

**WESTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OFFICIAL MINUTES
November 2, 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, Attorney Michael Stulken and Clerk Becky Hadlock were present. Commissioner Wagoner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Barton asked to remove Resolution 2021-14 from the Consent Agenda, add Black Hills Revision Plan under New Business, Vice-Chairman Todd asked to have Law Enforcement Ramp added under Old Business. Commissioner Barton moved to approve the agenda with changes; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Barton moved to approve the consent agenda which included the vouchers - striking #68558, payroll, AP vouchers, collections for October 2021, Treasurer's Report, Minutes of October 19, 2021, Tax Roll Corrections #1478-#1488, Chairman's Signature on Grant Award Agreement Between Wyoming Office of Homeland Security and Weston County – SHSP Inter-Operable, Chairman's Signature on Grant Award Agreement Between Wyoming Office of Homeland Security and Weston County – Information & Intelligence Sharing; seconded by Vice-Chairman Todd. Carried.

Chairman Ertman wished prayers and thoughts to Jeanie Lewis as she served as a long time Mallo Board member.

Commissioner Barton moved to adjust \$5,500 from the Deputy County Attorney Salary account and put it into the County Attorney Secretary account; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – POSSIBLE LITIGATION

Vice-Chairman Ertman moved to go into Executive Session per W.S. 16-4-405(a)(iii); seconded by Commissioner Barton. Carried. Executive Session began at 10:06 a.m.; regular meeting reconvened at 10:18 a.m. Matters concerning possible litigation were discussed in Executive Session; no action was taken.

HOUSE DISTRICT 2 REPRESENTATIVE VACANCY PROCESS

Weston County Republican Party Chair Kari Drost read a letter on behalf of the Weston County Republican Party, stating the Board's actions giving away the legislative voice to Niobrara County was not only a betrayal, but a disappointment to the Weston County residents that they represent. Ms. Drost added that the Board should not have voted in secret. Attorney Michael Stulken answered all questions from the crowd including that the Board voting anonymously was done legally. The Board thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

RARE ELEMENT RESOURCES

Jaye Pickarts, Consultant for Rare Element Resources Inc. gave the Board an update on the progress of the Rare Element Resources project. Mr. Pickarts added the plan is to build a demonstration plant at the Industrial Park located near Upton. Commissioner Barton asked if Mr. Pickarts had visited with Upton yet and Mr. Pickarts indicated that he had not. Commissioner Taylor asked about the projected jobs and

Mr. Pickarts answered 25 local. Vice-Chairman Todd asked that Mr. Pickarts stay in touch with Homeland Security Coordinator Gilbert Nelson. Commissioner Wagoner asked about the waste and Mr. Pickarts stated the waste will go to Texas.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Bryan Colvard gave the Board a Dispatch report and stated he was very happy with the changes that are being made. Sheriff Colvard indicated this was the first time he has ever seen the dispatch policies. Vice-Chairman Todd stated he would like to have an inventory of the equipment in dispatch. Commissioner Taylor would like to get together with the City of Newcastle and talk about the contracts. Sheriff Colvard stated Upton Police Chief Susan Bridge, Newcastle Police Chief Sam Keller and he would be writing them and then bring them back for review by the Boards.

FAIRGROUNDS ROAD

Tom Farnsworth asked that the Board put the Fairgrounds Road as a top priority. Road & Bridge Foreman Jim Hansen stated it could be milled up and gravel put on it. Vice-Chairman Todd thanked Mr. Farnsworth for coming in and letting the Board know about the road. Commissioner Wagoner asked Road & Bridge Superintendent Marty Habeck and Foreman Hansen if they could fix the drainage first. Commissioner Barton asked Superintendent Habeck and Foreman Hansen to put this as a top priority.

ROAD & BRIDGE

Superintendent Habeck presented a Road Report to the Board. Superintendent Habeck did not have a price on the signs but hopes to have this by the next meeting and believes the cost to install the signs would be \$95,000. Vice-Chairman Todd would like to see a couple of employees hired to do this. Commissioner Taylor asked if there was still a possibility of the employees putting the signs up to save money. Superintendent Habeck let the Board know that Road & Bridge Office Manager Brooke Weigel had left and asked what they would like to do about filling her position. Vice-Chairman Todd asked if they could manage until the Board could finish the job descriptions. Superintendent Habeck stated they could manage. Commissioner Wagoner wanted to make sure someone was trained on the fuel system before Office Manager Weigel was done. Commissioner Barton moved to table the job description until the November 16th meeting; seconded by Vice-Chairman Todd. Carried. Vice-Chairman Todd moved to have a workshop concerning the Road & Bridge job description one hour after the lunch break on November 16; seconded by Commissioner Taylor. Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

PARKING LOT

Vice-Chairman Todd will get a phone number for the company in Sheridan that can replace the asphalt and get it to the Road & Bridge department.

