

WESTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OFFICIAL MINUTES
March 19, 2019

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. Commissioners Tony Barton, Tracy Hunt, Ed Wagoner, and Nathan Todd, Attorney Alex Berger and Clerk Becky Hadlock were present. Chairman Barton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Hunt moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Wagoner moved to approve the consent agenda, which included the minutes of March 5, 2019 and changes to both executive session minutes of March 5, 2019 as discussed; seconded by Chairman Barton. During discussion Commissioner Hunt requested to take the March 5, 2019 minutes out for discussion. Commissioner Hunt stated he was a little concerned about how our minutes are being published and how extensive they are. Commissioner Hunt is a little concerned that our Chairman isn't given an opportunity to review them before they go to publication and would like to talk to Becky for a minute about that. Commissioner Hunt asked Clerk Hadlock is there some reason she can't get them to the Chairman before they go to publication. Clerk Hadlock stated she can do that. Commissioner Hunt stated Chairman Barton would need time to really review them before the publication deadline and may need to talk to the other Commissioners about what the minutes say. Commissioner Hunt stated obviously they are the minutes of the Commission and the Commission's approval is what's important, but you are in the position of taking the minutes and require a high level of cooperation between your office and the commission. Commissioner Todd asked if they are the Board's minutes or are they the Clerk's minutes. Commissioner Todd stated he understands the need to make sure they are accurate, but don't we do that in a meeting. Commissioner Todd doesn't see a problem with seeing them, but should we be editing them outside of a public meeting. Commissioner Hunt stated if you think about that and say they are the Clerk's minutes, then without the Commission approving them, why would the Commission even approve them, obviously the Commission can decline those minutes and then where would we be. Commissioner Todd stated isn't that what we do when we approve them in the mornings. Commissioner Todd stated I don't disagree that we can see them, but to edit them out of public view isn't appropriate. Commissioner Hunt stated they are edited extensively by the Clerk out of public view and then they go to publication and we are spending a tremendous amount of money since Becky took over on publishing those minutes. Commissioner Todd asked Commissioner Hunt if he feels they have been inaccurate and Commissioner Hunt stated he did feel they have been mischaracterized. Clerk Hadlock doesn't understand the content so she paraphrases the minutes without understanding the underlying issue, so and so stated or so and so stated without question marks. Chairman Barton stated if he was the one that was helping edit the minutes, he would do that in the light most favorable and his suggestion is the way you would get around that, you would just take out all reference of the discussion or who stated and he stated and it's as part of a board government it's really not important what each individual thought, what's important is what this board decided at the end and we should walk out of this room whether we voted for or against it and stand behind the motion if it pass or if it fails. Chairman Barton stated one way to get around that is just say the motion made, who seconded, discussion included, list things that were discussed, motion carried or motion failed and that would shorten the cost of that too. Commissioner Hunt agreed. Carried.

BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD (BCBS) UPDATE

Mona Wineteer reported that Dorothy Kouba, with Willis Towers Watson, had met with herself and Clerk Hadlock about the BCBS medical and dental rates going up July 1. Mona stated that she did not need a decision by the Board until April 16, but to look it over and let her know if they had any questions. Mona will get ahold of Ms. Kouba and invite her to the next meeting.

BUDGET AMENDMENT HEARING

At 10:00 a.m., a budget amendment hearing was opened to move funds from the Cash Reserves in the amount of \$110,474.00 for Courthouse Remodel Project; to move funds to the Commissioner Mile/Trvl/Conventions Account. Chairman Barton asked for public comment. Bob Bonnar associate publisher and editor of the *News Letter Journal* provided public comment. Chairman Barton asked if there were any more public comments two more times. Hearing none, Chairman Barton closed the public part of the hearing. Chairman Barton asked if there were any comments from the Board. Chairman Barton stated that he took full responsibility for putting the second item in the budget amendment hearing. Chairman Barton stated it was something that was meant to be discussed at a meeting and the Board inadvertently didn't, so himself, Vice-Chairman Marty Ertman and Clerk Hadlock were still here and Chairman Barton stated to just put it in and we will advertise it. Commissioner Hunt moved to approve the budget amendment to move funds from the Cash Reserves in the amount of \$110,474.00 for Courthouse Remodel Project; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried. Commissioner Hunt moved to advertise for a budget amendment hearing to move funds from the General Misc. Financial Admin. Account in the amount of \$3,000 in to the Commissioner Mile/Trvl/Conventions Account; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Bryan Colvard presented a Memorandum of Understanding between Weston County and Converse County for Law Enforcement Extraterritorial Assistance (MOU). Commissioner Wagoner moved to approve the Chairman's signature on the MOU; seconded by Commissioner Hunt. Carried.

