

March 4, 2014

The regular meeting of the Weston County Commissioners convened at 9:00 a.m. with Chairman Seeley presiding. Present for the meeting were Commissioners: Lenard D. Seeley, Jerry Shepperson, Randy Rossman, Marty Ertman, Tracy Hunt and County Clerk, Mamie C. Krank.

**Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**Approve Minutes**

A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held February 18, 2014, as published. Carried.

The meeting recessed at 9:40 a.m. and reconvened at 9:48 a.m. with all present.

**Salt Creek Road**

Bill Lunney, concerned citizen, met with the Commissioners and discussed a modified speed bump made of snow and ice on the Salt Creek Road. Mr. Lunney presented a petition to the Commissioners with approximately one-hundred ten (110) signatures requesting action by the Commission to obtain easements and permanently remove the speed bump on the Salt Creek Road. The Commissioners explained that they were in the process obtaining the easement and would keep abreast of the situation. No action was taken.

**Accept Collections**

A motion was made by Commissioner Rossman, seconded by Commissioner Shepperson, to accept the collections of the District Court Clerk in the amount of \$2,322.46. Carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rossman, seconded by Commissioner Shepperson, to accept the collections of the County Clerk in the amount of \$10,110.25. Carried.

**Declaration of Official Depositories**

A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to designate FirstTier Bank of Upton as Weston County's Official Depositories for the calendar year 2014. Carried.

**Rare Element Resources**

Mike Finn, Rare Element Resources (RER), met with the Commissioners and gave an update on the RER Project. Mr. Finn discussed a Notice of Intent to be published in the Federal Register this week. Mr. Finn stated that scoping meetings are scheduled for late March and early April 2014. Mr. Finn stated that several Counties including Crook, Weston and Johnson support the project and RER is requesting support from several more. No action was taken.

**Board Appointment**

**Certified Local Government Historic Preservation Board:** A motion was made by Commissioner Rossman, seconded by Commissioner Shepperson, to appoint James R. Robinson to an unexpired three-year term on the CLG Historic Preservation Board. Carried.

**Rebate of Taxes**

A motion was made by Commissioner Rossman, seconded by Commissioner Hunt, to approve and authorize Chairman Seeley's signature on a Rebate of Taxes numbered 1097 to Sunshine Valley Petroleum in the amount of \$234.34. Carried.

The meeting recessed at 10:46 a.m. and reconvened at 10:53 a.m. with all present.

**Prairie Dogs - United States Forest Service**

Thomas Whitford, United States Forest Service (USFS) Douglas Ranger District, met with the Commissioners and discussed an Amendment to the Prairie Dog Management Plan, which is a part of the USFS Thunder Basin National Grassland (TBNG) Management Plan. Mr. Whitford presented a handout titled NEPA and the Prairie Dog Amendment. Mr. Whitford invited the Commission to attend an ID Meeting for cooperating agencies in Laramie on March 12, 2014 and stated an agenda would be emailed. Mr. Whitford explained that approximately 58,000

comments were received by the USFS during the scoping period. The comments will be responded to and a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared with a target date of August 2014. Once the EIS is finalized, a Draft Record of Decision (ROD) will be prepared with a target date of December 2014; the Draft ROD will have a forty-five day objection period. The final ROD will follow with a target date of January 2015. Mr. Whitford stated that there are currently six cooperating agencies: US Fish & Wildlife, State of Wyoming, Campbell County, Converse County, Weston County and the Campbell County Conservation District. No action was taken; Mr. Whitford was thanked for the information.

The meeting recessed at 11:32 a.m. and reconvened at 11:40 a.m. with all present, except Commissioner Hunt who was on County business.

#### **Sheriff's Department**

Bryan Colvard, Sheriff, met with the Commissioners and discussed the department's accounts receivable and fees for the month. Sheriff Colvard updated the Commissioners on a construction project to expand the IT Room at the Law Enforcement Center, stating that the project would be approximately \$12,000.00 plus electrical expenses. Sheriff Colvard updated the Commissioners on the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) stating that a design change may be needed to comply with a new fire suppression law. No action was taken.

The meeting recessed at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m. with all present.

#### **Contract Engineer**

Jerry Hunt, Contract Engineer, met with the Commissioners and discussed investigative work to be completed on the basement floor in the Courthouse. Mr. Hunt stated that he had contacted John Francis, John Francis Masonry, who will work with Mr. Hunt to determine the problem and possible solution. Mr. Hunt briefed the Commissioners on the Courthouse A/C Replacement Project which is currently under bid. Mr. Hunt is working on the bid packet for the County Building Energy Efficient Lighting Project. Mr. Hunt stated that the Road & Bridge Roof Replacement Project should be substantially complete by June 15, 2014, according to contract documents.

#### **Weston County Event Center**

A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to authorize Chairman Seeley's signature on two original agreements between Weston County and WJE, a consulting Architect/Engineer firm, for the Weston County Event Center. Carried.

