

1. Minutes of March 25, 2025



County Administration
Building
Board Room
1101 E 2nd Avenue
Durango, CO 81301

Minutes

For a Business Agenda of the Board of County Commissioners

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

10:00 AM

These are abbreviated action-type minutes; the audio recording is the official record of this meeting and is available to the public on the La Plata County website <https://www.lpcgov.org/>. Please contact the Clerk of the Board at (970) 382-6214 or infodesk@lpcgov.org with additional questions or concerns.

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

Attendance	Attendee Name
Present	Clyde Church Marsha Porter-Norton Matt Salka
Absent	None

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Approved

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Clyde Church

AYES: Church, Porter-Norton, Salka

V. Identification of Potential or Perceived Conflicts of Interest

VI. Approval of Minutes

1. Minutes for November 26, 2024

MOTION: Approved

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Clyde Church

AYES: Church, Porter-Norton, Salka

2. Minutes for December 10, 2024

MOTION: Approved

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Clyde Church

AYES: Church, Porter-Norton, Salka

3. Minutes for December 19, 2024

MOTION: Approved

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Clyde Church

AYES: Church, Porter-Norton, Salka

VII. Public Comment and Input

IX. Proclamations

1. Approval of a proclamation of March 2025 as American Red Cross Month

Sarah Jacobson, Administrative Analyst, provided the staff report and introduced Sean Killoy, Disaster Program Manager for Southwestern Colorado and San Luis Valley (TS 00:05:23).

Mr. Killoy explained that he oversees disaster preparedness, response, and recovery efforts for 11 counties of the Southwest and San Luis Valley region, noting that over 90% of the organization's work was done by volunteers. He said Red Cross had roughly 300,000 volunteers across the country.

Chair Porter-Norton opened the item to public comment. Hearing none, she closed public comment.

Commissioners Salka and Church thanked Mr. Killoy for his work with the Red Cross organization.

Chair Porter-Norton added her appreciation and acknowledged that the Red Cross organization saved lives. She also noted that the warming shelter offered the much-needed assistance to community members.

Commissioner Salka moved to approve and sign the proclamation for March as American Red Cross Month.

MOTION: Approved

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Matt Salka

AYES: Church, Porter-Norton, Salka

2. Approval of a proclamation for Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month

Brie Knight, Deputy Director of Human Services, provided the staff report and read the proclamation into the record (TS 00:15:15).

Chair Porter-Norton opened the item to public comment. Hearing none, she closed public comment.

Commissioners Church and Salka thanked the Department of Human Services for all their hard work and for their dedication to keeping children safe.

Chair Porter-Norton acknowledged that the Human Services Department staff have some of the hardest jobs in the county. She appreciated all that the department did to fight for the children of the community.

Commissioner Church moved to approve the proclamation identifying April 2025 as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month.

MOTION: Approved

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Matt Salka

AYES: Church, Porter-Norton, Salka

X. Consent Agenda

MOTION: Approved

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Clyde Church

AYES: Church, Porter-Norton, Salka

1. Approval of county cash requirements for March 7, 2025 through March 14, 2025
2. Approval of appointments to the Community Corrections Board
3. Approval of a Reimbursement Agreement with Catamount Energy Partners LLC for PL20240217

4. Approval of Phoenix Recycling Certificate of Designation Application Checklist and Fee
5. Approval of letters to congressional and state delegation regarding impacts of potential cuts to Medicaid funding
6. Approval of a policy governing the responsible use of artificial intelligence in county operations.
7. Approval of Grant Cycle 1 CDPHE Closed Landfill Remediation Grant contract

XI. Decision Agenda

1. Consideration of Resolution No. 2025-08, A Resolution of the Board of County Commissioners of La Plata County, Colorado Adopting an Unclaimed Funds Policy for Funds Held by the Public Trustee

County Treasurer Moni Grushkin provided the staff report. Since taking office, she said most of the foreclosure sales are either withdrawn or cured by the owners. Or, if they go to sale, Ms. Grushkin said there can be third party bidders involved. She explained that in this instance, the individual took out a reverse mortgage, used a small portion, then suddenly passed, causing the property to go to foreclosure sale (TS 00:24:56).

Commissioner Church asked if this was required to be published in the newspaper.

Ms. Grushkin said this did not need to be published in the newspaper. The Treasurer's Office was only required to report this to the state of Colorado.

Chair Porter-Norton opened the item to public comment. Hearing none, she closed public comment.

Commissioner Church moved to approve and sign Resolution No. 2025-08, adopting an Unclaimed Funds Policy for Funds Held by the Public Trustee.

MOTION: Approved

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Clyde Church

AYES: Church, Porter-Norton, Salka

2. Approval of Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Closed Landfill Grant Application (33020690 Cycle #2 Additional funding request)

Environmental Specialist Leslie Jakoby provided the staff report (TS 00:32:14).

Chair Porter-Norton opened the item to public comment. Hearing none, she closed public comment.

Commissioner Salka moved to approve the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Landfill grant application cycle #2 for additional funding for submittal for the closed Bayfield Landfill and give signature authority to the chair for any grant-related documents after review by the County Attorney's Office and the Finance Department.

MOTION: Approved

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Matt Salka

AYES: Church, Porter-Norton, Salka

3. Consideration of a comment letter regarding the proposed Draft 2025 Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code

Community Development Director Lynn Hyde, and Principal Planner Dan Armentano, provided the staff report (TS 00:36:46).

Commissioner Salka said wildlife mitigation was very important. He appreciated the department's work on this.

Chair Porter-Norton commented that the tiered approach, which will be given as input to the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Code Board, was brilliant. She believed the county will need to develop a separate education packet for this, so that people understand the WUI Code and its requirements.

Ms. Hyde elaborated on the different tiers: basic, intermediate and advanced. She explained that counties could opt in for any of the three proposed tiers because the goal was to recognize that every jurisdiction has different capabilities, socio-economic standards, terrain, staffing capabilities, etc. Thus, there was not a one size fits all. Ms. Hyde said this might need to be reviewed more comprehensively, however, in order

for it to work for everyone and to ensure that jurisdictions did not end up in a situation where it could be hard to enforce.

Chair Porter-Norton opened the item to public comment. Hearing none, she closed public comment.

Commissioner Church moved to approve and sign a letter to the Wildfire Resiliency Code Board providing comments on the draft 2025 Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code.

MOTION: Approved

RESULT: Pass

MOVER: Clyde Church

AYES: Church, Porter-Norton, Salka

XII. Reports

A. Reports – Commissioners

The commissioners provided their reports for the week.

B. Reports – County Manager

Deputy County Manager Kevin Hall gave his report.

C. Reports – Attorney

D. Reports – Department/Elected Official

XIII. Adjournment