



Chaffee County Commissioners Meeting
October 28, 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 special meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on October 28, 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 Interim County Administrator Beth Helmke and Director of Finance Dan Short.

Others present remotely were Human Services Director Monica Haskell and Deputy County Clerk Barbara Tidd.

Chair Wood called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

B. Regular Agenda Items

1. Discuss local food access programs and consider special funding allocation from County for addressing food insecurity - Commissioners

Chair Wood addressed the Board stating that this meeting was called because people who receive SNAP benefits will not receive them the first two weeks of November. He then opened discussion regarding local food access programs and to consider special funding allocation from the County for addressing food insecurity.

Department of Human Services (DHS) Director Haskell addressed the Board.

Chaffee County Community Foundation (CCCF) Executive Director Betsy Dittenber addressed the Board.

Chair Wood spoke followed by Director Short.

Discussion ensued during which Dittenber responded to Commissioners' and Director Short's questions.

Haskell spoke.

Commissioner Armstrong moved that the county provide \$50,000 of immediate funding to DHS to support the SNAP benefits requirement and another \$25,000 to CCCF for food pantry or other

fundraising needs that they have. Commissioner Lucrezi seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chair Wood clarified that because of the way that SNAP benefits work, if the government starts back up, folks will get their SNAP benefits. Potentially this is just a benefit for the month. There will likely be an ask to the State and/or Federal government for reimbursement to make us whole at the end of the emergency, although we don't know if that's possible.

C. Commissioners Comments

D. Adjourn

There being no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 12:31 p.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