.  
Chair Wood spoke.  
Valdez spoke further and responded to Commissioner's questions.

Commissioners commented.

No formal action was taken.

3. To be continued to a date certain pending outcome of appeal

**Public Hearing -**

**Name of Project:** Divided Sky Estates Major Subdivision Final Plat

**Applicants:** John Porter, Meaghan Richmond

**Location:** 6025 Archery Lane, Salida, CO.

**Request:** Final Plat for a 13-lot subdivision on 38.36 acres, parcel #380717100008

**Planner:** Garry Baker / 719-530-5630 / gbaker@chaffeecounty.org

Director Cottom addressed the Board stating that this matter should be continued to May 13, 2025, pending the outcome of appeal.

The public comment portion of the hearing opened at 11:06 a.m. There were no comments, and the public comment portion of the hearing was closed.

Commissioner Lucrezi moved to continue the Divided Sky Estates Major Subdivision Final Plat for Applicants John Porter and Meaghan Richmond for the property located at 6025 Archery Lane, Salida, CO, to May 13, 2025.

Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Initial Review of the Implementation of the Updated Chaffee County Land Use Code - Miles Cottom

Director Cottom addressed the Board for the Initial Review of the Implementation of the Updated Chaffee County Land Use Code.

Commissioner Armstrong commented.

Director Cottom spoke further.

Discussion ensued during which Director Cottom responded to Commissioners' and Administrator Reimer's questions and comments.

No formal action was taken.

5. Discuss Behavioral Health Administration Co-Response grant award recommendation and program plan - Sheriff Rorich; Beth Helmke; Dan Short

Deputy Administrator Helmke addressed the Board to open discussion regarding the Behavioral Health Administration Co-Response grant award recommendation and program plan. Helmke responded to Director Short's and Commissioner's questions.

Discussion ensued during which Administrator Reimer spoke and Helmke responded to Commissioner's question.

No formal action was taken.

6. Discuss proposed Regional Representative/Rural Advocate position proposal with Keystone Policy Center invited-grant - Helmke

Deputy Administrator Helmke addressed the Board to open discussion of the proposed Regional Representative/Rural Advocate position proposal with the Keystone Policy Center invited-grant.

Colorado Department of Local Affairs Regional Grants Navigator Beth Lenz spoke.

Discussion ensued during which Helmke and Administrator Reimer spoke and responded to Commissioners' questions.

No formal action was taken.

7. Discuss Belonging Colorado grant program opportunity - Helmke

Deputy Administrator Helmke addressed the Board to open discussion regarding the Belonging Colorado grant program opportunity and responded to Commissioner's question.

No formal action was taken.

8. Discuss Letter of Recommendation for the At Large seat for the Chaffee Housing Authority Board of Directors - Beth Helmke

Deputy Administrator Helmke addressed the Board to open discussion regarding a Letter of Recommendation for the At-Large seat for the Chaffee Housing Authority Board of Directors and responded to Commissioner's question.

Commissioner Armstrong moved to support the Letter of Recommendation for the At-Large seat for the Chaffee Housing Authority Board of Directors. Commissioner Lucrezi seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## **F. Commissioners Comments**

## **G. Adjourn**

There being no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 12:06 a.m.

Attest:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lori Mitchell". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

---

Lori Mitchell, County Clerk