



**Minutes of the Proceedings of  
The Board of County Commissioners of Teller County, Colorado  
January 22, 2026**

In attendance:

Chairman, Erik Stone  
Vice-Chairman Robert Campbell  
Commissioner Dan Williams  
Ross Herzog, County Administrator  
Paul Hurcomb, County Attorney  
Stephanie Kees, Clerk & Recorder  
Kenzie Porter, Deputy Clerk

**Agenda**

**1. 9:19 a.m. Convene in regular session**

**Invocation**

Mr. Dan Williams

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. James McLaughlin

**Minutes of Previous Meetings**

None.

**Accounts Payable**

**Action:** Vice-Chairman Campbell moved, and Commissioner Williams seconded, that the Board **approve** the accounts payable run date of January 15, 2026, in the amount of \$866,646.43. All Commissioners voted yes.

**Board Reports:**

**Commissioner Williams**

- Legislative session is underway with more unfunded mandates.
- He continues to serve as the Chair of the Land Use Committee.
- Three housing bills have already been introduced, one of which would allow housing units on school property similar to the bill that failed last year with church property.
- A multi-modal transportation bill was introduced that doesn't pertain to rural communities.
- Commented on the Clean Energy siting bill.
- Met with Katelyn at the Mine who reported they will be making a final decision on a new General Manager soon.
- Updates on recreation issues in the County: Pikes Peak land management;



three additional Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Rangers; National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Wildlife studies will be conducted; forest thinning and beaver restoration in the Dome Rock recreation area.

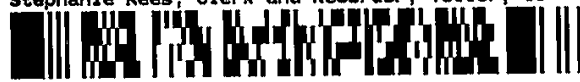
- He asked for civil tone in public discourse, including in the meetings about possible regulation of Short Term Rentals (STR).
- Expressed full faith and confidence in the integrity of the Clerk and Recorder's Office concerning elections.
- CPW/CWC (Colorado Water Conservation) council has issued a moratorium on introduction of any new wolves in 2026 and a moratorium on beaver trapping.
- Commented on the recent briefing from the Department of Human Services (DHS) briefing which reported increases in child abuse, domestic violence, and alcoholism. Funding for these services is in question. Urged everyone to check on their neighbors.

#### **Commissioner Campbell**

- He will attend a meeting at County Technical Services, Inc. (CTSI) next week to review bills on tax and finance.
- Attended meetings with Pikes Peak Workforce (PPWFC) and El Paso County regarding the Workforce Center structure.
- CTSI sold their building in Denver and is working on relocating to a new office space.
- The Commissioners held meetings with county employees to review their benefits and pay scale.
- Community Partnership has received national accolades for their service.
- He attended the Bronco's game last week. Go Broncos!

#### **Commissioner Stone**

- Update on the Central Front Range Transportation Planning Region (CFR TPR). He was elected as Vice-Chair of the board and they held a meeting to review their 10-year plan.
- Provided an update on Teller County road projects. Roads are in good condition with the recent projects.
- New gun laws coming into effect in 2026 based on 2025 bills/laws. The new gun safety training requirements will begin in August. The State has hired 8 people to train roughly 400,000 people for 8 hours for required in-person training. A local gun store is closing and moving to Kansas.
- Ute Pass Regional Health Service District has received a grant and will soon be hiring a new facilitator.
- Briefed on funding for DHS and State's plan to establish districts combining counties. This will unfairly shift the burden to counties when combining their error rates. The Commissioners are currently working with Colorado



Commissioners, Inc. (CCI) on this.

- The State is threatening to dissolve Pinnacol Assurance to help with the State's budget. There is approximately \$400 million in that fund that has been paid into by small business owners who will be affected the most.
- The Board of County Commissioners will be testifying on many bills during the legislative session.

### **Elected Official's Reports**

Krystal Brown, Treasurer

- Her office completed four software updates required by new laws to prepare the tax roll, which has been sent to the printer. She thanked Kyle Crawford and the IT department for their help with the software updates.
- Tax statements will look different this year because a new law does not allow the assessed values to be shown.

Kurt Schoenberger, Assessor

- Split assessment rates are factors in the assessed values no longer being on the tax bills. New laws make it more complicated.
- Business personal property declaration schedules will be mailed the first week in February. The deadline is due by April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- House Bill 26-1036 is attempting to tax vacant lots to allow excess tax in an attempt to force people to sell or develop vacant lots.
- Senate Bill 26-10 has bipartisan support to clarify agricultural status for tax purposes to use the term "predominantly used" vs "sufficient".

### **Administrator's Report**

Mr. Herzog

- Projects are moving forward. CSC (Centralized Service Center) is ahead of schedule.
- The projects at the fairgrounds and proceeding: new grandstands and then a new barn structure.
- Wastewater Treatment Plant expansion project is in the beginning stages. Utilities are being upgraded.
- Announced the County is under an Orange Flag status due to high winds.
- The Commissioners will hold another work session Short Term Rentals (STRs) this afternoon at 1:00 p.m.

## **2. 9:35 Time reserved for Department Heads**

Russell Ballinger, Director of Finance

- He thanked County Departments for staying within their budgets. He also thanked the Board and Administrator for collaboration on pay raises.



Dan Swallow, Community Development Director

- Informed the Board that the City of Golden Fire Chief asked him to serve on the State Fire Commission Committee to review possible state changes to the state-mandated Building Code and Fire Code. He opposes the mandate and agreed to serve on the committee.

