

September 16, 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 and County Clerk, Mamie C. Krank. Tracy Hunt was not present for the meeting.

#### **Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

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

#### **County Van**

Susan Overman, Treasurer, met with the Commissioners and discussed the purchase of a 2015 Chevrolet Traverse to replace a 2006 Chevrolet Uplander van at a cost of \$25,980.00. Mrs. Overman explained that there were Dry Forks Impact revenues available in the amount of \$46,000.00 for the purchase. Mrs. Overman related that the van had not been cleaned by users and that maintenance issues had not been reported. The Commissioners requested that Mrs. Overman implement a sixty day maintenance schedule for the vehicle and provide future users with a pre-trip and post-trip inspection form which must be signed. Commissioner Shepperson volunteered to draft a memo which will be distributed to County Department heads regarding the new policy. No action was taken.

#### **Approve Minutes**

A motion was made by Commissioner Rossman, seconded by Commissioner Shepperson, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held September 2, 2014, with a amendment under the heading "Osage Improvement & Service District" as follows: remove the words, "approximately twenty-three tons of" from the second sentence. Carried.

The meeting recessed at 9:40 a.m. and reconvened at 9:47 a.m. with all present.

#### **Weston County Health Services**

A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to authorize Chairman Seeley's signature on a letter for Weston County Health Services stating that the district is county-wide and was formed by an election held May 5, 1998. Carried.

#### **Liquor License - Second Dispensing Room Permits**

A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to approve two second dispensing room permits issued to the Flying V Cambria Inn for October 4-5, 2014. Discussion ensued, carried.

#### **Budget Amendment Hearing –Crisis Intervention Team**

A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to set a Budget Amendment Hearing for October 7, 2014, at 10:15 a.m., to consider increasing the general fund by \$2,800.00 for an unanticipated grant through the Sheriff's Office. The grant funds will be used toward a crisis intervention team in Weston County. Carried.

#### **Ag Department**

A motion was made by Commissioner Rossman, seconded by Commissioner Shepperson, to authorize Chairman Seeley's signature on a building lease agreement for the Ag Department in the amount of \$15,868.00. Carried. The recorded votes are as follows: Yea: Commissioners Shepperson, Rossman and Seeley; Nay: Commissioner Ertman.

#### **Prairie Dogs**

Chairman Seeley discussed a prairie dog IDT meeting he recently attended and volunteered to stay on the committee after he is no longer a Commissioner. Chairman Seeley suggested that it would be more effective if an active Commissioner participated on the committee. The Board agreed that Lenard Seeley should remain on the committee; action in the form of a resolution will follow.

#### **Budget Amendment – Public Health**

The hour being 10:15 a.m. Chairman Seeley opened a Budget Amendment Hearing to consider increasing the general fund in the amount of \$2,141.29 because of an unanticipated grant for

Public Health Emergency Preparedness. Chairman Seeley called for public comment, hearing none; the public comment portion of the hearing was closed at 10:16 a.m. A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to approve the budget amendment for Public Health in the amount of \$2,141.29. Carried.

#### **Solid Waste Disposal**

The Commissioners discussed a solid waste disposal meeting attended by Chairman Seeley and Commissioner Ertman at the City of Newcastle Chambers. The Upton landfill will be closing and the current plan is to haul solid waste to the Newcastle landfill. The Commissioners discussed the need to have the Board of Commissioners, Newcastle City Council and Upton City Council develop a plan for future solid waste disposal. No action was taken.

#### **Osage Improvement & Service District**

The Commissioners discussed a recent request by the Osage Improvement and Service District (OISD) for the County to supply gravel for a project on Metz Street in Osage. The Board decided that gravel will not be provided by the County for the Metz Street project. No action was taken.

The meeting recessed at 10:34 a.m. and reconvened at 10:35 a.m. with all present.

