

**WESTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OFFICIAL MINUTES
March 16, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Weston County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairwoman Marty Ertman at 9:00 a.m. at the Weston County Courthouse. Commissioners Marty Ertman, Nathan Todd, Ed Wagoner, Tony Barton and Don Taylor, Deputy Attorney Michael Stulken and Clerk Becky Hadlock were present. Clerk Hadlock led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice-Chairman Todd moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Barton moved to approve the consent agenda, which included the Minutes of March 2, 2021, Temporary Liquor License – West End Bar & Grill; seconded by Vice-Chairman Todd. Carried.

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Weston County Assessor Tina Conklin came before the Board to discuss the transfer of the old Homeland Security vehicle to her office. Vice-Chairman Todd moved to transfer the old Homeland Security vehicle to the Assessor's office; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

UPTON AMBULANCE SERVICE

Chairwoman Ertman stated that because the Upton Ambulance was one of the Provider of Service Accounts, the Board wanted to know how everything was going. John Strong, Upton Fire Chief, assured the Board that the Upton Ambulance has not stopped and is running when there are EMT's available. When EMT's are not available, the Upton Fire Department provides assistance to the Newcastle Ambulance Service. Chief Strong let the Board know that the Sundance Ambulance has never been used in Weston County. Commissioner Barton would like to still see an ambulance in Upton no matter who takes over the new service and Chief Strong agreed and is glad the Board feels this way.

OSAGE AMBULANCE SERVICE

Cindy Crabtree was not able to make it to the meeting but sent information pertaining to the Osage Ambulance Service. Commissioner Barton felt it is an important service to continue to have and would like to look at the issue of running or not at budget time. Chairwoman Ertman would like to let them know there is an understanding that there is a possibility that the Provider of Service funds could be cut. Vice-Chairman Todd stated they need to justify to the Board a need for their funding.

The Board would like Clerk Hadlock to contact the Hospital Board and ask if the Board of County Commissioners can be on their agenda for questions/updates concerning the County Ambulance Service.

LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER HEARING

At 10:00 a.m., a liquor license transfer hearing was opened to transfer the West End liquor license from Jennifer Clark to Rhode Investments LLC. Commissioner Barton moved to approve the liquor license transfer; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

NEWCASTLE AMBULANCE SERVICE

Chairwoman Ertman explained to Roger Hesse, owner of Newcastle Ambulance Service, that there is a possibility that there will not be funding for the other Ambulance entities in the upcoming fiscal year. Chairwoman Ertman asked if Mr. Hesse could give the Board a general idea of the call numbers. Mr. Hesse stated that Maureen Cadwell from the Hospital had called him and he had given her some numbers. Because these numbers are part of Mr. Hesse's business plan and Mr. Hesse having a couple of offers, he did not want to let all of his numbers released. Commissioner Barton asked if a private ambulance service could cover all of Weston County. Mr. Hesse believes it can, but it may have a different look than what is provided now. The Board asked Mr. Hesse how the problem with personnel can be solved and he stated they have to be paid because volunteerism is going away.

OLD BUSINESS

RESOLUTION APPROVING WYOMING DOWNS, LLC

Chairwoman Ertman stated the Board received information from the Campbell County Commissioners relating to the resolution that more information was needed before Campbell County would sign the resolution. Jill Jarrard with Wyoming Downs assured the Board that the resolution was supported by the Gaming Commission. Commissioner Barton asked Ms. Jarrard if a certain percentage of the money went to the Wyoming Breeder Fund and Ms. Jarrard answered it did. Deputy Attorney Stulken stated both resolutions looked ok. Commissioner Barton made a motion to pass Resolution 2021-3, with adding subject to any regulations & condition that County of Weston may impose; seconded by Commissioner Taylor. During discussion Commissioner Wagoner and Chairwoman Ertman did not want to pick and choose which businesses get the machines. Several members of the public were present to voice their support against the Board signing the resolution. Failed.

LAW ENFORCEMENT RAMP

Vice-Chairman Todd stated this is an issue that needs to not be forgotten. Chairwoman Ertman added the Board will revisit it again. Clerk Hadlock will add this under Old Business and invite Maintenance Foreman Steve Price.

ROAD & BRIDGE JOB DESCRIPTION REVIEW – SUPERVISOR & FOREMAN

Chairwoman Ertman reported that the LGLP advised there must be job evaluations on file for all employees. Chairman Ertman added that it has been almost 6 months since the Supervisor and Foreman were hired at Road and Bridge so the Board needs to come up with questions and bring them in for their evaluations. These evaluations will be performed in executive session so that no one is under pressure and Foreman Price will also have an evaluation.

HOMELAND SECURITY

Homeland Security Coordinator Gilbert Nelson came before the Board to discuss the Motorola contract for the new CAD system in Dispatch. Coordinator Nelson introduced Kevin with Motorola and stated he had been in town to attend the City Council meeting the night before. Vice-Chairman Todd stated he thought the City was to figure the CAD situation out. The Board would like to schedule a workshop for April 20th at 4:00 p.m. to discuss dispatch and invite the other Departments.

BOARD OPENINGS

Commissioner Taylor stated he had been approached about the Board openings not being advertised in both papers. Commissioner Taylor added the individuals that have approached him advised that not everyone reads the paper. Clerk Hadlock let Commissioner Taylor know that it was decided, by the Commissioners, that the Board openings would be posted on the County website and posted on both

doors of the Courthouse. Vice-Chairman Todd asked if the Board openings were on the website and Clerk Hadlock stated they were. Commissioner Wagoner added that the best way to let the community know about the openings was by word of mouth.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Barton would like to have Special District and Provider of Service schedule discussed at the next meeting.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Marty Ertman
Chairwoman

Attest: Becky Hadlock
Weston County Clerk