

ELBERT COUNTY, COLORADO
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

Regular Meeting Held in the BOCC Meeting Room
December 18, 2024 at 9:00 AM

A. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Pastor Farthing from Elbert Christian Church provided the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was called to order at 9:03 AM. Deputy Clerk Emily Backhus-Irwin called the roll and all Commissioners were present.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Approval of Agenda as presented

Commissioner Grant Thayer made a motion to Approve the Agenda as presented. Commissioner Dallas Schroeder seconded the motion.

Yes – Chris Richardson, Grant Thayer, Dallas Schroeder

No – None

D. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Approval of Consent Agenda as presented

Commissioner Dallas Schroeder made a motion to Approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Grant Thayer seconded the motion.

Yes – Chris Richardson, Grant Thayer, Dallas Schroeder

No – None

1. Approval of CDS Mylars as needed
2. Approval of Vouchers as needed
3. Approval of an IGA between the County of Arapahoe, County of Elbert and the City of Aurora for the Operations and Maintenance Plan of a Portion of County Line Road
4. Approval of an Amended and Restated IGA between Arapahoe County and Elbert County for CR 194
5. Approval of an IGA Regarding the Construction and Related Costs of Traffic Control Infrastructure for CR 194 and Delbert Road Intersection
6. Formal Acknowledgment of the Elbert County Water Master Plan



7. Approval of Third Amended and Restated Agreement for Inmate Health Care Services - Wellpath

E. ELECTED OFFICIALS/DEPARTMENT HEADS/STAFF REPORTS

None

F. CITIZEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Danny Willcox – 5372 Timber Ridge Dr – Mr. Willcox thanked Commissioner Richardson and Commissioner Thayer for their service over the last 8 years and also commended them for the handling during covid giving Elbert County citizens the liberties they had.

G. DISCUSSION ITEMS

None

H. ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of the Elbert County 2025 Budget Resolution

Motion: To Open Public Hearing for Elbert County 2025 Budget Resolution

Commissioner Grant Thayer made a motion to Open Public Hearing for the Elbert County 2025 Budget Resolution. Commissioner Dallas Schroeder seconded the motion.

Yes – Chris Richardson, Grant Thayer, Dallas Schroeder

No – None

Public Hearing Opened at 9:06 AM

Finance Director, Tiffany Hermes, presented the Final Budget for 2025 to the Commissioners.

Public Comment – None

Commissioner Thayer asked Ms. Hermes thinks the budget was pretty well balanced. Ms. Hermes agreed.

Commissioner Schroeder thanked Ms. Hermes and her team and the departments across the county for their efforts during the audit.

Motion: Approval of the Elbert County 2025 Budget Resolution

Commissioner Grant Thayer made a motion to Approve the Elbert County 2025 Budget Resolution as presented. Commissioner Dallas Schroeder seconded the motion.

Yes – Chris Richardson, Grant Thayer, Dallas Schroeder

No – None

Motion: To Close Public Hearing for Public Hearing for Elbert County 2025 Budget Resolution

Commissioner Dallas Schroeder made a motion to Close Public Hearing for Elbert County 2025 Budget Resolution. Commissioner Grant Thayer seconded the motion.

Yes – Chris Richardson, Grant Thayer, Dallas Schroeder

No – None





Public Hearing Closed at 9:14 AM

2. Certification of 2025 Elbert County Mill Levies and 2025 Sun Country Mill levy

Motion: To Open Public Hearing as Board for Sun Country Meadows Public Improvement District

Commissioner Dallas Schroeder made a motion to Open Public Hearing as Board for Sun Country Meadows Public Improvement District. Commissioner Grant Thayer seconded the motion.

Yes – Chris Richardson, Grant Thayer, Dallas Schroeder

No – None

Public Hearing Opened at 9:15 AM

Public Comment – None

Motion: To Approve the Certification the 2025 Elbert County Mill Levies and 2025 Sun Country Mill Levy

Commissioner Dallas Schroeder made a motion to Approve the Certification the 2025 Elbert County Mill Levies and 2025 Sun Country Mill Levy. Commissioner Grant Thayer seconded the motion.

Yes – Chris Richardson, Grant Thayer, Dallas Schroeder

No – None

Motion: To Close Public Hearing as Board for Sun Country Meadows Public Improvement District for the 2025 Elbert County Mill Levies and 2025 Sun Country Mill Levy

Commissioner Dallas Schroeder made a motion to Close Public Hearing as Board for Sun Country Meadows Public Improvement District. Commissioner Grant Thayer seconded the motion.

