

WESTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OFFICIAL MINUTES
October 20, 2020

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Ertman requested to have the minutes of October 6, 2020 pulled from the consent agenda. Commissioner Barton moved to approve the consent agenda, which includes the Executive Session Minutes of October 6, 2020, Chairman's Signature on Resolution 2020-14 – Open Burning Restrictions Lifted; seconded by Commissioner Ertman. Carried.

MINUTES

Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the minutes of October 6, 2020 with changes; seconded by Vice-Chairman Todd. Carried.

WEBT

Dana Mann-Tavegia visited with the Board about the possible changes happening with WEBT Board and the membership with the School Districts. The Board thanked Ms. Tavegia for coming and would like her to keep them updated with any new changes.

HOMELAND SECURITY

Homeland Security Coordinator Gilbert Nelson came before the board to ask if he could apply for a SLIB Grant to purchase an upgraded CAD system for dispatch. The City would use their funds to help as well. Commissioner Ertman asked to see if Coordinator Nelson could get an approval for the funds prior to making any purchases, Commissioner Ertman added she did not have a problem with him applying for the Grant. Coordinator Nelson would like to see if the Grant could possibly help pay for the sirens that need repaired. Commissioner Ertman let him know that the Board had already given approval for this to be taken care of.

CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE ON AMENDMENT ONE TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION AND WESTON COUNTY

Commissioner Ertman was concerned that the amendment was to the grant that was to be used for the payment of COVID testing for low income tests for poverty level families which now are free. Commissioner Ertman feels the original grant is not needed and would like to rescind the Chairman's signature for this reason. Commissioner Barton would like to have Attorney Berger look over the Amendment and give his opinion. Commissioner Ertman added the time limit had expired on the voucher that Public Health Director Lori Bickford had been asked to come before the Board to explain, so she will need to resubmit this if she wished to have County Health Officer Dr. Jording paid. Vice-Chairman Todd stated that the Board has until December to figure the Grant out but feels if the Governor is paying for the testing, the Board should not be involved with them. Commissioner Barton

moved to table the amendment discussion until Attorney Berger can review it and see if Director Bickford can explain it at the next meeting. Commissioner Ertman stated that she would not even second the motion. Motion died due to lack of second. Clerk Hadlock will add this under old business for the next meeting and invite Director Bickford to come and explain the amendment.

OLD BUSINESS

BILL FROM HEIN | BOND

Attorney Berger visited with the Board about the discrepancy of the dates on the bill submitted to him by Randy Hein. Commissioner Ertman stated she had found an invoice with different dates and will send what she has to Attorney Berger. Attorney Berger will contact Mr. Hein and address the issue that was found and let him know that the County does not owe him for the bills submitted.

VARIANCES ON STATE ORDERS

Attorney Berger let the Board know that he reviewed the variances that Clerk Hadlock sent to him and he feels that it is very unlikely that they will be signed. Commissioner Ertman stated the way she understood Dr. Jording, was the Board needed to pass something, then present it on to him for his signature. Chairman Wagoner is hesitant with submitting the variances with the cases that Weston County has now. Commissioner Ertman said we are allowing the State to put on the probable cases which is making up 60-70% of Weston County's cases. Attorney Berger suggested the Board not put in the case number on the variances. Commissioners Barton and Commissioner Ertman both would like to add something about the affects the virus is causing on the families. The Board added the impact of safety and wellbeing of the citizens of Weston County to the variances and the signature lines for all five Board members. Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the Boards signature on Variances 1, 2 and 3 and submit them to Dr. Jording; seconded by Vice-Chairman Todd. Carried.

LGLP NOMINATION

The Board did not have an LGLP Nomination.

NEW BUSINESS

CHEYENNE RIVER ROAD

Attorney Berger reported that the landowner is keeping Haliburton from crossing a section of the Cheyenne River Road. This will be moved under Old Business at the next meeting for further discussion.

BLACK THUNDER BRIDGE – BID AWARD

Jerry Hunt let the Board know that there were two bids submitted for Black Thunder Bridge, S&S had a bid of \$563,915 and Reimen Corp. had a bid of \$544,277.50. Mr. Hunt added that Reimen Corp. had not submitted a Certificate of residency so 5% needed to be added to their bid now making it \$571,491.38. Mr. Hunt stated both companies deal with bridges. Commissioner Barton asked if Reimen Corp. had since provided the Certificate of Residency and Mr. Hunt answered no and when asked if the Board could ask for this he also answered no. Commissioner Barton moved to award the Black Thunder Bridge bid award to S&S for \$563,915; seconded by Commissioner Ertman. Carried. During discussion the Board asked who would oversee the project, Road and Bridge Foreman Jim Hansen or Mr. Hunt. Mr. Hunt stated that even though he had been terminated as the County Engineer he would oversee this project. Mr. Hunt presented the Notice of Award for the Chairman's signature. Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the Chairman's signature on the Notice of Award; seconded by Vice-Chairman Todd. Carried.

Mr. Hunt stated the Notice to proceed was in the packet and once Clerk Hadlock receives everything back from the Contractor, the Notice can be sent.

FAIRGROUNDS SLIB GRANT APPLICATION

Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the Chairman's signature on the Fairgrounds SLIB Grant Application for \$32,346; seconded by Commissioner Barton. Commissioner Ertman asked that the Mallo Board apply as well. Carried.

ROAD & BRIDGE UPDATE

Road & Bridge Forman Jim Hansen reported that he had been contacted by Michael Barr about putting a ramp on the Old Hwy 85 Bridge but after discussing this with Paul Cortez at WYDOT, he does not think this will work. Mr. Cortez's recommendation is to have an engineering consulting firm come and look at the bridge but does not think that an engineer would sign off on a ramp due to the structure of the bridge.

PUBLIC COMMENT

During public comment Chip Neiman visited with the Board about the current residency issue involving elected officials. Commissioner Ertman let Mr. Neiman know that he should look into changing how to remove an official. Kari Drost, Republican Party Chairman, let the Board know that she was insulted that Mr. Neiman was not added to the agenda. Clerk Hadlock let her know that the agenda is done on the Thursday before the meeting; Mr. Neiman knew he wouldn't be on the agenda and she had let Ms. Drost know this as well the day before.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Ertman moved to go into Executive Session per W.S. 16-4-405(a)(ii); seconded by Vice-Chairman Todd. Carried. Executive Session began at 11:14 a.m.; regular meeting reconvened at 12:15 p.m. Matters concerning the Road and Bridge Superintendent Job were discussing in Executive Session; no action was taken.

ROAD AND BRIDGE SUPERINTENDENT JOB

The Road and Bridge Superintendent will make \$25.50/hour, be full time and have the standard benefit package.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:16 p.m.

Ed Wagoner
Chairman

Attest: Becky Hadlock
Weston County Clerk