

Minutes of the Commission Meeting of the Board of Commissioners, Carbon County, State of Utah, held Wednesday, March 4, 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: Christian Bryner, County Attorney  
Geni Hawk, Commission Secretary  
Seth Marsing, Clerk/Auditor  
Lori Perez, Chief Deputy Clerk  
Kellie Payne, HR Director  
Sawyer Leonard, Deputy

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

**1) Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Jensen noted a spelling error on page two, third paragraph. The word “County” needs to be changed to “Country”. This was corrected.

Commissioner Martines made a motion to approve the February 18, 2026 Commission Meeting minutes with the correction. Commissioner Jensen seconded. Motion carried.

**2) Employee of the Month – Kellie Payne**

Commissioner Martines said the Employee of the Month is Tiffany Garcia who was nominated by her coworkers. Tiffany is the kitchen supervisor at the County Jail. Commissioner Martines read the nomination. Tiffany has done an outstanding job leading the kitchen and her team. She and her staff maintain a spotless facility, managing inventory with exceptional attention to detail and are consistently finding new ways to improve efficiency. She is proactive in implementing improved procedures and focusing on making operations run smoothly. Tiffany is reliable, hardworking and always willing to step in and help when needed. Her leadership and dedication make a difference every day. Congratulations to Tiffany. We appreciate your excellent service to Carbon County. She was presented with her award.

Tiffany said she is glad to work for Carbon County and thanked everyone.

**3) Presentation of Film Award to Mark Montoya – Tina Grange**

Tina said when we talk about building strong communities we often focus on projects, progress and big milestones. But communities are not built by projects they are built by people. Individuals who care deeply about where they live and who are willing to lend a hand. This kind of person is Mark Montoya.

Behind the scenes there are always people who help make things happen by volunteering their time, helping where they are needed and representing their community. Again, Mark is exactly this person. Tina wanted to share her recognition from the last commission meeting with someone who spends so much time behind the scenes so she created the Helper Film Champion Award. The very first recipient is someone who truly embodies that. It couldn't be timelier, because we are preparing to welcome a film production on Monday, who will be in Helper for four weeks. Mark has already been a pivotal part by helping open doors, making connections and making sure the Helper community shines.

Tina reached out to the producer and director and asked them to share their thoughts about Mark. Producer Annie Kwan said Mark is an extraordinary local liaison generously opening locations, community member and invaluable connections throughout Helper. His warmth and integrity made the decision to film in Helper effortless. They experience the heart of the town.

Director Amy Redford said the contribution Mark has made to the art of storytelling cannot be overstated. He has shown us the beauty of his community and advocated relentlessly for the people of Helper. He has been a problem solver. We stand in gratitude for his generosity and creativity. He is a critical gift for their team.

Tina said thank you Mark for everything you do for Helper and Carbon County by helping others succeed and find what makes this place special. Tina presented the Helper Film Champion award to Mark Montoya.

Mark thanked Tina and said he is always happy to help her. He is very privileged to work with this upcoming film. They have been a delight to work with. He did push for this production to learn about the people of Carbon County. Filming action begins March 16 through April 17, 2026.

Commissioner Martines said we also want to recognize the ETV10 News Reporter Susana Watts from ETV10 News. This will be her last day with the ETV10 News. We are use to seeing her and we will miss her.

**4) Super Service Award – Tina Grange**

Tina nominated Jill Vuksinick for the Carbon County Tourism Super Service Award in recognition of her selfless service to the families in our community. For the past six years Jill has quietly and consistently organized Christmas meal kits for families in need throughout Carbon County. Through her leadership, dedication and compassion, thousands of dollars' worth of groceries are collected, sorted, packed and personally delivered to families during the holidays. This ensures that they experience daily hope and a warm cooked Christmas meal.

This year they delivered an estimated \$12,000 in groceries to local families. Jill does far more than organize donations. She rallies the entire community. She brings people together to donate, volunteer, pack, hand deliver and creates a ripple effect of kindness that reaches far beyond the meal kits. Her effort strengthens community connections and exemplify what true service looks like. What makes Jill so deserving of this award, is that she never seeks recognition for her work. She gives purely from the heart. She is nothing short of an angel. Carbon County is a better, kinder place because of her. Jill represents the very best of our community and is deserving of this award. The award was presented to Jill Vuksinick with the Nail Shoppe.

