

Minutes of the Commission Meeting of the Board of Commissioners, Carbon County, State of Utah, held Wednesday, February 18, 2026 in the Commission Room of the Administration Building, Price, Utah, commencing at 4:30 p.m.

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

Also present: Lyn Hansen, Deputy Attorney
Geni Hawk, Commission Secretary
Seth Marsing, Clerk/Auditor
Lori Perez, Chief Deputy Clerk
Kellie Payne, HR Director
Adam Cox, Deputy

Commissioner Haddock welcomed everyone to the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1) **Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Martines made a motion to approve the February 4, 2026 Commission Meeting minutes. Commissioner Jensen seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Haddock allowed time for an informational update from Commissioner Martines:

Commissioner Martines said Sunday there was a historic moment where a nuclear reactor was transported from California to Hill Airforce Base and then to Orangeville. Commissioners Jensen and Martines were in attendance. This is advanced nuclear and it is very safe. This is a very small prototype that was transported to the Orangeville test facility. This is the first of three prototypes that will be coming. We are studying new technology and developing it here. The federal government is fast tracking ten companies to develop energy technology.

Many dignitaries were in attendance including Governor Cox, the Secretary of Energy, the War Department and Senator John Curtis. This new technology will be a highlight for this community. We have seen coal transform to gas and oil, solar developed and now the possibility of nuclear. We are an energy community. This compliments us going forward for the next generation. This is not the gloom and doom nuclear, this is a whole new thing. It was interesting to watch the delivery of the reactor and he can't wait to share more.

Commissioner Jensen said they visited Orangeville today and they already have the unit set in place. It came in on three C17 cargo planes along with fifty or more employees. This is a big deal for Carbon County. As the testing goes along it will confirm the process. He is excited to watch this unfold.

Commissioner Haddock thanked the commissioners for the update. We do need to think about energy for the future.

2) **Carbon County Heart and Character award – McKenna Terry**

McKenna said this award is sponsored by the Care Coalition of Carbon County and presented by the Commissioners. She has been working with Commissioner Haddock to make this possible. This award will honor someone in the community who is making an impact by their small and simple acts of kindness, integrity and honesty. The community will be able to nominate anyone from Carbon County. You can make nominations through the Care Coalition website which is: careforcarbon.org. Anyone can make a submission which asks for their nomination and why they feel this person deserves this award. There is a list of criteria on the web page.

The reason for this award is because the Care Coalition believes in social development strategy. Which means, if you provide people with opportunities to serve and gain skills then they should be rewarded. This will hopefully help our entire community to be kinder, to volunteer more and provide more opportunities for our youth and adults.

Commissioner Haddock said we have four recipients today. He invited them to come to the microphone.

Jimmy and Heidi Jewkes (Carbon High School Track coaches) – Derek said when they heard about this award they were excited because there is no one more deserving than Jimmy and Heidi Jewkes. They have the drive to offer opportunities for our disabled youth or for anyone with reasons that hold them back from competition with others. The program that Jimmy and Heidi have created over the years is wonderful for the whole team. They were thanked for all of their efforts. They were presented with the award.

Telisse Martak and Christy Engar (Carbon High School Cross Country coaches) – Christy was unable to be in attendance. Page Haddock said Telisse and Christy are most worthy of this Heart and Character award because they have given their hearts to their athletes. They are far more than just coaches. They end up being the support, friends, cheerleaders and advocates for their athletes. They attend weddings, mission farewells and other life changing events that occur long after their runners have graduated. They will never know how much they mean to the life of a child. They see the child's ability instead of a disability. In the past, they held a Cross Country Team Run in support of one student who needed a very serious surgery. When this student was old enough to join the team, they gave her freedom from her disability and helped her to run and participate in a way that edified her and everyone else. These ladies are the heart of building character and resilience in all of the athletes they coach. Telisse was presented the award for both coaches.

Commissioner Haddock said these are all life changing coaches and we appreciate them.

3) **Statewide recognition of Carbon County Office of Tourism's Tina Grange**

Commissioner Jensen said this recognition has been issued by the State of Utah. He read a statement from the State. Tina was honored with the Independent Inaugural Film Ready Utah Pioneer Award for her leadership and education to advance film ready initiatives in Carbon County. The statement said that Tina is the best and a force to be reckoned with. She has created great opportunities for film in Carbon County. She is bringing awareness to the area. She cannot be thanked enough.

Commissioner Jensen said this is the special award that Tina received a few weeks ago and we wanted to let the public know. We have had several films shot here and Tina has been involved with all of the logistics.

