

**WESTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**July 17, 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 Tony Barton, Bill Lambert, Marty Ertman, Tracy Hunt, and Ed Wagoner, and Clerk Jill Sellers were present. Chairman Barton opened the meeting with prayer, and Commissioner Ertman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Commissioner Ertman requested DRU Consulting be added under Old Business. Commissioner Wagoner moved to approve the agenda as discussed; seconded by Vice Chairman Lambert. Carried.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Vice Chairman Lambert moved to approve the consent agenda, which included the minutes of July 3, 2018; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

**APPROVAL OF FY2019 BUDGET**

Chairman Barton opened the discussion on approval of the FY2019 Budget, including the option to consider a .50 raise for employees. Vice Chairman Lambert moved to approve the FY2019 Budget in the amount of \$16,921,450.12, without the .50 employee raise; seconded by Commissioner Hunt. Vice Chairman Lambert discussed the option of proceeding into the new fiscal year to see the revenue patterns before committing to the employee raises. Treasurer Overman asked the Board to commit to a decision for the raise in the approval of the budget. Commissioner Ertman spoke in favor of raises and suggested reallocating the Administrator's salary since he is leaving in August, although the decision to hire or not hire a new Administrator has not been made. Commissioner Hunt noted that the support being argued had not been presented earlier at the budget workshops, and that raises should be considered based on merit and market, not a political decision. Commissioner Wagoner offered that he would prefer to experience a full budget cycle with the Elected Officials' raises and address employee raises in FY2020. Question was called. Ayes: Lambert, Hunt, Wagoner. Nays: Ertman. Carried.

**LIQUOR LICENSE**

Commissioner Hunt moved to approve the liquor license application for Cedar Pines Golf Club; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Vice Chairman Lambert moved to have the Clerk's Office be the primary point of contact for Golden West Technology; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

Attorney Curley has reviewed the Weston County-Supreme Court Memorandum of Understanding and forwarded his input to the Supreme Court; the MOU was not signed, pending their response, and will be added to the August 7<sup>th</sup> agenda.

Chairman Barton and Commissioner Ertman reported on a draft amendment to the TBNG Collaborative Working Group. Vice Chairman Lambert moved to approve support for the TBNG Collaborative Working Group and plan amendment NEPA process, and to commit funds not to exceed \$15,000.00 over the next two years, contingent upon approval of Federal Natural Resource Policy Account (FNRPA) funding distribution; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Commissioner Hunt moved to approve the Catering Permits for Flying V for August 4-11, 2018; Buckhorn Bar & Grill for August 2-16, 2018; Goose Landing for July 21, 2018; Short Stop for August 1, 2018 for Weston County Event Center; seconded by Vice Chairman Lambert. Carried.

Clerk Sellers presented the letter of non-renewal from Glatfelter Insurance on the county property insurance. Quotes are being solicited from ADI, First State Bank Insurance, HUB and WARM, and will be presented on August 7, 2018. Commissioner Ertman moved to authorize the Clerk to work on behalf of the Board to sign binding waivers to gain insurance quotes; seconded by Vice Chairman Lambert. Carried.

## **WESTON COUNTY PREVENTION TASK FORCE**

The Prevention Management Memorandum of Understanding has been reviewed by Attorney Curley. Vice Chairman Lambert moved to add the funding amount of \$104,921.50 to Prevention Management MOU with Weston County Health Services and authorize the Chairman's signature; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

## **ROAD & BRIDGE**

Superintendent Rick Williams reported on his letter to Vermillion Energy as being ineffective in mitigating truck traffic on Cheyenne River Road, as two large-producing oil wells have been established. A meeting to discuss managing traffic and possible private investment to repair roads based on their usage was considered, as well as inviting our state representatives to attend. Clerk Sellers will coordinate invitations to legislators. Funding and gravel solutions were also discussed. Superintendent Williams will prioritize the CMAQ projects, and Vice Chairman Lambert will contact Jerry Hunt of Weston Engineering.

## **ADMINISTRATOR**

Administrator Dan Blakeman reported that the Burlington Northern Railroad (BNRR) bridge on Old Highway 85 has been placed on the WYDOT schedule in 2024. WYDOT issued a letter asking Weston County to prove its ownership of the bridge, which was transferred to the County by the State.

An energy audit conducted on the courthouse indicated usage is decreasing, confirming that the window and insulation projects have been cost effective investments to mitigate the increase in energy costs per therm. The remodel of the courtroom will likely show further savings once completed and reoccupied.

Administrator presented a capital improvement plan, prioritizing maintenance projects for county buildings, which will be discussed in the afternoon workshop.

## **DEQ**

Craig McOmie, DEQ, reported on the ongoing closure project with Central Weston County Solid Waste District, specifically seeking grant match commitment and hopes for a 90/10 match from SLIB. Vice Chairman Lambert moved to appropriate \$70,000.00 out of the Federal Mineral Royalty line item (355.50.54.0183000.0000) as a 10% match in order to proceed with the SLIB grant application for the Central Weston County Solid Waste District closure project to be considered on October 6<sup>th</sup>; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

**SPECIAL ATTORNEY**

Commissioner Hunt noted that the special attorney authorized for the County Clerk regarding Alex Berger running for the office of Weston County Attorney was engaged due to the conflict of interest from the present County Attorney. Clerk Sellers thanked the Commissioners for their consideration given the unprecedented nature of the case.

**NEWCASTLE ARTS COUNCIL**

Tom Voss, Newcastle City Councilman, requested support from the county for a stage for the Newcastle Arts Council, which would be used in the Weston County Event Center. The Board directed Mr. Voss to the Fair Board and the City of Newcastle, in order to build a funding coalition. Mr. Voss also requested permission to have an outdoor event on the Library grounds on September 29<sup>th</sup>. The Board recommended review the event with Steve Price, County Maintenance, prior to final approval. The Arts Council will provide proof of liability insurance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Joe Wood, Jr. reported that the Osage Improvement & Service and Osage Water Districts wish to expand their special district boundaries. Both applications will be provided to the County Attorney for review and will be added to the August 7<sup>th</sup> agenda.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

Tony Barton  
Chairman

Attest: Jill Sellers  
Weston County Clerk