OUTSIDE OF BUILDING

John Francis was not able to attend the meeting but Clerk Hadlock will see if the November 16th meeting will work for him.

LAW ENFORCEMENT RAMP

Commissioner Barton stated White's Construction was getting a proposal together and will have an update by the next meeting. Clerk Hadlock will send out a reminder.

NEW BUSINESS

BLACK HILLS FOREST REVISION PLAN

Commissioner Barton reported that the Black Hills Forest is revising their 2012 plan. Once the BH Forest has published a notice of intent, Commissioner Barton wants it to be known that the Board wants to be a coordinating agency. Commissioner Wagoner agrees that the Board needs to stay on top of this.

BOARD APPOINTMENT – AIRPORT BOARD

Chairwoman Ertman stated that there is one vacant seat available for the Airport Board with three applicants. Commissioner Wagoner moved to have the County Clerk schedule interviews for the three Airport Board applicants at time to be announced; seconded by Commissioner Barton. Carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Barton moved to go into Executive Session per W.S. 16-4-405(a)(iii); seconded by Vice-Chairman Todd. Carried. Executive Session began at 11:47 a.m.; regular meeting reconvened at 12:08 p.m. Matters concerning possible litigation were discussed in Executive Session; no action was taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

VOUCHERS

066 NCPERS, financial admin, 208.00, AFLAC, payroll ded, \$1,688.27, Blue Cross Blue Shield, financial admin, \$70,873.00, Delta Dental of WY, payroll ded, \$3,067.00, Great-West Trust Co, payroll ded, \$1,730.00, New York Life, financial admin, \$512.59, VSP of Wyoming, financial admin, \$593.89, WEBT, financial admin, \$193.25, WC Clerk, financial admin, \$44,750.05, WC Treasurer, financial admin, \$20.00, WY Child Support, payroll ded, \$1,250.00, WY Dept of Workforce Services, financial admin, \$2,176.55, WY Retirement System, payroll ded, \$35,496.29, Weston Engineering, blk thndr brdg, \$8,952.40, Marco, Inc, annx sftwr lic, \$121.50, Servall Uniform/Linen Co, annx misc, \$129.60, WC Fairboard, fairgrounds, \$29,371.32, Linda Hunt, hist presv, \$2,841.40, 21 Electric LLC, supp/repair, \$251.80, Ad Pro, supp, \$961.74, Advanced Drug Testing Inc, r&b supp, \$78.00, Airgas USA, LLC, covid-19 vaccine/campaign, Alpha Communications, tower rent, \$55.00, AT&T Mobility, comm, \$1,638.11, Axis Forensic Toxicology, coroner exp, \$245.00, BAM Document Destruction & Recycling, crthse misc, \$475.90, Barco Municipal Products Inc, r&b exp, \$255.12, Becky Hadlock, mile/trvl, \$105.28, Betty Jensen, shrf uniforms, \$25.00, BH Chemical & Janitorial, brd of prisoners, \$530.35, BH Energy, util, \$3,502.59, BH Plumbing, repair/maint, \$3,928.60, Blue Dog Cleaning, crthse other emp, \$1,290.00, Bomgaars, supp/repair/maint, \$347.26, Brittany Hamilton, mile/trvl, \$63.16, Byrand Streeter, contract wages, \$1,432.75, Cambria Discount Drug LLC, jail medical, \$71.03, Cambria Supply, r&b repair/maint, \$377.25, Carmen Simon, p-hlth reimb, \$94.66, Catherine Alison Emmert, law enf repair/maint, \$350.00, CDW Government Inc, shrf supp, \$617.95, City of Newcastle, util, \$5,962.03, Communication Technologies, shrf equip, \$2,358.04, County Clerks Association of Wyoming, mile/trvl, \$300.00, Culligan Water Conditioning, supp/repair/maint, \$41.00, Dan Hart Patrol, r&b lmb/rlvts/brdg, \$568.80, Day Law, LLC, dist crt spec attny, \$4,500.00, Decker's Market, supp, \$65.40, Double D, repair/maint, \$1,795.41, Dru Consulting LLC, financial admin, \$1,875.00, Eastern WY Equipment Co, r&b repair/maint, \$13.17, En-Tech, crthse repair/maint, \$1,350.00, Frontier Home, Ranch & Hardware, repair/maint/supp, \$1,004.56, Galls LLC, shrf uniforms, \$2,004.48, Golden West Technologies, comp sftwr, \$2,601.97, Green's Alignment, shrf veh maint, \$60.00, Humphrey Law LLC, dist crt spec attny, \$583.90, Inland Truck Parts, r&b repair/maint, \$601.03, Jodi Brooks, wic spec proj, \$75.00, KASL, p-hlth exp, \$968.00, Kimberly

