

WESTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DRAFT MINUTES
February 6, 2018

The meeting of the Weston County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Tony Barton at 9:00 a.m. at the Weston County Courthouse Annex. Commissioners Bill Lambert, Tony Barton, Marty Ertman, and Ed Wagoner, and Clerk Jill Sellers were present. Commissioner Ertman opened the meeting with prayer, and Vice Chairman Lambert led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Barton added Commissioner Fun Night under Old Business. Commissioner Wagoner moved to approve the agenda as discussed; seconded by Vice Chairman Lambert. Carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chairman Lambert moved to approve the minutes of January 16, 2018; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried. Commissioner Ertman moved to approve both sets of the Executive Session minutes of January 16, 2018; seconded by Vice Chairman Lambert. Carried.

County Attorney Curley presented a voucher for a possible Title 25 payment. Chairman Barton requested that Attorney Curley address a letter to Wyoming Behavioral Institute requesting clarification to justify Title 25 in this case.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS, PAYROLL AND COLLECTIONS

Vice Chairman Lambert moved to approve payroll and collections for January 2018; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried. Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the vouchers for January 2018; seconded by Vice Chairman Lambert. Carried.

BUDGET AMENDMENT HEARING

Chairman Barton opened the budget amendment hearing at 10:00 a.m. Chairman Barton called for public comments three times; there were none. Chairman Barton closed the public hearing, and called for a motion. Commissioner Wagoner moved to increase the line item (418.00.94.0104000.0000) in the amount of \$190,000.00 for CMAQ Grieves Road (FY2017 CM 17409) and line item (418.00.95.0104000.0000) in the amount of \$100,000.00 for CMAQ Morrissey Road (FY2018 CM 18408); and to increase the line item (115.71.43.0226000.1217) in the amount of \$5,000.00 for USFS Sheriff Patrol; seconded by Commissioner Ertman. Carried.

ADMINISTRATOR

Administrator Dan Blakeman reported on progress on the CMAQ bid packages. Commissioner Ertman and Vice Chairman Lambert will attend a meeting with City of Newcastle officials regarding the Law Enforcement Building agreement when scheduled, to discuss and recommend finalizing the agreement.

The flood damage repair work continue in the courthouse: sheetrock is complete; texturing and painting are scheduled for next week. The project should be done by the end of February, and the Assessor will move back to the space thereafter. The old Commissioner Room will then be available, which will be used to manage operations during the Courtroom Remodel Project, which will include plans for Circuit Court and the timing of their eventual move to the courthouse.

Administrator Blakeman reported on the capital improvement plan, including considerations for the annex offices and Extension Office.

Administrator Blakeman requested travel funds of \$1000.00 in order to attend legislative meetings in Cheyenne in February. Vice Chairman Lambert moved to approve for the Administrator to spend \$1,000.00 out of the Commissioners travel budget (100.00.01.0025000.0000); seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried. Commissioner Ertman requested that the Administrator strongly consider missing this legislative session in order to organize the schedule and details to kick off the courtroom remodel project.

Commissioner Ertman moved to have a budget amendment hearing on March 20, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. to allocate all funding for the Courtroom Remodel Project to be brought into FY2018 Budget; seconded by Vice Chairman Lambert. Carried.

Administrator Blakeman will work with Road and Bridge Department to remove the No Commercial Traffic signs off of Morrissey Road, due to the receipt of federal funding for CMAQ.

ONEOK

Danette Welsh, Director of Government Relations, and Dick Vande Bossche, Right-of-Way Director, both of ONEOK, Inc., reported on the Elk Creek Pipeline project that will be built from Montana through eastern Wyoming to Kansas. Elk Creek Pipeline will carry natural gas liquid, will be approximately 900 miles, and will follow in proximity to the Bakken Pipeline established in 2011-2012, which at the time was promised to be the only pipeline. The construction timeline includes work starting in Kansas and Montana, and then work beginning in Wyoming and Weston County around fall 2018, and scheduled to end around October 2019. ONEOK is reportedly working with approximately 24 landowners in Weston County; and developing a road access plan for road use and travel plans for construction equipment.

Commissioner Ertman requested mitigation plans be provided to Homeland Security prior to the start of the project. Vice Chairman Lambert also addressed their need to carefully consider and manage the workforce that will be brought to Weston County, landowner rights, and environmental considerations. Regarding sales tax, Ms. Welsh assured that, unlike in 2011-2012, the plan is to take possession of materials in Wyoming, so that sales tax will come to Weston and other Wyoming counties. Chairman Barton requested that ONEOK look at the Upton Industrial Park for delivery and transit options.