#### **Executive Session**

A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to enter executive session under Wyoming Statute 16-4-405 (a)(ii) to consider the appointment, employment, right to practice or dismissal of a public officer, professional person or employee. Carried. The meeting entered Executive Session at 10:43 a.m. and returned to open session at 10:55 a.m. with all present.

The meeting recessed at 10:55 a.m. and reconvened at 11:00 a.m. with all present.

#### **Rare Element Resources**

Mike Finn, Rare Element Resources (RER), met with the Board and gave a status update of the RER mine. Mr. Finn stated that RER has completed a 2014 pre-feasibility study showing a ninety-seven percent (97%) pure concentrate of rare earth oxide. RER has joined the Critical Materials Institute, a Department of Energy initiative. The group is currently working with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), US Forest Service and the State of Wyoming on the Environmental Impact Analysis. Mr. Finn stated that the permitting process will be completed by the last quarter of 2015, and RER is looking toward production in 2016-2017. The Commissioners reminded Mr. Finn of an upcoming Buffalo Creek Traffic Study Meeting in Upton and encouraged his attendance. No action was taken.

The meeting recessed at 11:30 a.m. and reconvened at 1:29 p.m. with all present.

#### **Contract Engineer**

Jerry Hunt, Contract Engineer, met with the Commissioners and discussed several projects. **Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ)**: Mr. Hunt provided the Commissioners with a bid packet which combined the 2011 and 2012 CMAQ projects for dust suppression on various county roads. Mr. Hunt requested the packet be reviewed by Mamie C. Krank, County Clerk, prior to distribution.

**Energy Efficient Lighting Project**: Mr. Hunt provided a change order for the project which included a twenty-five day extension and additions to the Mallo Camp lighting in the amount of \$5,900.00. A motion was made by Commissioner Rossman, seconded by Commissioner Shepperson, to approve change order number one and two increasing the contract price from \$166,345.00 to \$174,245.00. Carried. The Commissioners discussed additional lighting for the exterior Road & Bridge yard at a cost of \$17,700.00. A motion was made by Commissioner Rossman, seconded by Commissioner Shepperson, to authorize change order number three in the amount of \$17,700.00 for a total contract price of \$191,945.00. Carried.

**Weston County Event Center**: The Commissioners discussed a conference call regarding the WJE findings and recommendations made for the Weston County Event Center. The Board related that another conference call will be scheduled towards the end of September with Mr. Hunkins from the Hunkins Newton Law Firm.

**Solid Waste Disposal**: Mr. Hunt related that Buffalo, WY, recently installed a landfill, he will get the cost of the pit liner for the Commissioners. No action was taken.

**Weston County Health Services (WCHS)**

Maureen Cadwell, WCHS CEO, Barry Peterson, Board Member and Jill Sellers, Board Member, met with the Commissioners and discussed WCHS strategic plan for 2015-2016. Mrs. Cadwell went through the statistical data of WCHS for the past several years. The group requested input from the Board and discussed public relations and new services to be offered including a pharmacy. No action was taken.

**Courthouse Boiler**

John Patik, Black Hills Plumbing, met with the Commissioners and discussed the Courthouse boiler and chillers. The Board requested that the Courthouse boiler be put on a two-year maintenance plan. No action was taken.

The meeting recessed at 3:00 p.m. and reconvened at 3:08 p.m. with all present.

**Road & Bridge Department**

Rick Williams, Road & Bridge Foreman, met with the Commissioners and discussed various county roads. Mr. Williams discussed the purchase of two dump trucks at a cost of \$23,810.60. The vehicles will be paid out of the equipment depreciation account. The Commissioners encouraged Mr. Williams to hire two positions at the Road & Bridge Department that are currently vacant. No action was taken.

**County Van**

A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to send a memo on County van usage, including the implementation of pre-trip and post-trip forms, to all department heads. Carried.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting adjourned at 3:51 p.m.

Attest: Mamie C. Krank  
County Clerk

Lenard D. Seeley  
Chairman