

WESTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OFFICIAL MINUTES
May 5, 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, Vera Huber, and Garrett Borton, and Acting Clerk Amber Green were present. Commissioner Borton opened the meeting with prayer, and Don Taylor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Todd presented a resignation letter and an amendment to the Wyoming Department of Family Services Contract to be added under New Business. The amendment requires the signatures of both the Chairman and the County Attorney. Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the agenda as amended; seconded by Commissioner Borton. Carried.

AP VOUCHERS

Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the vouchers, excluding Ad Pro and airport vouchers, Newcastle Lodge for \$160, Cambria Car Wash for \$200, and 307 Ohana Wellness for \$675; seconded by Commissioner Borton. During discussion, it was noted that sales tax had been removed from Newcastle Lodge's invoice, making the adjusted amount \$160. Undersheriff Dan Fields stated he would check into the Cambria Car Wash invoice to determine why the amounts did not add up and would also verify whether the 307 Ohana Wellness charges were for telehealth services and why some invoices were dated so far back. Commissioner Ertman then amended the motion to remove the Newcastle Lodge voucher from the exclusions; seconded by Commissioner Borton. Carried. Vice-Chairman Wagoner moved to approve payment of the Ad Pro vouchers and those pertaining to the airport; seconded by Commissioner Huber. During discussion, Commissioners Borton and Ertman recused themselves from the vote. Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Don Taylor spoke regarding the Clerk's vacancy. Mr. Taylor emphasized that the appointment is an interim position, and it was important to maintain stability within the County during this time. Mr. Taylor also stated that he believed it was wrong for the Weston County Republican Party to place names on the list as "plugs" and wanted it noted for the record that Acting County Clerk Amber Green is not included on the list and that was wrong to not have her name on that list.

Undersheriff Fields and Weston County Sheriff Bryan Colvard attended the meeting to clarify that 307 Ohana Wellness provides services for changing inmate medications and renewing prescriptions through telehealth appointments. The discussion also addressed the Cambria Car Wash tokens. Chairman Todd requested that future invoices better reflect the token pricing.

Jail Administrator Jason Jenkins let the Board know that 307 Ohana Wellness billed all at once. Commissioners asked whether billing could instead be submitted quarterly and specifically requested that billing be for this year in June, as it becomes difficult to manage once expenses begin falling into the next fiscal year's budget cycle.

PAYROLL AND VOUCHERS

Commissioner Ertman moved to approve payroll and payroll vouchers; seconded by Vice-Chairman Wagoner. Carried

BOARD'S SIGNATURE ON TREASURER'S REPORTS

Treasurers could not get reports done due to computer issues.

MINUTES OF APRIL 7, 2026

Vice-Chairman Wagoner moved to approve minutes of April 7, 2026, as amended; seconded by Commissioner Borton. Carried.

MINUTES OF APRIL 21, 2026

Commissioner Borton moved to approve the April 21, 2026, minutes as amended; seconded by Vice-Chairman Wagoner. Carried

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES APRIL 7, 2026

Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the executive session minutes of April 7, 2026; seconded by Vice-Chairman Wagoner. Carried

COLLECTIONS FOR COUNTY CLERK, CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT, PUBLIC HEALTH, SHERIFF & AIRPORT

Commissioner Borton moved to approve collections for the County Clerk in the amount of \$11,079.45, Clerk of District Court in the amount of \$1,306.29, Public Health in the amount of \$140.00 and the Sheriff in the amount of \$469.00 excluding the Airport; seconded by Vice-Chairman Wagoner. Carried. Vice-Chairman Wagoner moved to approve collections for the Airport in the amount of \$329.40; seconded by Commissioner Huber. During discussion, Commissioner Borton recused himself from the vote. Carried.

