

WESTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OFFICIAL MINUTES
August 20, 2020

The regular meeting of the Weston County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Ed Wagoner at 9:00 p.m. at the Weston County Courthouse. Commissioners Ed Wagoner, Marty Ertman and Tony Barton, and Weston County Attorney Alex Berger and Clerk Becky Hadlock were present. Commissioner Barton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Clerk Hadlock asked to add the Chairman's Signature on the Agreement between Owner & Contractor on the HR20404 – HRRR Project to the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Barton moved to approve the agenda with changes; seconded by Chairman Wagoner. Ayes: Barton, Wagoner. Nays: Ertman. Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Barton moved to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the minutes of August 4, 2020, Chairman's Signature on Provider of Service Agreements, Chairman & Clerk's Signature on Treasurer's Abstract Statement, Chairman's Signature on MOU Between the Wyoming Office of Guardian Ad Litem and Weston County, Chairman's Signature on 2020 Joint Agreement to Take Advantage of an ESRI Regional Governmental Enterprise License Agreement, Chairman's Signature on Agreement Between Pinnacle Bank, Weston County and Thane Ashenhurst Living Trust, Chairman's Signature on Agreement Acknowledge of Receipt and Approval of Benefit Booklets, Temporary Liquor License – West End Bar & Grill, Treasurer's Report; Seconded by Commissioner Ertman. Carried.

JOINT POWERS TRUST

Greg Disney and Cyndy Maxwell visited with the Board about an alternative health benefit plan option for the County called Joint Powers Trust. Commissioner Ertman authorized to give the information needed to give the County a quote.

OLD BUSINESS

ANNEX RENTAL

Attorney Berger reported that the State Public Defender has requested to rent the office space for an additional month for some items that remain in the office. Attorney Berger stated this will be for the full \$600 and feels it might be longer than just the month they are asking. Once the State Public Defender has moved out, Attorney Berger will advertise the space for rent.

NEW BUSINESS

SARS-COV-2 RESOLUTION

Commissioner Ertman wanted to put the Goshen County SARS-Cov-2 virus Resolution before the Board for discussion. Chairman Wagoner reported that Commissioner Hunt would like to be involved in the discussion. Commissioner Ertman moved to table the SARS-Cov-2 Resolution until the September 1st meeting; seconded by Chairman Wagoner. Carried. During discussion Commissioner Barton commented that he would like to table the resolution indefinitely.

DISTRICT COURT OFFICE ODOR

Chairman Wagoner explained that Maintenance Foreman Steve Price reported there is possibly something dead in the duct work above the District Court Office. Commissioner Barton moved to have Maintenance Foreman Price clean the ducts; seconded by Commissioner Ertman. Carried.

NUISANCE RESOLUTION

Attorney Berger reported that he has not come up with a Nuisance Resolution even after visiting with four other County Attorneys. Attorney Berger will continue working on this and Clerk Hadlock will reach out to fellow Clerks to see if they have something as guidance. Commissioner Ertman would like to see some language from other Counties before making one on our own. Clerk Hadlock added that the Fire Marshall had stopped into her office and offered to help if he needed to. The Board let Attorney Berger know that they would like to deal with this without a resolution if at all possible and have the DEQ and the Fire Marshall take care of it. Attorney Berger asked is it the Board's pleasure to keep trying to find a resolution and the Board would like him to keep looking. Commissioner Barton would like the public's opinion on this matter as well.

HOMELAND SECURITY

Homeland Security Coordinator Gilbert Nelson let the Board know that he had COMTEK down from Casper to test the sirens. Coordinator Nelson presented the Board with a list of what repairs needed to be done to each siren. Clerk Hadlock suggested that Coordinator Nelson check to see if there was a grant available to help with the cost of repairs. Commissioner Ertman stated she did not have a problem with getting things fixed as long as there was a plan and Coordinator Nelson looked for funding elsewhere. Commissioner Barton asked what other town and Counties use for their siren system. The Board suggested doing an RFP to see what is there but would like Coordinator Nelson to work on getting Upton's siren fixed first.

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 \$90,000 for the State Project No. AEC002A – Seal Coat and Mark Pavements and Associated Work for the airport. Chairman Wagoner asked for public comment three times. Chairman Wagoner closed the budget amendment hearing. Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the Budget Amendment; seconded by Commissioner Barton. Carried.

FAIR BOARD

Fair Board members Justin Mills and David Kline as well as Fairgrounds Secretary Jessica Graham and Fairgrounds Manager Kara Fladstol came before the Board of Commissioners to discuss the financial situation of the Fair Board. The Fair Board presented the BOC an amended budget showing a shortfall at the end of next month due to the COVID-19 Virus. Coordinator Nelson suggested the Fair Board apply for the CARES-ACT funding due to lost revenue. Mr. Mills stated that they would do this. Mr. Mills also discussed the cutting of the Fair Board's funding since 2016. Mr. Mills added that the Fair Board did not agree to go away from the block grant. Commissioner Ertman let the Fair Board know that these cuts were done in every department. Commissioner Ertman explained that we went to this payment system because the Board of Commissioners were cutting more than just the Fair Board's budget and this system helped the Library immensely. Because of a budget the Fair Board was given a large amount of money in their reserve account and they spent it. Commissioner Ertman added that the Board of Commissioners needed to bring back these funds and try to recoup it and bring the Fair Board back to where they needed to be. Commissioner Ertman let the Fair Board know that it would be better if the Friends of Fair would allow their funds to be added to our Audit as it would really help in times like

these. Commissioner Barton commented that even though our auditor requests this he does not feel that this information is needed. Commissioner Ertman let the Board of Commissioners know that Mallo is going to be in the same boat as the Fair Board is in.