Tina said she appreciates this award but there are so many other people to thank. She does not do this by herself. When this started she did not know where to start. The Utah Film Commission has helped her. The commissioners have also helped find filming locations. At one point a cow was needed. She said most of the filming is done in Helper. She wanted to thank Mark Montoya who has been a wonderful liaison. She has reached out to many in order to find filming locations. Along with Mark she thanked Mayor Peterman, the commission, Frank Peczuh, a local photographer she uses, the Mayor of East Carbon and everyone involved.

She is very honored. She was awarded at the same time as Grand County, Kanab and Zion who all have been involved with the film commission in bringing in billions of dollars into their communities. She wanted to give a shout out to everyone who helps them do this. She has spent extra hours creating a data base of information for film crews. When they need something, she knows where to find it. Tina does make the phone calls but there are a lot of people behind the scenes, getting it done. She thanked all.

4) **Recognition of Kari Richardson – Utah Main Street Outstanding Volunteer Award – Megan Marshall**

Megan Marshall is representing the Price Downtown District today. The Downtown District focuses on improving main street. They support local businesses with resources, grants and beautification efforts for the down town area in order to bring in more foot traffic through events and partnerships. They are also part of the Utah Main Street program who partners with the State Historic Preservation office. Every year the Preservation office puts on a ceremony to award different entities from around the State for various outstanding activities. The Price Downtown District Committee jumped at this opportunity to nominate locals.

They nominated Kari Richardson from Apple Country Home. Kari was recognized and awarded for the State of Utah's Most Outstanding Volunteer for 2025. Kari has been a downtown business owner for twenty-three

years. She has been involved in many events including Witches Night Out, Hearts on Main and Main Street Mash. These events bring foot traffic and business to Main Street.

Kari thanked everyone for the award and noted that other business owners help and participate in the activities. She is grateful for all of them. They are hoping to do more projects in the future.

5) **Carbon High School Rodeo Club Presentation– Kadie Nielson**

Mattie is the Carbon High Rodeo Club president. She asked that the extra fees be waived for the use of the rodeo grounds and arena or that a donation be made to cover these costs. They understand that a lot of the costs are being removed because they are a non-profit organization. The extra fees such as labor and for the operator of the tractor plus the panel fees, are a struggle for their club to pay. In the last three years they have gone at least \$800 over their budget. The County thinks they will need eight hours of tractor and 130 panels which will cost them \$1,080 plus the \$500 deposit which they realize they will get back. They actually need 220 panels which will increase the payment to \$1,440 and they could possibly need more hours of tractor time because they are bringing in more events.

This event brings in at least 400 contestants plus family members. All of these people spend money on fuel, food, and hotel rooms while they are here. They are returning money to the community with their two-night event.

Commissioner Haddock asked how they are doing this year. Kadie Nielson said they have five members who are currently in the top ten in the State. Over the past five years they have sent one or more members to compete on the national level. We are promoting these kids to set them on their journey.

Kadie Nielson, who is the adult secretary of the club, explained why they are a Rodeo Club. They are deemed as a club because if they were a team, fee waivers would be involved and the school would have to pay for the necessary equipment, animals and travel expenses. It has always been a club. Utah has put a law in place to help rodeo kids who now qualify for school activity excuses when they are gone. These kids have to maintain the same standards as any other student involved in school activities. But they do not get the help for fees or costs.

Commissioner Haddock asked if they understand the reason for the \$4.00 fee per panel. Kadie said the way it was explained to her is that they are covering the cost of the wage for the tractor driver and the \$4.00 fee for panels is to cover the cost to replace them if they are damaged. They are willing to sign something stating that they would cover the cost if any of the panels were damaged. The contestants bring their own livestock, such as three or four horses a piece, and the panels are used to create stalls in the inside barn for contestants to use while they are here. They also use the panels to split the arena into two areas because they have such a high number of contestants and they are trying to run the events efficiently. The State asks for this.

Commissioner Haddock said he appreciates what they are doing and the people brought to the area. The Recreation Department can run short in their budget because they give so many things away. They probably could not waive all of the fees because then they would not have funding to cover the damages that could happen. Sometimes, it is just wear and tear of equipment and usage over time. Commissioner Haddock asked how much the panels cost? Kadie said they cost \$90 to \$100 dollars each.

She said they are willing and have worked with the Fairgrounds in the past. The Rodeo Club leaves it better then they found it. They have paid for gates in the past. This is the kid's spring break and they spend every day out there cleaning weeds and doing sweat equity.

