



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PALISADE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

August 26, 2025

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Town of Palisade was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Greg Mikolai, with Trustees present: Nicole Maxwell, Stan Harbaugh, Jeff Snook, Rick Fox, Sarah Matchett, and Mayor Pro-Tem Jamie Somerville. A quorum was declared. Also in attendance were Town Manager Janet Hawkinson, Town Clerk Keli Frasier, Parks, Facilities & Events Director Troy Ward, Chief of Police Jesse Stanford, and Special Event Coordinator Rebecca Loucks.

AGENDA ADOPTION

Motion #1 by Mayor Pro-Tem Somerville, seconded by Trustee Maxwell, to approve the agenda as presented.

A voice vote was requested.

Motion carried unanimously.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Town Manager Janet Hawkinson announced that staff are busy in budget season and then reviewed the current and ongoing projects led by the Town of Palisade.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda is intended to allow the Board to spend its time on more complex items. These items are generally perceived as non-controversial and can be approved by a single motion. The public or the Board members may ask that an item be removed from the Consent Agenda for individual consideration.

- **Expenditures**

Approval of Bills from Various Town Funds – July 30, 2025 – August 12, 2025.

- **Minutes**

Minutes from the August 12, 2025, Regular Board of Trustees Meeting.

Motion #2 by Mayor Pro-Tem Sommerville, seconded by Trustee Harbaugh, to approve the consent agenda as presented.

A roll call vote was requested.

Yes: Mayor Mikolai, Mayor Pro-Tem Somerville, Trustee Maxwell, Trustee Harbaugh, Trustee Matchett, Trustee Snook, Trustee Fox

No:

Absent:

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS**RESOLUTION 2025-22: Federal Mineral Lease District (FMLD) Grant Application
Support Requests for a Police Department K-9 Unit**

Palisade Police Chief Jesse Stanford gave a presentation on the proposed K-9 program and requested Board support to apply for an FMLD grant to get the program started.

The Board of Trustees and Chief Stanford discussed the concept of the program, including the following topics:

- The annual cost to keep the program moving forward
- Projected veterinary costs
- The K-9 being a great ambassador for the community
- The need for a K-9 unit at the schools, at special events, and along I-70 (weapons, drugs, and explosives)
- The possibility of having a second handler for the K-9 in case of officer vacations or illness
- Once this K-9 retires, will the Police Department want to continue the program
- If the grant is awarded, can the final approval of the expenditure come back to the Board for final approval

Motion #3 by Mayor Pro-Tem Somerville, seconded by Trustee Harbaugh, to approve Resolution 2025-22 supporting a \$45,000 Mesa County Federal Mineral Lease District grant application for a K-9 Unit.

A roll call vote was requested.

Yes: Mayor Pro-Tem Somerville, Trustee Harbaugh, Trustee Snook, Trustee Fox, Mayor Mikolai

No: Trustee Maxwell, Trustee Matchett

Absent:

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2025-23: Colorado Tourism Office (CTO) Grant Request

Town Manager Hawkinson introduced the Chair of the Tourism Advisory Board (TAB), Juliann Adams, who gave a presentation to the Board regarding the proposed use of the marketing funds if the grant is awarded.

The Board of Trustees and Chair Adams discussed the marketing concept, including the following topics:

- Partnership with Powderhorn Ski Resort
- Potential partnership with Cameo Sport Shooting Complex
- Off-season marketing needs

Motion #4 by Mayor Pro-Tem Somerville, seconded by Trustee Matchett, to approve directing the Mayor to sign a letter of commitment supporting the application for a CTO Grant for offseason regional marketing with a match of \$15,000 from the Tourism Budget, a \$5,000 contribution from Powderhorn, and \$40,000 from the CTO grant for a total project cost of \$60,000.

A roll call vote was requested.

Yes: Trustee Maxwell, Trustee Harbaugh, Trustee Matchett, Trustee Snook, Trustee Fox, Mayor Mikolai, Mayor Pro-Tem Somerville

No:

Absent:

Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2025-08: Adoption of Building Codes 1st READING

Town Manager Hawkinson reviewed the Ordinance and introduced Darrell Bay from the Mesa County Building Department, who explained the need to approve Codes that match Mesa County.

The Board of Trustees discussed the Ordinance, including the following topics:

- The use of “most current” vs. “2024” plans. There are different code years for various areas in the building code being adopted.
- Mesa County is the Town of Palisade’s building inspectors

Motion #5 by Trustee Matchett, seconded by Trustee Harbaugh, to approve ORDINANCE 2025-08 on first reading and move the item forward to Public Hearing on September 9, 2025.

A roll call vote was requested.

Yes: Trustee Harbaugh, Trustee Matchett, Trustee Snook, Trustee Fox, Mayor Mikolai, Mayor Pro-Tem Somerville, Trustee Maxwell

No:

Absent:

Motion carried.

Non-Profit/Organization Budget Requests for 2026

The Palisade Board of Trustees heard presentations from the following entities requesting funding for 2026. No decisions were made, and all requests heard will be considered during budget work sessions for the 2026 Town of Palisade budget.

- Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado (AGNC) (submitted a letter for renewal of membership)
- Business Incubator
- Colorado West Land Trust
- Grand Junction Sports Commission
- Grand Valley Outdoor Recreation Coalition
- La Plaza
- One River Front
- Palisade Chamber of Commerce
- Palisade Historical Society
- Rivers Edge West

PUBLIC COMMENT

Clair Gilbert of Palisade spoke in opposition to the proposed K-9 unit and expressed concerns about the grant requirements imposed by the Federal Mineral Lease District.

Matt Payne of Palisade encouraged the Board to focus on community needs and strength when considering funding for non-profits and groups.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

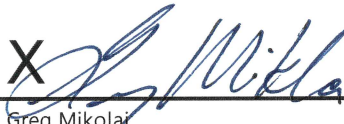
Trustee Snook summarized the most recent Tourism Advisory Board meeting; Mayor Pro-Tem Somerville gave a brief update on the Palisade Chamber of Commerce events, Mayor Mikolai updated the Board on the latest meeting with the Grand Valley Regional Transportation Committee (GVRTC), Trustee Harbaugh reviewed the meeting of the Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado (AGNC), Trustee Matchett discussed the Grand Junction Economic Partnership (GJEP), and Trustee Maxwell asked the Board if she could represent Palisade and speak with the Mesa County School District 51 Board regarding School Resource Officer (SRO) funding (**consensus was yes**).

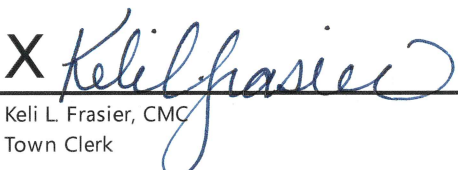
ADJOURNMENT

Motion #6 by Mayor Pro-Tem Somerville, seconded by Trustee Matchett, to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 pm.

A voice vote was requested.

Motion carried unanimously.

X 
Greg Mikolai
Mayor

X 
Keli L. Frasier, CMC
Town Clerk

