

Minutes of the Commission Meeting of the Board of Commissioners, Carbon County, State of Utah, held Wednesday, June 18, 2025 in the Commission Room of the Administration Building, Price, Utah, commencing at 4:30 p.m.

Those present: Tony Martines, Commission Chair
Larry Jensen, Commissioner
Jared Haddock, Commissioner

Also present: Dominique Kiahtipes, Chief Deputy County Attorney
Geni Hawk, Commission Secretary
Seth Marsing, Clerk/Auditor
Lori Perez, Chief Deputy Clerk, Excused
Kellie Payne, HR Director
Jeff Wood, Sheriff

1) **Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Haddock made a motion to approve the June 4, 2025 Commission Meeting minutes. Commissioner Jensen seconded. Motion carried.

2) **Open sealed bids for Asphalt Preservation Contract – Daniel Luke**

Seth said five bids were received. Daniel Luke said each of the bids should have a price per ton.

Bonneville Asphalt & Repair - Crack seal is \$1,600 per ton; GAP Mastic and Patch is \$1,900 per ton. Mobilization cost and traffic control cost are added to the cost, we will look at this closer.

Superior Asphalt – NUVO-CS B is \$1,578 per ton, GAP Mastic \$1,948 per ton, GAP Patch \$1,458 per ton

Asphalt Preservation – NUVO-CS B is \$1,720 per ton, GAP Mastic \$1,025 per ton, GAP Patch \$695 per ton

CKC Operations – NUVO-CS B is \$3,700 per ton, and their price is the same for GAP Mastic and GAP Patch

Paradigm Asphalt Experts - Crack seal is \$3,256 per ton, GAP Mastic \$3,335 per ton, GAP Patch \$2,823 per ton

Commissioner Martines asked Daniel to explain the usage of these products.

Daniel said the County has their own crack seal machines. With the other road repair work being done, they are not able to cover the number of miles that are needed to be covered each year for sealing cracks. This is an effort to supplement the Road Shop's efforts and bring in extra help to stop the deterioration of our roads. The Gap Mastic and Gap Patch are a heavier product. They are used for pot holes but we do not have kettles to apply those and have rented those in the past. These companies can provide this as well. This is a much-needed repair. If there is only one repair effort we can do, we should seal cracks in roads. This is the best thing for our buck.

Commissioner Jensen made a motion to acknowledge the bids from these five companies and allow Daniel and John Rich to review them and make a recommendation and come back. Commissioner Haddock seconded. Motion carried.

3) **Open sealed bids for Search and Rescue Snowmobiles – Sheriff Wood**

Seth said we have received two bids:

Young Powersports – 2025 Skidoo Summit \$15,500

2025 Skidoo Summit \$15,500
with a \$500 set up

One Nation Distribution – two identical machines - New Polaris 850 \$15,989 for a total of \$31,978 there is no set up price

Sheriff Wood said this is part of the OHV grant that we applied for and received.

Commissioner Haddock made a motion to acknowledge the two bids that have been provided and allow Sheriff Wood to make the decision. Commissioner Jensen seconded. Motion carried.

4) **Report on 2025 Carbon County Fair and Black Diamond Rodeo – Barry Horsley & Kourtney Cox**

Kourtney introduced the Carbon County Fair and Rodeo Committee. The Fair Committee was Alex Peczuh, Aubrey Kirkwood, Isabelle Cenicerros, Alyssa Rowlette, Kristi Wilson, Autumn Blackner, JoVarner, Christine Johnson, Kirk McArthur and Steve Price. The Rodeo Committee was TJ Robertson, Jen Robertson, Dan Hamilton and Diane Randall. There were others who helped but this is the core crew. It was an incredible event. (Fair and Rodeo Directors – Kourtney Cox and Barry Hosley.)

Barry said this large group of people is the core group that made the Fair and Rodeo happen. Kourtney thanked the commissioners, County staff, the volunteers and the community for their support. We owe our success this year to the community pride and to the team work of this crew. It came down to wanting to create and continue with the tradition of our community. That is why things were brought back like the “Battle of the Bands”, “coal shoveling competition” and the other traditional events.

