

**GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 19, 2025**

The August 19, 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	Joni Reynolds, Assistant County Manager (ACM) Health, Human & Safety Services
Elizabeth Smith, Vice-Chairperson	Holly Perry, Clerk to the Board
Jonathan Houck, Commissioner	Other Persons Present as Listed in Text
Sammy Obaid, Assistant County Attorney	

Due to Commissioner Puckett Daniels and Commissioner Smith being remote, Commissioner Houck will be running the meeting.

GUNNISON COUNTY LOCAL LIQUOR LICENSING AUTHORITY MEETING:

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Houck called the meeting to order at 8:32 am.

**SPECIAL EVENT LIQUOR PERMIT 6-2025; CRESTED BUTTE SOUTH PROPERTY OWNERS ASSN;
8/23/2025 FROM 1:00 PM TO 7:00 PM:**

Moved by Commissioner Puckett Daniels, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the special event liquor permit. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN: Commissioner Houck adjourned the meeting of the Gunnison County Local Liquor Licensing Authority at 8:32 am.

GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING:

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Houck called the meeting to order at 8:32 am.

AGENDA REVIEW: There were no changes made to the agenda.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Moved** by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the August 5th Regular Meeting minutes as amended, per the discussion we just had on the record. Motion carried unanimously.

- 1. August 5, 2025 Regular Meeting

SCHEDULING: The Upcoming Meetings Schedule was discussed and updated.

CONSENT AGENDA: **Moved** by Commissioner Puckett Daniels, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion was amended to include, to authorize the use of their stamps. Motion carried unanimously.

- 1. Acknowledgment of County Manager’s Signature; Amendment to Agricultural Lease Agreement; Kelly and Vicki Hildreth; 9/6/2025 to 9/5/2026
- 2. Acknowledgment of County Manager’s Signature; Agreement Between the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Gunnison, Colorado and BLR Aerospace, LLC for the Authorization of Flight-Testing Activities, the Use of the Helicopter Tether Test Pad and Provision of ARFF and Other Airport Services; Gunnison-Crested Butte Regional Airport; 8/1/2025 to 7/31/2027
- 3. Acknowledgment of County Manager’s Signature; Underground Right-Of-Way Easement; Gunnison County Electric Association; Facilities
- 4. Professional Services Agreement; Jackalope Services, LLC; Blackstock Building; Facilities; 8/19/2025 to 7/30/2027; \$52,050
- 5. Cancer Prevention and Early Detection Budget Increase for Fiscal Year 2025-2026; Health and Human Services; 6/30/2025 to 6/29/2026; \$57,046
- 6. Local Planning and Support Dollars; Health and Human Services; 7/1/2025 to 6/30/2026; \$127,694
- 7. Professional Services Agreement; T&A Enterprises; Courthouse; Facilities; 8/19/2025 to 7/30/2027; \$73,200
- 8. Professional Services Agreement; Nomad Drafting and Design LLC; Facilities; 8/19/2025 to 12/31/2025; \$3,400
- 9. State of Colorado Department of Human Services; PO, IHFA, 202600002065; Balance of State – Gunnison County; Health and Human Services; 7/2/2025 to 9/30/2025; \$20,000
- 10. Professional Services Agreement; DeLoera Cleaning LLC; Health and Human Services Building; Facilities; 8/19/2025 to 7/30/2027; \$30,000
- 11. Letter of Support; STOR Committee CPW Regional Partnership Initiative Grant Application
- 12. Professional Services Agreement; T&A Enterprises; Public Safety Center Building; Facilities; 8/19/2025 to 7/30/2027; \$16,200
- 13. Professional Services Agreement; T&A Enterprises; Public Works Building; Facilities; 8/19/2025 to 7/30/2027; \$16,200

14. Ratification; Letter of Support; Support for Region 10 Enterprise Zone Redesignation Application & Request for Consideration of Gunnison County Enterprise Zone Designation
15. Commercial Lease Agreement; Gunnison Valley Regional Housing Authority (GVRHA); Facilities; 6/9/2025 to 12/31/2025; \$18,340
16. Correspondence; Letter Regarding Wolf Reintroduction

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEMBERS DISCUSSION: Geographic Information Services Manager Mike Pelletier was present for discussion.

GISM Pelletier explained the seven-member board currently has five members and has had difficulty getting a quorum due to attendance issues and requested the Board to advertise for additional members. GISM Pelletier then stated they are looking at potentially condensing the multiple resolutions regarding the Historic Preservation Commission into one piece as well. Commissioner Houck recommended a work session regarding those changes. The Board agreed to direct staff to place an ad for the Historic Preservation Commission vacancies as well as other vacancies currently open.