ROAD AND BRIDGE

Road and Bridge manager Jim Hansen and WYDOT Resident Engineer Josh Jundt joined the meeting to discuss the soil removed from the BNSF right-of-way. It was explained that BNSF policy requires any materials removed from their right-of-way to be tested for hydrocarbons, metals, and other contaminants. Initial testing showed some results exceeding BNSF tolerance levels under EPA groundwater leaching standards. After further review and consideration of the intended use of the soil as roadway embankment, which would later be capped with roadway material and topsoil, BNSF approved the material for use outside of their right-of-way. Commissioner Ertman requested additional clarification under item number two, where it states, "buyer represents and legally owns," asking that an amendment be included for historical reference specifying that the west portion, commonly referred to as the "cut across," is considered a right-of-way and not necessarily an easement or ownership interest in the property.

Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the Chairman's signature on the Soil Placement Agreement with the stipulation previously discussed; seconded by Vice-Chairman Wagoner. During discussion, it was agreed that a copy of the right-of-way documentation would be attached to the agreement upon submission. Carried.

Manager Hansen stated that Engineering Associates included this year's price list, which is guaranteed for the year, and noted that any requested services would also include a price estimate.

Vice-Chairman Wagoner moved to authorize the Chairman's signature on the Master Agreement for Professional Services, as well as the Task Order forms between Weston County and Engineering Associates; seconded by Commissioner Borton. During discussion, Commissioner Ertman expressed appreciation to Attorney Stulken and Manager Hansen for addressing every concern raised by the Board and taking the time to ensure the Board felt confident that everything had been handled correctly. Carried

Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the Chairman's signature on the Walgreen Utility License with the spelling of "Walgreen" corrected; seconded by Commissioner Borton. Carried

Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the Chairman's signature on the Green Mountain Road Utility License; seconded by Commissioner Huber. Carried.

CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE ON CREDIT CARD PRE-AUTHORIZATION REQUEST-VOCA

The credit card request was presented as a blanket request; therefore, no action was taken by the Board.

FRIENDS OF FAIR

Linda Hunt informed the Board that the five-year advertising contracts for the signs above the outdoor arena bucking chutes were nearing expiration and that the Friends of Fair did not want to proceed with renewals without Board approval. Commissioner Ertman moved to allow the Friends of Fair to renew or update the contracts for the advertising signs above the bucking chutes; seconded by Commissioner Huber. Carried

WYOMING BAR TOURNAMENT

Local bar owner Falgun Patel informed the Board of plans to host the Wyoming Ultimate Bartender Showdown on September 11–13, 2026. Mr. Patel stated that 24-hour permits may be requested in July for the event in September, if the expected attendance exceeds the capacity of the bar and lounge.

ATTORNEY & DISTRICT COURT OFFICES

Attorney Stulken and District Court Clerk Riki Kaiser presented information to the Commissioners regarding projected cost-of-living and inflation rate increases since 2022. They expressed concern that the motion regarding elected officials' salaries had been made before receiving input and information from the elected officials. Commissioners requested the matter be reviewed further at the next meeting after all parties had received the email information, which had not initially been sent to all correct email addresses.

EMS RESIGNATION LETTER

Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the resignation of Ty Kennedy with regret; seconded by Commissioner Borton. Carried

CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE ON AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT GRANT AECO32X

AWOS NAVIAD Maintenance grant. Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the Chairman's signature on the Wyoming Airport Improvement Program Certificate of Grant and Aid in the amount of \$927.15, representing one-half of the \$1,854 match amount to be split with the City of Newcastle; seconded by Vice-Chairman Wagoner. During discussion, Commissioner Borton recused himself from the vote. Carried.

OPIOID FUNDS

Undersheriff Dan Fields requested approval to use \$20,724.98 from the opioid fund to purchase safety equipment. Commissioners requested that they have an internal discussion regarding whether the funds would be better utilized for the proposed equipment purchase or toward a new vehicle, as concerns are that the vehicle originally requested may not be able to be purchased.

CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE ON FOREST SERVICE LAW ENFORCEMENT GRANT

Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the Chairman's signature on the modification to Forest Service Agreement and Financial Plan; seconded by Vice-Chairman Wagoner. Discussion was held regarding the forms the Sheriff's Office would be required to complete. Carried.

