

November 15, 2012

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

Good of the Order

Commissioner Rossman gave the invocation and Commissioner Ertman led the Delegation in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Weston County Event Center

Dave Spencer, Wyoming Business Council, met with the Commissioners to discuss progress on the Weston County Event Center. The Commissioners are in the process of finding a forensic engineer to inspect the building. A letter requesting that the mitigation process be started was sent by Don Hansen, County Attorney; Paul Reed Construction's attorney responded by requesting a damage estimate. The Commissioners discussed the possibility of hiring an outside trial attorney to represent Weston County.

Public Hearing – Traffic Study

The hour being 9:15 a.m. Chairman Bruce opened a public hearing to consider the submission of a Business Ready Community (BRC) Grant application for the Upton Industrial Park traffic study in the amount of \$25,000.00. Chairman Bruce called for public comment, hearing none; the public comment portion of the hearing was closed at 9:16 a.m. Dave Spencer, Wyoming Business Council, stated that the local match portion would be approximately \$5,000.00. Chairman Bruce read aloud a Resolution authorizing submission of an application for a traffic study to the Business Ready Community Grant. A motion was made by Commissioner Ertman, seconded by Commissioner Shepperson to adopt and sign the Resolution numbered 12-11 for the Upton Industrial Park traffic study grant application. Carried.

Osage Power Plant

Dave Spencer, Wyoming Business Council, discussed possible uses for the Osage Power Plant. Commissioner Seeley discussed the possibility of a trash disposal facility at the building. Mr. Spencer stated that the property was large enough to consider a multiple use facility. No action was taken.

Approve Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Seeley, to approve the minutes of November 6, 2012, as advertised. Carried.

Burn Restrictions Lifted

Chairman Bruce read aloud an email and resolution received from Daniel Tysdal, Weston County Fire Protection District Warden, requesting the burn restrictions be lifted. A motion was made by Commissioner Rossman, seconded by Commissioner Seeley, to lift the burn restrictions and sign resolution numbered 12-12 to that effect. Carried.

The meeting recessed at 9:50 a.m. and reconvened at 10:00 a.m. with all present.

Budget Amendment – CLG Historic Preservation

The hour being 10:00 a.m. Chairman Bruce opened a budget amendment hearing to consider increasing the General Fund portion of the 2013 Fiscal Budget by \$27,800.00, because of an unanticipated CLG Historic Preservation Grant, received from the Wyoming Cultural Trust Fund. This grant requires a \$2,000.00 local match provided by Weston County. Chairman Bruce called for public comment, hearing none; the public comment portion of the hearing was closed at 10:03 a.m. A motion was made by Commissioner Rossman, seconded by Commissioner Shepperson, to approve the CLG Historic Preservation budget amendment as advertised. Carried.

Cancellation of Taxes

The Commissioners reviewed cancellation of taxes #1028 through #1041 in the following particulars: #1028 to Michael & Betty Finn in the amount of \$325.43, #1029 to Black Hills Power Inc., in the amount of \$90.56, #1030 to Black Hills Power Inc., in the amount of

\$15,432.22, #1031 to Black Hills Power Inc., in the amount of \$2,428.78, #1032 to Black Hills Power Inc., in the amount of \$79,636.41, #1033 to Black Hills Power Inc., in the amount of \$369.89, #1034 to Black Hills Power Inc., in the amount of \$8,895.64, #1035 to Black Hills Power Inc., in the amount of \$504.35, #1036 to Black Hills Power Inc., in the amount of \$2,039.89, #1037 to Black Hills Power Inc., in the amount of \$5,167.06, #1038 to Black Hills Power Inc., in the amount of \$3,182.00, #1039 to Source Gas, in the amount of \$748.05, #1040 to Source Gas, in the amount of \$4,785.01, and #1041 to Source Gas, in the amount of \$4,007.35. A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to approve and authorize the Chairman's signature on the above listed cancellation of taxes #1028 through #1041. Carried.

Budget Amendment – Homeland Security

A motion was made by Commissioner Seeley, seconded by Commissioner Ertman, to set a budget amendment hearing for December 4, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. to consider increasing the General Fund portion of the budget by \$2,250.09 because of unanticipated revenue received from the State of Wyoming Office of Homeland Security for the Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Grant. Carried.

Board Appointment

The Commissioners received one letter of interest for the open Fair Board position from Craig Deveraux, which was read aloud by Chairman Bruce. Mr. Deveraux's letter requested to be contacted before considering his appointment to the Board. Chairman Bruce called Mr. Deveraux and it was decided this issue will be considered on December 4, 2012, at 10:15 a.m. No action was taken.

Homeland Security

A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to accept and sign a Homeland Security Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Grant in the amount of \$2,250.09. Carried.

Employee Appreciation

A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to authorize a half day off on December 24, 2012, for employee appreciation. Carried.