The attendance increased by 25% and the advertising on social media reached 250,000 people. There was an increase in vendors, the open class exhibits doubled and the car show grew in size. The animal barn was a huge success and was packed. The Kids Korner and the First Responder Friday were both very popular.

The Black Diamond Rodeo came back this year and was a huge success. Friday night attendance was lighter but Saturday was full. The “Tough Enough to Wear Pink Night” and the “Salute to Service Night” were both well received. The PRCA (Pro Rodeo) event went well and the feedback was positive about the event and the facility.

Barry said he wanted to reach out to the public for their great support. The sponsors were awesome. The local businesses reached out to help and put forth funds to make this happen. This helped with the funding from the County. With the help from Tourism we not only saw local support but also from out of the area including, Sanpete, Emery, Utah and the Basin Counties and as far away as the States of Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, California and Idaho. It was a very successful event with a lot of nostalgia.

Kellie Payne, HR Director, wanted to thank the committees, the volunteers and especially Kourtney and Barry for making the event happen. It was an amazing event and she was happy to be a volunteer.

Kourtney said every year someone is recognized as an MVP of the County Fair. This year the award goes to Kirk McArthur who called her to volunteer. Kirk helped to not only coordinate the Animal Barn, enhancing the experience for the exhibitors as well as the visitors but also helped in others areas including the rodeo setups and operations, mutton busting by providing the sheep, and doing a lot of the prep work of the facility and the rodeo grounds. He is committed to making the County Fair bigger and better every year. He has a positive attitude and is an invaluable asset to our committees. His dedication goes far beyond this and his work with the Road Department. It includes the heart he puts into it. Kirk was presented as the MVP of the County Fair.

Commissioner Haddock thanked Kirk and the committee for putting on such a great event. There is so much work that goes on behind the scenes. There were a lot of outside visitors in the area who were here researching the possibility of locating here. Having this event going on at the same time really put the standard over the top.

Kourtney said they are already planning for next year. The committees have already met and are talking about what can be done better and how to make it bigger. This year was incredible. We are very proud of what we

were able to produce for the community. We would like to invite any community members to engage with the Fair and Rodeo committees. If you have any ideas or things you would like to see or any constructive feedback, they are open to that. She thanked the Commission for their support in allowing this event to happen.

Commissioner Martines moved down to Agenda Item #9 while photographs were taken of the committees.

5) **Consideration and possible approval of Intellichoice DBA Eforce Software Category B License and Service Agreement – Barry Horsley**

Barry said this agreement is for new software changes in the Sheriff's Office. They have changed from Eforce to Motorola Flex. However, we have a need to continue the Eforce software but we do not need full support. Eforce has offered a discounted contract in order to keep the software running. The contract has been cut in half but this will allow us to maintain the data.

Commissioner Martines asked if this is a one-time fee and then an annual fee. Barry said this will be an annual contract cut from \$17,000 to \$8,000. This will only run for a couple of years until the rest of the data is ready.

Commissioner Haddock made a motion to approve Intellichoice DBA Eforce Software Category B License and Service agreement. Commissioner Jensen seconded. Motion carried.

6) **Consideration and possible approval of Utah Criminal Justice Information Policies – Barry Horsley**

Barry said we have a partnership with the Utah Criminal Justice agency and they require our participating agencies, the Sheriff's Office, Attorney's Office, Justice Court and the Ambulance, to have their employees go through background checks and maintain certain securities. IT also has requirements to maintain securities on the network, the infrastructure, the computers and the physical infrastructures. By doing so, they require that we have policies in place to ensure that we are doing these things. There are a number of IT policies to meet the distinct requirements.

