

**CROWLEY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

FEBRUARY 10, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on February 10, 2025. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Roy Elliott at 8:30 a.m. The following were present:

Roy Elliott, Chairman
Terry McMillian, Vice Chairman
Vicki Powell, Commissioner
LaShelle Benbow, Deputy Clerk to the Board

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9161

APPROVE MUMM SPECIAL DISBURSEMENT, JANUARY 31, 2025

Motion by McMillian, seconded by Powell to approve the special disbursement for January 31, 2025. The original checks were written for the incorrect amount, and had to be voided and reissued. No funds are being requested from the Treasurer as this was done in the original transaction.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Elliott - Aye
McMillian - Aye
Powell - Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9162

APPROVE FNA SPECIAL DISBURSEMENT, JANUARY 31, 2025

Motion by McMillian, seconded by Powell to approve the FNA special disbursements for January 31, 2025, and authorize transfer of funds in the following amounts:

General Fund \$21,621.73
Water Fund \$5,382.00

Total Disbursements: \$27,003.73

Upon motion duly made and seconded the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Elliott - Aye
McMillian - Aye
Powell - Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9163

APPROVE INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR AGREEMENT BETWEEN CROWLEY COUNTY ACTING AS THE FISCAL AGENT FOR SOUTHEAST COLORADO OPIOID RESPONSE SETTLEMENT REGION 19, AND WENDY BUXTON-ANDRADE

Motion by Powell, seconded by McMillian to approve the Independent Contract Agreement between Crowley County acting as the fiscal agent for Southeast Colorado Opioid Response Settlement Region 19, and Wendy Buxton-Andrade. The term of the agreement is from January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025, for an amount of \$1,000 per month.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Elliott - Aye
McMillian - Aye
Powell - Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9164

APPROVE LETTER OF AGREEMENT MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT BETWEEN DISTRICT ONE CROWLEY COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT, CROWLEY COUNTY AMBULANCE SERVICE AND THE CROWLEY COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

Motion by Powell, seconded by McMillian to approve the Letter of Agreement Mutual Aid Agreement between District One Crowley County Fire Department, Crowley County Ambulance Service, and Crowley County Correctional Facility.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Elliott - Aye

McMillian - Aye

Powell - Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9165

APPROVE JANUARY 2025 BOCC MINUTES

Motion by McMillian, seconded by Powell to approve the January 2025 BOCC minutes.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Elliott - Aye

McMillian - Aye

Powell - Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9166

APPROVE SPECIAL PAYROLL DISBURSEMENT, FEBRUARY 7, 2025

Motion by McMillian, seconded by Powell to approve the special payroll disbursement for February 7, 2025, and authorize transfer of funds in the following amounts:

DHS Fund \$7,235.08

Upon motion duly made and seconded the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Elliott - Aye

McMillian - Aye

Powell - Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9167

APPROVE SPECIAL PAYROLL BENEFIT DISBURSEMENT, FEBRUARY 7, 2025

Motion by Powell, seconded by McMillian to approve the special payroll benefit disbursement for February 7, 2025, and authorize transfer of funds in the following amounts:

DHS Fund \$2,758.44

Upon motion duly made and seconded the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Elliott - Aye

McMillian - Aye

Powell - Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9168

APPROVE AMPED ELECTRIC SPECIAL DISBURSEMENT, FEBRUARY 7, 2025

Motion by McMillian, seconded by Powell to approve the Amped Electric special disbursement for February 7, 2025, and authorize transfer of funds in the following amount:

General Fund \$6,300.00

Upon motion duly made and seconded the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Elliott - Aye

McMillian - Aye

Powell - Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9169

APPROVE A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSED HIGH-POWER TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT AND CALLING FOR TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND LOCAL INPUT

Motion by McMillian, seconded by Powell to approve the following resolution and to publish it two times in the Ordway New Era and the Rocky Ford Daily Gazette:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CROWLEY COUNTY, COLORADO, OPPOSING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSED HIGH-POWER TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT AND CALLING FOR TRANSPARENCY, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND LOCAL INPUT

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has determined a need to transport green energy across multiple states, including Colorado, without clear benefit to Crowley County or the State of Colorado as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the DOE has proposed a five-mile-wide corridor for the transmission line, potentially impacting private property owners, agricultural lands, local infrastructure, and natural resources without meaningful consultation with affected communities; and

WHEREAS, the DOE has failed to adequately notify local officials, landowners, and stakeholders in Crowley County regarding the scope, purpose, and potential impact of this project, and has not ensured transparency through proper publication of public comment periods in local newspapers; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that high-voltage transmission lines and substations may emit toxins that could be hazardous to human health, and it remains unclear what impact these emissions could have on Crowley County's residents, agricultural lands, groundwater sources, and overall environmental quality; and

WHEREAS, the proposed transmission corridor would remove productive farmland, disrupt ranching operations, and negatively impact Crowley County's agricultural economy, which serves as the backbone of the community and supports local businesses, schools, and essential services; and

