

# COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS 1

## MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of Meeting  
December 9th, 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/86991748974> If you cannot connect via Zoom, you may submit written public comment to [morgancountybcc@co.morgan.co.us](mailto:morgancountybcc@co.morgan.co.us) by email by 4 p.m. on Monday December 8th, 2025.

To participate in Public Hearings you may connect via Zoom Conferencing Access Information <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86991748974> 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/86991748974> or to listen via phone, please dial: 1-312-626-6799, Meeting ID: 869 9174 8974

The Board of Morgan County Commissioners met Tuesday, December 9th, 2025 at 9:01 a.m. Chairman Jon Becker, Commissioner Tim Malone and Commissioner Kelvin Bernhardt were in attendance. Chairman Becker asked Morgan County Finance Director, Jessica Trusty to lead the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## GENERAL BUSINESS ITEMS

### 2026 Budget Review

Jessica Trusty, Morgan County Finance Director, provided the 2026 Proposed Budget and summarized the budget numbers being submitted.

#### 2026 Budget

The 2026 Budget for Morgan County is \$70,934,545. Of this budgeted

- o General fund - \$34,534,484
- o Road and Bridge - \$10,761,457
- o Social Services - \$7,513,945
- o 911 Emergency Telephone - \$1,236,500
- o Lodging Tourism Tax - \$272,000
- o Conservation Trust - \$900,000
- o Confiscation Seizure - \$3,867
- o Jail Capital Improvement -\$10,000,000
- o Ambulance Service -\$3,090,629
- o Solid Waste Management - \$4,713,064
- o Central Services Fund - \$7,908,599

Increase in CAPP insurance mainly due to claims and overall insurance costs going up.

The County had 6% increase in health insurance due to rising health care costs overall.

The County has approved contributing \$600 toward family health coverage for employees who elect family health coverage to help alleviate the cost of family health for employees and to help with employee retention.

County has approved a 2.50% COLA salary increase for all County employees to be effective January 1, 2026.

The 2026 County mill levy is as follows:

- General Fund – 19.448 mills
- Tax Abatement – 0.288 mills
- Total General - 19.736 mills
- Road & Bridge – 7.500 mills
- Social Services – 2.000 mills
- Total Mill Levy – 29.236
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This is expected to generate \$20,213,987 in property tax revenue

Public Comment was Opened

Michelle Covelli, of 103 11<sup>th</sup> Ave in Wiggins, stated that she looked at the previous budget proposal and she didn't see that the numbers matched to the final budget. She noted that there were many areas where projected items and estimated items don't seem to match. She noted that the ambulance budget is also over budget for the year. She also noted that she was unable to look at the budget audit for the year and that the Conservation Trust has a negative balance.

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Chairman Becker explained that the final budget has changed since the preliminary budget was presented for a variety of reasons. He noted that the finance audit was completed this week. He noted that they have received an extension of the audit deadline which they are still beyond. He explained that the ambulance fund has increased because there are new radios that were needed and additions in Wiggins. Finally, he noted that there is a negative balance to the Conservation Trust due to the new hog and sheep barn at the fairgrounds.

Public Comment was Closed

Commissioner Bernhardt thanked Ms. Trusty for her hard work since she's started with the county in September.

Commissioner Malone moved to continue the 2026 Proposed Budget Hearing for the Morgan County Budget to Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Bernhardt seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 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

(SEAL)  
**ATTEST:**

s/ Kevin Strauch

Kevin Strauch