

ELBERT COUNTY, COLORADO
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

Regular Meeting Held in the BOCC Meeting Room
July 8, 2026 at 9:00 AM

652443 B: 861 P: 306 MM
07/22/2026 10:59:43 AM Page: 1 of 6 R 0.00 D
Rhonda Braun Recorder, Elbert County, Co



A. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Pastor Buddy Strachan from Kiowa Creek Community Church provided the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The regular meeting was called to order at 9:01 AM. County Clerk Rhonda Braun called the roll.

Dallas Schroeder - Absent

Byron McDaniel - Present

Mike Buck - Present

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Approval of Agenda as presented

Commissioner McDaniel made a motion to Approve the Agenda as presented. Commissioner Buck seconded the motion.

Aye - Byron McDaniel, Mike Buck

Nay - None

D. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Approval of Consent Agenda as presented

Commissioner McDaniel made a motion to Approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Buck seconded the motion.

Aye - Byron McDaniel, Mike Buck

Nay - None

1. Approval of CDS Mylars as needed
2. Approval of Vouchers as needed
3. Approval of June 24, 2026 Meeting Minutes
4. Approval of June 29, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes
5. Approval of CDS Development Projects Report



E. ELECTED OFFICIALS/DEPARTMENT HEADS/STAFF REPORTS

County Clerk Rhonda Braun provided an update on the June 30 Primary Election. Ms. Braun thanked her team and the election judges who assisted with this election. Recognition was given to Monty Hankins, Director of Public Works for his employees that maintain the ballot box off of Singing Hills.

*40% turnout

*9600 votes cast – Unofficial Results – Final results will be available June 20th.

*Deadline to receive ballot cures - July 8, 2026

Communication and Public Affairs Director Wendy Holmes provided a presentation regarding the water resources studies and USGS groundwater studies.

Public Health Director Sara McIntosh – On the Public Health website there is a link to a survey for chronic disease needs assessment being conducted by Elbert County Public Health. There is also a quarterly blood drive today.

Chief Building Officer Tom Blevins provided a presentation to the Commissioners that the building department would like to assume the electrical inspections to keep the revenue in Elbert County versus going to the state.

F. CITIZEN PUBLIC COMMENT

Nate Nohr - Deer Trail

John Hill - Ranchland News

Trent Chapel - Kiowa

G. DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Consideration of Proposed Fee Agreement for Shepherd Solar

County Attorney Lance Ingalls explained that the land use application has not been approved yet for Shepherd Solar. Commissioner Buck has reviewed the agreement and is not yet ready to move forward.

Public Comment - None

2. Consideration of a Resolution Consenting to the Applicability of the Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code Within the Boundaries of Any Fire Protection District Within Unincorporated Elbert County

County Attorney Lance Ingalls explained the resolution to the public and noted it is ready for adoption.

Public Comment - None

Motion: Move Discussion Item G2 to Action Item J2

Commissioner McDaniel made a motion to Move Discussion Item G2 to Action Item J2. Commissioner Buck seconded the motion.

Aye - Byron McDaniel, Mike Buck

Nay - None

3. Consideration of a Resolution for the Abandoned Property Policy

County Attorney Lance Ingalls – This creates a policy for the disposition of abandoned property if the owner cannot be found. The Policy gives authority to Public Works and the Sheriff's Office to handle the abandoned property.

Public Comment - None

652443 B: 861 P: 306 MM
07/22/2026 10:59:43 AM Page: 3 of 6 R 0.00 D
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H. CONVENE AS COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

1. Report on Assessor on Valuation for 2026

Motion: Open as Board of Equalization

Commissioner McDaniel made a motion to open as Board of Equalization. Commissioner Buck seconded the motion.

Aye - Byron McDaniel, Mike Buck

Nay - None

Board of Equalization opened at 9:57 AM

County Assessor Susan Murphy presented the Valuation for 2026 to the Commissioners. Ms. Murphy thanked her team at the Assessor's office for all their hard work.