Barry listed these policies and explained each:

- Carbon County Access Control Policy
- Carbon County Incident Response Policy
- Carbon County Mobile Device Management Policy
- Carbon County Patch Management Policy
- Carbon County Physical Protection Policy
- Carbon County Personally Identifiable Information Policy
- Carbon County Remote Access Policy
- Carbon County Security Awareness Training Policy

Commissioner Martines asked if the Utah Association of Counties have any involvement with this. Barry said other counties are also doing this and UAC has been involved with information and asking how the counties are going to handle it. They want all of the counties to be on the same page. Commissioner Haddock said these are required by the State in order to be in compliance.

Commissioner Haddock made a motion to approve the Utah Criminal Justice Information Policies as outlined. Commissioner Jensen seconded. Motion carried.

7) **Consideration and possible approval to renew the Prickly Pear Application for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) – Barry Horsely**

Barry said this is a renewal lease application. We currently have a communications site on top of Prickly Pear Ridge. This lease has expired with the BLM and we have chosen to renew that lease. There are no changes being made to the site, no construction. This is just a renewal of the current lease.

Commissioner Jensen made a motion to approve the renewal of the Prickly Pear Communication Lease with the Bureau of Land Management. Commissioner Haddock seconded. Motion carried.

8) **Review and possible approval of an agreement with Utah Communications Authority (UCA) for BeOn Radio Application Usage – Barry Horsley**

Barry said this is an agreement with Utah Communications Authority who is the quasi department for communications for the State of Utah. The radios we have purchased in conjunctions with UCA have the ability to use Wi-Fi communications as their tower. As officers go into buildings that don't have good communication with the radio tower, but they have the ability to connect into the Wi-Fi signal in order to transmit to dispatch. This will be great for the SRO officers at the schools and other spots that have sketchy signals. There will be a few administrative personnel who will have the app on their phones to allow them to connect to the radio infrastructure as well.

Commissioner Haddock made a motion to approve the agreement with Utah Communication Authority for BeOn Radio Application Usage. Commissioner Jensen seconded. Motion carried.

9) **Consideration and possible approval of changes to vacation accruals/payouts per Carbon County Policies and Procedures – Kellie Payne**

Kellie said we are making changes to our vacation accruals. Prior to this, if you were within your start date to your fifth year, you were accruing 6.66 hours of vacation time. We are changing that to eight hours per month and then scaling that up. This will now be labeled in our policy showing each level for 30, 32, 35 and 40-hour employees. We do not have any 30-hour employees who are benefitted, we only have 32, 35 and 40-hour employees but it will be a guide through years of service.

Another change made is upon termination your years of service will be paid out differently. Depending on how many years of service you have with the County, you will be paid back. For example, if you have 0-5 years of service you will be paid 25% of your accrued time. It is also based off of the annual accrual maximum. These changes, if approved, will become effective on July 1, 2025.

Commissioner Jensen made a motion to approve the Changes to Vacation Accruals/Payouts per Carbon County Policies and Procedures. Commissioner Haddock seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Martines returned to Agenda Item #5.

10) **County Assessor Update – Amy Schmidt-Peterson**

Amy gave an update from the Assessor's Office. The Tax Role was completed on May 22. This means that all taxable properties were valued in the County. Clean up of the commercial properties has started and property values were equalized with the help of the Utah Association of Counties.

Land records for all non-commercial properties were reviewed and property characteristics were assigned according to the defined characteristics for vacant and improved lots. Clean up of building characteristics has begun and the addition of new residential buildings was completed for 2025.

For personal properties such as mobile homes and business accounts, they have all been assessed and most have paid their respected amounts. The due date is July 31, 2025. Thereafter, interest will be applied to outstanding amounts. They are at the end of updating personal property business accounts and are ready to send out tax notices.

They are continuing with training. The appraisal training has been completed for three of the four staff members. The fourth staff member will start shortly. Instruction on evaluating property will begin for the upcoming Board of Equalization. Valuation notices will go out at the end of July and any appeals are due by September 15, 2025 by State Code and it is a hard deadline.

Plans for this year is to focus on property characteristics and to review properties in and around Price City. They are planning on having the whole county reviewed in three years.

Commissioner Martines said he appreciates the update and would like everyone to watch for their property tax disclosures in July. The September 15th appeal deadline is a hard date. If you have a question about an obvious

error, it will be fixed. If you just don't like your value, that will be a little tough. He appreciates the training that is happening and for the office being more involved.