VOUCHERS AND TRANSFERS APPROVAL: Chief Finance Officer Melissa LaMonica presented the voucher approval report dated July 15, 2025 and the cash transfer authorization dated July 2025 for discussion and approval. **Moved** by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Commissioner Puckett Daniels to approve the vouchers in the amount of \$5,275,290.90 as presented. Motion carried unanimously. **Moved** by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Puckett Daniels to approve the cash transfer in the amount of \$16,840,680.31. Motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S MONTHLY REPORT: County Treasurer Debbie Dunbar presented the July 2025 Treasurer's report, and investment report for discussion and acceptance. **Moved** by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Commissioner Puckett Daniels to accept the Treasurer's Report and authorize the use of the Chair's stamp in accepting the report. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER ITEMS:

Commissioner Smith:

1. Welcoming Week – Commissioner Smith shared there will be several events in coordination with the City of Gunnison and asked if the Board would be amendable to continue to support the activities. She then relayed some of the events that will be occurring during the week and that the ask is for \$1,000 to \$1,500 as well as items such as stickers. Commissioner Houck verified if she would come back with a fixed ask in a later meeting. The Board agreed they would be comfortable to fund up to \$1,500.
2. Counties & Commissioners Acting Together (CCAT) – Commissioner Smith attended the retreat on the 7th and 8th of August and there were candid conversations with Speaker Julie McCluskie and Senator Jeff Bridges regarding the challenges on the ground for the proposed changes of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits and the State match based on the error rate calculation as well as conversations regarding the cost shift to counties and to expand authorities to acquire funding. Commissioner Puckett Daniels relayed they have had conversations with the District Attorney's Office regarding funding as well and she let them know there are competing demands for the County's limited funds. Commissioner Smith commented that she struggles with cutting safety nets for most vulnerable across Colorado.
3. Gunnison Area Plan Special Area Regulation Meeting – Commissioner Smith and Commissioner Houck attended.
4. Gunnison Valley Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) – Commissioner Smith explained the impact fee proposal has been dropped and is no longer being pursued.
5. Tourism and Prosperity Partnership Board (TAPP) – Commissioner Smith met with Andrew Sandstrom regarding the TAPP budget. She also attended a meeting with Crested Butte Mountain Resort (CBMR), Vail and TAPP to discuss collaborations and how to work better with marketing, potential vulnerabilities, capital investments, and housing. Lastly, Commissioner Smith stated that CBMR was previously in Rocky Mountain's portfolio, and it has been acknowledged to put it into a region with experiences more so than geography.

Commissioner Puckett Daniels:

1. District Attorney (DA) Meeting – Commissioner Puckett Daniels attended this meeting remotely and she encouraged the DA to reach out directly to the county managers.
2. Water Congress – Commissioner Puckett Daniels is currently attending the conference and is excited about the conversations and for Gunnison County to have a voice.

Commissioner Houck:

1. Highlands and Lost Canyon Area – Commissioner Houck has been working with Assistant County Manager for Public Works Martin Schmidt and property owners over some road issues and reiterated the Code of the West philosophy.

2. Mayors and Managers – Commissioner Houck attended at the Gunnison Library and there were conversations regarding the censorship and book banning litigation as well as other things occurring through the community.
3. Gunnison Valley Health Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Open House – Commissioner Houck attended the open house and received a tour.
4. SNO Trackers – Commissioner Houck met with Bob Davidson regarding a snow grooming proposal to the U.S. Forest Service in the Pitkin area.
5. Drought Contingency Task Force – Commissioner Houck relayed the final project proposal and scope is out for review and he has been providing feedback.
6. State Land Board – Commissioner Houck had a phone meeting with the State Land Board since none of the Board was able to attend the meeting in Alamosa to talk about big picture items for Gunnison County as well as what is working and what is challenging. He then commented he received an invitation to be a member of the Advisory Committee.
7. Spruce Beetle Epidemic & Aspen Decline Management Response (SBEADMR) and Taylor Park Adaptive Management (AMG) Tours – Commissioner Houck stated the tours occurred last week to discuss projects and the connection to the work in the field.
8. Colorado Counties, Inc. Steering Committees (CCI) Renewable Energy Group – Commissioner Houck met with the renewable energy group to discuss work done with Governor Bill Ritter and CSU staff.
9. United Wolf Coalition Working Group – Commissioner Houck explained they are providing some correspondence to the State regarding their concerns of wolf reintroduction.
10. Gunnison Outdoor Resource Protection (GORP) Act – Commissioner Houck met with Regional Director Hilary Henry from Senator Bennet’s office and Delta County Commissioner Wendell Koontz to discuss the GORP Act.
11. Land Exchange for Mount Emmons – Commissioner Houck has been working with the U.S. Forest Service in removing the infrastructure at the Triple Peaks Ranch.
12. Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) – Commissioner Houck met with Director Jeff Davis regarding wolf reintroduction and reiterated that Gunnison County has asked for a pause if the State cannot meet and fund the obligation in the plan.
13. Brad Baca – Commissioner Houck met with Western Colorado University (WCU) President Brad Baca to get a view on budgetary concerns moving forward.
14. Wildlife Commission – Commissioner Houck noted is not able to attend in person, but will attend remotely or attend the Loveland meeting in person to testify their concerns around the wolf issue.

UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT:

1. Andy Spann – Mr. Spann is the President of the Gunnison County Stockgrowers’ Association and wanted to state his appreciation for the support of the Board of County Commissioners regarding the wolf reintroduction.

ADJOURN: Commissioner Houck adjourned the meeting at 9:19 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