Yes – Chris Richardson, Grant Thayer, Dallas Schroeder

No – None

Public Hearing Closed at 9:16 AM

I. BOARD PLANNING

1. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

1) Budget Appropriations

2) Public Works Standards Updated

Commissioner Schroeder presented awards to Commissioner Richardson and Commissioner Thayer recognizing them for their accomplishments.

Public Comment -

Tom Peterson – 1366 Conifer Trail – Mr. Peterson gave his appreciation to Commissioner Richardson and Commissioner Thayer noting 3 specific things during their tenure.

1) How the Commissioners got the County financials back in line

2) The response during covid

3) How the floods were handled

Rick Pettitt – 227 Cheyenne – Mr. Pettitt thanked the Commissioners and said he was a previous Commissioner and Treasurer for Elbert County. Mr. Pettitt is proud of the progress made since they took their seats.

Sheryl Hewlett – Public Trustee and Treasurer – Ms. Hewlett echoed Mr. Pettitt's sentiments and appreciated all the hard work to get the finances back to healthy.

Monty Hankins – Public Works Director – Mr. Hankins said he's been with the county for 15 years and this is the best Board of Commissioners he's gotten to work with. Mr. Hankins is thankful for the changes to make Public Works what it is today that and that is more efficient.

Rhonda Braun – County Clerk and Recorder – Ms. Braun remembers coming in when there was chaos and that it isn't what we have anymore. Ms. Braun thanked the Commissioners for always listening.

Susan Murphy – Assessor – Ms. Murphy said the Assessor's office has come a long way since 2012 and she is very thankful for what the Commissioners have done while here.

Commissioner Richardson and Commissioner Thayer gave an emotional thank you to Commissioner Schroeder and the public for their support while they were in office.

Commissioner Richardson called a recess at 9:45 AM to return at 1:00 PM for the Land Use Hearings.

J. LAND USE HEARINGS 1:00 P.M.

The Land Use Hearing was called to order at 1:02 PM. Deputy Clerk Emily Backhus-Irwin called the roll and all Commissioners were present.

1. Christmas in the Stix - SUR-2024-2522

Motion: To Open a Public Hearing for Christmas in the Stix – SUR-2024-2522

Commissioner made a motion to Open a Public Hearing for Christmas in the Stix – SUR-2024-2522.
Commissioner seconded the motion.

Yes – Chris Richardson, Grant Thayer, Dallas Schroeder

No – None

Public Hearing Opened at 1:02 PM

Planning Manager, Jennifer Jones, presented an application for Christmas in the Stix for a general amusement/entertainment venue in order to operate a drive-through Christmas light path and related activities on 40 acres. Additional on-site activities include a Santa's Square/Village that would have holiday-oriented crafts, games, and snacks. All Santa's Village structures would be temporary and subject to the applicable regulations. All public comments have been addressed and staff recommends approval.

Commissioner Thayer offered to recuse himself as he lives due north of the SUR. The applicant accepted that he was able to vote.

Applicants, Dawnelle Tilden and David McGlaun, explained their love for Christmas and wanting to share it with everyone. Ms. Tilden explained that they've scaled back to the 40 acres to concentrate on the drive-through path. The applicants have addressed the public concerns about noise, traffic and lights that were





brought up in past meetings.

Commissioner Thayer asked about closest neighbor. Mr. McGlaun said the nearest neighbor's driveway is over 300' away and has been in contact with him throughout the project.

Ms. Tilden said she and Mr. McGlaun had proposed a potential event center and decided to stay with the 40 acres until they were ready to expand.

Public Comment –

Brandi Snelling 27151 CR 105 – Ms. Snelling is an Elbert County resident and employee of the county and urged rejection of this SUR. Ms. Snelling explained several concerns about the lighting, roads and noise.

Sean Snelling – 27151 CR 105 – Mr. Snelling expressed his concerns about the SUR and asked the Commissioners to look at the packet again provided to them and review what they're building. Mr. Snelling is worried about the project expanding to 120 acres in the 10 year plan.

Close Public Comment

Ms. Tilden addressed the Snellings concerns.

Ms. Jones explained that this request is only for the 40 acres and the general notes on the SUR will show what it is going to be used for.

Commissioner Richardson asked the applicants if they accepted the additional conditions. The applicants agreed.

Commissioner Richardson called for a recess at 1:44 PM for 5 minutes. Reconvene at 1:51 PM

Motion: To Approve Christmas in the Stix – SUR-2024-2522 with modification to conditions

Commissioner Grant Thayer made a motion to Approve Christmas in the Stix – SUR-2024-2522 with modification to conditions. Commissioner Dallas Schroeder seconded the motion.

Yes – Chris Richardson, Grant Thayer, Dallas Schroeder

No – None

Motion: To Close Public Hearing for Christmas in the Stix – SUR-2024-2522

Commissioner Grant Thayer made a motion to Close Public Hearing for Christmas in the Stix – SUR-2024-2522. Commissioner Dallas Schroeder seconded the motion.

