

## UNOFFICIAL MINUTES

August 18, 2015

The Weston County Commissioners convened at 9:00 a.m., Chairman Bill Lambert presiding. Present were Commissioners: Tony Barton, Randy Rossman, Marty Ertman, County Clerk Cheryl Kregel, Commissioners Administrative Assistant Dan Blakeman, and Assistant Deputy Clerk Melanie Stevens. Commissioner Hunt was absent from today's meeting.

### **Good of the Order**

Commissioner Rossman gave the invocation and Commissioner Ertman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Approval of Agenda**

Commissioner Rossman moved, Commissioner Barton seconded, to approve the agenda. Carried.

### **Notice of Meeting**

Commissioner Rossman moved, Commissioner Barton seconded, to approve a resolution declaring the results of the one percent specific purpose sales tax and use excise tax election held within Weston County, Wyoming at a special election on Tuesday, May 5, 2015. Carried. **The 1% tax passed.**

### **County Road Utility License Applications**

Commissioner Barton moved, Commissioner Rossman seconded, to authorize the Chairman's signature on the five (5) separate utility license requests with RT Communications. Carried.

### **Road and Bridge Department Report**

Rick Williams reported on considering the purchase of a tractor/mower for county use, an increase in tires being dumped on county roads, repairs needed on different county roads and bridges, and Mallo Road needing gravel before spring.

### **New Business**

Discussion ensued over the reimbursement of sales tax and tips on personal credit cards. The county currently does not reimburse county employees for sales tax and tips on personal credit cards and will continue this practice. Chairman Lambert mentioned that Governor Mead would be visiting Newcastle Wednesday, August 19, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. with the five top elected officials from Boys State.

Cheryl Kregel, County Clerk, presented the Emergency Management Performance Grant for the Chairman's signature. Commissioner Barton moved, Commissioner Ertman seconded, to table this until this afternoon so that Dan Blakeman could have time to review the grant prior to signature. Carried.

The Commissioners unanimously agreed to hold the September 15, 2015 Commissioners meeting at the Community Center in Upton, per Commissioner Barton's suggestion. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting recessed at 9:57 a.m. and reconvened at 10:09 a.m.

### **County Vehicle Purchase**

Susan Overman, County Treasurer, requested at the August 4, 2015 meeting permission to go price out a new county vehicle. Overman returned today with estimates on a 2016 Chevrolet Traverse. Vicki Hayman, UW Extension Agent, requested the addition of a tow package to the new vehicle. Commissioner Ertman mentioned the cost difference between purchasing a new vehicle and mileage reimbursement. The discussion will be revisited later this afternoon.

### **Old Business**

Commissioner Ertman moved, Commissioner Barton seconded, to authorize Chairman Lambert's signature on the Juvenile Provider Agreement between Weston and Natrona County. Carried. Chairman Lambert will contact Mayor James of Newcastle and Commissioner Barton will speak to Mayor Upton of Upton to inquire about potential representatives of their respective cities to serve on the WCSWD Board. The WCSWD Board members will be appointed at the September 1, 2015 Commissioners meeting.

The meeting recessed at 10:30 a.m. and reconvened at 10:56 a.m.

### **Weston Engineering Report**

Jerry Hunt, Weston Engineering, recommended excavating and re-pouring the concrete on the north side of the Road and Bridge county shop to correct the flooring gap and stabilize the column. He will return a proposal for repairs to the Commissioners. The Bruce Road CMAQ bid packet has been sent to

Taylor Rossetti, WYDOT, for review and should be returned back early next week. Powder River Heating is working on completing their bonding process. Hunt has talked with several roofing contractors regarding the EOC roof repairs and hopes to have plans nailed down by the end of this week. Karen Farley, WYDEQ, questioned Hunt inquiring if the Commissioners require their renewal for dividing partials in land into numerous 35 acre lots. Commissioners suggested it would be best to start with the Planning and Zoning Board.

### **Sheriff Report**

Bryan Colvard, County Sheriff, informed the Commissioners that the Sheriff's department has a vehicle available for county use if needed. Colvard also informed the Commissioners that he is getting bids for the video surveillance systems in the EOC building and District Court.

The meeting recessed at 11:33 a.m. and reconvened at 11:45 a.m.

### **Visitor Comments**

Chairman Lambert opened the floor to visitor comments. None were heard at this time.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 11:45 a.m. and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

### **Approval of Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Rossman moved, Commissioner Barton seconded, to approve the Consent agenda items including, Catering permit for Natasha Bau August 29-30 for the Osage Mudfest, regular session and executive session minutes from August 4, 2015, and the Chairman's signature on the UW Contract for Stacy Buchholz, and the EBOLA Contract for Public Health. Carried

### **Discussion**

The Commissioners decided to keep the current county van and raise the mileage reimbursement amount. Commissioner Ertman moved, Commissioner Rossman seconded, to raise the reimbursement amount for mileage on personal vehicles for all county employees from \$0.50 per mile to \$0.575 per mile effective immediately. Carried.

Commissioner Rossman moved, Commissioner Barton seconded, to authorize the Chairman's signature on the Emergency Management Performance Grant. Carried.

The Commissioners decided to send the available pickup from the Sheriff's department out to Mallo Camp.

The meeting recessed at 1:10 p.m. and reconvened at 1:15 p.m.

### **County Attorney Report**

Attorney William Curley gave an update on the negotiation progress with the Ackerman's regarding the right-of-way on their portion of Salt Creek Road. Attorney Curley will send out a letter stating that the Commissioners are comfortable going forward with the process to abandon the 303 Easement. Attorney Curley requested a door installed in the basement hallway for privacy and security reasons. Attorney Curley is working with Rick Williams on drafting a utility license request form for any utility company to fill out for the Commissioners approval before beginning any work on county property. Commissioner Ertman discussed a letter that she had been given, that had been put out by RT Communications landmen, regarding Beaver Creek Road. Curley will address this letter with RT Communications and report back to the Commissioners.

### **Upton Consensus Money**

Commissioner Ertman moved, Commissioner Rossman seconded, to approve the Town of Upton's decision to change the 2015-2016 consensus funding from the waterline replacement line to the trash equipment line. Carried.

### **County Administrative Assistant Duties**

Dan Blakeman would like to have a complete job description in writing, including which employees would be under his supervision. It was decided to move this discussion to hold an extended meeting on September 1, 2015 and hold this discussion at 6:00 p.m. Blakeman mentioned the upcoming meeting on August 25, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners room with Mr. Miller, LGLP, regarding the employee policy handbook. He also mentioned a Government issues meeting on August 26, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in Moorcroft.

### **Courthouse Architectural Proposal**

Commissioner Barton moved, Commissioner Ertman seconded, to enter into negotiations with Hein & Bonds Architects for the historical architectural study to be done on the Weston County Courthouse at a cost of \$17,500.00. Carried.

**County Building Purchase**

The Commissioners agreed unanimously to go forward with the purchasing negotiations on a building for county use. Chairman Lambert will contact the seller as to the time for the September 1, 2015 agenda.

The meeting recessed at 2:28 p.m. and reconvened at 2:47 p.m.

**Prairie Dog Discussion**

Bob and Jean Harshbarger, along with Jim Darlington discussed their concerns on the continuing prairie dog issues on the Thunder Basin Grasslands. Bob Harshbarger extended an invitation to the Commissioner to attend the Association of National Grasslands, Inc. meeting on September 14-15, 2015 at the Fountain Inn, Newcastle WY.

The meeting recessed at 3:53 p.m. and reconvened at 4:04 p.m.

**Weston County Event Center**

Ray Hunkins, Hunkins Newton Law Firm, joined the meeting via conference call at 4:05 p.m. to update the Commissioners on the progress of negotiations for the Weston County Event Center. The conference call ended at 4:12 p.m.

**KONE, Inc. Contract**

County Attorney, William Curley, will address a response letter regarding the contract between KONE, Inc. and Weston County and report back to the Commissioners if further actions are needed.

**Rare Element Resources**

Mike Finn, RER, returned to update the Commissioners on the progress with their continuing projects.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 4:37 p.m.

Bill Lambert

Chairman

Attest: Cheryl Kregel

County Clerk