ONEOK offered that they will be better neighbors in this project than the previous one. The Commissioners requested monthly reports on the project, in order to provide the public opportunity for understanding and questions.

OLD BUSINESS

Clerk Sellers reported on working with the Extension Office to insure their trailers and contents, but it remains unresolved at this time.

Chairman Barton reported on the options to host a movie for Commissioner Fun Night; the Dogie Theatre will provide a list of movies, for which the royalties would range up to approximately \$250.00. Chairman Barton will bring the list of movie titles, and the Commissioners will select a movie and then proceed to plan the movie night.

NEW BUSINESS

FY2017 Audit Report has been rescheduled for February 20th at 10:00 a.m.

Commissioner Ertman moved to authorize the Chairman's signature on a letter of support for Northern Wyoming Mental Health Center for BY2019-20; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

Weston County Commissioners received a letter from Supreme Court Chief Justice E. James Burke, to inform them that a full-time magistrate will not be appointed to Weston County at this time, although the position remains under continued consideration. Clerk Sellers will draft a letter to Chief Justice Burke to encourage them to identify a full-time replacement.

Vice Chairman Lambert moved to ratify the Chairman's signature on Resolution 2018-04: Courtroom Remodel Project Funding; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

Clerk Sellers reported on holding a community meeting in conjunction with the Wyoming County Clerk's Association on voting on February 27th at 6:00 p.m. An online survey will be available in order for the public to provide feedback to possible future voting options in Wyoming. The meeting will be held at the Weston County Event Center.

Commissioner Ertman reported on a conference call with members of Wyoming County Commissioners Association, which focused largely on the appropriations bill, direct funding from the state, and tax options for counties. Funding to Extension Office was also discussed.

USFS

In order to accommodate public attendance, the meeting reconvened at the Weston County District Court courtroom at 1:00 p.m. Commissioner Tracy Hunt was also in attendance. USFS Supervisor Mark Van Every and District Ranger Tracy Anderson appeared to discuss the future of the USFS Newcastle Field Office. The current lease from 1993 expires in November 2018. Supervisor Van Every presented four options that had been considered: 1) new lease; 2) purchase the building; 3) renovating Teepee Canyon office; and 4) moving Newcastle positions to Custer. Their criteria included cost and impact on employees. He stressed budget constraints, and noted that current cost at Newcastle Field Office is \$13,000/per employee per year, and that the space is too big for number of employees; 125 square feet per employee.

USFS hopes to pursue a temporary new lease to continue their presence in Newcastle, but would not define 'presence' or their commitment. He reported that it would mean keeping the same number of employees for now, but mitigated that statement by noting the unknowns of the future, and his reluctance to tie future supervisors to long-term obligations. They hope for a consolidated service center for the federal agencies, USFS, BLM, and USDA. This must be accomplished via a bid process, which is normally a 36-month process under General Services Administration (GSA). Current lease could be extended to allow time to bid and build or renovate.

The Commissioners pressed the USFS for a commitment to Newcastle, including a possible increase in USFS employees here, in order to better utilize space, cost per employee, and to manage the Thunder Basin National Grasslands from here instead of Douglas.

District Ranger Anderson will appear on March 6th at 11:00 a.m. Supervisor Van Every will also schedule to appear again before the Commissioners to provide a status report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

During the USFS discussion, Chairman Barton opened the floor for public comment by first asking for a show of hands for support of the field office remaining in Newcastle; the full courtroom all raised their hands. Bob Bonnar, citizen and Editor of the *Newsletter Journal*, spoke of his 20 years of frustration in USFS failure to develop a long-term solution; the apparent intent to close the Newcastle office; and the failure to consider creating two regional offices. Dick Terry, citizen and Wyoming State Forestry employee, invited the USFS to consider interim use of their facility as they plan for a local long-term solution. Several others spoke in support of the importance of local points of contact, the youth programs, and the negative impact of job loss to our local economy. Representative Hans Hunt, House District #2, commented, and also spoke on behalf of Representative Tyler Lindholm, House District #1, and Wyoming Senator Ogden Driskill, on the failure of the USFS to keep State Legislators well informed and certainly not in a timely manner, and how that effectively disabled their ability to intervene and support planning on a subject that greatly impacts their constituencies.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT LIABILITY POOL

Mark Pring, Director, and Mike Todd, Deputy Director, both of Local Government Liability Pool (LGLP), participated via conference call to discuss overall county liabilities regarding possible litigation cases. Specifically, they addressed coverage for law enforcement officers: LGLP covers them in their official capacity; State Attorney General covers them in their individual capacity. Attorney Curley noted that this session was to educate and inform the Commissioners regarding liability coverage through LGLP, and that no litigation is currently pending.

