

MINUTES of the public meeting of the Uintah County Commission held **June 16, 2026** in the Commission Chambers of the Uintah County Building at 147 East Main, Vernal, Utah. The meeting commenced at 3:00 pm.

PARTICIPANTS: Commissioners John Laursen, Sonja Norton, and Willis LeFevre.

ATTENDANCE: Mike Wilkins, Angela Hawkins, Tricia Collom, Angie Ercanbrack, Wendi Long, Danette Brooks, Cory Crowther, Deanna Baum, Matt Cazier, Crystal Clark, Cable Murray, Teri Jorgensen, Joel Brown, Mike Harrington, Jay Burr
Minutes by Sheri Allen.

WELCOME: Commissioner Laursen, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

PRAYER by Mike Wilkins.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE by Angela Hawkins.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 8, 2026 Special Meeting and June 9, 2026 Commission Meeting

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the minutes for June 8, 2026 and June 9, 2026. Motion passed unanimously.

2. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS – Mike Wilkins, Clerk-Auditor

Warrants dated June 11, 2026 in the amount of \$865,632.57. Payments of note are \$95,750.00 to Wheeler for a used backhoe for Western Park.

Commissioner Norton moved to approve the warrants as presented by Mike Wilkins. Motion passed unanimously.

3. TAX MATTERS:None

4. APPROVAL OF 2026 CERTIFIED TAX RATES - Mike Wilkins, Clerk-Auditor

Mike Wilkins, Clerk-Auditor, requested approval for the 2026 Certified Tax Rates as received from the Utah State Tax Commission. The certified tax rate is 0.001441, projected to generate \$8,704,000. Mike requested that \$50,000 in new growth be reallocated from the General Fund to the Flood Control fund, increasing the Flood Control allocation from \$50,000 to \$100,000. He noted that over \$800,000 from the fund balance has been utilized for flood control over the past six to seven years, and this reallocation is necessary to replenish the fund for future needs. Mike presented a collection rate of 0.000467, which will generate \$2,850,937.

Commissioner LeFevre moved to approve the 2026 Certified Tax Rates as presented by Mike Wilkins. Motion passed unanimously.

5. APPROVAL OF LAND SALE #17:004:0003 – Mike Wilkins, Clerk-Auditor

Mike Wilkins, Clerk-Auditor, requested approval to issue a quit claim deed for real estate parcel #17:004:0003, which was acquired via tax sale in the early 1990s. The property was sold via public surplus auction to Matt Manzanares of Stockton, Utah, for \$6,900; a value exceeding the county assessor's estimate. Proceeds will cover county fees, with the remaining funds distributed to taxing entities to cover back taxes, interest, and penalties. Any surplus will be directed to unclaimed property in the name of the original owner.

Commissioner LeFevre moved to approve the land sale #17:004:0003 as presented by Mike Wilkins. Motion passed unanimously.

6. VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT (VOCA) Presentation, Attorney's Office - Tricia Collom and Angie Ercanbrack

Tricia Collom and Angie Ercanbrack presented an update on the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant. The program has served over 381 new victims, with domestic violence being the most frequently reported crime. Through grant and county funding, the team provided over 4,000 services, including crisis intervention, legal support, and transportation. Safety initiatives have been enhanced through the provision of doorbell cameras and gun safes to at-risk victims. The presenters emphasized their ongoing commitment to victim advocacy and announced that staff will attend trauma-informed, victim-focused training in July. They are also working to ensure a smooth transition with incoming prosecutors to maintain the continuity of victim services.

7. PHASE ONE PROPERTIES- requesting to REZONE the south 2.3 acres of property owned by the Uintah School District at 604 S 2150 W, Vernal, UT 84078; serial #05:072:0011; from R1 to R3 or R2 - Matt Cazier, Community Development

Deanna Baum, Community Development, presented the rezone of the south 2.3 acres of property owned by the Uintah School District at 604 S 2150 W; serial #05:072:0011. The request seeks to rezone this portion from R1 to R3 to accommodate a development of townhomes by Phase One Properties. Deanna noted that the north portion of the property had been addressed previously, and this request aligns with the area's development. The Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of the rezone to R3 following a public hearing on June 3.

Commissioner LeFevre moved to approve the rezone of serial number #05:072:0011 from R1 to R3 as presented by Deanna Baum. Motion passed unanimously.

8. INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH VERNAL CITY REGARDING ATTORNEY SERVICES AND WAIVER OF CONFLICT - Loren W. Anderson, Civil Attorney's Office

Loren Anderson, Civil Attorney, requested approval for the Interlocal Agreement between Uintah County, Vernal City, Naples City, and Dutch John to facilitate the sharing of attorney services. Due to the recent vacancy of three attorney positions in the County Attorney's office, the agreement provides a temporary framework for resource sharing to maintain operations. Under the terms, the County's Civil Attorney's office will assist with civil matters for the participating entities at a rate of \$120 per hour, while Vernal City's attorney will assist the County with criminal prosecution. The agreement includes a waiver of conflicts, is effective for a three-month term, and includes an option to renew.

Commissioner LeFevre moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement as presented by Loren Anderson. Motion passed unanimously.

9. AGREEMENT FOR CRIMINAL PROSECUTION SERVICES RATIFICATION - Loren W. Anderson, Civil Attorney's Office

Loren Anderson, Civil Attorney, requested ratification of an agreement with Kent Snider, Daggett County Attorney, to provide criminal prosecution services. The seven-month agreement engages Kent to assist the County Attorney's office with major criminal cases, including person crimes. Kent will not be a county employee under this agreement but will continue his duties with Daggett County while providing services to Uintah County for \$4,000 per month, with an option to renew.

Commissioner Norton moved to ratify the Agreement for Criminal Prosecution Services as presented by Loren Anderson. Motion passed unanimously.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT:

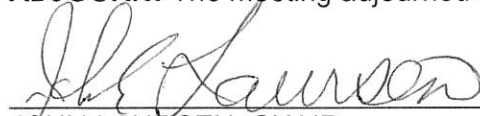
Mike Wilkins, Clerk-Auditor, provided an update regarding the upcoming election. He reminded citizens to submit their ballots promptly, noting that only about 2,500 to 3,000 of the 12,000 ballots sent have

been received to date. He encouraged voters to mail ballots early or utilize ballot drop-off locations to ensure they are received by the County by the 8:00 PM deadline on Election Day, June 23, 2026.

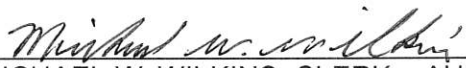
Teri Jorgensen expressed appreciation to the Commission for improving the accessibility of public meeting information and agendas, noting that this increased visibility helps citizens stay informed.

Cable Murray inquired about the \$4,000 monthly fee for the criminal prosecution services agreement. While acknowledging he lacked specific details regarding the caseload or expected hours, he expressed concern that the compensation level might be underfunded, although he agreed the arrangement is necessary and beneficial for the County at this time.

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:26pm.



JOHN LAURSEN, CHAIR



MICHAEL W. WILKINS, CLERK – AUDITOR

