

**MINUTES
FOUNTAIN COUNTY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 30, 2025
9:00 A.M.**

Kelly Carlson, Jeff Fishero, Denise Crowder, Dudley Cruea, Todd Hegg, Jim McKee and Jeff Carver were present.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Dudley Cruea and seconded by Denise Crowder to approve the minutes of the Council meeting and the joint Council and Commissioner's meeting on October 14, 2025.

Vote: 4-0

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Clerk – Patty Smith

Patty discussed the bill she received for voting machines. It is in her 2026 budget, but it is due in November. She wanted to make sure she could get it paid. She said this is a normal process. The Council believes there has to be an additional done to pay for this. The Auditor will advertise.

Public Hearing – Budget Adoption

Open – 9:15

Public Comment – Carol asked how much salaries were going up. Dudley said they went from zero to 3.5 %. Denise wanted to make sure the public was aware of a position change for Soil & Water. The Council then discussed the new rates.

Close – 9:28

Denise wanted to discuss the ARC contract. We are currently waiting for the new contract from ARC.

Jeff Fishero stated there is a WEGA meeting on December 5th. He will recommend they use the money before they lose it.

BUDGET ADOPTION

ORDINANCE 2025-2 Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates

A motion was made by Dudley Cruea and seconded by Denise Crowder to adopt the 2026 Budget as presented for the following funds.

County General, MVH, MVH Restricted, Cumulative Bridge, Local Roads & Streets, Covered Bridge Maintenance, Health, Local Public Health Services Fund, PHEP Grant, Cumulative Capital Development, Cumulative Reassessment, Plat Book, LIT Public Safety, Accident Report, County Misdemeanor, Sheriff's Pension Trust, County Alcohol & Drug, CAPTA/CASA Grant, Probation Administration Fee Fund, Jury Fees, Chemical Test Fees, Community Corrections Probation Grant, Public Defense Admin Fee, Pre-Trial Diversion, Title IV-D Incentive, Infraction Deferral, County Drug Free Community, LEPC, Recorder's Perpetuation, CEDIT (Commissioners), Riverboat Revenue, County Farm, Statewide E-911, Non-Reverting E-911 Dispatch, LIT Special Purpose, Cumulative Voting Machine and ARPA Fund

Vote: 7-0

A motion was made by Jeff Fishero and seconded by Denise Crowder to approve the total tax rate of .5120.

Vote: 7-0

County General	.3273
Cumulative Reassessment	.0364
Cumulative Capital Development	.333
Cumulative Bridge	.10
Cumulative Voting	.005
Health	.01

Total Tax Rate - .5120

ORDINANCE 2025-3 Fountain County Solid Waste Management District Ordinance for Appropriations and Tax Rates

Solid Waste	.0213
-------------	-------

A motion was made by Jeff Carver and seconded by Dudley Cruea to adopt the 2026 Budget for the Fountain County Solid Waste Management District.

Vote: 7-0

GATEWAY SUBMISSION OF BUDGET FOR 2026

A motion was made by Todd Hegg and seconded by Jim McKee to approve the submission of the 2026 Budget to the DLGF through Gateway.

Vote: 7-0

PUBLIC COMMENT

Carol Owens asked how the Solar Farms will be taxed. The Council would like to have the Assessor come in the next meeting and explain.

Chris Brunner asked if there was any feedback from the hearing on Dolphin. Kelly Carlson informed her there was nothing at this time.


The Council discussed why the APC meeting was so short. It was to appoint Michael Cunningham.

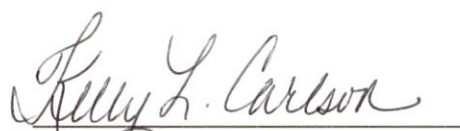
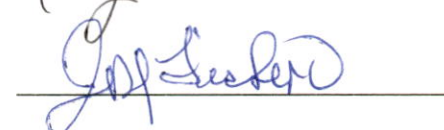
A motion was made by Todd Hegg and seconded by Denise Crowder to close the meeting.

Vote: 7-0

**THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE NOVEMBER 10
AT 9:00 A.M.**

*****SUBJECT TO CHANGE*****


ATTEST

Denise Corder

Dorley Corder

James McKee

John C. Cunn