Contract Engineering Services

The Commissioners received a request for contract engineering services from Ted Ertman, Mallo Board Member, for the water tank replacement at Mallo Camp. Chairman Bruce read aloud a letter received from Lisa Kahn of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regarding an inspection done on the existing water tank at Mallo Camp. The letter from the EPA stated that the water system would need to be upgraded by July 2013 in order to stay in compliance. The Commissioners decided to fill in a completion date of June 15, 2013, on the request for contract engineering services and listed the project as a priority on the form. A motion was made by Commissioner Seeley, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to accept and sign the request for engineering services from Weston Engineering for the Mallo Camp Water Tank Replacement Project. Discussion ensued regarding a start date for the project. The Commissioners agreed that if Weston Engineering could not start the project by December 31, 2012, another engineer would be contacted. Carried.

The meeting recessed at 10:56 a.m. and reconvened at 11:02 a.m. with all present.

Courthouse Electricity

Doug Jorrey, Homeland Security; Fran Lehman, GIS; and Karen Bowman, Assessor's Office; met with the Commissioners to discuss an electrical issue in the Courthouse. A circuit breaker is being tripped and power is being lost to the offices. Commissioner Rossman stated that the main breaker may need replaced. Chairman Bruce contacted an electrician who will be at the Courthouse by tomorrow to assess the situation. No action was taken.

The meeting recessed at 11:16 a.m. and reconvened at 1:20 p.m. with all present.

Mondell Airport

The Commissioners received a cooperative agreement between WYDOT and Weston County to perform crack and seal maintenance on the Mondell Airport Runway for a period of three

years. A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Ertman, to authorize Chairman Bruce's signature on the cooperative agreement for Mondell Airport Runway crack and seal maintenance. Carried.

Rare Element Resources

Mike Finn, Rare Element Resources, met with the Commissioners to update them on the progress of the Bear Lodge Project. Mr. Finn stated that a shareholders meeting will be held December 11, 2012, at 2:00 p.m. in Lakewood, Colorado. Mr. Finn briefed the Commissioners on a project to get kids involved by going to the schools in Upton, Newcastle and Sundance. Mr. Finn was thanked for the information, no action was taken.

District Court

Sandra Walford, District Court Clerk, met with the Commissioners to discuss the purchase of a replacement printer/copier which was damaged when ceiling tiles fell in her office. A motion was made by Commissioner Shepperson, seconded by Commissioner Rossman, to allow Mrs. Walford to purchase a replacement printer/copier at a cost of approximately \$2,000.00 to \$2,600.00. Carried.

The meeting recessed at 1:51 p.m. and reconvened at 2:03 p.m. with all present.

Legislative Meeting

The Commissioners discussed the legislative meetings to be held in January 2013 in Cheyenne and the legislative dinner. The Commissioners agreed that both Campbell and Goshen Counties should be invited to attend the legislative dinner this year along with Crook and Niobrara Counties. No action was taken.

The meeting recessed at 2:14 p.m. and reconvened at 2:21 p.m. with all present.

NEWEDC

Brad Sutherland, North East Wyoming Economic Development Coalition (NEWEDC) Project Manager, and Clifford Perkins, Osage Improvement & Service District (OISD), met with the Commissioners to discuss ongoing projects in Weston County. Although Weston County chose not to fund NEWEDC this Fiscal Year, NEWEDC is working with OISD to apply for \$1,000,000.00 in grant funds for improvements to the Kitty Moats Building in Osage. Mr. Sutherland invited the Commissioners to contact NEWEDC for help with upcoming projects in Weston County. No action was taken.

Inyan Kara Grazing Association

Jim Darlington, Inyan Kara Grazing Association, met with the Commissioners to invite them to a meeting to be attended by representatives of the US Forest Service including the new Forest Service Ranger. The meeting will be held Monday, November 19, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. at the Newcastle Office located at 360 West Main. No action was taken.

The meeting recessed at 3:07 p.m. and reconvened at 3:10 p.m. with all present.

Road & Bridge Department

Rick Williams, Road & Bridge Foreman, met with the Commissioners and gave the department report. Mr. Williams discussed contact with Campbell County for surplus equipment; however, there are no items Weston County needs at this time. Mr. Williams gave the Commissioners an update on the progress of the Mallo Camp Flood Mitigation project. The concrete work on the pond spillway and lodge water crossing is almost complete. Mr. Williams discussed the need for a replacement dozer for the Road & Bridge Department. Mr. Williams priced a used D8 Dozer through Wyoming Machinery at a cost of \$275,000.00. The Commissioners authorized the purchase of the equipment. No action was taken.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting adjourned at 3:58 p.m.

Attest: Mamie C. Krank
County Clerk

Tom W. Bruce
Chairman