Director Pring also reported that in January the LGLP Board voted to leave their rates the same. Last year Weston County received a 15% credit for our contribution, which will be extended to FY2019. Currently LGLP provides liability coverage to 520 government entities in Wyoming.

UPTON RAILCAR PROJECT

Tom Barritt and Reuben Ritthaler, Tiger Transfer LLC, submitted a petition to alter a portion of County Road 20A, known as Buffalo Creek Road. Discussion ensued to consider options to proceed. Since the portion of the road falls within Town of Upton limits, Tiger Transfer will address the Town of Upton to determine their requirements to proceed. Tiger Transfer will complete the petition to alter County Road 20A, and they will also gain consent by signature of all affected landowners. If the latter is acceptable by both the Town of Upton and the landowners to proceed, then the petition option will be abandoned. Tiger Transport will be responsible for surveying, and a financial agreement must be also drafted. Tiger Transport will appear before the Commissioners on February 20, 2018 to provide a status report. Attorney Curley will also research county liabilities for safety on road engineering.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Melanie Stevens commented on her termination from the Clerk's Office.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive session was canceled, as Ms. Stevens reported her termination during public comments.

VOUCHERS

066 NCPERS, financial admin, \$240.00, AFLAC, payroll ded, \$2,422.13, Blue Cross Blue Shield, financial admin, \$54,282.83, Great West Trust Co, payroll ded, \$2,225.00, WEBT, financial admin, \$191.05, WC Clerk, financial admin, \$40,480.97, WC Treasurer, financial admin, \$20.00, WY Child Support, payroll ded, \$550.00, WY Dept of Workforce Services, financial admin, \$2,158.59, WY Retirement System, financial