BCBS-PLAN SELECTION AMOUNTS

Commissioner Ertman requested that the plan selection sheet includes the percentage amounts so employees can see that the County is covering approximately 88% of the health insurance costs. It was also stated that the percentage splits for the two new plans would remain the same as those currently used for the \$2,500 plan.

WCRP ELECTION INTEGRITY COMMITTEE

Vice-Chairman moved that we do hand counting in Weston County on the 2026 Primary and General Elections; seconded by Commissioner Borton. During discussion Commissioner Borton expressed continued support for hand counts as a method of verifying election accuracy and referenced this year's post-election audit, which will be hand counted. Also, he was concerned regarding election integrity, transparency and public perception of the proposal in relation to the three interviews scheduled that afternoon, including questions as to why one individual's name was not included on the interview list selected by the same individuals involved with the proposal. While supportive of exploring hand-counting methods, Commissioner Borton stated he had concerns

that implementing additional changes during a period of tension could create further disruption. The motion failed by a vote of 2–3, with Commissioners Borton and Huber voting ‘aye’ and Commissioner Ertman, Vice-Chairman Wagoner, and Chairman Todd voting ‘nay.’ Motion failed.

BRIDGER PIPELINE CONTRACT/ FNRPA CONTRACT

Jeanne Whalen of Whalen Consulting attended via Zoom and was available to answer questions regarding the Bridger Pipeline and FNRPA contracts. Commissioner Ertman expressed gratitude to Jeanne Whalen and Dru Palmer for preparing letters submitted in relation to the matter.

Chairman Todd moved to accept the assistance of Dru Palmer and Jeanne Whalen regarding the BLM and FNRPA accounts; seconded by Commissioner Ertman. During discussion, Commissioner Huber stated that their efforts were helping protect not only Weston County, but the entire state. Carried

EXTENSION OFFICE-UPDATE

4-H/Youth Development Extension Educator Erin Persche provided an update on current 4-H activities, noting that the primary focus this month was recognizing graduating seniors. Educator Persche shared that nine graduating seniors were asked to reflect on their 4-H experiences in a newsletter she distributed and stated that honor cords would be presented to the seniors during the awards ceremony. Educator Persche requested permission to use unused funds in her salary line, to hire an additional summer intern applicant not covered through the University of Wyoming. Educator Persche noted that the available salary funds would cover May and June. The Board gave approval to her to proceed.

NEW BUSINESS

LETTER OF RESIGNATION – MAINTENANCE

Commissioner Ertman moved to accept the resignation of Maintenance Manager Brandon Turner with regret; seconded by Commissioner Borton. During discussion, the Board inquired whether Deputy Attorney Stone would be willing to conduct an exit interview. Carried

It was noted that advertisement for the position would begin immediately.

WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICE CHILD SUPPORT PROGRAM AND WESTON COUNTY CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT AGREEMENT- AMENDMENT

District Court Clerk Riki Kaiser informed the Board that language in the termination section of the agreement previously signed had been revised. The original language stated that “the agreement may be terminated by agency immediately,” and it was changed so the agreement could be terminated by either party.

Vice-Chairman Wagoner moved to authorize the Chairman's signature on the Cooperative Agreement for Responsibility between the Wyoming Department of Family Services Child Support Program and Weston County Clerk of District Court; seconded by Commissioner Borton. Carried

AP VOUCHERS FOR CAMBRIA CAR WASH/ 307 OHANA WELLNESS

With the questions raised earlier in the meeting having been addressed, Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the Cambria Car Wash voucher in the amount of \$200 and the 307 Ohana Wellness voucher in the amount of \$675; seconded by Commissioner Huber. Carried.

CLERK VACANCY INTERVIEWS

Commissioners interviewed the three applicants submitted by the Weston County Republican Party for the vacant Weston County Clerk position: Patricia Baumann, James Michael Tooman, and Stanley Jasinski.

