

**GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
December 10, 2024**

The December 10, 2024 meeting was held in the Board of County Commissioners' meeting room located at 200 E. Virginia Avenue, Gunnison, Colorado. Present, either in person or via Zoom, were:

Jonathan Houck, Chairperson
Elizabeth Smith, Vice-Chairperson
Laura Puckett Daniels, Commissioner
Matthew Hoyt, County Attorney

Matthew Birnie, County Manager
Katherine Haase, Deputy County Clerk
Others Present as Listed in Text

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Houck called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

ACCEPTANCE OF COUNTY ASSESSOR'S RESIGNATION: Gunnison County Assessor Kristy McFarland was present for discussion. She submitted her letter of resignation on 11/14/2024, and she requested that her last day of service be 1/13/2025 to coincide with when her replacement would take the oath of office on 1/14/2025. The resignation letter was included in the meeting packet materials.

Resignation of a Colorado County elected official (other than a commissioner) requires the acceptance of the Board of County Commissioners. The Board will appoint a new Assessor on 1/13/2025, and that person will serve as Assessor for the remainder of what would have been Ms. McFarland's term. **MOVED** by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Commissioner Puckett Daniels to accept the letter of resignation that is effective 1/14/2025 from Kristy McFarland as our County Assessor. (Commissioner Houck initially stated that the resignation would be effective 1/13/2025, and later amended the motion to change the date to 1/14/2025.) The Board thanked Ms. McFarland for her service to the community via her role as County Assessor over the last 18 years. Motion carried unanimously. The position will be noticed to the community with instructions for individuals to express interest. Appointment of the next Assessor will require a Board resolution.

Party affiliation will not be a consideration as the Board decides on a replacement. The Board directed staff to run an advertisement in both local papers. CM Birnie suggested that letters of interest should be accepted until 1/2/25, interviews be held on 1/7/25, and appointment be made on 1/14/25. The Board agreed with this approach.

BREAK: The meeting recessed from 5:52 until 5:55 pm in order to hold the below public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING; PROPOSED 2025 GUNNISON COUNTY BUDGET: Interim Finance Director Ana Canada was present for discussion.

1. Open Public Hearing. Chairperson Houck opened the Public Hearing at 5:52 pm.
2. Public Notice Confirmation. Clerk to the Board Haase confirmed that the Public Hearing had been properly public noticed.
3. Identify Ex Parte Communications. N/A
4. Staff Presentation. The presentation was included in the meeting packet.
5. Applicant Presentation. N/A
6. Board Questions. Commissioner Houck thanked the staff for their work in creating the draft budget.
7. Public Comments. Chairperson Houck opened the Public Hearing to comments at 5:53 pm, and no comments were provided.
8. Acknowledge Correspondence Received. No additional correspondence was identified.
9. Applicant Response. N/A
10. Close Public Hearing. Chairperson Houck closed the Public Hearing at 5:55 pm and immediately reconvened the Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners meeting.

The budget is scheduled for adoption on 12/12/24 at 9:00 am. Certification of the mill levies is scheduled to take place on 12/20/24 at 9:00 am.

ADJOURN: Commissioner Houck adjourned the meeting at 5:59 pm.

Jonathan Houck, Chairperson

Elizabeth Smith, Vice-Chairperson

Laura Puckett Daniels, Commissioner

Minutes Prepared By:

Katherine Haase, Deputy County Clerk

Attest:

Kathy Simillion, County Clerk