

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS 1

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Minutes of Meeting
November 26, 2025

As reflected in posted agenda:

To participate in the Citizen’s Comment Period you must connect via Zoom Conferencing Access Information <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8604595565> If you cannot connect via Zoom, you may submit written public comment to morgancountybcc@co.morgan.co.us by email by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, November 25, 2025.

To participate in Public Hearings, you may connect via Zoom Conferencing Access Information <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8604595565> listen via phone, please dial: 1-312-626-6799, Meeting ID: 860 459 5565

To watch and/or listen to the meeting but not participate, you may do so by connecting via Zoom Conferencing Access Information: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8604595565> or to listen via phone, please dial: 1-312-626-6799, Meeting ID: 860 459 5565

The Board of Morgan County Commissioners met Wednesday, November 26, 2025 at 10:03 a.m. Chairman Jon Becker, Commissioner Tim Malone and Commissioner Kelvin Bernhardt were in attendance. Chairman Becker asked Morgan County Clerk and Recorder, Kevin Strauch to lead the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A. GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS

Consideration for approval – Resolution 2025 BCC 47, A Resolution Calling A Special Election For March 10, 2026 to Refer to the Registered Elector of Morgan County the Question of the Formation of A Home Rule Charter Commission and Election of Members of the Home Rule Charter Commission and Designating Districts for Home Rule Charter Commissioners.

MORGAN COUNTY, COLORADO
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RESOLUTION 2025 BCC 47

A RESOLUTION CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR MARCH 10, 2026 TO REFER TO THE REGISTERED ELECTOR OF MORGAN COUNTY THE QUESTION OF THE FORMATION OF A HOME RULE CHARTER COMMISSION AND ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE HOME RULE CHARTER COMMISSION AND DESIGNATING DISTRICTS FOR HOME RULE CHARTER COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the Morgan County Board of County Commissioners desire to refer to the registered electors of Morgan County the question of whether a home rule charter commission shall be formed and, if approved by the registered election, the election of the members of such commission; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to C.R.S. § 30-11-502(2)(a), the Board is required to divide Morgan County into three compact districts of nearly equal population as possible for the purpose of electing charter commission members by district.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MORGAN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. For purposes of the election of the charter commission members at the special election, Morgan County is divided into the three districts represented by the three County Commissioner Districts established by the Board of County Commissioners through Resolution 2025 BCC 31.

Section 2. The County shall conduct a special election on March 10, 2026 pursuant to the applicable provisions of Colorado law to refer to the registered electors of Morgan County the following ballot question:

Shall a Home Rule Charter Commission be formed for the purpose of drafting a home rule charter for Morgan County?

Yes/For _____ No/Against _____

Section 3. Candidates shall appear on the ballot as follows:

2 COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

Vote for not more than three (3) candidates to serve on Morgan County Home Rule Charter Commission for District 1:

____ Name 1

____ Name 2

____ Name 3..

Vote for not more than three (3) candidates to serve on Morgan County Home Rule Charter Commission for District 2:

____ Name 1

____ Name 2

____ Name 3..

Vote for not more than three (3) candidates to serve on Morgan County Home Rule Charter Commission for District 3:

____ Name 1

____ Name 2

____ Name 3..

Vote for not more than two (2) candidates to serve on Morgan County Home Rule Charter Commission At Large:

____ Name 1

____ Name 2

____ Name 3...

Section 4. After nomination petitions have been received and signatures verified, candidate names will be published in the second notice of election published prior to the election on March 10, 2026.

DATED this 25th day of November, 2025.

**THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MORGAN COUNTY, COLORADO**

s/Jon J. Becker
Jon J. Becker, Chairman

s/Timothy A. Malone
Timothy A. Malone, Commissioner

s/Kelvin S. Bernhardt
Kelvin S. Bernhardt, Commissioner

(SEAL)
ATTEST:

s/ Kevin Strauch
Kevin Strauch

Morgan County Attorney, Kathryn Sellars noted that this resolution will begin the process of potentially becoming a home rule county. She noted that this will call for an election on March 10th, 2026 to ask the voters to approve a Home Rule Charter Commission and then elect the representatives to be on the commission.

Commissioner Bernhardt stated that he has spoken to several Weld County commissioners and that they are in strong support of Morgan County becoming a home rule county.

Commissioner Malone asked Attorney Sellars how the number of commissioners are picked. She explained that it is determined by county population.

Chairman Becker explained his thoughts on the Home Rule Charter. He explained that this is a great idea for Morgan County in order to get more choices made locally rather than at the state level. He noted that this is not a

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS 3

quick process but one that is guided by statute. He explained that it would be led by eleven citizens which will have a variety of public meetings during the process. He noted that there is a difference between a home rule city vs. a home rule county and that a city has many more powers. He noted that this is due to counties not taking the opportunity to attempt to match the powers of the cities through the judiciary. He stated that this will cost from \$80,000 to \$130,000 dollars but he believed it is worth it.

Commissioner Malone note that initially he was skeptical because of the speed of the process but saw that it was actually much quicker when Weld County partook of the process. He also explained that every three and a half years that actions under their home rule charter were used.

Commissioner Bernhardt noted that he likes that being Home Rule gives the citizens a much larger hand in the process.

At this time, public comment was opened.

Sheriff Dave Martin asked for a description of the benefits. He said that his understanding is that the commission is dissolved after the November election if the charter is passed and that they will still exist if they choose to attempt a second charter.

Chairman Becker explained that one benefit is that the county would have more power in where to place green energy within Morgan County. Another benefit, he explained is that while the state would like to end the supply of natural gas to homes, Morgan County could push back on this.

Attorney Sellars said that if a home rule charter is voted against in November, that the commission would stay in existence until a charter was passed or the commission intentionally dissolves.

At this time, public comment was closed.

Commissioner Malone explained that he thinks that the power is more closely aligned with the local government and citizens.

Chairman Becker encouraged people to put in their applications to become a member of the commission. He also encouraged people to vote and that recent turnout for elections has been unacceptable. He believes that the state government is taking away power from local entities and thinks that this step is vital. He noted that there will be three Home Rule Commissioners elected from each County Commissioner District and two voted in at-large.

Attorney Sellars noted December 4th will be the notice of election in the newspaper and that candidates have until January 5th, 2026 to return the paperwork and signatures to the County Clerk’s Office by the close of business. She explained that the information for the Home Rule charter and candidate information will be posted on the county website and can be picked up at the County Clerk’s Office as well.

Commissioner Malone made a motion to approve the Resolution 2025 BCC 47 a resolution Calling a Special Election for March 10, 2026 to refer to the Registered Elector of Morgan County the Question of the Formation of a Home Rule Charter Commission and Election of members of the Home Rule Charter Commission and Designating Districts for Home Rule Charter Commissioners, as presented by Kathryn Sellars, Morgan County Attorney, Commissioner Bernhardt seconded the motion. At this time the motion carried 3-0.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kevin Strauch
Clerk to the Board

(Minutes ratified December 16th, 2025)

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MORGAN COUNTY, COLORADO

s/Jon J. Becker
Jon J. Becker, Chairman

s/Timothy A. Malone
Timothy A. Malone, Commissioner

s/Kelvin S. Bernhardt
Kelvin S. Bernhardt, Commissioner

4 COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

s/ Kevin Strauch

Kevin Strauch