

July 15, 2014

The regular meeting of the Weston County Commissioners convened at 9:01 a.m. with Chairman Seeley presiding. Present for the meeting were Commissioners: Lenard D. Seeley, Jerry Shepperson, Randy Rossman, Tracy Hunt, Marty Ertman 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

The Commissioners discussed an addition to the minutes of July 1, 2014, under the heading "Prairie Dog Management". The Board would like to add the phrase, "stating that Weston County's right to sue was understood" to the end of the first sentence. A motion was made by Commissioner Ertman, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to approve the Minutes of July 1, 2014, with the amendment. Carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rossman, seconded by Commissioner Shepperson, to approve the minutes of the meeting held July 8, 2014. Discussion ensued, carried.

Catering Permit – Perkins Tavern

A motion was made by Commissioner Hunt, seconded by Commissioner Shepperson, to approve a catering permit for Perkins Tavern to cater a wedding on August 8 and 9, 2014. Discussion ensued, carried.

Secondary Dispensing Room Permit – Buckhorn Bar

A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to authorize a secondary dispensing room permit to Buckhorn Bar for the week of August 2-10, 2014, for the Sturgis rally. Discussion ensued, carried.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Commissioner Rossman, seconded by Commissioner Shepperson, to enter executive session at 9:19 a.m. under W.S. 16-4-405 (a) (ii) to consider employment. Carried. The meeting returned to open session at 9:24 a.m. with all present.

Emergency Management Coordinator

The Commissioners discussed the role of Homeland Security in relation to the Emergency Management position. Chairman Seeley stated that Weston County has the authority to hire an Emergency Management Coordinator and that if the Governor wanted to appoint that person as a Homeland Security Coordinator for the county those duties would be above and beyond the county position. Commissioner Hunt voiced concerns of losing local control if the position is associated with Homeland Security. No action was taken.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to enter executive session at 9:53 a.m. under W.S. 16-4-405 (a) (ii) to consider employment. Carried. The meeting returned to open session at 10:25 a.m. with all present.

Emergency Management Coordinator

A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to offer the position of Weston County Emergency Management Coordinator to the Board's first choice candidate; if unaccepted, to offer the position to the Board's second choice candidate. The names of the candidates will be withheld, pending notification of the candidates. Carried.

The meeting recessed at 10:27 a.m. and reconvened at 10:36 a.m. with all present.

Solid Waste

The Commissioners discussed forming a solid waste district or expanding the boundaries of the Central Weston County Solid Waste District, to combat the growing problem of solid waste disposal within Weston County. The Board discussed hiring a consulting engineer to plan for a county-wide transfer station or solid waste district. The Board discussed the need for public awareness of the imminent problem of solid waste disposal. No action was taken.

Library Board Appointment

A motion was made by Commissioner Hunt, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to appoint Becky Todd to an unexpired three-year term on the Library Board; replacing Scott Shoop. Discussion ensued, carried.

CLG Historic Preservation - HABS/HAER Grant

A motion was made by Commissioner Ertman, seconded by Commissioner Shepperson, to approve and sign a HABS/HAER Grant for the Certified Local Government (CLG) Historic Preservation Board for a survey of the Old Mill Inn. Carried.

Board Appointment Hearing

A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to set a board appointment hearing for August 5, 2014, at 10:00 a.m. Carried.

Prairie Dogs – Amended MOU

A motion was made by Commissioner Rossman, seconded by Commissioner Shepperson, to authorize Chairman Seeley's signature on an amended Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Weston County and the Thunder Basin National Grassland (TBNG) with the letter from Steven Kozel, Forest Supervisor, stating Weston County's right to sue was understood, attached to the agreement. Carried.

Sheriff's Department

Bryan Colvard, Sheriff, met with the Commissioners and presented a corrected Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for temporary Law Enforcement Assistance between Weston County and the Cody, WY police department. The Commissioners signed a MOU on May 20, 2014, however; the dates of the training have changed. A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to approve and sign the amended MOU between Weston County and the Cody, WY police department. Carried. Sheriff Colvard informed the Commissioners of a barricade on the South end of Old Highway 85, placed by the landowner. No action was taken.

Salt Creek Road

The Commissioners discussed issues with a speed bump being built on the Salt Creek Road. The Commissioners discussed an easement needed on the Salt Creek Road. Commissioner Hunt volunteered to speak to the landowner regarding the easement. No action was taken.

The meeting recessed at 11:55 a.m. and reconvened at 1:31 p.m. with all present.