admin, \$29,686.34, BH Auto Salvage, financial admin, \$9,543.00, Postmaster c/o P-Hlth, p-hlth exp, \$262.00, 21 Electric, fuel tank maint/maj repairs, \$21,126.25, Ad Pro, p-hlth exp, \$14.35, Alpha Communications, tower rent, \$55.00, AT&T Mobility, comm, \$1,240.39, Axis Forensic Toxicology, coroner exp, \$965.00, Bam Document Destruction & Recycling, misc, \$371.90, BH Chemical & Janitorial, brd of prisoners, \$723.77, BH Energy, util, \$5,517.15, BH Plumbing, repair/maint, \$578.00, BH Reg Multiple Use Coalition, school exp, \$100.00, Blue 360 Media, attny exp, \$70.25, Byrand Streeter, contract wages/fuel, \$1,214.72, Cambria Supply, repair/maint, \$191.57, Campbell Co Memorial Hospital, jail medical, \$492.50, Campbell Co Sheriff's Office, brd of prisoners, \$2,325.00, Carmen Simon, p-hlth exp, \$24.00, Central WC Solid Waste Dist, cwcswd, \$1,875.00, Chemical Testing Program, officer equip, \$459.00, City of Newcastle, util/dispatch/pub def /p-hlth exp/financial admin, \$8,290.48, Control Solutions, p-hlth exp, \$158.00, Crook Co Public Health, p-hlth exp, \$9.03, Culligan Water Conditioning, misc, \$21.50, Cynthia Crabtree, coroner exp, \$70.00, Dakota Radiator, repair/maint, \$475.00, Decker's Market, ext serv exp, \$34.24, Double D, repair/maint, \$634.21, Drive Train Industries, repair/maint, \$217.74, Eaton Sales & Service, fuel tank maint, \$23,660.54, Finkey Law, special attny, \$921.12, Fisher Sand & Gravel, gravel/rd mtrl, \$207.52, Frontier Home Ranch & Hardware, repair/maint, \$434.28, Golden West Technologies, comp software/hmlnd sec exp, \$4,690.27, Hein Bond, crthse remodel/grant match, \$46,182.60, Hillyard/Sioux Falls, janitor supp, \$85.30, Howard White Construction, crthse emerg repairs, \$57,393.00, Inland Truck Parts, repair/maint, \$13.02, Jodi Brooks, wic, \$5.49, JW Services, co rd fund, \$29,471.06, Kara Fladstol, ext serv exp, \$115.54, KASL, p-hlth exp, \$75.00, Kelly Cummings, coroner exp, \$100.00, Kregel Towing & Recovery, invstgtns, \$666.00, Lori Bickford, p-hlth exp, \$84.83, Lubnau Law Office, special attny, \$514.87, Marina Cullum, coroner exp, \$50.00, MasterCard, veh maint/fuel, \$2,046.65, Matthew Bender, attny exp, \$297.00, Max Masters, gis land records, \$1,900.00, MG Oil Company, oil/gas/lube, \$2,173.30, Minuteman Lube Center, veh maint/fuel, \$197.22, Mountain States Lithographing, misc, \$173.44, Natrona County Legal Dept, invol commit, \$2,295.00, Neela Beardsley, other employee, \$225.00, Newcastle Ambulance Service, ambulance, \$1,250.00, Newcastle Chamber of Commerce, chamber, \$725.00, Newcastle Fire Suppression, repair/maint, \$71.79, Newcastle Motors, veh maint/fuel, \$563.44, News Letter Journal, print/publ, \$142.57, Northern WY Mental Health, mntl hlth, \$2,125.00, Office Ally, p-hlth exp, \$19.95, Osage Ambulance, ambulance, \$3,750.00, Osage Improvement & Service Dist, coroner exp, \$300.00, Peterbilt of Wyoming, repair/maint, \$416.90, Powder River Energy, util, \$1,620.51, Power Plan OIB, repair/maint, \$1,400.29, Preventive Health & Safety Div, p-hlth exp, \$14.00, R&S Northeast, p-hlth exp, \$14.33, Regional Health, jail medical, \$29.00, Roadrunner Disposal Service, util, \$60.00, Rocky Mountain Propane, util, \$1,970.80, RT Communications, comm, \$2,660.24, Servall Uniform/Linen, janitor supp, \$138.64, ShopKo, hmlnd sec exp, \$239.84, Spyglass Group, comm, \$119.88, Stacy Buchholz, ext serv exp, \$79.03, Stephens-Peck, supp, \$90.00, Tempure Scientific, p-hlth exp, \$1,404.00, Texas Refinery, oil/gas/lube, \$1,045.90, Top Office Products, supp, \$1,884.79, Town of Upton, community garden/landfill, \$2,193.75, Ultra Max, equip/ammo, \$1,488.00, Upton Ambulance, ambulance, \$3,750.00, Upton Chamber of Commerce, chamber, \$425.00, Upton Co-op Assn, oil/gas/lube, \$15,679.60, Upton Senior Center, sr citizens, \$531.25, UW Admin Business Office, ext serv exp, \$5,833.50, Verizon Wireless, p-hlth exp, \$377.40, Vicki Hayman, ext serv exp, \$85.02, VISA, ext serv exp/hmlnd sec exp, \$369.94, Wayne Erickson Family Dental, jail medical, \$475.00, West End Water District, util, \$60.00, WC Children's Center, child ctr, \$3,187.50, WC 4-H Council, ext serv exp, \$205.12, WC Gazette, print/publ, \$489.69, WC Health Services, jail medical, \$29.00, WC Humane Society, humane society, \$637.50, WC Library, block alloc, \$23,567.32, WC Natural Resource Dist, nat res garden/hazard, \$1,168.75, WC Pharmacy, jail medical, \$9.52, WC Sr Services, brd of prisoners/sr citizens, \$8,692.50, Weston Engineering, engineer srvs/co rd fund, \$8,674.60, Woody's Food Center, brd of prisoners/supp, \$261.32, WY Automotive, repair/maint, \$423.07, WY Behavioral Institute, invol commit, \$8,905.00, WY Dept of Agriculture, fuel tank maint, \$25.00, WY Dept of Health, p-hlth exp, \$16,612.61, WY Dept of Health/Rental, p-hlth exp, \$253.00, WY Dept of

Transportation, supp, \$398.40, WY Network, financial admin, \$209.20, WY Taxpayers Association, financial admin, \$195.00. Net Payroll, \$132,256.91.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

Tony Barton
Chairman

Attest: Jill Sellers
Weston County Clerk