

**GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
January 14, 2025**

The January 14, 2025 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:

Laura Puckett Daniels, Chairperson
Elizabeth Smith, Vice-Chairperson
Jonathan Houck, Commissioner
Matthew Hoyt, County Attorney
Matthew Birnie, County Manager
Holly Perry, Deputy County Clerk
Others Present as Listed in Text

GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING:

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Houck called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

APPOINTMENT; COUNTY ASSESSOR; ALEXANDRA COHEN

1. A Resolution and Notice Appointing Alexandra Cohen to fill the Vacancy Created by the Resignation of the Gunnison County Assessor – Commissioner Houck announced they will appoint Co-Deputy Assessor Appraisal Alexandra Cohen as the Gunnison County Assessor. The Commissioners expressed their gratitude to Co-Deputy Assessor Cohen for stepping up to the position. **Moved** by Commissioner Puckett Daniels, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve Resolution 2025-2, a Resolution and Notice Appointing Alexandra Cohen to Fill the Vacancy Created by the Resignation of the Gunnison County Assessor. Motion carried unanimously.

OATH OF OFFICE CEREMONIES

Judge Kellie Starritt performed the Oath of Office ceremonies for Commissioner Elizabeth (Liz) Smith, Commissioner Jonathan Houck, and County Assessor Alexandra Cohen.

BREAK from 8:37 am to 9:16 am for Oath of Office Ceremony Reception.

GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING (cont’d):

GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC) BOARD REORGANIZATION AND COMMISSIONER APPOINTMENTS:

1. Designate BOCC Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for 2025 – Commissioner Puckett Daniels as Chairperson, Commissioner Smith as Vice Chairperson
2. Gunnison Basin Sage-grouse Strategic Committee (one voting member, one alternate, two year terms) – Commissioner Smith as regular, Commissioner Houck as alternate
3. Gunnison Valley Rural Transportation Authority Board (two voting members, one-year terms) – Commissioner Puckett Daniels and Commissioner Smith
4. Region 10 Board (one voting member, one-year term) – Commissioner Houck
5. Early Childhood Council (one voting member, one-year term) – Commissioner Smith
6. Gunnison Valley Regional Housing Authority (one voting member, four-year term) – Commissioner Puckett Daniels
7. Gunnison County Sick Leave Bank Board (one voting member, one-year term) – No longer a Board
8. Gunnison Chamber of Commerce (one ex-officio member, one-year term) – No longer a position
9. Gunnison Cultural Connection (Rural Welcoming Initiative Committee) (one non-voting advisory member, one-year term) – Commissioner Smith

Commissioner Houck announced he would like to give Commissioner Puckett Daniels or Commissioner Smith an opportunity to be Chairperson. Commissioner Smith relayed with the legislative aspects she would be happy with staying as Vice-Chairperson. Commissioner Puckett Daniels appreciated the recommendation and stated she is glad to serve as Chairperson. **Moved** by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Commissioner Smith to appoint Laura Puckett Daniels as the Chair of the Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners, and Liz Smith as the Vice Chair of the Board of County Commissioners for the year 2025. Motion carried unanimously. **Moved** by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve those appointments as listed in the record. Motion carried unanimously.

SCHEDULING:

1. 2025 Board of County Commissioners Meeting Agenda Posting Locations - **Moved** by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Commissioner Smith to use the website as our official 2025 Board of County Commissioners meeting agenda posting location. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN: Commissioner Puckett Daniels adjourned the meeting at 9:32 am.

Laura Puckett Daniels, Chairperson

Elizabeth Smith, Vice-Chairperson

Jonathan Houck, Commissioner

Minutes Prepared By:

Holly Perry, Deputy County Clerk

Attest:

Kathy Simillion, County Clerk

GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TEXT INCLUSION INTO MINUTES

Note: For all the details of each resolution including any exhibits, please refer to gunnisoncounty.org

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF GUNNISON, COLORADO**

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-2

**A RESOLUTION AND NOTICE APPOINTING ALEXANDRA COHEN TO FILL THE VACANCY
CREATED BY THE RESIGNATION OF THE GUNNISON COUNTY ASSESSOR**

WHEREAS, by letter dated November 14, 2024 Gunnison County Assessor Kristy McFarland notified the Board of her resignation as Gunnison County Assessor, effective on January 14, 2025, and of her decision not to complete the term for which she was elected to office by the people of Gunnison County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Colorado Constitution, Article 14, Section 9, and Colorado Revised Statutes Sections 1-12-205, 30-10-801, 30-11-117 vacancy in the office of County Assessor shall be filled by appointment by the Board of County Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes Section 1-12-210, the Board shall make such appointment at a properly noticed public meeting, enter the appointment in the minutes of such meeting, and cause a notice of appointment and oath of office to be delivered to the person appointed; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes Section 1-12-205, “[a]ll vacancies in any county office, except that of county commissioner, shall be filled by appointment by the board of county commissioners of the county in which the vacancy occurs, until the next general election, at which time the vacancy shall be filled by election”; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to appoint Alexandra Cohen as Gunnison County Assessor, effective January 14, 2025, and continuing until the vacancy is filled by the 2026 general election;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Gunnison County as follows:

1. The Board hereby appoints Alexandra Cohen to serve as Gunnison County Assessor, effective January 14, 2025, and continuing until the vacancy in such office is filled by the 2026 general election.
2. Staff of the Board is directed to arrange for the oath of office to be completed by Judge Kellie Starritt on January 14, 2025 or as soon thereafter as is possible.
3. The Board hereby causes the attached Notice of Appointment to be delivered to Alexandra Cohen, and upon her acceptance the Notice of Appointment shall be recorded and kept as a permanent record of the Board.

INTRODUCED by Commissioner Puckett Daniels, seconded by Commissioner Smith and adopted this 14th day of January 2025.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF THE COUNTY OF GUNNISON, COLORADO

Houck – yes; Puckett Daniels – yes; Smith – yes.