Jill said thank you to the commissioners and everyone. She said she is honored to receive this award. They started this project six years ago and it will continue because she wants to teach her children that everyone is not as fortunate as we are. We need to help people when we can.

**5) Open sealed bids for Carbon County Airport Pavement Maintenance Project – Cody Hunt**

Seth said five bids were received:

Cody Hunt from Jones and DeMille helped with the bid opening.

American Road Maintenance, Tucson, Arizona	\$273,212.50
Highlight Airfield Services, Florida	\$218,449.50
Straight Stripe Painting, St. George, Utah	\$258,521.25
C.R. Contracting, Bend, Oregon	\$199,169.00
Maxwell Asphalt, Salt Lake City, Utah	\$251,310.00

Cody said the Engineering cost will be \$310,150.00. These are all good bids. There are no bidders in attendance but they do have the YouTube link to live stream. Cody wanted to thank them for their time and effort in putting a bid together and for their interest in the project.

Commissioner Jensen made a motion to acknowledge the bids from the five companies and authorize Cody and Commissioner Martines to review them and award. Commissioner Martines seconded. Motion carried.

**6) Consideration and possible approval of legal research contract with Carbn County Attorney's Office and Lexis**

County Attorney Christian Bryner said we have had a contract with Lexis for a long time. They offer online software systems that houses millions of reported cases, legal treatises and various legal documents. Typically, we look at Utah law, Utah reported cases, federal cases, and supreme cases. Right now, we are paying \$444 a month for this service. We are at the end of a three-year contract that has increased each year annually by 4%.

Now Lexis comes with AI capabilities. There are two possible contracts - one with AI capabilities which will cost \$800 a month for the first year, \$824 and \$849 for each of the following years. If we kept the same plan, which is the second option, the cost would be \$467 a month for the first year and \$491 and \$515 for each of the following years.

He had the sales person give a demonstration of the AI capabilities. Lexis is specifically tailored for lawyers. If you ask it a question it will pull up all the relative research. Right now, they have to use specific key words, or know an actual case or citation in order to find the information. With AI you can type in your general thoughts and it will give you lots of different information. It will compose a memo for you, a narrative, an explanation, and it will find law that is close to what you are asking for. It has a lot of possibilities to help you draft documents. Christian looks at AI knowing that it cannot be a final product because there are so many things to look at. But it can get them started quickly and a lot further and faster. With any project, the hardest part is trying to get started. AI helps to get to that starting point much faster by pulling a plethora of sources that you would not have thought to look at. He would be hesitant to use AI by itself. If they had this capability it would help them answer questions much faster and get them to a starting point faster. AI could help to compile similar situations and finds various things in a matter of seconds instead of in hours by hand. Then attorneys can figure out what to use from what is in front of them. It could be a very valuable tool for the County. The work will be completed quicker but there still has to be analysis, thought and experience by the attorney.

Commissioner Haddock said the cost savings would be in time which would justify the expense.

Christian said yes. Other attorneys and companies are using AI. There comes a point where if we don't use it we become dinosaurs. Big firms and everyone are going in this direction.

Commissioner Haddock said he has heard that AI has its challenges and will sometimes make up and provide nonexistence cases.

Christian said there have been instances of briefs being turned in that contain hallucinated cases, which is what these are called. A benefit with Lexis is that it pulls from its own database and it knows to not pull from law that doesn't exist. We still have to verify the information from AI. But it will collect the information faster. Christian does not know where they are in their professional and technical budget. This kind of purchase may put them over budget. The increase will be \$340 a month.

Commissioner Martines said about \$5,000 a year. Christian said Lexis will keep this pricing for us until April 1. If the commissioners want to take some time to review or discuss it, then that is the time line. The company can also do a demonstration for the commissioners.

Commissioner Jensen said he does not have any questions and thinks it will be a good thing. Commissioner Martines asked if the AI contract provides enough licenses for the Attorney's office. Christian said yes, they would have the same number of licenses. Commissioner Martines said we would be foolish not to move forward with AI. It will not replace an employee but it will speed up the office with the cases received.

Commissioner Martines made a motion to approve the AI LexisNexis option of the legal research contract for the Carbon County's Attorney office. Commissioner Jensen seconded. Motion carried.

7) Review and approval of departmental reports

Commissioner Martines made a motion to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
Seth Marsing, County Clerk/Auditor