Amy invited the public to come and talk to her office if they see any errors or have questions.

11) Consideration and possible approval of appointing Keven Ewell to sit on the Multi-County Appraisal Trust (MCAT) Board – Amy Schmidt-Peterson

Keven said he has sat on the Appraisal Licensing and Certification Board for the last eight years and his term is coming up in July. He would be happy to sit on this board again.

Commissioner Jensen said this board consists of representatives from each of the counties who use the PUMA program for the assessing effort. Barry Horsley has been serving on this board but Keven would be a better fit.

Keven said this is where we have the opportunity to improve the program that we use on a daily basis. We attend conferences a few times a year where all of the representatives meet. We attended one in May which was very beneficial. We are looking at cleaning up some things involving new growth and allow the State to handle that more consistently.

Commissioner Jensen made a motion to approve appointing Keven Ewell to sit on the Multi-County Appraisal Trust Board. Commissioner Haddock seconded. Motion carried.

12) Utah Forestry, Fire and State Lands update for 2025 – Jeramy Jorgensen, County Fire Warden

Jeramy said he is the Fire Warden for Forestry, Fire and State Lands in Carbon and Emery Counties. He went over events that are coming up this year.

They have a spring fire management meeting every year where everyone involved meets for two or three days. The Predictive Services, which is the weather program for the Great Basin, came and presented the outlook for this year's fire season. They are forecasting a normal to above normal fire season for wildland fire. There is a lot of grass in the valleys from the winter two years ago that is prime to burn. Higher elevations are still wet and green. As the summer progresses and these areas dry out, they anticipate some fires in the higher elevations.

They are predicting an early monsoon season, beginning the end of June, first of July. Paul Bedont came back and is the assistant fire warden until the end of October. He is available and on call 24/7. If you do not have his contact information let Jeramy know.

Fire restrictions are beginning a month earlier than last year because of how dry it is. Watch for more information in the near future. If we do go into fire restriction the commission will be involved in the conversation.

There are three helicopters available to the Utah Forestry, Fire and State Lands. These helicopters vary in size and usage. They are a great tool to have for the State of Utah.

Carbon County has a total of fifty-three red card fire fighters who have gone through the certification courses in order to be able to fight wildland fires. Concerning equipment, there is one State fire engine that is staffed by Jeramy and Paul, one forest service engine that is staffed and two BLM fire engines that are fully staffed.

Helper Fire Department just received a title four engine, which is a bigger engine that holds more water and is specifically designed for wildland fire fighting. Jeramy explained where and how this engine came to Helper City. There was no cost for the engine.

Burn permits will be issued from June 1 to October 31. Applications can be placed online now.

The first fire this year was in January and was a 3 ½ acre fire in Price Canyon started by the railroad. That has been the biggest fire so far this year in Carbon County. Many of the fires have been caused by humans and on private land.

Jeremy talked about what funding has been spent over the last seven years, new legislation and how it will work. More information will be forthcoming concerning this and how it will work with the County.

June 17th at 2:30 p.m. was the first red flag warning due to high winds and low relative humidity. This will be in effect until Saturday at midnight. No burn permits will be issued between now and Saturday. We need to hope that no fires are started in the next few days. San Juan County has already had two wildfires.

The CWS program will begin and he and Paul have been driving around looking for places where they can do fuel reduction work with Justin Needles, since he is the one who is over this for the County. They will want to meet with the commissioner over fires for a signature on the PC commitment for these projects.

He asked if anyone had any questions. The Commissioners thanked him for his service.

13) Consideration and possible approval of Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant – Shelley Wright

Shelley said she has once again applied for the VOCA grant. She has been awarded the grant and has to do some revisions. She was cut approximately \$13,000 from what she received last year. She has some one-time funding from the Children's Justice Center State grant that will help carry her through until the first quarter and then the grant will fund the rest.

