

WESTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OFFICIAL MINUTES
April 5, 2022

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 Nathan Todd, Ed Wagoner, Tony Barton, Don Taylor, and Attorney Michael Stulken were present. Commissioner Todd was designated by Clerk Hadlock to take minutes of the meeting in her absence. Ed Quinones led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Barton moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Vice Chairman Todd asked to pull the minutes from the March 15, 2022 meeting. Commissioner Barton moved to approve the consent agenda minus the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Taylor. Carried. Commissioner Barton moved to approve the minutes as discussed and amended, seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried

CM 22407 BID OPENING

Timberline Services and Farnsworth Services both submitted bids. Units include Painted Hills, Barton, Musser and Salt Creek Road. Chairwoman Ertman opened the bids at 10:00. Timberline Services bid \$195,000 on all units. Farnsworth Services bid \$265,453 on all units. Both submittals qualified with the appropriate paperwork filing. Commissioner Barton moved to award the bid to Timberline Services for \$195,000 upon review of the bid tabulation accuracy, by the Road and Bridge department. Seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried

CONCERNED CITIZENS OF WESTON COUNTY IN SUPPORT OF THE WESTON COUNTY SHERIFF

It was requested that the County Commissioners support Clerk Hadlock in endorsing County Resolution #14-03, a Resolution on Legislative Constitutional Districting. Danny Bau spoke before the board and members of the public, to urge the boards support and to ask the board to review one man, one vote, to put an end to the county not having local representation.

BARTON ROAD PETITION

Commissioner Barton moved to authorize County Attorney Stulken to reach out to the interested parties to see if an easement can be accessed on and past National Forest Service Road 1248, seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried (Add to Old Business)

EXECUTIVE SESSION – POTENTIAL OR THREATENED LITIGATION

Commissioner Barton moved to go into Executive Session per W.S. 16-4-405(a)(iii), seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried. Executive Session began at 11:15 a.m. and reconvened into regular session at 11:25 a.m. Matters concerning possible litigation were discussed in Executive Session, no action was taken.

SURETY BONDS

Chairwoman Ertman stayed present but turned the meeting over to Vice Chairman Todd at 11:35 in the courtroom. Mrs. Gillian Sears was given the floor and read a prepared transcript in front of the board and members of the public in matters concerning what she views as incorrect minutes, poor access to

the Commissioner's Surety Bonds and their existence. Mrs. Sears asked that the entire transcript be entered into the official minutes. Commissioner Barton cautioned placing public testimony in the minutes. Vice Chairman Todd stated that the transcript was read into the recorder by Mrs. Sears and a copy of the transcript will be made available by request at the Clerk's office. (Add to Old Business)

OLD BUSINESS

A brief discussion was held regarding the poor windows at the county owned library in Upton. Commissioner Barton moved to authorize the Library Board to move forward with replacing the 4 East windows, the 8 upper windows and the front door, to be funded out of the buildings and grounds line item. Seconded by Commissioner Taylor. Carried

DISPATCH

Chris Hadlock representing Com-Tech (Motorola), Gilbert Nelson with Homeland Security and Sheriff Bryan Colvard held a brief discussion with the Commissioners about costs associated with a new dispatch. Mr. Hadlock presented a bid totaling \$744,411.59 if Weston County buys all the equipment needed to be completely independent for a county operated dispatch. Mr. Hadlock also presented a bid totaling \$464,754.65 if Weston County shares the use of Crook County's servers. Mr. Hadlock stated that Crook County was agreeable to such a partnership.

SENATOR STEINMETZ

Senator Steinmetz gave a 15-minute presentation about the state budget. Covid Funds and ARPA funds were also discussed.

LONG EARED BAT

Commissioner Barton brought forward concerns regarding the bat being moved from protected to endangered and the negative affects this could have on Weston County regarding our agriculture and recreational industries.

COVID FUNDS

Commissioner Barton would like to see movement from the county regarding the employee compensation packages, potentially cutting employees to help pay for an increase in wages if necessary. Discussion ensued that this and elected salaries should be added to new business at the next meeting.

RECOVERY FUNDS

No action was taken.

Public Comment

Linda Hunt and Nancy Darnell from the Friends of Fair gave a brief presentation with photos and a cost comparison spreadsheet regarding the Crow's Nest Improvement Project.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Marty Ertman
Chairman

Attest: Nathan Todd - Vice Chairman