Yes – Chris Richardson, Grant Thayer, Dallas Schroeder

No – None

2. Regulation Update

Motion: To Open Public Hearing for Regulation Update

Commissioner Dallas Schroeder made a motion to Open Public Hearing For Regulation Update. Commissioner Grant Thayer seconded the motion.

Yes – Chris Richardson, Grant Thayer, Dallas Schroeder

No – None



Public Hearing Opened at 1:52 PM

Land Use Planner Kelsey Lanham presented the proposed modifications to the regulations to the Commissioners. Ms. Lanham and the Commissioners went through each of the 10 proposed changes at length.

The Commissioners and Ms. Lanham and Ms. Jones went through the changes to add to the resolution.

Motion: To Adopt Changes 1 through 10 with minor changes as discussed.

Commissioner Dallas Schroeder made a motion to Adopt Changes 1 through 10 of the Regulation Update with minor changes as discussed. Commissioner Grant Thayer seconded the motion.

Yes – Chris Richardson, Grant Thayer, Dallas Schroeder

No – None

K. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To Adjourn

Commissioner Grant Thayer made a motion to Adjourn. Commissioner Dallas Schroeder seconded the motion.

Yes – Chris Richardson, Grant Thayer, Dallas Schroeder

No – None

The meeting adjourned at 2:33 PM.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ELBERT COUNTY, COLORADO

CHRIS RICHARDSON, Chair, COMMISSIONER District 1

DALLAS SCHROEDER, Vice-Chair, COMMISSIONER District 2

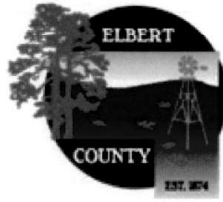
GRANT THAYER, COMMISSIONER District 3

ATTEST: Emily Backhus-Irwin

Deputy Clerk

BY:

Deputy Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners



Elbert County Colorado 2025 Final Budget Presentation

December 11, 2024

ELBERT
COUNTY
— COLORADO —

639908 B: 849 P: 46 MH
01/07/2025 03:08:43 PM Page: 8 of 21 R 0.00 D
Rhonda Braun Recorder, Elbert County, Co

Purpose



To provide the citizens a final view of the 2025 budget and approval from the BOCC

639908 B: 849 P: 46 MM
01/07/2025 03:08:43 PM Page: 9 of 21 R 0.00 D
Ronda Brian Recorder Elbert County, CO

2025 Revenue and Expenses



Year	Revenue	Expense
2024	44,565,639	53,710,060
2025	52,507,123	57,042,326
Percentage Change	17.82%	6.2%

Overall, revenue is increasing more than expenses across the County budget

639908 B: 849 P: 46 MM
01/07/2025 03:03:43 PM Page: 10 of 21 R 0.00 D
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2025 Revenue and Expenses General Fund



Year	Revenue	Expense
2024	16,707,316	18,893,602
2025	20,419,801	22,494,801
Percentage Change	22.22%	19.06%

In 2025 revenue sources that have increased:

- Interest on Accounts
- Program Revenue

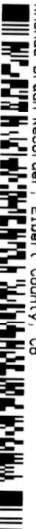
639908 B: 849 P: 46 MM
01/07/2025 03:08:43 PM Page: 11 of 21 R 0.00 D
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General Fund



- Fund Balance Usage for the following:
 - \$1 million tax relief to citizens
 - Building lease
 - Contract services
 - Capital purchases

639908 B: 849 P: 46 MM
01/07/2023 03:08:43 PM Page: 12 of 21 R 0.00 D
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Department Requests Approved



- FTE's
 - OEM: Disaster Recovery & Damage Assessment \$84,481
 - Planning: GIS \$73,940
 - Road & Bridge: Truck Driver x 2 \$45,276 each
 - Road & Bridge: Service Technician \$67,531

639908 B: 849 P: 46 MM
01/07/2025 03:08:43 PM Page: 13 of 21 R 0.00 D
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2024 Budgeted FTE's