She will resubmit the revisions and the grant will be finalized and if approved, she will be back for signatures. This funding supports the trauma therapist who sees up to twenty-five children each quarter, which serves about two hundred children a year.

Commissioner Martines said this is a grant and it is not on firm footing right now. Hopefully Shelley gets what she has requested. They have a meeting about this on June 23. He appreciates Shelley's efforts to try and keep money flowing through the facility and operating as it should. Shelley thanked them for their support.

Commissioner Haddock made a motion to approve the Victim of Crime Act grant. Commissioner Jensen seconded. Motion carried.

Shelley included that the award is for \$111,264.31. Her current funding is about \$123,000 to \$124,000.

14) Consideration and possible approval of State Grant – Denna Fausett

Dena said she applied for the State grant and was approved for \$43,822.20. This is the amount that she requested last year. She was not allowed to request any increases. She explained how she adjusted her budget to cover various expenses. For July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, she kept the budget the same by decreasing her training and travel budget and increasing her supplies because the VS Tracking rates go up each year. The grant was approved with the only requirement being a new travel policy because of the increased rate.

Commissioner Jensen made a motion to approve the State Grant for Denna. Commissioner Haddock seconded. Motion carried. The commissioners thanked Denna for her efforts.

15) Consideration and possible approval of Cooperative Agreement between Carbon County and Utah State University Eastern for heavy equipment and trucking student projects

Larry Johansen, Utah State University, said Utah State University Eastern has a heavy equipment and trucking program where people are trained to operate heavy equipment such as backhoes, graders, loaders, trucks with dump trailers and dump trucks. They want to sign an agreement with the County to use their properties to allow students to practice moving dirt. This will help to improve County facilities and partner with the University to train people for jobs. They are a job ready program where students coming out of the program have a job waiting for them. Students can either use that new job to further their education or use it as a career.

They are asking to use areas at the Fairgrounds and around the landfill and on other properties the County owns to dig trenches, backfill them, grading and other random dirt work.

Commissioner Martines said this is a great opportunity for students to learn and have a different area to practice. This will allow work to be done that the County can't get to. The University has already done a few things for the County and we appreciate the effort.

Commissioner Jensen said this is a great partnership. The University can use their machines and it is a bonus for the County. This would be a coordination between Barry Horsley, the maintenance supervisor and Daniel Luke, the director of the Road Department.

Commissioner Haddock made the motion to approve the cooperative agreement between Carbon County and Utah State University Eastern for heavy equipment and trucking student projects. Commissioner Jensen seconded. Motion carried.

16) Consideration and possible approval to apply for the Emergency Management Performance Grant and the State Homeland Security Program Grant – Justin Needles

Justin said he does not have any documentation for the commissioners concerning these grants. This funding comes from FEMA and they are currently in disarray. Our contacts at the State say they anticipate the same due date which is June 30, even though Justin has not seen any notice of funding opportunities. The rumors are that they are going to keep the funding the same.

The Emergency Management Performance Grant is a 50/50 grant. Last year we received \$45,000 and we matched it with \$45,000. That match is Justin's salary. He is looking for approval to apply for this grant if he sees the notice of funding in the next two weeks.

The State Homeland Security Grant is a 100% grant. Last year we received \$120,000. This year we are anticipating \$132,000 if everything stays the same. This supports our Hazmat and Search and Rescue Teams, maintenance at the command post. If we do not hear anything, they assume the deadline would be extended.

Commissioner Jensen made a motion to approve for Justin to apply for the Emergency Management Performance Grant and the State Homeland Security Program Grant. Commissioner Haddock seconded. Motion carried.

Justin said if he receives the paperwork he will bring it in for signatures.

17) Review and possible approval of Certified Tax Rate – Seth Marsing

Seth said every year we go through a process in June and July where the Assessor's Office finalizes their tax roll and we input values into the State website for tax rates. They calculate the rates for us based on the budget for each entity and the total taxable value for each entity. This gives us the rates so that each entity's budget works. Before that process is finalized, we have to bring it before a public meeting.

