

SEDGWICK COUNTY  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
AUGUST 5, 2025

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Ronald Berges with John Fryar, Darrin Tobin and Christy Beckman present in office. Guests in office are Vickie Sandlin, Julesburg Advocate, Lori Ehmke, Heather Foley, Rhonda Graham, Donny Schneider, Mike Benson, Dusty Johnson, Bob Coty, Cassie Kizer, Mike and Eva Contreras and Walt Page.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Fryar moved to approve the August 5, 2025 agenda with the addition of a reports on Mesa County's proposal for mandates from the state and Treasurer's financial report and a statement from the special counsel concerning SCOR. Tobin second, carried.

Berges moved to approve the August 5, 2025 payables. Tobin second, carried.

Fryar moved to approve the July 29, 2025 regular meeting minutes as presented. Berges second, carried.

PUBLIC:

Mike Benson joined the meeting to read a statement concerning his opinion of the recall petition for the commissioners.

Donald Schneider joined the public portion of the meeting and asked where the Board is on the 1041's concerning the Perkins Canal. Berges answered saying they have been in contact and things are moving forward. Schneider then asked for an update on the fraud protection. Beckman answered that letters will be going out today or tomorrow. Schneider then asked Foley about the Verizon Connect issue. Foley told Schneider she took care of it but Schneider is still receiving notices from them. Foley will reach back out. Schneider then asked if the employee's personal information is safe since there has been a non-employee in the finance office. Foley responded that the visitor only comes while she is working at night and does not see any information and is never left alone. Fryar told Schneider this is a matter to be discussed between the Board and the employee outside of the public meeting.

REPORTS:

Tobin reported that there are several unfunded mandates coming to legislation in July of 2026 and that Mesa County has constructed a letter for the governor that each county can personalize with their concerns and send in.

The Treasurer's July Financial Report was reviewed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Rhonda Graham gave the red-line version of the county incentives from Kelly Lowery to the Board for review. Berges recommended there be further discussion and to put it on next weeks agenda.

NEW BUSINESS:

OTHER BUSINESS:

The next regular meeting will be scheduled for Tuesday, July 15, 2025.

GUESTS:

Vickie Sandlin, Julesburg Advocate, joined the meeting to discuss the fall guide ads for the Outdoor Guide and to ask for \$1,050. Sandlin also asked about placing a thank you ad in for the fair at \$150. The Board will pay the thank you ad out of personal funds. Fryar asked if there is any way to know if the ads help the county. Sandlin told the Board that there is a coupon for Lucy's Place and she keeps track of those and there are coupons coming in from beyond the county. Rhonda Graham said they are distributed at the Welcome Center and they do run out of them often. Berges moved to approve the \$1,050 ad for Outdoor Guide. Tobin second, carried.

Jamie Smith, PC Telcom, joined the meeting to discuss the last mile Broadband project. Smith told the Board he can not find an easement for the county property going through the landfill area. Smith asked the Board for permission to run the project through the county property through the landfill area. Fryar would like to talk to counsel first before a decision is made. Smith told the Board they have done around 45 miles so far.

Rhonda Graham, Economic Development, joined the meeting to discuss Cruise Night. Graham told the Board that there will be an ADA portable bathroom so the courthouse restroom will not be used. Bouncy houses will be on the courthouse lawn.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

It is August 5, 2025 and the time is 9:03 a.m.. For the record, I am the Chairman, as required by the Open Meetings Law; this executive session is being electronically recorded. Also present at the executive session are the following persons: Ronald Berges, John Fryar, Darin Tobin and Eva and Mike Contreras. This is an executive session for the following purpose: For discussion of a personnel matter under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(f)(I)&(II) and not involving: any specific employees who have requested discussion of the matter in open session; any member of this body or any elected official; the appointment of any person to fill an office of this body or of an elected official; or personnel policies that do not require the discussion of matters personal to particular employees; I caution each participant to confine all discussion to the stated purpose of the executive session, and that no formal action may occur in the executive session. If at any point in the executive session any participant believes the discussion is going outside the proper scope of the executive session, please interrupt the discussion and make an objection. I hereby attest that this recording reflects the actual contents of the discussion at the executive session and has been made in lieu of any written minutes to satisfy the recording requirements of the Open Meetings Law. I will retain the tape in my possession for a 90-day period.

Sandlin told the Board that she doesn't believe that an elected official discussion can be in executive session. Kelly Lowery, attorney, was contacted to ask and Lowery confirmed there can be no elected official discussion in executive session. Fryar moved to have only one commissioner meet with Eva and Mike Contreras after the Board meeting due to the sensitive discussion about health issues. Tobin second, carried.

It is August 5, 2025 and the time is 9:10 a.m.. For the record, I am the Chairman, as required by the Open Meetings Law; this executive session is being electronically recorded. Also present at the executive session are the following persons: Ronald Berges, John Fryar, Darrin Tobin and Kathryn Schroeder, Special Counsel. This is an executive session for the following purpose: For the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators, under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e); The time is now 10:00 a.m. and the executive session has been concluded. The participants in the executive session were: Ronald Berges, John Fryar, Darrin Tobin and Kathryn

Schroeder, Special Counsel. For the record, if any person who participated in the executive session believes that any substantial discussion of any matters not included in the motion to go into executive session occurred during the executive session, or that any improper action occurred during the executive session in violation of the Open Meetings Law, I would ask that you state your concerns for the record. Hearing none, the next agenda item is...

ADJOURNMENT:

Fryar moved to adjourn the meeting. Tobin second, carried.

Submitted by:

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Sedgwick County Clerk & Recorder

Approved: August 12, 2025

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
SEDGWICK COUNTY, COLORADO

(seal)

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald Berges, Chairman

Attest:

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Sedgwick County Clerk & Recorder