#### **Courthouse Basement**

Tina Conklin, Assessor, met with the Commissioners and voiced concerns regarding the repairs to the basement floor in the Courthouse. The GIS room in the Courthouse basement houses a computer server. Mrs. Conklin would like to have notice before any work begins in order to move the server out of the GIS room. The Commissioners stated that they would inform Mrs. Conklin before any work is started. Mrs. Conklin related that expected computer upgrades for the Assessor's Office are scheduled for October 2014. The funds for the upgrades have been anticipated and are currently budgeted. No action was taken.

#### **Legislative Redistricting**

Daniel Bau, Dan Fouch and William Curley, concerned citizens, met with the Commissioners and discussed a proposed resolution regarding legislative redistricting. The group presented a document titled "Weston County Grand Jury Presentment and alternatively First Amendment Petition for Grievances on Legislative Constitutional Districting" which stated a grievance to the collection of state taxes in Weston County due to the deprivation of constitutional representation in the Wyoming Legislature. A group made up of twenty-three citizens formed a Grand Jury which found unconstitutional representation now exists in the Wyoming Legislature. Commissioner Hunt questioned the authority under which the grand jury was formed and was told by Mr. Curley that the authority dates back to the 1600's. The group is circulating a petition for citizens to sign who agree with the findings of the Grand Jury. A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman; to rescind a Resolution titled "Resolution #11-12 Supporting the Statewide County Redistricting Plan", which was in favor of Representative Hans Hunt's statewide proposal for legislative districts. Lengthy discussion ensued, Failed. The recorded votes are as follows: Yea: Commissioners Shepperson and Rossman; Nay: Commissioners Ertman and Hunt, Chairman

Seeley cast the tie breaking vote of Nay. Commissioner Hunt requested that the issue be revisited at a later date.

### **Sage Grouse**

Bob & Jean Harshbarger, resident experts, met with the Commissioners and discussed the Draft Sage Grouse Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and comments which are due by March 24, 2014. Mr. Harshbarger stated that the current plan does not address Weston County's Land Use Plan. Mr. Harshbarger explained that the NEPA process allows for the human element to be considered above other species. Mr. Harshbarger will compile comments for the Sage Grouse Draft EIS and meet with the Commission on March 18, 2014, prior to the comment deadline. The Commissioners thanked Mr. & Mrs. Harshbarger for their research and input. No action was taken.

### **UW Extension Educator**

Vicki Hayman, Ag Extension Educator, met with the Commissioners and discussed the UW Extension Educator position that will be open when William Taylor retires in May of 2014. Ms. Hayman questioned whether the Commissioners wanted to continue the position in Weston County. The Commission related that if the position is going to be filled they would prefer that the UW Extension Educator live in Weston County. No action was taken.

### **Approve Vouchers**

A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to approve the vouchers as presented. Carried. They are as follows:

066 NCPERS, financial admin, \$304.00, AFLAC, payroll ded, \$1,678.58, Blue Cross Blue Shield, financial admin, \$58,680.74, Office of Child Support, payroll ded, \$175.00, Orchard Trust, payroll ded, \$1,120.00, WEBT, financial admin, \$185.10, Weston County Clerk, financial admin, \$41,538.73, WY Child Support, payroll ded, \$1,175.00, WY Dept of Workforce Services, financial admin, \$2,855.15, WY Retirement System, financial admin, \$24,379.70, WY Retirement System, financial admin, \$613.98, Morrison Maierle Inc, master plan, \$6,542.12, Worden Funeral Directors, financial admin, \$1,000.00, Hermes Consolidated Inc, oil/gas, \$49,531.36, Hunkins Newton Law Firm, financial admin, \$25,000.00, Wraytec Security Services, brd of prisoners, \$600.00, Ad Pro, p-hlth exp, \$27.18, Adams ISC, repair/maint, \$139.77, Advanced Drug Testing, misc, \$78.00, All Clear Windows, janitor supp, \$45.00, Alpha Communications, tower rent, \$55.00, AlSCO, janitor supp, \$13.00, American Welding & Gas Inc, repair/maint, \$44.08, Arrow Service, veh maint/fuel, \$120.00, AT&T Mobility, comm, \$977.28, Black Hills Chemical & Janitorial, brd of prisoners, \$1,520.72, Black Hills Plumbing, repair/maint, \$399.40, Black Hills Power, util, \$2,784.91, Black Hills Printing & Signs, supp, \$734.98, Bob Barker Co, brd of prisoners, \$241.10, Byrand Streeter, contract wages, \$1,071.88, C&J Newcastle Hardware, repair/maint/janitor supp, \$544.25, Cambria Car Wash, veh maint/fuel, \$100.00, Cambria Supply, repair/maint/tools, \$595.33, Casey Thorson, janitor supp, \$350.00, City of Newcastle, util/dispatch/pub def/p-hlth exp, \$4,886.24, Connie James RN, p-hlth exp, \$5.00, Control Solutions, p-hlth exp, \$15.00, Creative Culture Insignia LLC, uniforms, \$185.75, Crook Co Public Health, p-hlth exp, \$80.00, Culligan Water Conditioning, misc, \$21.25, Decker's Market, supp/ag exp/p-hlth exp, \$202.43, Dixon Bros, oil/gas, \$346.77, Double D Obsolete Parts, repair/maint, \$623.89, Family Dollar Stores, brd of prisoners, \$10.00, Fastenal Company, repair/maint, \$221.39, Federal Publishing, misc, \$298.50, Fred's Welding Service, cntrct/equip/lbr, \$480.00, Frontier Home Ranch & Hardware, repair/maint, \$180.92, Gateway Auto Supply, repair/maint, \$221.07, Godfrey's Brake Service, repair/maint, \$1,888.07, Golden West Technologies, comp software/new equip, \$1,420.00, Hansen & Peck, office exp, \$4,250.00, Hillyard/Sioux Falls, janitor supp, \$131.10, IACREOT, school exp, \$195.00, Jerry Shepperson, mile/trvl, \$84.00, Jodi Brooks, p-hlth exp, \$5.00, John's Electric, repair/maint, \$276.30, KASL, p-hlth exp, \$786.80, Lenard D. Seeley, mile/trvl, \$199.00, Lichen Research Center, comp software, \$1,000.00, Linstad's Alignment & Brake Service, repair/maint, \$123.00, Lori Bickford, p-hlth exp, \$298.70, Mamie C. Krank, school exp, \$225.00, Martha L. Ertman, mile/trvl, \$230.00, MasterCard, school exp/veh maint/fuel, \$94.45, Max Masters, gis land records, \$1,900.00, MG Oil Company, oil/gas, \$714.37, Moore Medical LLC, p-hlth exp, \$56.05, NADA Used Car Guide Co, misc, \$700.00, Newcastle Ambulance Service, invol commit/ambInc, \$3,248.33, Newcastle Chamber of Commerce, chmbr, \$875.00, Newcastle Extinguisher, repair/maint, \$196.78, Newcastle Motors, hmlnd sec exp/veh maint/fuel, \$1,819.98, News Letter Journal, print/publ/supp, \$3,817.10, North American Truck & Trailer, repair/maint, \$15.02, Office Ally, p-hlth exp, \$19.95, Oil City Operating Inc, repair/maint,