Contract Engineer

CMAQ: Jerry Hunt, Contract Engineer, met with the Commissioners and discussed the 2011 Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) Grant. Mr. Hunt presented a letter which outlined a ninety day time frame to complete the 2011 CMAQ grant funding for dust suppression on County roads. **Weston County Energy Efficient Lighting:** Mr. Hunt related that Mining Electrical Services (MES), contractor for the Energy Efficient Lighting Project, have requested a change order in the amount of \$2,000.00. The change order is a result of fees charged by the State Fire Marshall's Office for plan review. A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to allow the change order for the Energy Efficient Lighting Project in the amount of \$2,000.00. Carried. **Courthouse A/C Project:** Mr. Hunt stated that a bid packet for the Courthouse A/C Project would be completed by next meeting. **Gravel:** Mr. Hunt related that Weston County would be able to "piggy back" on a gravel agreement with Crook County to purchase gravel at a reduced rate for the Buffalo Creek Road. **Solid Waste:** Mr. Hunt suggested the possibility of a Joint Powers Board between Weston County, the City of Newcastle, and the Town of Upton, to deal with the issues of solid waste disposal. Mr. Hunt recommended Sue Spencer, Weston Engineering, as a consultant for environmental work for Weston County. No action was taken.

Prairie Dogs

Bob and Jean Harshbarger, Resident Experts, met with the Commissioners to discuss research completed from Board of Commissioner Minutes dating back to 1921. The Commissioners gave Mr. Harshbarger a copy of the recently signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Weston County and the US Forest Service (USFS) for Thunder Basin National

Grasslands Prairie Dog Management. Mr. Harshbarger informed the Board that prairie dogs were encroaching within a one-mile radius of private homes, including Chad Sears' home, and that requests had been made of the USFS to control the populations. Mr. Harshbarger stated that recently a Colorado man had contracted bubonic plague from fleas due to prairie dogs, and there are growing health and safety concerns in our area. Mr. Harshbarger provided a map showing four prairie dog colonies encroaching on private residences.

The meeting recessed at 2:32 p.m. and reconvened at 2:38 p.m. with all present.

Discussion continued with Mr. and Mrs. Harshbarger concerning the USFS and public lands. The Commissioners agreed to write a letter addressed to Tom Whitford, USFS, addressing the problem and requesting action. The letter will be copied to Converse and Campbell Counties.

The meeting recessed at 2:43 p.m. and reconvened at 2:50 p.m. with all present.

Skull Creek Road

Fran Lehman, GIS Coordinator, met with the Commissioners and discussed the Skull Creek Road survey and a quote received from Tri-Star Surveying in the amount of \$8,500.00. The survey requires the surveyor to locate corner markers for three BLM easements. A motion was made by Commissioner Ertman, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to accept the quote of \$8,500.00 from Tri-Star Surveying for the Skull Creek Road. Carried.

Weston County Event Center

The Commissioners discussed a letter received from Scott Riley, Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates Inc. (WJE), dated July 3, 2014, which had recommendations for additional testing at the Weston County Event Center. The Board decided to contact Mr. Raymond Hunkins, Attorney with Hunkins Newton Law Firm, to discuss the recommendations before moving forward. No action was taken.

Mallo Camp Manager

Ted Ertman, Mallo Camp Board Member, met with the Commissioners to discuss an employee raise for the Mallo Camp Manager, who is a Weston County employee. A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to increase the Mallo Camp Manager salary to the ceiling of \$35,856.08. Carried. The Commissioners requested that comp-time accrued by the Mallo Camp Manager be used before accumulating more.

Commissioner Shepperson left the meeting at 3:28 p.m. on personal business.

Road & Bridge Department

Rick Williams, Road & Bridge Foreman, met with the Commissioners and discussed an ongoing speed bump issue on the Salt Creek Road. The Commissioners discussed a prescriptive easement on a portion of the Salt Creek Road if an agreement for easement cannot be reached with the landowner. Mr. Williams will contact Tri-Star Surveying to complete a survey on the Salt Creek Road. No action was taken.

Buffalo Creek Road

A motion was made by Commissioner Hunt, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to authorize spot gravel on approximately 2.5 miles of the Buffalo Creek Road, at a cost of \$42,250.00. Discussion ensued, carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ertman, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to set a Budget Amendment Hearing for August 5, 2014, at 11:00 a.m., to consider the transfer of \$42,250.00 from the County Road Fund to the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget for gravel on the Buffalo Creek Road. Carried.

Meeting Cancelled

A motion was made by Commissioner Hunt, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to cancel the regular meeting scheduled August 19, 2014, due to the Primary Election. Carried. The recorded votes were as follows: Yea: Commissioners: Hunt, Rossman and Seeley; Nay: Commissioner Ertman.

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

Attest: Mamie C. Krank
County Clerk

Lenard D. Seeley
Chairman