

**WESTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
OFFICIAL MINUTES  
November 19, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Weston County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Tony Barton at 9:00 a.m. at the Weston County Courthouse. Commissioners Tony Barton, Marty Ertman, Tracy Hunt, Ed Wagoner and Nathan Todd, and Weston County Attorney Secretary Pam Brackett and Clerk Becky Hadlock were present. Chairman Barton led the room in singing Happy Birthday to Vice-Chairman Ertman. Clerk Hadlock led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Commissioner Todd moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Ayes: Barton, Hunt, Wagoner, Todd. Nays: Ertman. Carried.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Barton asked to pull the minutes from the November 5, 2019 meeting for discussion. Commissioner Wagoner moved to approve the consent agenda, Executive Session Minutes of November 5, 2019, Chairman's signature on Resolution 2019-24 – Adoption of Weston County Emergency Operations Plan Draft 3, Chairman's Signature on 2019-2022 HMEP Grant Award Agreement, Chairman's Signature on Emergency Management Continuity of Operations Plan, Chairman's Signature on Master Agreement for Professional Airport Engineering Services Between Owner and Engineer; seconded by Commissioner Todd. Carried.

Commissioner Todd moved to approve minutes of November 5, 2019 with corrections; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Vice-Chairman Ertman abstained from the discussion and voting as she was not at the previous meeting. Carried.

**6<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT**

Judge Deegan and Senator Von Flatern spoke to the Board about the possibility of another District Judge to serve Campbell, Crook and Weston Counties. Right now, the case loads are 84% in Campbell County, 9% in Weston County and 7% in Crook County and the addition of the 4<sup>th</sup> Judge would be beneficial to both Weston and Crook Counties in Judge Deegan's opinion. This is all in the first stage process as another courtroom would have to be built in Campbell County for the 4<sup>th</sup> Judge to be added. Commissioner Hunt asked why the need for a Magistrate was not filled instead of a 4<sup>th</sup> Judge. Commissioner Hunt would like to incorporate the 4<sup>th</sup> Judge living in Newcastle into the resolution. Judge Deegan will visit with Attorney Alex Berger about this and have him draw up a resolution to be presented at the next meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**ROAD & BRIDGE – ENGINEER UPDATE/BLACK THUNDER BRIDGE**

Engineer Jerry Hunt and Road and Bridge Superintendent Rick Williams came before the Board to talk about the Road and Bridge projects. Engineer Jerry Hunt had the Notice to Proceed forms that required the Chairman's signature. Commissioner Wagoner moved to approve the Chairman's signature on the Notice to Proceed for Weston County 2019 Road Project Schedule A and Notice to Proceed for Weston County 2019 Road Project Schedule C; seconded by Commissioner Todd. During discussion Vice-Chairman Ertman asked to please have the name of the projects added to the motion. Carried.

Engineer Hunt let the Board know that the Black Thunder Bridge should be ready for bid by the December 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Superintendent Williams reported that he received three quotes for the Black Thunder Bridge with Big R Bridge being over \$100,000 cheaper. Engineer Hunt believes the bid opening for the Bridge can be the first part of January. Vice-Chairman Ertman moved to authorize the Road and Bridge Department to purchase the Bridge for Black Thunder from Big R Bridge for \$239,800; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

Superintendent Williams reported that he has not done anything with the IRP as he is waiting to hear from Attorney Berger about the letter being sent to the landowner on the Cheyenne River Road. Superintendent Williams let the Board know that the Bridge on the Lynch Road was being moved that afternoon as soon as a permit was obtained, Vice-Chairman Ertman asked where the bridge was being moved to and Superintendent Williams reported to the Dewey Road.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **UPDATE ON STRUCTURE NO DYC**

Vice-Chairman Ertman and Superintendent Williams attended a meeting with WYDOT on the Old Hwy 85 Bridge and then took a tour of it. WYDOT will now come up with an amount on what it will cost to replace the bridge and they will also be visiting with the railroad about the replacement and possibility of doing away with the bridge all together. WYDOT will come up with a cost of how much it would be to remove the bridge.

### **HOMELAND SECURITY**

Homeland Security Coordinator Gilbert Nelson and Emergency Preparedness Specialist Kim Johnson visited with the Board about the Flood Insurance Program that is available through the State of Wyoming. Mr. Johnson knows that there was a lot of flooding in Weston County this summer and wanted to let the Board know what programs were available. Coordinator Nelson let the Board know that this program could open up more Grant funding for the County. Vice-Chairman Ertman asked if there is something in the paperwork that states what the County's obligations are.

### **BUDGET AMENDMENT HEARING**

At 10:00 a.m., a budget amendment hearing was opened to receive unanticipated revenue from grant funds in the amount of \$21,736.20 for the State Homeland Security Program Interoperable Emergency Communication and allocate the monies to expenditure line item 515.10.92.0236000.0621; to receive unanticipated revenue from grant funds in the amount of \$10,377.55 for the State Homeland Security Program Community Resilience and allocate the monies to expenditure line item 515.10.92.0237000.0822; to receive unanticipated revenue from Smith, Currie & Hancock, LLP in the amount of \$10,160.00 for the PILT underpayment in FYs 2015-2017 and allocate the monies into the General Fund; and to move \$1,200 from the Financial Admin. to the Annex Misc. for the copier at the Annex. Chairman Barton asked for public comment three times. Hearing none, Chairman Barton closed the budget amendment hearing. Commissioner Todd moved to approve the Budget Amendment; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

### **BID OPENING – RFP ENGINEERING SERVICES**

The bid opening for the RFP Engineering Services for the structural assessment, for the exterior ramp and stair structure, at the Weston County Law Enforcement Center was done. There was only one bid,

Engineering Associates Consulting Engineers & Surveyors. Chairman Barton passed the bid packets around for review and there will be further discussion following Bridger Pipeline.

