

**WESTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**OFFICIAL MINUTES**  
**March 24, 2026**

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Clerk Hadlock asked to remove the Republican Party Resolution and replace it with Resolution 2026-9 and to remove the Museum District from New Business. Commissioner Borton moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Commissioner Ertman. Carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ted Ertman spoke during public comment and suggested the old guard rail from the Old Hwy 85 railroad bridge be used in front of the new building at the Fairgrounds if the contractor would allow the County to have it.

**MINUTES OF MARCH 3, 2026**

Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the minutes of March 3, 2026, as amended; seconded by Commissioner Borton. Vice-Chairman Wagoner recused himself as he was not in attendance. Carried.

**BOARD'S SIGNATURE ON TREASURER'S REPORTS**

Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the Board's signature on the Treasurer's Reports; seconded by Commissioner Huber. Carried.

**CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE ON CREDIT CARD PRE-AUTHORIZATION REQUEST – CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT, PUBLIC HEALTH, SHERIFF**

Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the Chairman's signature on credit card pre-authorization request for Clerk of District Court for an unknown amount, Public Health in the amount of \$410.40 and the Sheriff in the amount of \$815; seconded by Vice-Chairman Wagoner. During discussion Commissioner Ertman asked that the Clerk of District Court put a notation on the receipt that the items are for the jury trial. Carried.

**BOARD'S SIGNATURE ON COUNTY ROAD FUND PROJECT ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATE FORM**

Discussion ensued on the amount of funds in the County Road Fund for both the CRIP and BROS projects. This amount will be researched, and this will be added to the next agenda.

**CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE ON AUDIT REPRESENTATION LETTER**

There was a correction needed on this letter. This will be added to the next agenda.

**PENNY TAX – SPECIAL PURPOSE TAX**

Newcastle Mayor Ty Owens and Upton Mayor Nick Trandahl came before the board to give the Board a list of projects that both municipalities would use the 6<sup>th</sup> penny tax – special purpose tax. This will be added to the next meeting.

#### **ANNEX UPDATE**

4-H/Youth Development Extension Educator Erin Persche let the Board know that the front window at the Annex is broken. The Board would like Ms. Persche to work with Temporary Maintenance Foreman Steve Price on getting bids and bring them to the next meeting.

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

Jeanne Whalen with Whalen Consulting visited with the Board about Black Hills National Forest Plan Revision and answered questions about the Newcastle BLM Resource Management Plan Revision, Thunder Basin National Grasslands, Greater Sage-grouse EIS, BLM EIS & Forest Service Old Growth as Dru Bower with Dru Consulting was unable to join the meeting.

#### **LIQUOR LICENSE TRANSFER**

Commissioner Borton moved to approve the liquor license transfer from Waite Enterprises to Perkins Enterprises LLC; seconded by Commissioner Ertman. Carried.

#### **DOA – HOSPITAL DISTRICT DISCUSSION**

Brian Wilson, Wyoming Department of Public Funds Audit Manager joined the meeting via Teams to help answer questions pertaining to the dissolution of the Weston County Hospital District. Weston County Hospital District Board member Ann Slagle was also in attendance. Commissioner Huber asked if the process could be reversed once it starts and Manager Wilson explained it could not. Ms. Slagle explained that the reports will not be submitted to the DOA by the April 1 deadline. Mr. Wilson explained that the Commissioners will need to sign a resolution to initiate the dissolution of the Hospital District, not the hospital. The Board asked if the current Board would be able to stay on to run the financial aspect of the hospital and the Commissioners could serve as the new Hospital Board to start the dissolution. Mr. Wilson let them know that he felt this was correct. Deputy County Attorney Jeani Stone concurred.

#### **FAIRGROUNDS UPDATE**

Fair Board members Francie Hamilton and Billy Jackson came before the Commissioners to give an update on the Fairgrounds. Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the purchase and installation of four walk through doors in the amount not to exceed \$1800 paid for out of building and grounds; seconded by Commissioner Borton. During discussion the Commissioners stated anything over and above the \$1800 is on the Fair Board. Carried. Ms. Hamilton asked about doing a gun raffle to raise money for the Fairgrounds. Discussion concerning legality was discussed with Deputy Attorney Stone.

