

September 15, 2015

The Weston County Commissioners convened at 9:00 a.m. at the Upton Community Center, Chairman Bill Lambert presiding. Present were Commissioners: Marty Ertman, Tony Barton, Tracy Hunt, and Randy Rossman. Also present, Assistant Deputy Clerk Mel Stevens.

Good of the Order

Commissioner Rossman gave the invocation and Commissioner Barton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda and Consent Agenda

Chairman Lambert and Commissioner Ertman requested changes to the Agenda. Commissioner Rossman moved, Commissioner Barton seconded, to approve the amended agenda and the consent agenda including the regular and executive session minutes from September 1, 2015. Carried.

Building Purchase

The Commissioners, Administrative Assistant, County Attorney, and County Treasurer discussed purchasing an additional building for county use. The discussion will be revisited this afternoon at 3:30 p.m.

The meeting recessed at 9:53 a.m. and reconvened at 10:00 a.m.

New Business

Scott Rager, Homeland Security, presented the Weston County Wyoming Emergency Operations Plan (WCWEOP) to the Commissioners for approval. Commissioner Barton moved, Commissioner Hunt seconded, to approve the WCWEOP and authorize the signatures of all Commissioners. Carried.

Discussion

Commissioner Ertman discussed a letter from the Wyoming County Commissioners Association regarding the US Forest Service response to April 9, 2015 State and County letter requesting assurance. Commissioner Ertman also spoke about the FOCUS board training she attended on Wednesday, September 2, 2015 at the Weston County Library.

The meeting recessed at 10:40 a.m. and reconvened at 11:02 a.m.

Old Business

Steve Price, County Maintenance; will install a door in the County Attorney's office at a cost of no more than \$2,200.00. Jerry Hunt, Weston Engineering; anticipated hearing back from Powder River on their paperwork later this week. Hunt also noted that bid packets for the EOC roof project and the Road and Bridge County shop floor should be completed this week. Discussion was also held regarding the subdivision process and regulations.

County Attorney Report

William Curley, County Attorney; requested permission to use the county issued credit card for office supply purchases. County credit cards are only to be used for travel expenses and will continue these practices. Attorney Curley stated he felt comfortable with the Historical Courthouse Architectural Proposal as presented by Hein & Bond.

Visitor Comments

Chairman Lambert opened the floor to the morning visitor comments.

Dave Upton talked about dust concerns regarding Barton Road. Carl Kuemmerle, Carolyn Peterson and Everett Kraft also talked about dust and safety concerns regarding Upton Fairview Road. The Commissioners appreciated all of the concerns and will follow up with Road and Bridge regarding these concerns.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:10 p.m. and reconvened at 1:05 p.m.

Discussion

Dan Blakeman, Administrative Assistant, updated the Commissioners on the Revenue Committee meeting that he attended in Buffalo, WY on Thursday, September 10, 2015.

Sheriff Report

Bryan Colvard, County Sheriff, cancelled due to a Code Red in Weston County.

Planning and Zoning

Donna Kennedy and Fran Lehman, Planning Secretary; presented the Kennedy Black Hills Bentonite, LLC minor subdivision request for approval. Commissioner Rossman moved, Commissioner Barton seconded, to approve Kennedy Black Hills Bentonite, LLC minor subdivision. Carried.

Fran Lehman, also presented the request for an exemption from the subdivision rules and regulations. Commissioner Rossman moved, Commissioner Ertman seconded, to approve the Kimsey family request for exemption of subdivision rules and regulations. Carried.

Weston County Event Center

Ray Hunkins, Hunkins Newton Law Firm, joined the meeting via conference call at 1:38 p.m. Commissioner Hunt moved, Commissioner Rossman seconded, to enter executive session under W.S. 16-4-405 (a)(iii) on matters concerning litigation to which the governing body may be a party to. Commissioners Rossman and Hunt, voted Yea. Commissioners Barton and Ertman voted Nay. Chairman Lambert voted Yea to break the tie vote. Carried.

The meeting entered executive session at 1:39 p.m. and returned to open session at 1:47 p.m. The conference call ended at 1:47 p.m.

United States Forest Service

Shane Walker, USFS District Ranger; met and discussed in detail prairie dog management conservation assessment and strategy progress, sage grouse grassland plan amendment progress and Turner Reservoir's proposed future repairs.

Upton Municipal Airport Update

Lori Olson, Upton Municipal Airport Board Chairman and Airport Manager, introduced herself and gave an update on activities, issues and improvements the airport is working on.

Logistics Center Update

Tom Barritt, Owner of Tiger Transfer; came in to talk to the Commissioners about current and future opportunities that they are working on.

The meeting recessed at 2:54 p.m. and reconvened at 3:02 p.m.

Weston County Solid Waste District Board

Commissioner Barton moved, Commissioner Rossman seconded, to appointment Brian Pischke, Ted Ertman, Ron Brunner, Ed Wagoner, and Joe Watt to the WCSWD Board. Carried.

County Building Purchase

Commissioner Barton moved, Commissioner Ertman seconded, to purchase the Pinnacle Bank building for \$225,000.00 contingent upon the County Attorney's review of the purchase contract. Carried.

Rare Element Resources

Mike Finn, RER, returned to update the Commissioners on the progress with their continuing projects.

Visitor Comments

Chairman Lambert opened the floor to the afternoon visitor comments. Discussion took place regarding the request of increased law enforcement patrols thru Osage. The concern will be relayed to Sheriff Colvard.

Discussion

Commissioner Ertman asked permission to change the courthouse exterior lights to pink for the month of October in support of Breast Cancer Awareness month. The Commissioners supported her request.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

Bill Lambert

Chairman

Attest: Cheryl Kregel

County Clerk