FOCUS

Stacie Hoxie, Director of FOCUS, apologized to the Board for missing the previous meeting. Ms. Hoxie stated that FOCUS was very interested in moving into the Annex Building but could not pay more than what they are paying now for rent. Ms. Hoxie stated they would probably be staying where they are at because their budget doesn't afford them more money. Ms. Hoxie thanked the Board for their continued support of FOCUS.

GROUP WHOLE LIFE INSURANCE

David Chick presented the Board with an option for employees to purchase a whole life insurance policy. Chairman Barton asked if the County pays this and Mr. Chick stated the employee would pay for the policy. Chairman Barton asked Clerk Hadlock to gather information from Mr. Chick on the Employee Whole Life Policy and get it to the employees to view and if there is some interest in it the Board can consider it.

OLD BUSINESS

SONIC WALL QUOTE

Assessor Tina Conklin updated the Board on the sonic wall quote prepared by Golden West (GW). Commissioner Wagoner moved to approve the sonic wall quote for a one year subscription in the amount of \$888.87; seconded by Commissioner Todd. Carried. Assessor Conklin reported on the service

review meeting with Golden West and stated it was very informative. Assessor Conklin has replaced two totes in the server room at the request of GW and GW brought up having the carpet replaced in the server room with snap vinyl. Commissioner Wagoner moved to replace the flooring in the server room out of the Courthouse Repair Account; seconded by Commissioner Todd. Carried. Assessor Conklin reported that assessment notices have been mailed out and would like to have the Board direct anyone with questions to her office, but if there is an appeal this will come before the Board.

ANNEX OFFICE

Commissioner Todd asked if there was ever a game plan or a long range forecast for what the Board thought the annex building would be used for. Chairman Barton stated that it was a fluent space and the plans have changed several times, but the original intent was for the County Attorney's Office. Attorney Berger reported that by the end of the week there would be five open offices. The Board would like to visit with Ms. Hoxie about some options with the office space rental. Attorney Berger stated he would contact Ms. Hoxie after lunch.

Maintenance Foreman Steve Price suggested to wait to advertise for cleaning services at the annex building until the offices get rented out. Mr. Price could do the lobby/bathroom until someone gets hired. Chairman Barton moved to authorize Maintenance Foreman Steve Price to develop a cleaning services description and advertise it in coordination with the other entities in the annex building; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

LOCAL GOVERNMENT LIABILITY POOL

Commissioner Wagoner moved to pay the dues to the Local Government Liability Pool in the amount of \$23,987; seconded by Commissioner Todd. Carried.

WESTON COUNTY CHILDREN'S CENTER FUNDING REQUEST

Chairman Barton moved to take the request from the Children's Center under advisement and move it into the 1% budget request folder for FY2020; seconded by Commissioner Hunt. Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Price would like to have a job description created for himself. The Board thanked Mr. Price for bringing this to their attention.

4-H/YOUTH DEVELOPMENT EDUCATOR-MALLO UPDATE

Brittany Hamilton, 4-H Youth Development Educator, wanted to give the Board an update on where they were with getting 4-H Camp back at Mallo. They are in the process of trying for the weekend of June 20th-22nd, 2020 and are currently waiting for the Mallo Board to get back with them as to whether this date will work.

NEW BUSINESS BROUGHT BEFORE THE BOARD

HISTORIC PRESERVATION CONTRACT

Commissioner Wagoner moved for the Chairman's signature on the contract between Weston County and Linea Sundstrom, Day Star Research to conduct petroglyph studies; seconded by Commissioner Todd. Carried.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Tony Barton
Chairman

Attest: Becky Hadlock
Weston County Clerk