Chairman Todd moved to appoint Stanley Jasinski to the position of Weston County Clerk. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Chairman Todd moved to appoint Tricia Baumann to the position of Weston County Clerk; seconded by Commissioner Huber. During discussion, Commissioner Huber stated that although Ms. Baumann had less experience, she believed her personality and willingness to learn would better fit the environment she would be

entering. She also noted that she was the only applicant who had expressed prior interest in running for the Clerk position before the interview process. Commissioner Ertman stated that she had prior discussions with Paul from the Secretary of State's Office regarding the intent of the statute versus its wording concerning party involvement in the appointment process. Commissioner Ertman noted that the statute allows any qualified voter to apply to the party, while subsection (a)(vi) in §22-18-111 specifies that any individual appointed by the judge must be of the same political party as the vacated elected official. The motion failed by a vote of 1–4, with Commissioners Huber voting 'aye' and Commissioner Ertman, Vice-Chairman Wagoner, Commissioner Borton, and Chairman Todd voting 'nay.' Motion failed.

Chairman Todd moved to appoint James Michael Tooman to the position of Weston County Clerk. Motion failed for lack of a second.

OLD BUSINESS

The Commissioners distributed the Commissioner Scholarships among themselves for presentation at the upcoming award ceremonies.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Don Taylor reminded those present that an election is forthcoming and that Weston County citizens will have the opportunity to choose who they want to serve as County Clerk for the next four years. Taylor also commended the Commissioners for the difficult decision before them and thanked all three applicants for taking the time to apply for the position.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT

Commissioner Ertman expressed concerns regarding outdated information on the County website and would like it discussed further. She also thanked Road and Bridge staff for the County Road book; it was an excellent resource and specifically complimented Marty Borgialli for the work completed on the project. Discussion was also held regarding the August 18, 2026, meeting schedule, with commissioners agreeing it would be beneficial to address the scheduling change at the next meeting.

Commissioner Huber expressed worry that rejecting the candidates presented may now result in additional legal or procedural challenges regarding how the vacancy would be filled.

Commissioner Borton emphasized the importance of making difficult but appropriate decisions for the future success of the County, even under pressure, due to the significance of the position and the challenges anticipated in the coming months.

Vice-Chairman Wagoner commented regarding the meeting where the three applicant names were submitted, and then a fourth individual applied, stating that it had been difficult to observe the process and outcome of that meeting. It was also noted that the WCCA Spring Meeting was coming up to review and finalize the proposed WCCA budget. Commissioners were informed that Weston County's proposed dues were \$6,893, reflecting a decrease of \$1,256.

Chairman Todd stated that all three applicants brought different qualifications and life experiences to the process and expressed appreciation for their willingness to serve Weston County.

VOUCHERS

066-NCPERS, financial admin, \$256.00, AFLAC, payroll ded, \$3,281.65, Circuit court, payroll ded, \$939.77, Empower Trust CO LLC, deferred comp, \$820.00, New York Life, financial admin, \$462.59, WEBT, financial admin, \$84,948.75, Weston County Clerk, financial admin, \$44,372.68, WY Child Support Enforcement, payroll ded, \$550.00, WY Department of Workforce Services, payroll ded, \$1,923.85, WY Retirement System, payroll ded, \$38,293.72, 21 ELECTRIC LLC, bldg./grnds, \$202.90, 307 OHANA WELLNESS, law enf jail med, \$675.00, AD PRO, misc dept suppl, \$3,213.46, ADVANCED COMMUNICATIONS, hmlnd sec, law enf, \$272.00, ADVANCED DRUG TESTING INC, r&b cntct, \$93.60, AMANDA MCDADE, pub hlth em prep, \$390.05, AMBER GREEN, clerk mlg/trvl, \$82.98, ARCHITECTURAL SPECIALTIES LLC, bldg./grnds,

