

Minutes of the Commission Meeting of the Board of Commissioners, Carbon County, State of Utah, held Wednesday, April 15, 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
Caitlin Giraud, Deputy Clerk
Kellie Payne, HR Director
Adam Cox, Deputy Sheriff

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 April 1, 2026 Commission Meeting minutes. Commissioner Jensen seconded. Motion carried.

2) Employee of the Month – Kellie Payne

Kellie said there are two Employees of the Month for April. They are James Perry who has been employed with the County since July 8, 2024 and Michael Perry who has been employed by Carbon County since May 1, 2016 and became a Road Deputy on June 5, 2025. Kellie said their Sergeants nominated them and she invited them to the microphone to read their nominations.

Sergeant Andy Leonard said his Employee of the Month recommendation for James is based on what he has observed over the course of his career. These two officers are not brothers even though they have the same last name and the same career. Deputy James Perry is hard working and is a reliable deputy who shows up ready to work every day. He stays busy and makes sure the job gets done. During his time supervising James, he will hear him say, he is going home or to dinner and then find him making another traffic stop. James always takes time to complete solid, thorough reports and investigations. This builds strong cases and trust with the community. He is one of those employees that will get things done right. He serves as a Spanish translator and several other agencies use him. This has been a key factor in major cases. On his weekends off, he serves in the National Guard and sometimes uses his own vacation time. He is a devoted husband, father and friend to all who know him. Carbon County is very lucky to have him. For his hard work, team work and dedication to serving others, James Perry is a very deserving Employee of the Month.

Sergeant Garrett Safely said in March they were assisting Wellington City with a high priority call. They were notified of a suspicious person possibly burglarizing a vehicle. He asked these two gentlemen to go and investigate which turned into a high-speed pursuit. These officers had never been involved in a high-speed pursuit. They handled themselves fantastically. It was a scary chase with speeds over a hundred miles per hour. They were on their own and had to trust their training. They kept everyone up to date and ultimately the offender was caught.

Attorney Bryner said in court, there were seventeen counts issued and it was Officer James Parry's first time testifying in a preliminary hearing. He knew every fact and every event that led to each of the seventeen counts. His courtroom skills were very impressive.

Sergeant Safely said these gentlemen acted in a very tough and difficult situation with multiple agencies and performed flawlessly. He is glad for the recognition and they are deserving of this award.

Officer Michael Parry said there were a lot of other agencies working with them to catch this person. This included officers from East Carbon and Price City. The dispatcher was amazing at relaying the information.

There was a helicopter in the air. They did handle it on their own but it was a group effort by every agency in the County.

Officer James Parry said he also appreciates the other agencies who helped them out. They are all one big law enforcement family including Helper City, Price City, East Carbon and Wellington. They work well together and he appreciates their support. He wanted to thank all of them.

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

Tina said the Super Service Award goes to Maeleen Newman from Holiday Inn Express & Suites. Tina read the nomination. Maeleen goes above and beyond by creating a work place for both her team and guests. As a General Manager she leads with kindness, stays involved in daily operations and supports her staff. She takes time to listen, encourages growth and recognizes her teams' efforts. She makes every guest feel welcomed and valued. Her leadership turns the entire hotel into a positive environment where people enjoy working and guests enjoy staying. Tina also highlighted Maylene's skills and welcomed Maeleen Newman to the microphone.

Maeleen said she works with amazing people. Her team at the Holiday Inn Express are true winners and she wouldn't be here without them.

4) **Carbon Care Coalition presentation**

Mckenna Terri is the Prevention Specialist and the Care Coalition Coordinator for Four Corners Community Behavioral Health. She presented a slide show. The Carbon County Heart and Character award is sponsored by the Care Coalition and recognized by the County Commissioners' office. This award honors individuals who consistently demonstrate great character and make meaningful impacts on our community. This award was designed to recognize and reward quiet everyday acts of goodness that often go unnoticed. It encourages the community to look for those who do not have stand out talents but who are striving to be good people through their daily interactions with others. Nominees embody qualities like kindness, compassion and respect while helping others and without expecting recognition. They share responsibility and accountability in their daily lives. Through service and volunteerism, they actively strengthen the community and their integrity assures that they do the right thing even when no one is watching. They are a positive influence, uplifting others and leading by example.