#### **NEW BUSINESS – CONT.**

##### **BUDGET AMENDMENT HEARING**

Clerk Hadlock reported a budget amendment is needed for a grant award for an HMEP Grant and for money that will be received from Unclaimed Property that will need to be added to the General Fund. Vice-Chairman Ertman moved to have a budget amendment hearing on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. to receive unanticipated revenue from grant funds in the amount of \$19,117.00 for the 2019-2021 HMEP Grant Award and allocate the monies to expenditure line item 500.00.83.0104000.0922; to receive unanticipated revenue from Unclaimed Property and allocate the monies into the General Fund; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. During discussion Vice-Chairman Ertman asked if we could find out ahead of time on the Grants. Clerk Hadlock stated that this was something that we only know about once it is awarded from the Federal and State agencies. Carried,

##### **BRIDGER PIPELINE**

Ken Dockweiler - Director Land, Government & Compliance with Belle Fourche Pipeline reported to the Board that an agreement with landowners has been reached and they are working on getting agreements with individuals. Mr. Dockweiler needs to get a road use plan and he asked who he would need to contact about this. The Board would like him to get into contact with Road and Bridge Superintendent Williams. Homeland Security Coordinator Gilbert Nelson has met with the Pipeline and Mr. Dockweiler will try to bring Ken McGuire, Construction Supervisor, to the next meeting. Vice-Chairman Ertman asked Mr. Dockweiler if he had the Fire and Weed plans in place and Mr. Dockweiler said they do have a Fire Mitigation agreement with the landowners. Chairman Barton wondered if they anticipated a lot of spring traffic after the frost break up. Mr. Dockweiler stated he hoped they could continue to work throughout the winter. Vice-Chairman Ertman would like the contractors to be told about the speeding and be conscience drivers while working in the County. Mr. Dockweiler would like the Board to contact him if they have any concerns.

##### **RFP ENGINEERING SERVICES – CONT.**

Commissioner Hunt wondered if \$10,000 wasn't quite a bit for a second opinion on something that was already done. Vice-Chairman Ertman agreed because it was horrible and then it wasn't horrible. Maintenance Foreman Steve Price stated it was a lot of money. Commissioner Hunt stated that Structural Dynamics need to come in and explain why they are so inconsistent on their opinions. Commissioner Todd stated he agreed with Vice-Chairman Ertman on this as to why one report stated the ramp at the Weston County Law Enforcement Center needed to be shut down and then another report stated it didn't. Commissioner Hunt moved to invite Phillip Hohn to the next meeting; seconded by Commissioner Todd. During discussion Commissioner Todd said the \$10,000 includes the structural assessment and the other company did not give us one. Carried.

##### **2020 CENSUS**

Tammi Hanshaw and Mariya Qadri visited with the Board about ways to promote the 2020 Census. Ms. Hanshaw asked the Board to help support and help form a complete count committee. Newcastle City Council and Upton Town Council are interested in this and would like the County to take the lead. Vice-Chairman Ertman stated she does not want the County to be in charge of this. Chairman Barton asked how much it costs per year per person for everyone not counted in the Census and Ms. Hanshaw stated

it is about \$1500. Commissioner Todd asked if they go to the schools and Ms. Hanshaw responded that they do.

#### **PREVENTION MANAGEMENT**

Kristi Lipp, Community Prevention Specialist, updated the Board on how things were going in her office. Both districts were missing kids when surveyed last spring, so she is going to try to get this changed so more are getting surveyed. Ms. Lipp talked about Sources of Strength, a very successful program the school has implemented this year, which has really made an impact. Commissioner Todd asked if there were any studies on how the cell phone effects the kids. Ms. Lipp stated the kids are never removed from their peers because of the cell phones and the schools that take the phones away are seeing positive effects on the kids. Chairman Barton asked about an outreach in the Upton Schools. Ms. Lipp stated she will reach out more in the next year to Superintendent Clark Coberly. Ms. Lipp left a brochure on Wyoming 211, which has a list of resources to help those in need. Vice-Chairman Ertman asked Ms. Lipp if there would be a suicide prevention lifeline for Wyoming. Ms. Lipp reported that right now there was not, but it is in the works to try to turn the Greybull call center into the suicide prevention lifeline for Wyoming.

#### **MALLO CAMP**

Mallo Camp Board Member John Prell visited with the Board about an option to add meters to the current heating system. This is an energy saving program offered by Powder River energy and will pay for itself within six to seven years, but Mr. Prell reported that right now Mallo does not have enough money to pay for this and would like the Board to help with this. Vice-Chairman Ertman suggested they look into an energy grant. Chairman Barton would like this to be added to the list of items that need to be done and be added to next year's budget.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Tony Barton  
Chairman

Attest: Becky Hadlock  
Weston County Clerk