



Chaffee County Commissioners Meeting
June 5, 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 June 5, 2025, at the Chaffee County Courthouse, 104 Crestone Ave., Salida. Board members present were Chair P. T. Wood and Commissioner Dave Armstrong. Commissioner Gina Lucrezi was absent and excused.

Others present in person were County Administrator Don Reimer, Deputy County Administrator Beth Helmke, Director of Finance Dan Short, and Planning Director Miles Cottom.

Others present remotely were Planner Brandon Wolff, GIS Coordinator Eric Lubell, Contracted Outside Legal Counsel Karl Hanlon (Item I., Executive Session only), Director of Human Services Monica Haskell (Item I., Executive Session only), and Deputy County Clerks Kit Kuester, Julia Rivera, and Barbara Tidd.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Chair Wood called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

2. Approve Agenda

Commissioner Armstrong suggested moving item C.4. to F. Regular Items.

Chair Wood stated that there would be an executive session after item H. Commissioners' Comments.

Commissioner Armstrong moved to approve the Agenda with the above two changes: moving item C.4. from the Consent Agenda to F. Regular Items and adding an executive session following item H. Commissioners' Comments. Commissioner Wood 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. He stated that you'll have up to 3 minutes to speak, and please give your name and address for the record.

Public Comment was given by:

Ben Gilling (City of Salida Treasurer), 336 G St., Salida. Chair Wood responded to Gilling's question.

Blane Clark, 16100 Pine Grove Pkwy., Buena Vista. Chair Wood commented.

Tom McCracken, 16165 Burt Gulch Rd., Buena Vista. Chair Wood commented.

Joe Cooper, 9325 County Rd. 160, Salida. Cooper provided documents to Commissioners. Chair Wood commented.

B. Minutes for Approval

1. Consider for Approval the Minutes of the May 20, 2025 Regular Meeting

Commissioner Armstrong moved to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2025 Commissioners' regular meeting. Commissioner Wood seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Consent Agenda

Commissioner Armstrong moved to approve the Consent Agenda with item C.4. having been moved to F. Regular Items. Commissioner Wood seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

1. Pay the Bills
2. Proclamation Celebrating June as Pride Month
Chair Wood read into the record the Proclamation Celebrating June as Pride Month.
3. Approve the Veteran's Service Officer's Monthly Report for May 2025

D. Hearing Consent Agenda - Agenda Items are listed on the Hearing Consent Agenda because no testimony is expected. In the event a Commissioner or any member of the public wishes to testify regarding an item on the Consent Agenda, the item will be removed and considered with the Regular Agenda. These items, if approved, will include signing authority to the Chair of the Board on the related Resolution(s).

Commissioner Armstrong moved to approve the Hearing Consent Agenda approving the Liquor License Renewal for Cliff Hangers Inc, DBA Cliffhangers, at 22720 W Hwy 50, Monarch, CO 81227. Commissioner Wood seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

1. Hearing to Consider the Liquor License Renewal for Cliff Hangers Inc, DBA Cliffhangers, at 22720 W Hwy 50, Monarch, CO 81227

E. Contracts/Grant Consideration

There were none.

F. Regular Agenda Items

C.4. Approve Board of Health Resolution 2025-01 Approving a Variance to the Chaffee County Wastewater Treatment System Regulations at 16 Hillside Drive, Salida, CO

Chair Wood stated that because he is a neighbor, he recused himself during the discussion on this item during the prior meeting and would recuse himself during continued discussion.

Therefore, with only one Commissioner present for a vote on this matter, it is to be continued.

Commissioner Armstrong moved to continue to June 10, 2025, consideration of approval of the Board of Health Resolution 2025-01 Approving a Variance to the Chaffee County Wastewater Treatment System Regulations at 16 Hillside Drive, Salida, CO. Commissioner Wood seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

1. Continued discussion on Recreation-Focused Public Finance Feasibility Evaluation from Trust for Public Lands - Helmke; Short

Deputy Administrator Helmke addressed the Board to open discussion of the preliminary Recreation-Focused Public Finance Feasibility Evaluation from Trust for Public Lands.