Jenkins, mile/trvl, \$36.40, Lubnau Law Office, PC, dist crt spec attny, \$419.17, Mastercard, gen exp, \$3,972.54, Max Masters, gis land records, \$1,900.00, Minuteman Lube Center, veh maint/fuel, \$576.46, Motor Power Equipment, r&b repair/maint, \$302.63, Newcastle Motors, assr veh maint/fuel, \$136.74, News Letter Journal, print/publ/supp, \$2,392.45, Office Ally, p-hlth supp, \$35.00, Osage Improvement & Service District, coroner rent, \$312.00, Plainsman, crthse supp, \$1,877.96, Postmaster, WIC proj, \$90.00, Powder River Energy Corp, util, \$1,046.53, Rabe Elevator, crthse repair/maint, \$1,143.75, Randy Bury, covid-19 vaccine/campaign, \$86.80, RANGE, comm, \$2,632.09, Rapid Delivery, r&b post/freight, \$21.92, Reserve Acct-Pitney Bowes, crthse post/freight, \$4,275.00, Roadrunner Disposal Service, airport util, \$60.00, Rocky Mountain Info Network, shrf invstgtns, \$50.00, Sanofi Pasteur, p-hlth immnz, \$1,076.59, Self Storage, LLC, elctn misc, \$150.00, Servall Uniform/Linen Co., crthse janitor supp, \$68.09, Skaggs Companies Inc, shrf uniforms, \$213.82, Steve Price, crthse other emp, \$209.00, Timberline Services, r&b gravel/rd mtrl, \$4,501.02, Top Office Products, supp, \$530.89, Town of Upton, upton comm ctr/landfill, \$2,193.75, Tracker Software Corporation, Inc, r&b radio exp, \$1,700.00, Tyler Technologies, comp sftwr lic, \$495.93, Upton Chamber of Commerce, upton chmbr, \$425.00, Upton Co-op Association, r&b oil/gas/lube, \$19,089.46, Upton Senior Center, sr ctr, \$531.25, Verizon Wireless, comm, \$181.30, Vicki Hayman, ext educator, \$63.16, Visionary Communications, annx comm, \$166.52, Voelkers Autobody, hmlnd sec/r&b exp, \$151.03, West End Water District, airport util, \$60.00, WC 4-H Council, ext supprt/educator, \$304.70, WC Gazette, print/publ, \$1,065.00, WC Library, blk allocation, \$26,583.33, WC Pharmacy, jail medical, \$19.18, WC Road & Bridge, maint/fuel/trvl, \$5,126.30, WC Sheriff's Office, post/freight/yth srvc, \$63.87, WC Senior Services, sr services, \$7,254.50, Wilder Graphic Design, law enf supp, \$166.88, Woody's Food Center, law enf brd of prisoners, janitor supp, ext educator, \$617.31, WY Association of County Officers, attny trvl/meal/regis, \$275.00, WY Department of Health/Rental, p-hlth reimb to state, mch grnt, \$21,356.80, WY Machinery Co., r&b repair/maint, \$2,394.21, WY Network, financial admin, \$270.00, WY Public Health Division Combined Laboratories Facility, p-hlth fmly plnng, \$42.00, Y2 Consultants LLC, financial admin, \$940.50, Net Payroll, \$159,393.70.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

Marty Ertman
Chairwoman

Attest: Becky Hadlock
Weston County Clerk