The County has five different rates that we are over. One is the multi-county assessing and collecting which the State controls but require that we review it. The other four are the General Fund for \$5,421,377 with a rate of .002437, the County Health Levy, most of this funding goes to the Health Department, for \$264,729 and the rate is .000119. The third fund is the County Assessing & Collecting Levy which is mainly used to fund the Auditor's, the Assessor's, the Recorder's, the Treasurer's Office and the Assessing and Collecting requirements. The budget for this levy is \$941,955 and the rate is .000407. The last one is the Municipal Services Levy which goes into Fund 20 to fund the Road Shop, Sheriff's Department, Building Department etc. The revenue for this levy is \$2,568,025 and the tax rate is .002056.

Our total taxable value for the County stayed nearly the same as it was last year. There were some areas with small increases and there are some adjustments made to the tax rate based on our previous year's board of equalization. Our rates have gone up a little bit because our values have gone down a little bit.

Last year we took lower than the certified rate which is rare for any entity to do because we lose part of our revenue for the year and any year going forward. We gave up \$70,000 in our General Fund and \$40,000 in the Municipal Services Fund. This year we received a little bit of new growth and received \$50,000 in the General

Fund and \$25,000 in the Municipal Fund. Even with the new growth our revenue is still less than what our budget revenue could have been if we had approved our certified rates.

The way the tax rates are set up, each entity is supposed to be made whole year over year, meaning they can count on the same budget revenue that they received the previous year. The only way that increases is if the entity goes through Truth in Taxation and the process to increase their budget and increases the taxes. We have not done this for several years and have no plans to do so as it stands. The only other way that a budget for an entity increases is if there is new growth, new buildings built or if subdivisions are created. There has been a little bit of that in our area and that is where the increase in budget has come from. Outside of that the budget is the same year over year for the tax revenue.

Commissioner Martines said he appreciates the information. The Commission is not raising taxes and has no plans to raise taxes. There are adjustments done annually by the State. We do not want people to get confused with a tax increase. The commission has no plans to increase taxes.

Commissioner Haddock said the commissioners have been working hard with Seth to find solutions. The future looks good for some of the projects which is why we have been working so hard on economic development.

Commissioner Jensen made a motion to approve the certified tax rates as they were presented. Commissioner Haddock seconded. Motion carried.

18) Update on Carbon County Drone Program and its impact in saving lives in Carbon County – Sheriff Wood

Sheriff Wood said he wanted to give an update on the Drone Program. We started the process for a Drone Program a year ago. The first thing done was to identify what the needs would be, how many potential pilots we would have and how would we get them trained. We partnered with the Utah State University Eastern Drone Program and had them host a three-day training and invited anyone who wanted to attend. We had several deputies attend.

The purpose of the training is to give the officers a basic knowledge of drones, the opportunity to fly drones, to figure out the legality of flying drones and prepare them for the 107 Certification test. The 107 Certification is required for government use of drones and it basically lets them use drones in areas where recreational drones may not be used. It is a hard test to take.

This has been completed and we currently have four 107 Certified pilots. Once this was done, we looked at finding ways to fund the drones. We looked at grants and hard funds in the budget. We found a way through our alcohol funding that we get for alcohol enforcement. We were able to purchase four drones with this funding. The drones arrived on March 11. With the four certified pilots we purchased four drones. We have three that are large outdoor drones with 640 T thermal cameras and one DGI little drone that is used to clear buildings, it is an inside drone. It is very fast and very maneuverable.

Three of the pilots carry the large drones on their routine patrols. The small drone will be used by the SWAT team as needed inside buildings. Since March 11 we have had ten incidents where we have deployed our drones. Keep in mind that they have been deployed for training but these are for actual incidents. The incidents vary from missing hikers in Nine Mile Canyon to missing cattle near East Carbon. There has been a train accident, a missing female from out of the State on a UTV, searches for fugitives, armed subjects involved in high speed chases and this week the drones were involved in capturing an escapee in East Carbon. Excellent work was done by the drone crew to locate him and take him safely into custody.

