



Chaffee County Commissioners Meeting
May 4, 2026

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 May 4, 2026, at the Chaffee County Courthouse, 104 Crestone Ave., Salida. Board members present were Chair Gina Lucrezi, Commissioner Dave Armstrong, and Commissioner P. T. Wood.

Others present in person were County Administrator Beth Helmke, Director of Finance Dan Short, Community & Natural Resources Planning Director Miles Cottom, and Human Resources Director Kathy Punke.

Others present remotely were Contracted Legal Counsel Karl Hanlon and Deputy County Clerk Sophie Gibb.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Chair Lucrezi called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

2. Approve Agenda

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

B. Executive Session

1. Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(f) for a personnel matter that the employee who is the subject of the session has not requested an open meeting, more specifically for conducting County Attorney interviews and pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(e) for determining positions and developing strategies for negotiations, and instructing negotiators more specifically regarding County Attorney interviews - County Administrator Beth Helmke, Finance Director Dan Short, Human Resources Director Kathy Punke, Planning Director Miles Cottom and Contracted Legal Counsel Karl Hanlon may attend.

Chair Lucrezi addressed the Board to enter into executive session pursuant to § 24-6-402(4)(f), C.R.S. for a personnel matter that the employee who is the subject of the session has not requested an open meeting, more specifically for conducting County Attorney interviews and pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(e) for determining positions and developing strategies for negotiations, and instructing negotiators more specifically regarding County Attorney interviews.

Commissioner Wood moved to go into executive session pursuant to § 24-6-402(4)(f), C.R.S. for a personnel matter that the employee who is the subject of the session has not requested an open

meeting, more specifically for conducting County Attorney interviews and pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(e) for determining positions and developing strategies for negotiations, and instructing negotiators more specifically regarding County Attorney interviews. He stated that Commissioners Armstrong, Lucrezi, and Wood and Contracted Legal Counsel Karl Hanlon will attend, and County Administrator Beth Helmke, Director of Finance Dan Short, Human Resources Director Kathy Punke, and Community & Natural Resources Planning Director Miles Cottom may attend. Commissioner Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The following persons are in attendance for executive session: Commissioners Armstrong, Lucrezi, and Wood and Interim County Attorney Karl Hanlon, County Administrator Beth Helmke, Director of Finance Dan Short, Human Resources Director Kathy Punke, and Community & Natural Resources Planning Director Miles Cottom.

The Commissioners moved into executive session at 3:02 p.m.

The Commissioners came out of executive session at 3:36 p.m. with no decisions being made.

I, Gina Lucrezi, Chair of the Chaffee County Board of County Commissioners, do hereby attest that the statements and discussions that took place during the executive session held on May 4, 2026 were confined to the topic described in the announcement of such session and authorized by the provisions of §§ 24-6-402(4)(f) and (e), C.R.S. The session was recorded on separate medium.



Gina Lucrezi, Chair

Chair Lucrezi 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, she asked that you state your concerns for the record.

Hearing none, Chair Lucrezi stated that there was no more business to come before the Board and if there were no objections, the meeting is adjourned.

C. Adjourn

There being no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 3:37 p.m.

Attest:



Lori Mitchell, County Clerk