Commissioner Barton moved to have a budget amendment and move \$17,485.28 from financial admin. into the Fairgrounds account. Motion died due to lack of second.

Clerk Hadlock let the Fair Board know that they could get paid monthly just like the Library does if they chose to. Chairman Wagoner moved to pay the Fair Board on a monthly basis starting on October 1st. Motion died due to lack of second.

Mr. Mills would like to have the budget put back to what it was as well as help with the building maintenance. Commissioner Barton moved to have a budget amendment hearing to move \$17,485.28 from Financial Admin into the Fair Board Account; seconded by Chairman Wagoner. During discussion Commissioner Ertman asked what the Board of Commissioners planned to do to for Mallo. Ayes: Barton, Wagoner. Nays: Ertman. Carried.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Public Health Director Lori Bickford was asked by the Board to let them know what the \$193,600 for the SARS-Cov-2 grant was to be used for. Director Bickford explained that this money would be allocated for the COVID-19 tests for those who are uninsured as well as overtime for Director Bickford's Office. Director Bickford presented the Board with another contract that will run July 1, 2020 thru June 30, 2021 and will be for \$100,000. Commissioner Ertman moved to have a budget amendment hearing to receive unanticipated revenue from grant funds in the amount of \$100,000.00 for the COVID-19 Crisis Response; seconded by Commissioner Barton. Carried. Commissioner Barton moved to approve the Chairman's signature on the Contract between the Wyoming Department of Health, Public Health Division and Weston County for the \$100,000 COVID-19 Crisis Response; seconded by Commissioner Ertman. Carried.

ADI INSURANCE

Karen Ackerman with ADI Insurance came before the Board to present the proposal for next year's insurance. Ms. Ackerman will contact each Department to see what they would like to have changed.

ROAD AND BRIDGE UPDATE

Road and Bridge Superintendent Rick Williams and Road and Bridge Foreman Jim Hansen reported that there was a pre-bid meeting for the Black Thunder Bridge. County Engineer Jerry Hunt has an addendum to add to the bid and because of this, the bid opening has now been postponed to September 10th.

Superintendent Williams let the Board know that the bridge on Green Mountain Road has been replaced with a cattleguard.

After 44 years of working for Weston County Road and Bridge, Superintendent Williams handed the Board his retirement letter effective September 4, 2020. Superintendent Williams let the Board know that Foreman Hansen will do a good job as his replacement. Commissioner Barton moved to accept Superintendent William's retirement letter with extreme regret and wished him well; seconded by Commissioner Ertman. During discussion Commissioner Ertman stated that Superintendent Williams was leaving big shoes to fill and wished him well and let him know he was a huge asset to this County. Carried.

CONCERNED CITIZENS IN SUPPORT OF THE WC SHERIFF'S OFFICE & HOW BUSINESSES WERE SHUT DOWN DURING COVID-19

Dan Fouch read a letter to the Board asking for the Board to entertain a motion to rescind the Chairman's signature on Public Health Order 20-1. Commissioner Ertman stated the Board would be discussing this matter at the next meeting. The Board thanked the citizens for coming and the citizens thanked the Board for listening to their concerns.

DEDICATION OF THE STAMPEDE STREET

Linda Hunt would like to have a Commissioner speak at the dedication of the Stampede Street project on August 29th. Commissioner Barton and Chairman Wagoner stated this was a conflict for them. Commissioner Ertman also has something conflicting but would try to come.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Wagoner moved to go into Executive Session per W.S. 16-4-405(a)(iii); seconded by Commissioner Ertman. Carried. Executive Session began at 12:30 p.m.; regular meeting reconvened at 12:39 p.m. Matters concerning litigation were discussed in Executive Session; no action was taken.

ADENDUM

Chairman Wagoner reported that the Contractors met about the Black Thunder Bridge and had questions about the bid and County Engineer Hunt had zero answers for them and told the Contractors that there would be an addendum out for them on Thursday. Chairman Wagoner and Superintendent Williams stated they both were embarrassed. Commissioner Ertman asked Superintendent Williams how easy it would be for another engineer to look at it and give the Board the information needed to complete the project. Superintendent Williams stated they could do it in about a week.

Commissioner Ertman moved to authorize Road and Bridge to contact Bearlodge to get the scope of work and get the project done; seconded by Commissioner Barton. During discussion Commissioner Ertman stated there needed to be a letter written to SLIB and let them know we were having issues with our Engineer and ask for forgiveness and give as much detail on what was going on. Commissioner Ertman stated the letter should state that we are in the process of getting another engineer which could delay the project. Carried.

Commissioner Barton moved to authorize the Chairman's signature giving written notice terminating our contract with the County Engineer; seconded by Commissioner Ertman. Carried.

Commissioner Ertman would like to see if we have to advertise for Superintendent William's position. Clerk Hadlock stated she was sure that the Board did not need to advertise and will contact Bill Miller with the LGLP. Commissioner Ertman would like to have this added to New Business for the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Ed Wagoner
Chairman

Attest: Becky Hadlock
Weston County Clerk