#### **BCBS – PLAN SELECTION**

Clerk Hadlock let the Board know that Blue Cross Blue Shield increased by 12% this year. Clerk Hadlock gave the Board options to look at so that a decision can be made at the next meeting. The Board asked that along with the options they were given Clerk Hadlock see about an HSA option for the employees.

#### **CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE ON RESOLUTION 2026-9 – STAGE 1 OPEN BURNING RESTRICTIONS**

Commissioner Borton moved to approve the Chairman's Signature on Resolution 2026-9 – Stage 1 Open Burning Restrictions; seconded by Commissioner Ertman. During Discussion Commissioner Ertman would like to strongly urge caution while burning in the County. Carried.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **RESOLUTION 2026-7 – CONCERNING SPECIAL APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY ATTORNEY DISCUSSION**

Commissioner Ertman played a clip of Secretary of State Chuck Gray speaking during the March 2, 2026, Senate Corporations Meeting discussing having the Natrona County Attorney investigate the Weston County Clerk. The Commissioners wanted an explanation From the Attorney's Office why they had to learn of this information from the video of the SOS and not from them. Deputy Attorney Stone explained that the SOS has initiated the process with their office, the Sheriff's Office and DCI to investigate Clerk Hadlock. The Commissioners asked why this had not been explained to them when this was first presented to the Board. Chairman Todd discussed with Deputy Stone the explanation that she had presented to him that if the Board had not passed this resolution that a Judge would have been able to appoint the special Deputy Attorney. Chairman Todd stated that he feels it makes more sense for the judge to decide this because the Board had not been given all the information. Commissioner Ertman implied that it was too late for that.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **MALLO CAMP FUNDING REQUEST**

The Mallo Camp Manager and Mallo Board Members presented a bid to replace the smoke detectors and fire alarm system. Commissioner Ertman moved to pay Rick's Electric \$12,500 for the fire alarm repair for Mallo Lodge Cabins and Mallo Hotel and pay for this out of building and grounds with the work performed breakdown; seconded by Vice-Chairman Wagoner. Carried.

### **PART-TIME MAGISTRATE APPROVAL**

Commissioner Ertman moved to approve Stephanie Humphrey as a part time magistrate; seconded by Commissioner Huber. Carried.

### **VICTIM WITNESS FINAL APPLICATION PACKET REVIEW**

Victim Witness Coordinator Stephanie Martinez gave the board a copy of the Victim Witness Grant final application.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Nick Trandahl let the Board know that the Town of Upton has raised the rates at the Upton Community Center.

## **COMMISSIONER COMMENT**

Vice-Chairman Wagoner gave an update on the Congressional Tour and added that the direct distribution funding has now been put into the permanent budget. Vice-Chairman Wagoner thanked Mayor Trandahl and Mayor Owens for coming together with the special purpose tax. Commissioner Borton agreed with this and feels the County can come up with some ideas. Commissioner Ertman attended the Upton Chamber Festival of Tables and recognized that the schools took a major hit during this Legislative season, and she was able to witness the small-town celebrating the Upton High School graduates in attendance of this event. Chairman Todd said there is some items that the Commissioners need to go home and think about.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – W.S. 16-4-405 (a)(iii) – POTENTIAL LITIGATION**

Commissioner Borton moved to go into Executive Session per W.S. 16-4-405(a)(iii); seconded by Commissioner Ertman. Carried. Executive Session began at 1:01 p.m. and reconvened into regular session at 1:09 p.m. Matters concerning potential litigation were discussed in Executive Session, and no action was taken.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION – W.S. 16-4-405 (a)(ii) – PERSONNEL**

Commissioner Borton moved to go into Executive Session per W.S. 16-4-405(a)(ii); seconded by Vice-Chairman Wagoner. Carried. Executive Session began at 1:11 p.m. and reconvened into regular session at 2:00 p.m. Matters concerning personnel were discussed in Executive Session, and no action was taken.

Commissioner Ertman moved to hire Kim Jenkins for the Courthouse cleaning position at \$20 per hour not to exceed 29 hours per week; seconded by Commissioner Borton. Carried.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:03 p.m.

Nathan Todd  
Chairman

Attest: Becky Hadlock  
Weston County Clerk