

February 17, 2015

The regular meeting of the Weston County Commissioners convened at 9:00 a.m. in the Weston County Courthouse with Chairman Bill Lambert presiding. Present were Commissioners: Marty Ertman, Randy Rossman, Tony Barton & Tracy Hunt. Also present County Clerk Cheryl Kregel, County Attorney William Curley and Nick Trandahl of the Weston County Gazette and Bob Bonnar of the News Letter Journal.

Call to Order

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

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Rossman moved to approve agenda with County Treasurer Overman replacing District Clerk Macke at 10:45 a.m. Commissioner Barton seconded and motion carried.

Commissioner Barton noticed the minutes and the executive session minutes were not on the consent agenda. Commissioner Barton moved to amend the consent agenda and add the minutes to the agenda. Commissioner Rossman seconded and motion carried.

Rare Element Resources

Mike Finn met with the Commissioners with an update on the current status of Rare Elements Resources (RER) and they are doing extremely well. Mike asked the Commissioners to draft a letter to the Forest Service in Custer to move the processing along on the Environmental Impact Statement. Mike will send information for the direction of the letter he would like written. Commissioner Barton said he would do the first draft and then email it to Mike. The Commissioners thanked Mike for the information and keeping them updated.

Road & Bridge

Rick Williams met with the Commissioners to discuss upcoming projects and equipment updates. Rick stated he is going to get a bid on fixing the H-Vac exhaust system and had also visited with Jerry Hunt on various projects out in the county. Rick will be getting prices on different equipment and will keep the commissioners updated. The Commissioners thanked Rick for all the hard work he and his crew are doing.

County Road Easement

Fran Lehman, GIS Coordinator, reported she has the large plat books moved into her new office. She is waiting on the approval of Attorney Curley for the easements and has been working with Joni Kachelhoffer of the Wyoming Department of Transportation on easements up north. Commissioners thanked Fran for her diligence and keeping them updated on progress.

The meeting recessed at 10:07 a.m. and resumed at 10:14 a.m.

Weston County Health Services

Maureen Cadwell, CEO and Jimmy Long, Board Member met with Commissioners on supporting submission the Resolution of a Federal Mineral Royalty Capital Construction Account Grant Application to the State Loan & Investment Board on behalf of the Weston County Hospital District. The grant will be funding the addition to the Nursing Home for a special care unit at the Weston County Manor. Commissioner Ertman moved to authorize Chairman Lambert to sign the Resolution for supporting the submission of a Federal Mineral Royalty Capital Construction Account Grant Application to the State Land & Investment Board on behalf of the Weston County Hospital District. Commissioner Rossman seconded. Motion carried.

Weston County Extension

Vicki Hayman & Stacy Buchholz met with the Commissioners to discuss upcoming schools and upcoming camps, such as the 4-H & Livestock Camps for the area members. They also discussed

traveling for conventions and meetings in states close to Wyoming. Ms. Hayman & Ms. Buchholz stated that they apply for grants to help with travel costs and other expenses. The Commissioners mentioned the budget meetings that will be coming up and suggested they figure travel into the requests they submit. The Commissioners discussed the recent MOU and the operating agreement between the UW Extension and County Fair Board sent by the UW to the board. Both were unaware of the documents but they would do more research on these documents. The County Attorney was also given a copy and will return with recommendations. Both Ms. Hayman and Ms. Buchholz returned later in the day to go over documents.

Weston County Treasurer

Weston County Treasurer Susan Overman gave reports on the Revenue Report and cash report and let the Commissioners know where the county's monies are invested and discussed different topics. The Commissioners thanked Ms. Overman for her update and keeping the Commissioners informed.

Wyoming Business Council (WBC)

David Spencer of the Wyoming Business Council introduced himself to the Commissioners. David explained the different grants that the WBC is involved in, such as the Weston County Event Center and the study on the Upton Industrial Park. The Commissioner's thanked Mr. Spencer for taking time out of his schedule to meet with them and thanked him for all the information.

Cynthia Crabtree

Ms. Crabtree met with the Commissioner's on an issue that occurred in the last election. The County Clerk will be looking at the statute on qualified voters who reside within boundaries of Osage water district and those who just own land there. Ms. Crabtree just wanted the Commissioners to have the knowledge of what took place in the past election. The Commissioner's thanked Ms. Crabtree for her diligence in bringing this to their attention.

Visitor Comments

There were no visitor comments at this time.

The meeting recessed and 11:50 a.m. and resumed at 1:00 p.m.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Rossman moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Commissioner Hunt seconded and motion carried: The Consent Agenda included and the minutes & executive session minutes of February 3, 2015 as amended for the consent agenda. Commissioner Hunt seconded and motion carried.

Contract Engineer

Jerry Hunt, Weston Engineering, met with the Commissioner about being compliant with the State Fire Marshall on the EXIT signs in all the county buildings. Jerry stated that there is a change order for MES (Mining Electrical Services, LLC) to increase the project. Commissioner Ertman moved to accept the change order as per Jerry Hunt's recommendation and Commissioner Rossman seconded. Motion carried. Also talked about various projects that will be happening in the County with repairs and renovations. The Commissioners thanked Jerry for all his hard work and diligence on bringing the County's buildings up to Fire Marshal Standards.

Landfill

Present for discussion on the landfill were Dustin Upton, Jerry Hunt & Mark Lindstrom. Commissioner Lambert drafted a letter to send to Mr. Dave Chapman of the Department of Revenue in regards to the Weston County Solid Waste District. There has been no decision as to what will happen but they all agreed everyone needs to be in unity on this matter. Further meetings are upcoming and Commissioner's Lambert & Barton have stated they will be going to all meetings. The Commissioners thanked Dustin, Jerry & Mark for their concerns and interest in this County wide matter.

Courthouse Repairs

Jerry Hunt visited with the Commissioners on the upcoming grants and projects the county will be doing. The Commissioners also inquired about the procedures Jerry would like them to take into consideration. Jerry will visit with them at the next meeting on March 3, 2015. Jerry has different ideas and will work up a protocol for all to be aware of.

Old Business

Old business items discussed were the burn control letter that Bob Harshbarger wrote and the Commissioners looked it over. They also reviewed paperwork for signatures and the Board Removal packet. The Board Removal packet was given to Attorney William Curley to look over and give his legal opinion.

The meeting recessed at 2:19 p.m. and resumed at 2:27 p.m.

New Business

Deputy County Clerk Shawnda Morrison met with Commissioners on the Janitorial Position that was available. Sofia Baeza was shown around the courthouse and Shawnda updated her on all the specifics. Commissioner Barton moved to hire Sofia and two ladies to clean the courthouse for \$60.00 an hour for three employees at 3-4 hours a day. Commissioner Rossman seconded. Motion carried.

Bids from Larry Honebrink for repairs on the Courthouse were discussed by the Commissioners and Jerry Hunt.

The topic of a County Administrator/Planner was discussed and thoughts of a young college student for the position were suggested. Commissioner Rossman asked if any applications had been received for the maintenance position and there were none.

County Attorney Curley

Lori Bickford, Weston County Public Health Nurse, had met with Attorney Curley on the Mutual Aid Protocol Letter, which was presented to the Commissioners. After research, the State had decided to rescind the letter and nothing more has happened. The move into office space downstairs is going along good.

The meeting recessed at 2:55 p.m. and resumed at 3:00 p.m.

Sheriff Bryan Colvard

Sheriff Colvard met with the Commissioners and informed them that the Weston County Search & Rescue Team will be going to the Powder River area to search for a drowning victim. They will be taking the appropriate equipment and will be doing this on Saturday February 21, 2015. Also an update on the repairs to the EOC building and Sheriff Colvard reported no bid back on the roof repair. He is also looking to find a building inspector for evaluations. Commissioner Barton said he would help with the process of getting evaluations going. The Commissioners thanked Sheriff Colvard for all his work and diligence on all projects.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:41 p.m.

Attest: Cheryl Kregel

County Clerk

Bill Lambert

Chairman