639908 B: 849 P: 46 MM

01/07/2025 03:08:43 PM Page: 14 of 21 R 0.00 D

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ELBERT
COUNTY
— COLORADO —

Summary by Department

FTE by Department		2024
Departments Description		
FTE		
011-OFFICE OF COMMISSIONERS		3.00
012-HUMAN RESOURCES		2.00
015-COUNTY ADMINISTRATION		2.00
017-TECHNOLOGY/IT		4.00
018-AP/PAYROLL		3.00
020-CLERK & RECORDER		11.00
021-COUNTY ATTORNEY		1.00
025-CLERK & RECORDER - ELECTIONS		2.00
030-COUNTY TREASURER		3.00
040-COUNTY ASSESSOR		9.00
080-GROUNDS & BUILDINGS		8.00
211-COUNTY SHERIFF		35.00
212-COUNTY JAIL		18.00
213-COUNTY CORONER		2.00
273-OEM		2.00
278-ENGINEERING		1.00
280-BUILDING DIVISION		8.50
285-PLANNING - LAND USE ADMINISTRATION		6.00
286-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT		2.50
411-HEALTH DEPARTMENT/NURSE		5.75
412-ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH		2.50
415-SOCIAL SERVICES ADMIN		20.50
520-FAIRGROUNDS		2.00
610-STATE EXTENSION SERVICE		3.00
670-VETERAN'S OFFICE		0.50
701-SURVEYOR		1.00
810-RB FINANCE		51.50
820-FLEET		0.00
FTE		216.75

2025 Budgeted FTE's



Summary by Department	
FTE by Department	2025
011-OFFICE OF COMMISSIONERS	4
012-HUMAN RESOURCES	2
015-COUNTY ADMINISTRATION	2
017-TECHNOLOGY/IT	4
018-AP/PAYROLL	3
020-CLERK & RECORDER	11
021-COUNTY ATTORNEY	1
025-CLERK & RECORDER - ELECTIONS	2
030-COUNTY TREASURER	3
040-COUNTY ASSESSOR	9
060-GROUNDS & BUILDINGS	7
211-COUNTY SHERIFF	39
212-COUNTY JAIL	18.5
213-COUNTY CORONER	2
273-OEM	3
280-BUILDING DIVISION	6
285-PLANNING - LAND USE ADMINISTRATION	7
295-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	1
520-FAIRGROUNDS	1
610-STATE EXTENSION SERVICE	3
670-VETERAN'S OFFICE	1
701-SURVEYOR	1
411-HEALTH DEPARTMENT/NURSE	3.5
412-ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	2.5
810-RB FINANCE	55
820-FLEET	6
415-SOCIAL SERVICES ADMIN	21
Allocated FTE Count: Total	218.5

639908 B: 849 P: 46 MM
01/07/2025 03:08:43 PM Page: 15 of 21 R 0.00 D
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Department Requests Approved



- Equipment/Vehicles
 - Facilities: F350 Pickups \$90,000
 - Facilities: Gator w/snowplow \$34,565
 - IT: Vehicle from fleet
 - Fleet: 12 passenger van \$55,000
 - Sheriff's Office: 9 Tahoe's with uplifting \$171,000 annually
 - Road & Bridge: Multiple pieces \$1,400,000

639908 B: 849 P: 46 MM
01/07/2025 03:08:43 PM Page: 16 of 21 R 0.00 D
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Department Requests



- Capital Projects:
 - Sheriff's Office: Interview Room \$50,000
 - Sheriff's Office: Ballistic Shields \$30,000
 - Sheriff's Office: Jail Doors \$55,000
 - Facilities: Admin Building Restrooms \$45,000
 - Facilities: SEB Remodel \$50,000
 - Facilities: New Crows Nest – Main Arena \$65,000

639908 B : 849 P : 46 MM
01/07/2025 03:08:43 PM Page: 17 of 21 R 0.00 D
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Salary/Benefit Changes



- 3% COLA 5% merit
- Benefit Subsidy increase:
 - Additional \$250

639908 B: 849 P: 46 MM
01/07/2025 03:08:43 PM Page: 18 of 21 R 0.00 D
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Fund Balance Summary 12/31/2023



- General Fund – \$16,913,958
- Health Fund - \$494,777
- Road & Bridge - \$1,733,405
- Sales & Use Tax - \$11,672,152
- LEAF - \$386,180
- Human Services - \$1,560,121
- Retirement Fund - \$255,924
- Capital Improvement Fund - \$240,259
- Conservation Trust Fund - \$844,618

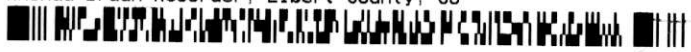
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01/07/2025 03:06:43 PM Page: 19 of 21 R 0.00 D
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Fund Balance Summary 12/31/2024



- General Fund – \$17,499,676
- Health Fund - \$538,155
- Road & Bridge - \$1,747,486
- Sales & Use Tax - \$12,407,291
- LEAF - \$322,572
- Human Services - \$1,732,467
- Retirement Fund - \$416,522
- Capital Improvement Fund - \$237,564
- Conservation Trust Fund - \$601,099

639908 B: 849 P: 46 MM
01/07/2025 03:08:43 PM Page: 20 of 21 R 0.00 D
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QUESTIONS/COMMENTS