

WESTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OFFICIAL MINUTES
November 19, 2024

The regular meeting of the Weston County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Don Taylor at 9:00 a.m. at the Weston County Courthouse. Commissioners Ed Wagoner, Nathan Todd, Garrett Borton and Vera Huber, Deputy County Attorney Anthony Toscana, and Clerk Becky Hadlock were present. Walter Sprague opened the meeting with prayer, and Vice-Chairman Borton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Clerk Hadlock asked to remove Vaultside Update from Old Business and add Treasurer's Report to the Consent Agenda. Vice-Chairman Borton moved to approve the agenda as amended; seconded by Commissioner Huber. Carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Vice-Chairman Borton moved to approve the Consent Agenda which included the Minutes of November 7, 2024, Tax Roll Corrections #1649-1653, Treasurer's Report; seconded by Commissioner Huber. Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

4-H UPDATE

4-H/Youth Development Extension Educator Erin Persche gave the Board an update on 4-H.

SHERIFF UPDATE

Weston County Undersheriff Dan Fields and Weston County Homeland Security Coordinator Gilbert Nelson came before the Board to continue the discussion on the K9 vehicle. Commissioner Wagoner moved to move forward in the amount of \$83,374.24 for the new F-150 for the new K9 unit paid for out of the Opioid Funds; seconded by Vice-Chairman Borton. Discussion ensued. Carried. The Blue & Gold 3-day training course could be as much as \$20,000 with a commitment of 14 seats for local law enforcement. Commissioner Todd moved to authorize up to fourteen slots at a maximum of \$20,000 for officer training to be paid for out of the Opioid Funds; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried. Undersheriff Fields discussed the camera system for the Detention Center, Annex and Impound Yard and the price went up \$100,000 from the last meeting. Commissioner Todd moved for the Sheriff's Office to start the procedure with Verkada for the installation and the R&R of the camera system in the Sheriff's Office building to not exceed \$170,000 paid out of the Tribal Funds; seconded by Commissioner Wagoner.

OLD BUSINESS

BID EXPECTATIONS/PROCUREMENT POLICIES

A workshop will be scheduled at the end of the next meeting with Attorney Stulken and Deputy Assistant Treasurer Kim Jenkins to work on these.

UPDATE ON NEWCASTLE BLM RMP REVISION, BLACK HILLS NATIONAL FOREST PLAN REVISION, THUNDER BASIN NATIONAL GRASSLANDS & GREATER SAGE-GROUSE EIS

Dru Bower-Palmer with Dru Consulting and Jeanne Whalen with Whalen Consulting visited with the Board about the Newcastle BLM Resource Management Plan Revision, Black Hills National Forest Plan Revision, Thunder Basin National Grasslands, Greater Sage-grouse EIS, BLM EIS & Forest Service Old Growth.

CHAMBER UPDATE

Newcastle Chamber of Commerce President Henry Nissel gave the Board an update on the Newcastle Area Chamber of Commerce.

REDISTRICTING UPDATE

Chairman Taylor gave the Board an update on what was needed for the vacancy appointment. Chairman Taylor let the Board know that William Curley withdrew from his nomination so the Board would need to select another candidate for the Senator position. Vice-Chairman Borton moved to nominate Sue Mireles for the Senator vacancy and Patricia Bauman as the second choice; seconded by Commissioner Huber. Commissioner Todd and Commissioner Wagoner abstained from voting. Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

CLERK'S RECORDING

Commissioner Huber brought up the Newspapers getting copies of the recording of the Commissioner meeting. Discussion ensued on the audio of the minutes.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Discussion ensued on the official paper being in attendance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Vice-Chairman Borton moved to go into Executive Session per W.S. 16-4-405(a)(ii); seconded by Commissioner Wagoner. Carried. Executive Session began at 11:18 a.m.; regular meeting reconvened at 12:34 p.m. Matters concerning employment were discussed in Executive Session; no action was taken.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lisa LeVasseur and Marty Ertman spoke during Public Comment.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT

Commissioner Huber, Vice-Chairman Borton and Chairman Taylor spoke during Commissioner Comment.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Don Taylor
Chairman

Attest: Becky Hadlock
Weston County Clerk