The Care Coalition utilizes a social development strategy to help people and especially the youth, to grow and become successful adults. It focuses on three key parts: first - giving children the opportunity to be involved in positive activities, second - teach them important life skills and third - recognizing them when they do something good. This award highlights the recognition portion of the social development strategy.

The nomination form is available on the careforcarbon.org website under the Heart and Character award tab. If you know a youth or an adult that meets this criterion, please submit a nomination. The nominator remains anonymous, unless otherwise specified.

It is their hope that the influence of this award into the community will allow Carbon County to become a healthier, more resilient and compassionate community.

5) **Open sealed bids for Sheriff Department vehicles – Sheriff Jeff Wood**

Seth said we received five bids –

JN Auto	2024 Chevy Silverado	18,372 miles	\$46,996
JN Auto	2025 Ford F150 XLT	11,230 miles	\$43,995
Ken Garff Ford	2025 Police Interceptor		\$46,605
Ken Garff Ford	2025 Ford Explorer 4x4		\$40,280
Ken Garff Ford	2026 Police Interceptor		\$48,440
AutoFarm	2025 Ford Explorer	20,025 miles	\$40,990
AutoFarm	2023 Ford F150 XLT	18,260 miles	\$44,970
AutoFarm	2024 Ford F150 XLT	19,430 miles	\$43,571

AutoFarm	2025 Chevy Silverado 1500	15,000 Miles	\$44,149
AutoFarm	2026 Dodge Durango GT		\$47,035
Murdock Ford	2025 Ford Police Interceptor		\$44,711
Murdock Ford	2026 Ford Explorer Active		\$43,657

Commissioner Jensen made a motion to acknowledge the bids and authorize Sheriff Wood and Commissioner Haddock to review and choose a vehicle. Commissioner Martines seconded. Motion carried.

6) **Open Request for Proposal for Professional Engineering Services – Lincoln Irvine**

Seth said we have three proposals.

Commissioner Jensen explained that last year we had flooding in the Carbonville area. The NRCS was notified and we requested funds to do mitigation work to prevent future flooding. We have a project approved. The next step is to hire an engineering firm to work with the NRCS to design this project. These are requests from engineering firms that show their qualifications. There is no pricing involved. The engineers chosen are paid directly by the NRCS.

Seth read the names of the three companies who submitted proposals.

Jones and DeMille Engineering
 Keller Associates, Inc
 Johansen and Tuttle Engineering, Inc

Commissioner Jensen said there is too much to review tonight. Lincoln Irvine, Justin Needles and himself will need to review and decide.

Commissioner Martines made a motion to acknowledge the three companies, Jones & DeMille, Keller Associates, Johansen and Tuttle and allow Commissioner Jensen, Engineer Lincoln Irvine and Emergency Management Director, Justin Needles to evaluate and choose the best option for Carbon County. Commissioner Jensen seconded. Motion carried.

7) **Consideration and possible approval of the 2026 Continued Property Tax Exemption List – Seth Marsing**

Seth said this is the Continued Property Tax Exemption list. Each year we send out renewal applications to everyone on the list from the previous year. Generally, these are churches and non-profits who provide charitable contributions to the community. There are also museums, education related, and the Department of Natural Resources. The list has not changed much except for a few. Previously, we had a non-profit called Coal Country Housing Development who had four parcels on this list. They have sold these parcels and are no longer on the list. We were told that there may be a new application for one of them but we have not seen an application yet.

The Boys and Girls Club building has been tax exempt but it is now up for sale. The Clear Creek Home Owners Association had two parcels on the list and now they are being assessed differently and have been removed.

Last year, two parcels owned by the Western Region Non-Profit Housing Corporation that were multi-family units were denied. They appealed to the State through the Board of Equalization and their hearing has not been held yet so we have denied them again. We are waiting to hear from the State. These are the main changes we have. Seth asked if they had any questions.

Attorney Bryner asked if the document ready to be signed is for the applications for the parcels being denied? Seth said it is for the approval of the whole list attached as well as the changes reported above. Attorney Bryner said the list behind the cover letter is to be approved with the exception of the parcels listed in the front letter.

Chief Deputy Keven Ewell from the Assessor's office said, concerning the appeal for the Western Region Corporation, they were denied exemption last year. Their local appeal was filed late so the only thing they have currently under State appeal is for their appeal to be heard for filing late.

Attorney Bryner asked that the motion be specific to what is being approved and what is being denied.