**3. 9:40 Time reserved for the public without an appointment**

Carl Anderson, Teller County Resident

Commented on the State's plan to dissolve Pinnacol Assurance and that the money in the fund belongs to its members, not the State. State is only looking at ways to take away local control and will make it more expensive.

Brent Broadfoot, Teller County Resident

He gave a status report on their complaints about cell towers near their house and read an article from the Courier about this. Colton Berck and Dan Swallow visited their house and then Colton sent them a letter directing them to the FCC. Mr. Broadfoot played an audio recording of the sound they hear. They had to call 911 on Christmas Day. His wife had to leave the house due to the sound being so bad. He asked the Board if anyone else has complained about this. Commissioner Stone answered that complaints about cell towers are referred to County Development Department (CDD) to review permits, he is unaware of any similar complaints, and explained that the Board of County Commissioners has no authority over this issue. Commissioner Stone also recommended they contact Representative Brittany Pettersen.

**4. 9:45 Employee Service Awards**

Keri Ptak, Environmental Health Specialist at Public Health received an award for 5 Years of service to the County.

**5. 10:36 EMS Update**

Presenting: Zach Alvey, Vice Chair Teller County EMS Council.

Mr. Alvey gave a power point presentation on:

- 2025 calls for service, coverage, readiness, recognition and awards received by Teller County EMS.
- Chris Erickson received an EMS Lifetime Achievement Award.
- Update on the prehospita! whole blood Program. Three lives have been saved to date. Only 2% of the US are using prehospita! whole blood.
- Preparedness upgrade of a Responder Alerting app.
- O2 taskforce that allows deployment of battery generators for oxygen support.

James McLaughlin, Paramedic Program Director

- Received Region Opioid Abatement Council (ROAC) funds. Thanked Board of County Commissioners for their support.

- Thanked Michelle Wolff and Public Health for their partnership.
- Thanked Florissant Family Medical for telephone health support.

Board comments and appreciation.

Eric Murray, Director of Southern Teller County Health Services

- During recent wind event, deployed an O2 unit to resident who lost power.

**Additional Public Comment:**

Christopher Olney, Colorado Springs Utilities

Mr. Olney provided an update on the recreation uses at Rosemont Reservoir.

Colorado Springs Utilities passed a resolution for expanded recreation. Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) will provide oversight and enforcement conservation.

Board comments.

**6. 10:10 RECESS AS THE TELLER COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

11:16 a.m.

**7. CONVENE AS THE TELLER COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**

**Consider approval of the onsite wastewater treatment system variance for 1002 Comanche Trail, Florissant.**

Presenting: Austin May, Teller County Environmental Health

Public Comment: None

**Action:** Commissioner Williams moved, and Vice-Chairman Campbell seconded, to approve of the onsite wastewater treatment system variance for 1002 Comanche Trail, Florissant with the conditions listed in the recommendation form. All Commissioners voted yes.

**Consider approval of the onsite wastewater treatment system variance for 1002 Comanche Trail, Florissant.**

Presenting: Austin May, Teller County Public Health

Public Comment: None

Consider approval of the onsite wastewater treatment system variance for 1002 Comanche Trail, Florissant.

**Action:** Commissioner Williams moved, and Vice-Chairman Campbell seconded, to approve the onsite wastewater treatment system variance for 1002 Comanche Trail, Florissant with the conditions listed in the recommendation form. All Commissioners voted yes.



**8. ADJOURN AS THE TELLER COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**

11:20 a.m.

**9. RECONVENE AS THE TELLER COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**10. 10:20 Commissioners Board Matters and Actions**

**Consider a resolution approving the Final Plat for Alpine Vista Subdivision.**

Presenting: Colton Berck, Planning Director

Mr. Berck presented the staff report and the recommendation for approval with conditions.

Board comments.

Presentation: Craig Nelson, applicant and Jim Houck with Kimley Horn Engineering.

Mr. Nelson requested that the draft Subdivision Approvement Agreement (SIA) not include a provision that allows the County to terminate the SIA if the developer is in breach. Mr. Hurcomb, County Attorney, responded with his explanation and recommendation that the County retain the right to terminate the SIA if there is a breach by the Developer that is not cured.

Mr. Nelson also requested that he be allowed 90 days to finalize the SIA and for the plat signing and recording.

Commissioner Williams commented and asked about detention pond. Jim Houck responded with detention pond and dedication.

Commissioner Stone commented that he's okay with requests except for drainage because the County is not in the drainage business.

Paul Hurcomb, County Attorney

Read a revised resolution to consider the approval of the Final Plat for Alpine Vista Subdivision with conditions.

Commissioner Williams moved and Commissioner Campbell seconded, to approve **Resolution 01-22-2026(5)** as revised. All Commissioners voted yes.

**Consider a resolution to amend the 2026 General and Road & Bridge Fund budgets.**

Presenting: Violet Watt, Department of Finance

Public Comment: None.

**Action:** Commissioner Campbell moved, and Commissioner Williams seconded,

to approve Resolution 01-22-2026(6) a resolution to amend the 2026 General and Road & Bridge Fund budgets. All Commissioners voted yes.

**11. 10:35 Commissioners Business Items:**

Consider ratification of Change Order #7 to Taylor Kohrs Project #25-108  
Teller County.  
Ratified

**12. Items Received After Agenda Deadline:**

None.

Chairman Stone announced that the work session on STRs will start at 2:00 p.m.

**Adjournment:** 1:15 pm

APPROVED:   
Erik Stone, Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST:   
Stephanie Kees, Clerk & Recorder