\$29.61, Porter Muirhead Cornia & Howard CPAs, financial admin, \$6,000.00, Postmaster c/o Hmlnd Sec, hmlnd sec exp, \$220.00, Postmaster c/o R&B, post/freight, \$147.00, Powder River Energy Corp, util, \$1,263.07, Power Plan OIB, repair/maint, \$349.63, Precinct Police Products, uniforms, \$2,685.00, Preventive Health & Safety Division, p-hlth exp, \$28.00, Randy Rossman, mile/trvl, \$259.00, Rapid Delivery, post/freight, \$12.00, Reserve Acct-Pitney Bowes, post/freight, \$600.00, Rexford's Locksmith Shop, repair/maint, \$75.00, Ringer Law PC, special attny, \$189.00, Roadrunner Disposal Service, util, \$60.00, RT Communications, comm, \$1,956.90, Safety-Kleen Corp, repair/maint, \$346.87, Sanofi Pasteur, p-hlth exp, \$1,092.56, Securus, inmate prog, \$420.00, Servall Uniform/Linen Co, repair/maint, \$248.49, ShopKo, p-hlth exp/brd of prisoners, \$251.39, Source Gas, util, \$2,896.23, Southern Advantage Co, brd of prisoners, \$995.00, Stacy Madden, ag exp, \$90.00, Team Lab Chemical Corp, oil/gas, \$103.00, Top Office Products, supp/ag exp/p-hlth exp, \$589.28, Upton Co-op Assn, oil/gas, \$3,492.83, Upton Senior Center, sr citizens, \$625.00, Urbin Law Office LLC, special attny, \$749.35, USDA Forest Service, ag exp, \$400.07, Vaisala Inc, awos, \$1,373.75, Verizon Wireless, p-hlth exp, \$163.98, VISA, school exp, \$408.48, WCS, comm, \$203.33, WCTA, school exp, \$106.00, West End Water District, util, \$60.00, West Payment Center, law library, \$301.43, WC 4-H Council, ag exp, \$475.60, WC Health Services, invol commit/pre-employment, \$3,810.59, WC Road & Bridge, veh maint/fuel/hmlnd sec exp, \$2,992.98, WC Sr Services, sr citizens, \$6,250.00, Weston Engineering Inc, engineer, \$1,000.00, Whirlwind Services, janitor supp, \$565.00, Woody's Food Center, brd of prisoners/supp/ag exp, \$250.64, WY Automotive Co, repair/maint, \$691.07, WY Dept of Health, p-hlth exp, \$632.00, WY Dept of Transportation, supp, \$1,098.96, WY Honor Conservation Camp, brd of prisoners, \$3,401.35, WY Network, financial admin, \$206.25. Net Payroll, \$131,916.86.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Attest: Mamie C. Krank  
County Clerk

Lenard D. Seeley  
Chairman