One situation was an armed subject in Kenilworth on Friday. Price City had an incident occur the day before and were looking for the subject who was wanted for aggravated kidnapping and assault. The Sheriff's Office had been looking for him with their drones. One of the deputy's found him in a remote area near the mountains by Kenilworth. A plan was developed to take him into custody. The drones were in the air for nearly three hours with constant surveillance. This person was not willing to be taken alive and he was not going to spare law enforcement lives in the process. He was heavily armed with a rifle and excessive amounts of ammunition.

The drones gave them the opportunity to safely watch from a distance and contain him in a safe area away from any towns or events.

The plan they came up with was to borrow the Bear Cat from Utah County, which is an armored vehicle. Utah County brought down two vehicles along with SWAT support to go along with ours and we were able to take the individual into custody without the individual hurting himself or anyone else. It was amazing.

De-escalation training has become a very big part of this process. Sheriff Wood related a similar incident on the East Coast where drones were used to apprehend a person. We now have this ability locally.

We have other deputies that have now gone through the training but have not taken the test yet. Once we get a pilot at the jail, Sheriff Wood wants to invest in another drone for daily patrols of the perimeter and be able to check the courthouse. This will give officers one more set of eyes on things for the safety of staff and our buildings. Drone programs are pretty awesome. He asked if the commissioners had any questions.

Commissioner Jensen said it is sad that some people frowned on the idea of drones. In reality they are well thought out, needed and helpful in saving lives.

Sheriff Wood said a database is used to keep track of our drone paths and when they are used. They have a way to know when the drones are being used for training or on a mission. They are strictly for Sheriff's Office use. They are not used for anything else.

Commissioner Martines said social media was alive and well on Friday during the incident. Sheriff Wood said there was some misinformation on social media which made dealing with the event more challenging.

Commissioner Haddock thanked Sheriff Wood for embracing technology to fight crime. This is essential to find ways to adapt. The event in Kenilworth could have been catastrophic for our area.

Sheriff Wood said when we are working on a critical incident or a high-risk situation everyone is viewing technology including the bad guy. When people start posting on social media with videos and asking questions on local chat sites, the bad guy is also monitoring that. If we have an armored vehicle come into town, we are not going to post that because then you lose the element of surprise. The Sheriff's Office is very diligent in letting the public know about things when it is safe to do so. An active shooter definition is "someone who is actively engaging with a firearm with the intent to harm civilians within the public". This means they are firing rounds in the public. That is the definition of an active shooter. This incident was not that. We have not had an active shooter in our County and hope we never do. We want people to be more cautious about what they put out on social media. Also, the ability to see what is happening. Please do not put yourself or our local deputies in harms way by coming to look at the incident while it is happening.

Commissioner Jensen said we need to trust law enforcement. If there was an issue at the Fair or anywhere in town, we would have been notified to shelter in place or something like that. Social media caused some real problems and people should be more willing to trust law enforcement and know that they would get the word out.

Sheriff Wood said you would know from your own technology. There are ways to let people know in specific areas by geography, like in a specific neighborhood. There were no people in this area and the roads were blocked off. Everything was secured. There was no need to panic the public or alerting them where the incident was happening because people would want to come and look and put themselves in harms way. We also get good hearted folks who want to help but they do not realize that law enforcement is okay and do not need any help.

The Sheriff's office is grateful for the new drone program. Our deputies have one more layer of safety.

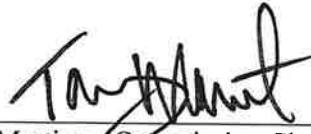
19) Consideration and possible approval of Larry Jensen as the Carbon County Commission Chair beginning July 1, 2025

Commissioner Haddock made a motion to approve Commissioner Larry Jensen as the Carbon County Commission Chair beginning July 1, 2025. Commissioner Martines stepped down and seconded. Motion carried.

20) Review of Department Reports

Commissioner Jensen made a motion to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 5:49 p.m.



Tony Martines, Commission Chair
Carbon County Commission

ATTEST:



Seth Marsing, County Clerk/Auditor

