

**GUNNISON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
November 4, 2025**

The November 4, 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 REGULAR MEETING:**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Commissioner Puckett Daniels called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

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

**MINUTES APPROVAL:** **Moved** by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Houck to approve the minutes for October 21, 2025 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

1. October 21, 2025 Regular Meeting

**SCHEDULING:** The Upcoming Meetings Schedule was discussed and updated.

1. 2026 Draft Gunnison County Holiday Calendar
2. 2026 Draft BOCC Meeting Schedule

**Moved** by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the 2026 Draft Gunnison County Holiday Calendar and the Draft BOCC Meeting Schedule calendar and adopt those as the official calendars for the upcoming 2026 calendar year. Motion carried unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** **Moved** by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Houck to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Acknowledgment of County Manager's Signature; Professional Services Agreement; Merrick & Company; Public Works; 11/4/2025 to 12/31/2025; \$6,306
2. Contract; Routing # 26-HA3-XC-00043; MTF C400-006 (27236), Gunnison Co – Brush Creek Rd Int Proj; State of Colorado and Colorado Department of Transportation; Public Works; 10/9/2025; \$137,107
3. Acknowledgment of County Manager's Signature; Gunnison County Deputy Chief Financial Officer Employment Agreement; Mark Rozman
4. Intergovernmental Agreement to Disburse Colorado Opioid Abatement Council Grant Funds; Board of County Commissioners of Montrose County; Juvenile Services; 9/1/2025 to 12/31/2026; \$26,000
5. Intergovernmental Agreement to Disburse Colorado Opioid Abatement Council Grant Funds; Board of County Commissioners of San Miguel County; Juvenile Services; 8/15/2025 to 12/31/2026; \$26,000
6. Intergovernmental Agreement to Disburse Colorado Opioid Abatement Council Grant Funds; Board of Health of Silver Thread Public Health District; Juvenile Services; 9/1/2025 to 12/31/2026; \$16,000
7. Acknowledgment of County Manager's Signature; Amendment to Lexis+ Subscription Agreement with Agreement Addendum; LexisNexis; Attorney's Office; 1/1/2026 to 12/31/2026; \$4,464
8. Notice of Award; Title X; Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE); Health and Human Services; 7/1/2025 to 6/30/2025; \$131,582

**COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORTS:**

1. Operation Greenlight – CM Birnie explained that the National Associations of Counties (NACo) sponsors Operation Greenlight where the County buildings are lit in green light from November 4<sup>th</sup> through the 11<sup>th</sup> in honor of veterans. He asked facilities if there was a way to do it here and they were able to put filters on the lights in front of the Courthouse for the next week.
2. Deputy Chief Financial Officer (CFO) – CM Birnie announced that Mark Rozman has agreed to be the Deputy CFO.
3. International City/County Management Association (ICMA) – CM Birnie relayed that he and the executive team, besides Assistant County Manager for Health, Human and Safety Services Joni Reynolds, attended the ICMA Conference. Assistant County Manager for Operations and Sustainability John Cattles and Assistant County Manager for Community and Economic Development Cathie Pagano did a presentation on Whetstone which was well attended with highly engaged folks.
4. December 15<sup>th</sup> – CM Birnie noted that there will be a special meeting on December 15<sup>th</sup> for the budget adoption and confirmed they would like it to be at 8:30 am.

Commissioner Smith asked Matthew if the green lights could be used for other opportunities as well such as mental and behavioral health awareness.

**AMENDED AND RESTATED GUNNISON VALLEY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT; CITY OF GUNNISON, COLORADO, TOWN OF CRESTED BUTTE, COLORADO, TOWN OF MT. CRESTED BUTTE, COLORADO:**

CA Hoyt expressed his thanks to the Gunnison Valley Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) Board for being receptive to suggestions and relayed there were changes made from both sides. He doesn't believe there are any real material changes, only changes to reflect the current factual realities today and to clean up the language. The Board expressed their gratitude to the RTA and County staff. **Moved** by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve and authorize the Chair's signature on the Amended and Restated Gunnison Valley Regional Transportation Authority Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Gunnison, Town of Crested Butte, Town of Mt. Crested Butte, and Gunnison County as presented this morning. Motion carried unanimously.

**LETTER OF SUPPORT; VALLEY HOUSING FUND'S APPLICATION TO THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING FINANCE FUND LAND BANKING PROGRAM FOR THE GUNNISON LAND BANKING PROJECT:** Valley Housing Fund Executive Director Lauren Koelliker was present for discussion.

Director Koelliker stated this takes advantage of Proposition 123 funds, specifically the Land Banking Program where developers partner with a government or nonprofit entity and apply for a forgivable loan up to \$5M for the purpose of affordable housing. The Valley Housing Fund has thus partnered with High Mountain Concepts and NorthPoint Development to ask for a \$2M forgivable loan for which this letter of support will be for. She then described the project and Gunnison Rising area. Commissioner Puckett Daniels said she thought this work would be a nice complement to the work the County has done with Sawtooth and Whetstone. **Moved** by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Houck to approve the letter of support for the Gunnison Land Banking Affordable Housing Project presented by the Valley Housing Fund, and authorize the full Board's signature. Motion carried unanimously.

**UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT:** There were no persons present for discussion.

**COMMISSIONER ITEMS:**

**Commissioner Houck:**

1. Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Director Dan Gibbs – Commissioner Houck met with Director Gibbs's leadership team as well as local leadership to have a tour of the elements that were pitched in the State Park Concept. He relayed that the infrastructure is here in place and managing river segments with consistency with a single set of rules, expectations, and guidelines would be useful.
2. Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Meeting – Commissioner Houck could not make the meeting but did talk to Executive Director Jackie Miller to have a conversation beforehand.
3. Region 10 – Commissioner Houck attended the meeting and stated there was nothing outstanding to report.
4. Western Colorado University (WCU) Leadership Class – Commissioner Houck presented at Gary Pierson's leadership class at WCU regarding students' opportunities to be involved in the community.
5. Colorado Counties, Inc. Steering Committees (CCI) Public Lands Meeting – Commissioner Houck attended the meeting and discussed upcoming public land issues.
6. River Mapping Group – Commissioner Houck attended a phone call with the River Mapping Group and relayed the ties it has into the State Park.
7. Benefest – Commissioner Houck attended benefest.
8. State Lands Board – Commissioner Houck attended the State Lands Board meeting and discussed the nuances of how to minister some of the lands to promote and prioritize housing, conservation, ecological restoration, and recreation without sacrificing agriculture. He recommended Gunnison County as a meeting area with the accessible land board sites. He also spoke to the person who represents housing regarding the challenges faced in the process of building housing. Lastly, he relayed a new report will be released in a year and half, but he believes it will bring up some opportunities done in Gunnison County.
9. Gunnison County Stockgrowers' Association – Commissioner Houck continues to work with the Stockgrowers regarding the wolf reintroduction. He stated he may register with the State Wildlife Commission as a Commissioner on behalf of Gunnison County in support of the State answering their petition and giving a response in a timely manner.

**Commissioner Smith:**

1. Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Director Dan Gibbs – Commissioner Smith also met with Director Gibbs.
2. Gunnison County Safety Banquet – Commissioner Smith attended the event and emphasized the importance of County staff and safety.
3. Veteran Services Officer Steve Otero – Commissioner Smith met up with VSO Otero to discuss veteran services.

- 4. Colorado Statewide Opioid Abatement Conference – Commissioner Smith attended the conference and noted the big conversation points were sustaining successes and finding ways to continue to measure success as well as stating that the opioid settlement dollar’s purpose is to expand opportunities and the offerings for substance use and opioid use disorders.
- 5. Southwest Colorado Opioid Regional Council – Commissioner Smith attended the meeting and stated they had conversations regarding refining the roles the facilitators as well as revamping the structure of the council based on the shifting needs. She relayed Juvenile Services Director Kari Commerford presented a grant proposal for the State Infrastructure Fund that involves Western Colorado University (WCU) and Gunnison Valley Health (GVH).
- 6. Health Coalition – Commissioner Smith attended the meeting and relayed the presentations made during the meeting and stated they discussed the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefit pause.
- 7. Juntos – Commissioner Smith attended two events hosted by Juntos which included making tortillas and their celebration of the Day of the Dead. There were also conversations about the needs of the local immigrant community.
- 8. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Benefits – Commissioner Smith thanked staff for their response to the community need and the direction to the Gunnison County website.

**Commissioner Puckett Daniels:**

- 1. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Benefits – Commissioner Puckett Daniels has been providing information and giving resources to the community and also spoke to Congressmen Jeff Hurd regarding the pause.
- 2. Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) – Commissioner Puckett Daniels attended the meeting regarding the new instructor methodology curriculum, and she continues to do outreach regarding that.
- 3. Town of Crested Butte Councilors and Center for the Arts – Commissioner Puckett Daniels has had conversations regarding the Center for the Arts deed and relayed they need to bring a formal proposal to the Board for consideration.
- 4. Water Quality & Quantity (QQ) Meeting – Commissioner Puckett Daniels attended the meeting last week and discussed the updates given and potential legislation regarding river access.
- 5. Gunnison Valley Regional Housing Authority (GVRHA) – Commissioner Puckett Daniels continues to work with staff regarding the transition.
- 6. Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region – Commissioner Puckett Daniels relayed she would not make Vince Rogalski’s retirement party but emphasized his service for the County.
- 7. Marble – Commissioner Puckett Daniels mentioned the challenges in getting a day scheduled to go over for work session. At this moment, they are aiming for spring, but she encouraged the commissioners to have some individual outreach and for the Marble Town Council to reach out to the Board if in the area.
- 8. Mayors and Managers – Commissioner Puckett Daniels is planning to attend the meeting this week.
- 9. Election Day – Commissioner Puckett Daniels emphasized it is Election Day and encouraged voting.

**ADJOURN:** Commissioner Puckett Daniels adjourned the meeting at 9:26 am.

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Laura Puckett Daniels, Chairperson

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Elizabeth Smith, Vice-Chairperson

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Jonathan Houck, Commissioner

Minutes Prepared By:

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Holly Perry, Deputy County Clerk

Attest:

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Kathy Simillion, County Clerk