

**WESTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OFFICIAL MINUTES  
November 21, 2017**

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman Lambert added Joint Corps Legislative Meeting under New Business. Vice Chairman Barton moved to approve the agenda as discussed; seconded by Commissioner Hunt. Carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Wagoner moved to approve the minutes of November 7, 2017; seconded by Commissioner Ertman. Carried.

Vice Chairman Barton moved to approve the executive session minutes of November 7, 2017; seconded by Commissioner Ertman. Carried.

**HOMELAND SECURITY**

Homeland Security Coordinator Denise Bradshaw reported on training exercises being conducted for emergency situations, in order to prepare personnel and test command structure and equipment; and she also agreed to address a fire/emergency plan for the courthouse.

Commissioner Hunt moved to approve the Chairman's signature on Grant Agreement 18-DOT-WES-HMP18 in the amount of \$9,895.50; seconded by Vice Chairman Barton. Carried.

**ASSESSOR**

Assessor Tina Conklin presented two tax roll corrections. Vice Chairman Barton moved to approve Tax Roll Corrections 1204 and 1205; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

Assessor Conklin reported on the maps used by the Assessor's Office, stating that assessor maps are used for assessment purposes only, and are not considered survey quality. Constituents are advised to engage a professional surveyor for legal boundaries, etc. Assessor Conklin reported that Google maps use census data to compile their maps, and often the road names are marked incorrectly; she works with our GIS Mapping Contractor to submit changes to Google, but it is a long process to correct.

Assessor Conklin reported that she is reviewing easements, rights-of-way, and other roadway acreage deeded, or not, to the highway department, county, etc.; she will report back on findings and appeals.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Hunt moved to appoint Betty Petranek to the Historic Preservation Board; seconded by Commissioner Ertman. Carried.

Clerk Sellers reported on a potential step-raise for the Mallo Camp Manager based on a request from the Mallo Board. A .50 raise would raise the salary to \$33,080.12, which is within the salary cap of \$35,856.20 set in 2014. Commissioner Ertman moved to approve a step-raise of .50 for the Mallo Camp Manager; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

Clerk Sellers reported that Porter, Muirhead, Cornia & Howard completed their on-site audit reviews and are finalizing a report for the FY2017 Audit.

Clerk Sellers reported that Planning and Zoning Commission has reviewed the application and approval processes for land subdivision, and once finalized, they will present the revised forms and procedures to the Commissioners.

The December 19<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Commissioners will be held in the Weston County District Courtroom, in order to teleconference with State Supreme Court Chief Justice E. James Burke regarding the replacement of Stan Sheehan as Magistrate of Sixth Circuit Court.

Clerk Sellers reported on the meeting of Joint Corps Legislative Committee in Sundance on November 20, 2017, where the Clerk's Association testified on the election bills before the committee.

#### **ADMINISTRATOR**

Administrator Dan Blakeman reported that White Construction is proceeding with repairs to the Assessor's Office, and he encouraged the Commissioners to take time to come see its progress.

Administrator Blakeman reported that the Emergency Repair Grant vouchers (#62497, #62486 and #62527) presented on November 7<sup>th</sup> should be adjusted to be paid according to the original submission out of 355.50.55.0187000.0000. The Commissioners concurred.

Fire alarm project is about 85% completed; it will be tied together and tested over the next few weeks.

On December 5, 2017, Randy Hein, Hein Bond Architecture, will present the courtroom remodel plans to the Commissioners.

Administrator Blakeman reported on his review of county property values and maintenance list.

The 2013 Road Priority List will be used to prioritize road work and projects.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Clerk Sellers asked for feedback on the agenda footnote regarding the times being tentative. Alexis Barker, *Newsletter Journal*, and Nick Trandahl, *Weston County Gazette*, remarked that the footnote was appropriate to inform the public; they also noted that the Commissioners managed the schedule well in the best use of time, and acknowledged that the Commissioners respectfully accommodate the public.

A break was called at 10:32 a.m.; reconvened at 11:30 a.m.

#### **SCHEDULED PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jessica Graham, accompanied by Robert Bonnar, reported to the Commissioners on her dissatisfaction with the County Attorney's Office regarding case CR-202. Other attendees included Dean Johnson,

Alexis Barker, Nick Trandahl, Susie Overman, Deb Piana, Carol Thurman, Phil Thurman, Shawn Smith, Brad LaCroix, and Stephanie Kline.

Ms. Graham, with support from Mr. Bonnar, iterated that she had discussed prosecution of the case with the County Attorney, to no avail, and then escalated her concerns to State entities, including the Attorney General and the Governor. Ms. Graham scheduled to address the Commissioners as recommended by the Governor's Office, which instructed her to take the issue before the Board of Commissioners. Further discussion and public comment continued, with public comments heard from Dean Johnson, Carol Thurman, Deb Piana, and Stephanie Kline; both regarding this particular case and conduct of the County Attorney. This portion of the meeting remained primarily focused on the subject presented by Ms. Graham, and was conducted with professional decorum by the Chairman, Commissioners, and all attendees.

Ultimately, Ms. Graham asked that the Board of Commissioners send a letter to the State Attorney General or the Governor requesting that the State investigate the possibility for a special prosecutor.

Commissioner Ertman moved that the Board of Commissioners will send a letter to the Attorney General and the Governor requesting an investigation into the need for a possible appointment of a special prosecutor for case CR-202; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Discussion continued. Vice Chairman moved to amend the motion to stipulate the Board of Commissioners first speak with County Attorney; a second was not received. It was stated that if an investigation was determined necessary by the State, that the State would conduct interviews with all parties. The question was called. Ayes: Ertman, Wagoner, Barton and Lambert. Nays: Hunt. Carried.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:39 p.m.

Bill Lambert  
Chairman

Attest: Jill Sellers  
Weston County Clerk