Commissioner Buck acknowledged receipt of the report.

Motion: Close as Board of Equalization

Commissioner McDaniel made a motion to close as Board of Equalization. Commissioner Buck seconded the motion.

Aye - Byron McDaniel, Mike Buck

Nay - None

Board of Equalization closed at 10:08 AM

I. LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD

1. PUBLIC HEARING — Special Event Liquor Permit for the Elizabeth Celtic Festival

Motion: To Open a Public Hearing for Special Event Liquor Permit for the Elizabeth Celtic Festival

Commissioner McDaniel made a motion to Open a Public Hearing for Special Event Liquor Permit for the Elizabeth Celtic Festival. Commissioner Buck seconded the motion.

Aye - Byron McDaniel, Mike Buck

Nay - None

Public Hearing Opened at 10:09 AM

Executive Admin Assistant Kayleigh Mannering presented the application to the Commissioners. The festival will be on July 18, 2026 from 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM and July 19, 2026 from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Staff recommends approval.

Public Comment - None

Motion: Approve Special Event Liquor Permit for the Elizabeth Celtic Festival

Commissioner McDaniel made a motion to Approve Special Event Liquor Permit for the Elizabeth Celtic Festival. Commissioner Buck seconded the motion.

Aye - Byron McDaniel, Mike Buck
Nay - None

Motion: To Close a Public Hearing for Special Event Liquor Permit for the Elizabeth Celtic Festival

Commissioner McDaniel made a motion to Close a Public Hearing for Special Event Liquor Permit for the Elizabeth Celtic Festival. Commissioner Buck seconded the motion.

Aye - Byron McDaniel, Mike Buck
Nay - None

Public Hearing Closed at 10:10 AM

J. ACTION ITEMS

1. Consideration of Appointment of H. Benjamin Duke III to the Noxious Weed Advisory Board

Commissioner Buck commented that Mr. Duke has a very strong resume and the BOCC received a letter of recommendation from the current chairman.

Public Comment - None

Motion: Accept Appointment of H. Benjamin Duke III to the Noxious Weed Advisory Board

Commissioner McDaniel made a motion to Accept Appointment of H. Benjamin Duke III to the Noxious Weed Advisory Board. Commissioner Buck seconded the motion.

Aye - Byron McDaniel, Mike Buck
Nay - None

K. BOARD PLANNING

1. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

None

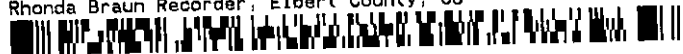
2. Workshops/Study Sessions

- A) July 15, 2026 at 10:00 AM in the BOCC with Fire Districts
- B) July 15, 2026 at 1:00 PM in the BOCC with Willdan
- C) July 16, 2026 at 2:00 PM in the BOCC for discussion on solar facilities

3. Pending Hearings

None

652443 B: 861 P: 306 MM
07/22/2026 10:59:43 AM Page: 5 of 6 R 0.00 D
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L. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

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

- 1. None scheduled

N. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To Adjourn

Commissioner McDaniel made a motion to Adjourn. Commissioner Buck seconded the motion.

Aye - Byron McDaniel, Mike Buck

Nay - None

The meeting Adjourned at 10:13 AM

NOTICE:

Meeting minutes will be formatted as Action Minutes and summarize actions taken at the meeting. The full audio/video and agenda packet is available at <https://www.elbertcounty-co.gov>



(This signature page relates to Board of County Commissioners Meeting Minutes, dated July 22, 2026, and is incorporated into the Meeting Minutes.)

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ELBERT COUNTY, COLORADO

Mike Buck, CHAIR, COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 1

Dallas Schroeder, COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 2

Byron McDaniel, VICE CHAIR, COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 3

Attest: Rhonda Braun

COUNTY CLERK

By:

CLERK TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS