

**Official Minutes
February 16, 2016**

The Weston County Board of Commissioners convened at 9:00 a.m., Chairman Bill Lambert presiding. Present were Commissioners: Tony Barton, Marty Ertman, Tracy Hunt, Randy Rossman, Administrative Assistant Dan Blakeman, County Clerk Cheryl Kregel and County Attorney William Curley.

Good of the Order

Commissioner Barton gave the Invocation and Commissioner Rossman led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Rossman moved and Commissioner Barton seconded to approve the agenda with the following changes to New Business: 1) Wyoming Forest Biomass Conference 2) GASB 68 Reporting for Wyoming Retirement 3) WYOLINK and 4) letter from Weston County Fair Board. And add to Old Business: Wyoming Public Lands Initiative. Carried.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Commissioner Barton moved and Commissioner Rossman seconded to approve the Consent Agenda which include Signature on Resolution 16-02 Sprinkler and Fire Alarm System, signatures on Treasurer Cash Detail Report & Petition & Affidavit for Tax Roll Correction minus the minutes of February 2, 2016. Carried.

Commissioner Rossman moved and Commissioner Barton seconded to approve the minutes for February 2, 2016. Discussion was heard under New Business on the Board Appointments why it was not stated that Mike Davis would receive a Thank You letter after it was discussed. Chairman Lambert stated it was in the unofficial minutes that the Clerk had sent to him but he didn't think we needed to repeat it and stated if it was the wish of the Commission a letter would be sent. All agreed and County Clerk Kregel will send a letter. Should read "Board Training" and not Board Governance Training. For the Administrative Assistant the following will be added to the minutes: Mr. Blakeman discussed a letter from WYDOT which explained how payments from that office would be dispersed. Payments from WYDOT are on a reimbursement basis which is the same procedure as those coming from the State Land and Investment Board. A discussion ensued to ensure that contractors would be paid by the county as per its standard procedure instead of payments being held back waiting for payments from WYDOT and/or SLIB. Also in the Handbook Revision Weston County Employee Handbook the word through should be spelled out. Carried.

Road & Bridge Update

Rick Williams, supervisor for Road & Bridge updated the Commissioners on various projects that will involve the county. Discussed were cattle guards, cleaning fuel tanks and dust control on county roads.

Declaration of Deposits

Commissioner Barton moved and Commissioner Rossman seconded to approve the Declaration of Deposits for First State Bank of Newcastle and the FirstTier Bank of Upton and Pinnacle Bank of Newcastle the initial depository for Weston County for calendar year 2016. Public Disclosure forms were signed and notarized by all Commissioners. Carried.

Weston County Solid Waste District

Ed Wagoner, Board Member of the WCSWD updated the Commissioners on the by-laws that have been presented to the County Attorney, meetings with City of Newcastle and other concerns. Discussion was heard.

The meeting recessed at 10:09 a.m. and resumed at 10:15 a.m.

New Business

Commissioner Rossman moved and Commissioner Hunt seconded to approve the appointments of the following boards: reappointment of Mary Capps for the Weston County Historic Preservation Board for 2016-2019, to appoint Troy Lynch for Weston County Weed & Pest (position at large) for 2016-2020, to appoint Nicky Groenewold to the Weston County Predatory Animal Board for Sportsman Representative for 2016-2019 and appoint Hale Redding to the Weston County Fair Board 2016-2021. Discussion ensued. Motion Carried.

The Wyoming Forest Biomass Conference will be held in March 29 through the 31 in Laramie, WY. Commissioner Hunt stated he would attend the conference. Discussion was heard on the GASB 68 Retirement Reporting that was presented at the Legislature Commissioner's Meeting during the past week, the information will be given to the Payroll Clerk Deputy Shawnda Morrison. WYOLINK was discussed with Home Land Security Coordinator Scott Rager.

Old Business

Discussion was heard on the insurance letter from underwriters for HCC Public Risk Claim Service concerning the Weston County Exhibit Building which has been denied. A new line item was created for the Weston County Coroner for General Coroner Inquest & Investigation & the Weston County Employee Handbook was discussed.

Executive Session

Commissioner Ertman moved and Commissioner Rossman seconded to go into executive session per Wyoming Statute 16-4-405 (a) (ii) a governing body of an agency may hold executive sessions not open

to the public: to consider the appointment, employment, right to practice or dismissal of a public officer, professional person or employee, or to hear complaints or charges brought against an employee, professional person or officer, unless the employee, professional person or officer requests a public hearing. The governing body may exclude from any public or private hearing during the examination of a witness, any or all other witnesses in the matter being investigated. Following the hearing or executive session, the governing body may deliberate on its decision in executive sessions. Carried. The meeting went into executive session at 10:45 a.m. with Commissioners Lambert, Ertman, Hunt, Rossman, Barton, County Clerk Kregel, Administrative Assistant Blakeman and County Attorney William Curley present. The meeting resumed at 11:14 a.m. with all present.

Rare Element Resources

Linda Tokoarczyk, Contract Consultant for RER, updated the Commissioners on the Draft EIS for the Bearlodge project released by the Forest Service in January and answered questions.

Mutual Aid Agreement

Commissioner Ertman moved and Commissioner Rossman seconded to approve Chairman Lambert to sign the Mutual Aid Agreement, which was presented by Scott Rager, Homeland Security Coordinator. Motion Carried.

Upton Emergency Plan Presentation

Mark Mitchell, Upton City Council member, presented the Commissioners with Upton's Emergency Plan. Explained their processes and handed out pamphlets. Mr. Mitchell stated he will be in contact with Scott Rager, Homeland Security Coordinator and the Sheriff's Department for future updates.

Visitor Comments

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

The meeting recessed at 11:44 a.m. for lunch and resumed at 1:00 p.m.

Road Identification Project

Rick Williams, Fran Lehman, Becky Hadlock and William Curley updated the Commissioners on projects for RIP. Discussion was heard on easements, roads and procedures. No action was taken.

Old Business

Commissioner Ertman move and Commissioner Rossman seconded to send a letter of support to the Wyoming Public Land Initiative. Discussion was heard. Motion Carried.

Weston County Attorney Update

William Curley, County Attorney, approached the Commissioners on being able to use the County Credit Card to purchase a computer. Commissioner Hunt moved and Commissioner Rossman seconded to approve the Weston County Attorney to purchase a computer and office supplies off the internet. Carried.

Commissioner Ertman moved and Commissioner Rossman seconded for the Weston County Attorney to pay the National District Attorneys Association Membership Coordinator for \$176.00 and Wyoming County & Prosecuting Attorneys Association for \$200.00 by county credit card. Carried.

The meeting recessed at 2:12 p.m. and resumed at 2:41 p.m.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Public Health

Commissioner Rossman moved and Commissioner Ertman seconded for the signature of Chairman Lambert to sign the MOU. Discussion ensued. Carried.

Weston County Event Center

Ray Hunkins, Weston County Attorney, updated the Commissioners via telephone on the work process on the Weston County Event Center. Mr. Hunkins recommended not to sign off on any work and to have Scott Riley draft a letter to Vertex and Paul Reed Construction. No further action will be taken until the draft letter is completed.

Weston County Courthouse

Randy Hein, architect for Hein|Bond, presented the Commissioners with three proposals for Weston County Courthouse Restoration/Renovation Project. Mr. Hein went over aspects of each proposal and the decision will be made by the Commissioners. Discussion ensued and no action was taken.

Visitor Comments

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

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Bill Lambert
Chairman

Attest:

Cheryl Kregel
County Clerk