Discussion ensued during which Helmke and Director Short spoke and responded to Commissioners' questions.

No formal action was taken.

2. *To be continued to June 17, 2025 -*
Public Hearing & 2nd Reading of Ordinance 2025-01 Adopting by Reference the 2024 Edition of the "Model Traffic Code" and Providing Penalties for Violation Thereof - Lynda Knowles / Mark Olguin

Chair Wood addressed the Board to consider continuing this matter to June 17, 2025.

The public comment portion of the hearing opened at 9:40 a.m. There were no comments, and the public comment portion of the hearing was closed.

Reimer stated that language was added from the first reading, and, therefore, this needed to be republished and re-noticed for June 17, 2025.

Commissioner Armstrong moved to continue to June 17, 2025, the Public Hearing and Second Reading of Ordinance 2025-01 Adopting by Reference the 2024 Edition of the "Model Traffic Code" and Providing Penalties for Violation Thereof. Commissioner Wood seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

H. Commissioners Comments

G. 10:15 am

1. Conduct Interview for Common Ground Citizen Advisory Committee Seat

Chair Wood addressed the Board to conduct an interview (ahead of scheduled time) for the Common Ground Citizen Advisory Committee. He stated that there are two open seats.

Interviewee Scott Gillilan addressed the Board and responded to Commissioner's questions. Commissioners spoke.

Chair Wood asked Director Cottom if he had anything to add. Cottom did not.

Gillilan spoke further followed by Chair Wood.

No formal action was taken.

At 10:09 a.m., the meeting recessed until 10:30 a.m.

The meeting resumed at 10:27 a.m.

I.

Executive Session

Chair Wood addressed the Board to enter into executive session pursuant to § 24-6-402(4)(b), C.R.S. for the purpose of receiving legal advice.

Commissioner Armstrong moved to go into executive session pursuant to § 24-6-402(4)(b), C.R.S. for the purpose of a public entity to receive legal advice on specific legal questions. He stated that Commissioners Armstrong and Wood and County Administrator Don Reimer, Deputy County Administrator Beth Helmke, Director of Finance Dan Short, Director of the Department of Human Services (DHS) Monica Haskell, and Outside Contracted Legal Counsel Karl Hanlon may attend.

Hanlon added that this relates to potential legal questions surrounding DHS, but due to privacy concerns, that is the extent of notice that we can provide at this time.

Commissioner Armstrong stated that with that additional comment, he moved to go into executive session. Commissioner Wood seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Hanlon stated that this executive session would constitute privileged attorney-client communications and no further recording of the executive session would be necessary.

The following persons are in attendance for executive session: Commissioners Armstrong and Wood and County Administrator Don Reimer, Deputy County Administrator Beth Helmke, Director of Finance Dan Short (joined at 10:50 a.m.), Director of Human Services Monica Haskell, and Outside Contracted Legal Counsel Karl Hanlon.

The Commissioners moved into executive session at 10:28 a.m.

The Commissioners came out of executive session at 11:00 a.m. with no decisions being made.

I, Karl Hanlon, Outside Contracted Legal Counsel, do hereby attest that the unrecorded statements and discussions that took place during the executive session held on June 5, 2025 constituted privileged attorney-client communication.

Karl Hanlon

Karl Hanlon, Outside Contracted Legal Counsel

I, P. T. Wood, Chair of the Chaffee County Board of County Commissioners, do hereby attest that the unrecorded statements and discussions that took place during the executive session held on June 5, 2025 were confined to the topic described in the announcement of such session and authorized by the provisions of § 24-6-402(4)(b), C.R.S.



P. T. Wood, Chair

Chair Wood stated that if any person who participated in the executive session believes that any substantial discussion of any matters not included in the motion to enter the executive session occurred during the executive session, or that any improper action occurred during the executive session in violation of the Open Meetings Law, he asked that you state your concerns for the record.

Hearing none, Chair Wood stated that there was no more business to come before the Board and asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

J. Adjourn

Commissioner Armstrong moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Wood seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

Attest:



Lori Mitchell, County Clerk