Commissioner Haddock recommends a donation instead of waiving fees.

Commissioner Martines asked if this is one event. Kadie said the State has granted them two rodeos this year that occur on the same weekend. We have shown that we can host an efficient rodeo and the kids have done the work. This guarantees the extra revenue for our County. They also reached out to the stock contractor who is going to host an event on Thursday night that is not high school sanctioned. There will be events on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Commissioner Martines said he knows that we have fought with Wasatch High School in Heber for this event to be held here. Heber has put a lot of money into the event because of the revenue it creates. Commissioner Martines has visited our event as well as the College's rodeo and there are no parking places, the event is full. Kadie said they bring in so many horses that we don't have enough stalls. They encourage people to come and see these kids in action. The High School event is scheduled for April 3 and 4, 2026.

The commissioners said they will discuss this matter and be in touch.

6) **Consideration and possible approval to appoint board applicant to Friends of the Carbon/Emery County Children's Justice Center board – Shelley Wright**

Commissioner Martines said Kevin Butler has submitted his application for the Children's Justice Center board. He is from Emery County. We have lost a few board members and we need a couple of more spots filled.

Commissioner Martines made a motion to approve Kevin Butler to be appointed to the Friends of Carbon/Emery County Children's Justice Center board. Commissioner Jensen seconded. Motion carried.

7) **Consideration and possible approval to apply for a grant for the Children's Justice Center – Shelley Wright**

Commissioner Martines said the Children's Justice Center applies for several grants, this is one of them. With recent budget cuts the Children's Justice Center has lost some of their funding. He recommends that we approve this.

Commissioner Martines made a motion to approve to apply for a grant for the Children's Justice Center. Commissioner Jensen seconded. Motion carried.

8) **Consideration and possible approval of donation to East Carbon Community Daze**

Commissioner Jensen said we received a letter from East Carbon asking that we help sponsor the East Carbon Community Daze. We have sponsored them in the past for \$1,000.

Commissioner Jensen made a motion to approve a donation to the East Carbon Community Daze for \$1,000. Commissioner Martines seconded. Motion carried.

9) **Open sealed bids for weed and mosquito abatement chemicals – Chris Rowley**

Seth said we have received two bids. In the past the bids have been for a number of chemicals. We do not read the list of chemicals in the meeting.

Adapco – for 25 or more chemicals

Steven Reagan Company – for 25 or more chemicals

Commissioner Jensen said Chris Rowley, our Weed and Mosquito supervisor, will need to review each bid and see what is the best option for the necessary chemicals. Commissioner Jensen will work with him to review the bids.

Commissioner Jensen made a motion to accept the bids from Adapco and Steven Reagan and allow Chris and himself to review and choose the best options. Commissioner Martines seconded. Motion carried.

10) **Discussion of Resolution 2026-01 for the Utah Retirement Systems to move Emergency Medical Services from the Public Employees System to the Public Safety System – Kellie Payne**

Commissioner Jensen made a motion to table Agenda item 10. Commissioner Martines seconded. Motion carried.

11) Consideration and possible adoption of Ordinance #592, A Change to a Portion of the Carbon County Zoning District Map from R-1-8K to C-1 located in Kenilworth on Parcel 02-2070-0001 for Oran Stainbrook/The Old Company Store

Todd said at the Planning Commission meeting earlier this month, a public hearing was held and they reviewed the proposed zone change for Oran Stainbrook at the old company store in Kenilworth. Oran wants to change to a commercial zone so he can set up more housing in the building. The zoning code requires that if you want to do more than one housing unit you have to change to a commercial zone. He wants to create up to three units. He does a lot of projects with the local art community and needs places for them to live. They did not have any negative feed back from the public hearing. The local people in attendance were in support of the project. The Planning Commission voted to recommend this change to the County Commission.


Commissioner Jensen said it is a good project and Oran has really fixed the store up and continues to make improvements. It has become a gathering spot for the community.

Commissioner Martines made a motion to adopt Ordinance 592 A Change to a Portion of the Carbon County Zoning District Map from R-1-8K to C-1 located in Kenilworth on Parcel 02-2070-0001 for Oran Stainbrook/The Old Company Store. Commissioner Jensen seconded. Motion carried.


12) Review and approval of departmental reports

Commissioner Jensen made a motion to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.


Jared Haddock, Commission Chair
Carbon County Commission

ATTEST:


Seth Marsing, County Clerk/Auditor