Seth clarified that the first three items are not technically being denied. They just have not submitted an application this year because they no longer qualify.

The fourth item in the letter did submit an application but it has been denied and it is recommended that it be denied by the Board of Equalization.

Commissioner Martines made a motion that we approve the 2026 Continued Property Exemption list with the stipulation of denying Western Region Non-Profit Housing Corp. and their parcel numbers: Woodside Apartments 01-0141-0001, 01-0140-0001, the Avalon Apartments and Newhouse Apartments with parcel numbers 1A-0100-0000 and 01-0287-0000. Commissioner Jensen seconded. Motion carried.

8) **Discussion and possible approval to remove property #1C-0314-0000 from the May tax sale**

Seth said Patricia Morris's property tax is five years delinquent. She has requested that her parcel not be included on the May Tax Sale. She has made significant payments in the amount of about \$4,300. She plans on paying this off by the May Tax Sale. One thing to consider is that we send these parcels for a title search which includes a \$400 administrative fee. We withheld her parcel from going to the title company in anticipation of this meeting.

Commissioner Martines said she has made an effort to catch up. Commissioner Haddock said she should be current by next Friday. Her remaining balance is about \$800. The goal is to not let properties get to the tax sale because it does not benefit us or the owner. Any overage goes back to the State as unclaimed property. This is not a revenue generating thing for the County.

Commissioner Jensen made a motion to approve removing property parcel #1C-0314-0000 from the May 2026 Tax Sale. Commissioner Martines seconded. Motion carried.

9) **Adjourn as the Carbon County Board of Commissioners and convene as the Carbon County Board of Equalization**

Commissioner Martines made a motion to adjourn as the Carbon County Board of Commissioners and convene as the Carbon County Board of Equalization. Commissioner Jensen seconded. Motion carried.

10) **Hearing for appeals #2025-876 and #2025-902 – Keven Ewell, Chief Deputy Assessors Office**

Keven said concerning hearing #2025-876 - He was able to complete an appraisal on this property and the value came in as \$655,000. He called the homeowners and they agreed to stipulate to that value. A copy of the stipulation is in your packet.

For the hearing of appeal #2025-902, this was a residential exemption hearing. He explained that in the State of Utah a residential exemption is given to a property when somebody lives there full time. Full time is defined by statute as 183 consecutive days of the year. With this definition you cannot have two full time residences. You can't have your wife or partner with one and you with one. It is one per household.

In this case, the owner had a relative renting it from her but she wasn't living there. She turned in a form that said this is no longer my full-time residence. She was then surprised when her taxes doubled. So everyone understands, that if someone else lives in the house you can still get the residential exemption because someone does live there. If you are renting a property you can still get the residential exemption. If it's your vacation home you cannot get residential exemption. In this case, we feel that this property should have received the residential exemption. She did not understand the process. This error comes up all the time.

Commissioner Martines made a motion to approve the appeals for case numbers #2025-876 and #2025-902. Commissioner Jensen seconded motion carried.

11) Adjourn as the Carbon County Board of Equalization and Reconvene as the Carbon County Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Jensen made motion to adjourn as the Carbon County Board of Equalization and reconvene as the Carbon County Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Martines seconded. Motion carried.

12) Possible closed session to discuss the character or professional competence of an individual

Commissioner Jensen made a motion to go into closed session. Commissioner Martines seconded. Motion carried. Attorney Bryner said the vote needs to be polled by each member.

Commissioner Martines said yes.

Commissioner Jensen said yes.

Commissioner Haddock said yes.

The meeting went into a closed session at 5:08 p.m.

Commissioner Jensen made a motion to come out the closed session at 5:30 p.m. Commissioner Martines seconded. Motion carried.

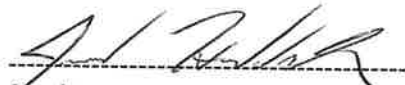
13) Discussion and possible decision regarding future donations to Miss Carbon County Pageant

Commissioner Martines made a motion that due to recent information received concerning the current management of the Miss Carbon County Pageant, he moves that we no longer fund this pageant until there are changes in the leadership. Commissioner Jensen seconded. Motion carried.


14) Review and approval of departmental reports

Commissioner Jensen made a motion to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m.


Jared Haddock, Commission Chair
Carbon County Commission

ATTEST:


Seth Marsing, County Clerk/Auditor



