

WESTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OFFICIAL MINUTES
July 18, 2017

The meeting of the Weston County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Bill Lambert at 9:00 a.m. at the Weston County Courthouse Annex. Commissioners Bill Lambert, Tony Barton, Marty Ertman, Tracy Hunt, and Ed Wagoner, and Clerk Jill Sellers were present. Vice Chairman Barton opened the meeting with prayer, and Commissioner Wagoner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Lambert added Jerry Hunt to the agenda at 2:00 p.m. Vice Chairman Barton moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Wagoner moved to approve the minutes of July 5, 2017; seconded by Vice Chairman Barton. Carried.

APPROVAL OF THE BUDGET

The budget for FY2018 was presented at the Public Hearing on July 17, 2017. Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the FY2018 budget of \$10,211,251.50; seconded by Commissioner Hunt. Carried.

Vice Chairman Barton moved to approve the draft letter to the departments to be included with the FY2018 Budget; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

FAIRGROUNDS

Ellen McKenzie presented a poster to the Commissioners with the details of the Weston County Fair schedule. Commissioner Fun Night is scheduled for August 3, 2017.

PLANNING AND ZONING

Vice Chairman Barton moved to approve the application for a single-land split for the Kennedy Family Revocable Trust; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

Commissioner Hunt moved to appoint Donna Kennedy to the Planning and Zoning Commission; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

INDIGENT BURIALS

Coroner Cynthia Crabtree reported on the indigent burial policy. The state provides \$1,800.00 for indigent burial costs. Form packets will be available at the Clerk's Office. Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the Weston County policy for Indigent Burials and Cremation; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

Vice Chairman Barton moved to approve Resolution 2017-10 for Worden's Funeral Directors Facility Usage Fee; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Clerk Sellers contacted Big Iron Auctions to discuss an online auction. Scott Keith met with Rick Williams, Road and Bridge Supervisor, and Sheriff Bryan Colvard to assess the equipment and vehicles that would be included in the sale. The potential date for the sale is September or October.

Porter, Muirhead, Cornia, and Howard (PMCH) began the FY2017. A single audit will not be necessary, as Weston County did not meet the Federal requirements in last fiscal year. This minimized their time on-site, and also reduced the cost by approximately \$8,000.00.

Commissioner Hunt moved to appoint Carol Mark to serve on the Planning and Zoning Commission; seconded by Commissioner Ertman. Carried.

Vice Chairman Barton moved to authorize the Chairman's signature on the rental agreement with the City of Newcastle for Circuit Court in the amount of \$800.00 per month; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

Vice Chairman Barton moved to authorize the Chairman's signature on the rental agreement with the City of Newcastle for the Public Defender office in the amount of \$600.00 per month; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

Commissioner Hunt moved to approve the catering permits for the Flying V and for the Buckhorn Bar & Grill; seconded by Commissioner Ertman. Carried.

The Offices of the Clerk and Treasurer are working with Tyler Technology to implement the processing of credit cards both at the counters and online with iTax and iReg. Estimated start date is August 1, 2017.

ADMINISTRATOR

Administrator Dan Blakeman presented a proposal from Eaton Company for the Road and Bridge fuel island project. Courthouse roof project is entering final stages. Walk-through at the Youth Building is scheduled for Monday, July 24, 2017. Substantial and final completion will follow for both projects.

Administrator Blakeman sent the letter to the SLIB regarding the grant for the courthouse second floor remodel; he has not yet received a response.

COURTHOUSE SECURITY

Judge Matthew F.G. Castano, Sixth Judicial District, began the discussion regarding the proposed courtroom project, stating that the ultimate goal is for Weston County to have one courtroom for both District and Circuit Courts, with adequate security and technology for proceedings. Temporary courtroom spaces will be required during renovation. Randy Hein, Hein Bond Architects, explained that plans include upgrading to an ADA-compliant, unisex bathroom and utilizing existing walls to minimize costs, with the overall intent being to maintain the historic integrity of the courthouse while creating a modern, functional space. Hein Bond estimates the total project at \$946,920.00. Funding was discussed at length. Currently available funding includes \$207,846.00 in Federal Mineral Royalty Grant for Courthouse Security; \$300,000.00 in State Land & Investment Board Grant for Second Floor Remodel; \$44,000.00 from Wyoming Supreme Court for technology; \$138,672.00 in Consensus Funds; \$23,500.00 in County Grant Match Funds for Courthouse Security Project; and \$100,000.00 in County Grant Match Funds for Second Floor Remodel. Total funds available are \$814,018.00; leaving a shortfall of

\$132,902.00. Vice Chairman Barton moved to approve Hein Bond Architects to develop a full set of construction plans for the courtroom remodel project; seconded by Commissioner Hunt. Carried.

ROAD AND BRIDGE

Rick Williams, Road and Bridge Supervisor, and Jerry Hunt, Weston Engineering, presented plans for bridge removal and culvert installation on Bruce Road/Wildcat Creek. Bids will be accepted through August 10, 2017 at the Clerk's Office. The Commissioners will award the project on August 15, 2017. The project will be funded by the County Road Fund.

Solutions for the Lynch Road bridge will be presented at the next meeting on August 1, 2017.

Rick Williams discussed the Eaton proposal to upgrade the fuel island and tanks; he will research other companies to bid the project. The Commissioners support moving forward with this project, which will be funded by the Fuel Tank Fund. He also reported that he intends to assign one of his existing employees as his assistant supervisor. The salary total in the new budget is adequate.

Dust control will be done on Grieves Road. Clerk Sellers will check on status CMAQ grant and report on August 1, 2017.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Alexis Barker, *News Letter Journal*, asked for comments from the Commissioners regarding the confirmed plague case in a Thunder Basin Grasslands prairie dog. Commissioners Hunt and Ertman provided feedback regarding USFS policies which have allowed for the exploding prairie dog population, and that the plague is a natural control mechanism, which is cyclic and will manage numbers accordingly.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Bill Lambert
Chairman

Attest: Jill Sellers
Weston County Clerk