WHEREAS, the potential loss of significant acreage from agricultural production would have a cascading effect on the county's economy, leading to job losses, business closures, decreased tax revenue, and increased financial burdens on remaining property owners; and

WHEREAS, the DOE has not addressed the long-term financial impacts of this project, including how Crowley County will be compensated for lost property tax revenue essential for maintaining roads, schools, emergency services, and other public resources; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Crowley County is committed to protecting the rights of its residents, preserving the county's agricultural heritage, and ensuring that any major infrastructure projects are conducted with full transparency, proper environmental assessments, and fair compensation to affected property owners and the county as a whole;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CROWLEY COUNTY, COLORADO:

1. That the Board of County Commissioners formally opposes the proposed high-power transmission line project in its current form due to its lack of transparency, failure to properly notify local officials and residents, and its potential to cause economic and environmental harm to Crowley County.
2. That the U.S. Department of Energy must provide a published notice of intent regarding this project, with an extended public comment period allowing for meaningful local input.
3. That the DOE must notify officials of the State of Colorado and Crowley County of any intent to use eminent domain to seize private property for this project.
4. That no further development of the project should proceed until independent environmental and health impact studies are conducted—one selected by the county, one by the DOE, and one agreed upon by both parties—demonstrating that no significant health or environmental hazards exist.
5. That Crowley County will place a moratorium on the project until the DOE assumes full liability for any health, environmental, or economic damages caused by the transmission line.
6. That Crowley County will place a moratorium on the project until the DOE presents a clear and enforceable plan to provide annual compensation for the loss of tax revenue caused by the removal of agricultural land from production.
7. That Crowley County urges the State of Colorado and its elected officials to support local communities in resisting the imposition of large-scale infrastructure projects that fail to benefit local residents and threaten the economic stability of rural counties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution shall be sent to the Governor of Colorado, the Colorado State Legislature, the U.S. Department of Energy, the Colorado Public Utilities Commission, and all relevant federal and state representatives.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED this 10th day of February, 2025.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CROWLEY COUNTY, COLORADO

Upon motion duly made and seconded the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Elliott - Aye

McMillian - Aye

Powell - Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9170

APPROVE DHS DISBURSEMENTS, FEBRUARY 10, 2025

Motion by Powell, seconded by McMillian to approve the DHS disbursements for February 10, 2025, and authorize transfer of funds in the following amounts:

General Fund \$155.00

DHS Fund \$17,940.10

Total Disbursements: \$18,095.10

Upon motion duly made and seconded the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Elliott - Aye

McMillian - Aye

Powell - Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9171

APPROVE DISBURSEMENTS, FEBRUARY 10, 2025

Motion by McMillian, seconded by Powell to approve the disbursements for February 10, 2025, and authorize transfer of funds in the following amounts:

General Fund \$124,619.10

Road & Bridge Fund \$18,077.52

EMS Fire Fund \$1,138.02

Ambulance Fund \$3,813.05

Water Fund \$11,873.80

E911 Fund \$1,832.49

SECOR Fund \$11,444.36

Total Disbursements \$172,798.34

Upon motion duly made and seconded the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Elliott - Aye

McMillian - Aye

Powell - Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9172

APPROVE SECRETAC DISBURSEMENTS, FEBRUARY 10, 2025

Motion by Powell, seconded by McMillian to approve the SECRETAC disbursements for February 10, 2025, and authorize transfer of funds in the following amount:

SECRETAC Fund \$9,583.33

Upon motion duly made and seconded the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Elliott - Aye

McMillian - Aye

Powell - Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9173

APPROVE OEM DISBURSEMENTS, FEBRUARY 10, 2025

Motion by McMillian, seconded by Powell to approve the OEM disbursements for February 10, 2025, and authorize transfer of funds in the following amount:

EMS Fund \$401.82

Upon motion duly made and seconded the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Elliott - Aye

McMillian - Aye

Powell - Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9174

OTHER BUSINESS OR DISCUSSION - APPROVE NEW COUNTY ATTORNEY

Discussion occurred about going with Hoffman, Parker, Wilson & Carberry P.C. as the new County Attorney. They have 16 total lawyers available to work with us. They charge \$275 per hour, and their minimum charge is in 1/6 increment of an hour. McMillian stated that he would prefer to stay local and stay with Nathan Shultz.

Motion by Powell, seconded by Elliott to approve going with Hoffman, Parker, Wilson & Carberry P.C. as the new County Attorney.

Upon motion duly made and seconded the foregoing resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Elliott - Aye

McMillian - Opposed

Powell - Aye

OTHER BUSINESS OR DISCUSSION - NEW INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICE PROVIDER

Discussion occurred over contracting with WYO IT for the County's information technology needs or staying with Triad Computer Service. It was decided that IT services will remain with Triad through the end of February, and then we will go with WYO IT. A contract will be forthcoming.

No further business appearing, the meeting was recessed.

ATTEST:

Melinda Carter, County Clerk

Roy Elliott, Chairman