

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

APRIL 21, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on April 21, 2025. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Roy Elliott at 9:00 a.m. The following were present:

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9235

APPROVE SPECIAL PAYROLL, APRIL 10, 2025

Motion by McMillian, seconded by Powell to approve the special payroll dated April 10, 2025, and authorize transfer of funds in the following amount:

General Fund \$3,860.46
Road and Bridge Fund \$908.84

Total Disbursements: \$4,769.30

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

Elliott - Aye
McMillian - Aye
Powell - Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9236

APPROVE SPECIAL PAYROLL BENEFIT DISBURSEMENTS, APRIL 10, 2025

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

General Fund \$1,445.62
Road and Bridge Fund \$160.72

Total Disbursement \$1,606.34

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

Elliott - Aye
McMillian - Aye
Powell - Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 2025.9237

APPROVE SPECIAL DISBURSEMENT, APRIL 11, 2025

Motion by Powell, seconded by McMillian to approve the special disbursement for April 11, 2025, and authorize transfer of funds in the following amount:

General Fund \$10,000.00

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

Elliott - Aye

McMillian - Aye

Powell - Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9238

APPROVE SPECIAL DISBURSEMENTS, APRIL 17, 2025

Motion by Powell, seconded by McMillian to approve the special disbursement for April 17, 2025, and authorize transfer of funds in the following amount:

General Fund \$5,660.00

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

Elliott - Aye

McMillian - Aye

Powell - Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9239

APPROVE THE PUBLICATION OF A NOTICE OF BUDGETARY TRANSFER

Motion by McMillian, seconded by Powell to approve the publication of the following Notice of Budgetary Transfer:

NOTICE OF BUDGETARY TRANSFER

(Pursuant to 29-1-109, C.R.S.)

NOTICE is hereby given that a proposed budgetary transfer has been submitted to the Crowley County Board of County Commissioners for the current fiscal year of 2025; a copy of such proposed budgetary transfer has been filed in the office of the Crowley County Board of County Commissioners, where the same is open for public inspection; such proposed budgetary transfer will be considered at a regular meeting of the Crowley County Board of County Commissioners to be held at the Administration Building, Commissioners Meeting Room, on May 27, 2025 at 8:30 a.m.

Any interested elector of Crowley County may inspect the proposed budgetary transfer and file or register any objections thereto at any time prior to the final adoption of the budgetary transfer, May 27, 2025, at 8:30 a.m.

RESOLUTION FOR BUDGETARY TRANSFER

(Pursuant to Section 29-1-109, C.R.S.)

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING ADDITIONAL SUMS OF MONEY TO DEFRAY EXPENSES IN EXCESS OF AMOUNTS BUDGETED FOR THE COUNTY OF CROWLEY, COLORADO.

WHEREAS, there is a need to transfer budgeted and appropriated money from one fund to another fund,

AND WHEREAS, the entire fund balance will be transferred from Contingency Fund 70 to General Fund 10. The contingency fund was established many years ago and the County no longer has a need for a contingency fund. The County has some unanticipated capital outlay projects that will be occurring in General Fund

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

Section 1. That the sum of \$29,354.52 is hereby transferred from the Contingency Fund 70 to the General Fund 10.

Section 2. That the 2025 appropriation for the following General Fund 10 accounts are increased as follows for the purpose of supporting a capital outlay project and its associated operational costs.

- Capital Outlay 10.508.52000 is increased from the original amount of \$0 to the new amount of \$26,810.

- Operating Supplies 10.500.51220 is increased from the original amount of \$2,500 to the new amount of \$5,044.52.

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

Elliott - Aye

McMillian - Aye

Powell - Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9240

APPROVE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE LOWER ARKANSAS VALLEY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT AND CALLING FOR ACTION

Motion by Powell, seconded by McMillian to approve the following resolution:

RESOLUTION OF THE CROWLEY COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SUPPORTING THE LOWER ARKANSAS VALLEY WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT AND CALLING FOR ACTION

WHEREAS, the Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District (Lower Ark District) was created by the voters of Pueblo, Crowley, Otero, Bent, and Prowers Counties in 2002 to safeguard and manage the water resources of the Lower Arkansas Valley, supporting agriculture, economic stability, wildlife habitats, and responsible water use; and

WHEREAS, Crowley County has been greatly affected by the detrimental effects of the permanent removal of water from local farms by Colorado Front Range municipalities, leading to economic decline, environmental harm, and loss of cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, the continued expansion of Colorado Front Range cities, driven by annexations and water acquisitions, places an increasing strain on the water resources of the Lower Arkansas Valley; and

WHEREAS, testimony from Colorado Springs Utilities before the Colorado Springs City Council on January 14, 2025, revealed a need for an additional 34,000 acre-feet of water per year to support development within existing city limits, with further annexations exacerbating this deficit; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Springs Utilities 2017 Integrated Water Resources Plan suggests that much of this additional water will be sourced from agricultural transfers in the Lower Arkansas Valley, deepening the challenges faced by local communities; and

WHEREAS, the Lower Ark District remains uncertain as to whether such water supplies can even be secured without devastating impacts beyond the borders of Colorado Springs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Colorado Springs has actively purchased and continues to acquire irrigation water rights in the Lower Arkansas Valley, filing legal applications to permanently transfer this water for urban use; and

WHEREAS, Colorado Springs has a significant inventory of undeveloped land within its existing limits, with housing availability at a ten-year high, calling into question the need for further annexations that would intensify its water shortfall.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The Crowley County Board of County Commissioners stands with the Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District in opposing any new annexations by the City of Colorado Springs that would deepen its existing 34,000 acre-feet water supply shortfall.
2. The Crowley County Board of County Commissioners urges Colorado Springs to recognize the long-term consequences of its water demands on the Lower Arkansas Valley's economy, environment, water quality, and communities.

3. The Crowley County Board of County Commissioners calls upon neighboring counties, municipalities, and stakeholders to unite in advocating for responsible water policies that protect the agricultural foundation and water resources of the Lower Arkansas Valley.

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

Elliott - Aye

McMillian - Aye

Powell - Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9241

APPROVE REGULAR DISBURSEMENTS, APRIL 21, 2025

Motion by Powell, seconded by McMillian to approve the disbursements for April 21, 2025, and authorize transfer of funds in the following amounts:

General Fund \$78,380.11

Road & Bridge Fund \$4,498.27

Ambulance Fund \$3,004.46

DHS Fund \$435.00

Total Disbursements \$86,317.84

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

Elliott - Aye

McMillian - Aye

Powell - Aye

OTHER BUSINESS OR DISCUSSION

Christopher Olney, with CSU, stopped by for a visit. He inquired about the dates of our County fair. He mentioned that he has not received any updates from Aurora, but they are continuing to work with CPW about future projects surrounding our lakes.

The annexation into Colorado Springs will go to a vote at a special election, either in June or July. If the vote passes they are obligated to obtain utility services. He mentioned that CSU and some other utility providers would like to see the developers held responsible for providing utilities for the new developments.

No further business appearing, the meeting was recessed.

ATTEST:

Melinda Carter, County Clerk

Roy Elliott, Chairman