\$636.00, AT&T MOBILITY, gen dept comms, \$1,195.04, BLACK HILLS CHEMICAL & JANITORIAL, law enf brd of prison, \$262.10, BLACK HILLS ENERGY, gen dept util, \$4,124.08, BLACK HILLS PLUMBING, law enf repair, \$290.00, BOMGAARS, r&b repair, \$102.57, BROOKELYN DELAROSA, annex cntct wages, \$400.00, BYRAND STREETER, airport cntct wages, airport support eqpt, \$1,817.92, CAMBRIA CAR WASH, law enf veh maint, sheriff veh maint, \$200.00, CAMBRIA DISCOUNT DRUG LLC, law enf jail med, \$539.08, CAMBRIA SUPPLY, r&b repair, \$71.30, CAMPBELL CO COMMISSIONERS, misc financial admin, \$429.00, CAMPBELL CO HEALTH AMBULANCE, Q4FY26, \$8,150.61, CITY OF NEWCASTLE, gen dept util, \$1,299.26, COLLINS COMMUNICATIONS INC, dist crt comms, \$110.00, COMTRONIX, bldg./grnds, \$137.34, CROOK CO FAMILY VIOLENCE, Q4FY26, \$956.25, CULLIGAN WATER CONDITIONING, r&b supp, victm witness, \$35.85, DECKERS MARKET, ext suppt, r&b maint, pub hlth suppl, annex suppl, \$156.73, DOUBLE D, r&b repair, \$413.82, EASTERN WY EQUIPMENT CO, r&b repair, \$766.71, ERIN PERSCHE, ext 4H ed, \$45.68, FIRST NORTHERN BANK, gen dept. visa bill, \$2,589.82, FISHER SAND & GRAVEL, r&b gravel, \$40,284.96, GOLDEN WEST TECHNOLOGIES, crthse comp softwr, pub hlth comms, sheriff spec off, \$13,147.15, HUMPHREY LAW LLC, dist crt spec attny, \$2,390.59, KARLS TV & APPLIANCE, law enf brd of prison, \$169.99, KIMBERLY JENKINS, treas mlg/trvl, crthse cntct employ, \$512.05, LIBERTY LAW OFFICES PC, dist crt spec attny, \$1,810.27, LOU'S SERVICE LLC, r&b cntct, \$5,000.00, MARCO, attny equipt, \$169.36, MARINA MCILVAIN, coroner deputy calls, \$120.00, MATTHEW BENDER & CO INC, misc law library, \$125.43, MAX MASTERS, gis land record, \$2,000.00, MCKESSON MEDICAL-SURGICAL, pub hlth immuniz, \$680.29, MERIDIAN MORTUARY, coroner fees, \$295.00, MICHELLE SWEET, pub hlth mch, \$233.99, MINUTEMAN LUBE CENTER, sheriff veh maint, \$403.96, NEWCASTLE ACE HARDWARE, gen dept supp, \$664.52, NEWCASTLE COUNTRY CLUB, hmlnd sec expense, \$185.00, NEWCASTLE LODGE & CONVENTION CNTR, victim witness, \$160.00, NEWVISION SECURITY, bldg./grnds, \$98.07, NMS LABS, coroner autopsies, \$671.00, POWDER RIVER ENERGY CORP., gen dept util, \$1,521.83, RANGE, gen dept comms, \$2,619.49, RINGER LAW PC, dist crt spec attny, \$6,340.00, ROADRUNNER DISPOSAL SERVICE, airport util, \$60.00, SELF STORAGE, LLC, elctn misc, \$200.00, SERVALL UNIFORM/LINEN CO., law enf repair, bldg/grnds, \$161.46, STEPHANIE MARTINEZ, victim witness, \$56.00, STEVE PRICE, crthse other employ, \$200.00, SUNDANCE EXTINGUISHER LLC, r&b cntct, \$1,287.50, TAMMY CLEVERDON, treas mlg/trvl, \$42.05, THE RADAR SHOP, sheriff veh maint, \$819.00, TOP OFFICE PRODUCTS, ext copier, dist crt suppl, crthse suppl, \$427.30, TOWN OF UPTON, Q4FY26, \$4,693.75, TRUGREEN, bldg./grnds, \$396.00, UPTON CO-OP ASSN, r&b oil, \$21,049.07, US POSTAL SERVICE, pub hlth post, \$156.00, VISIONARY COMMUNICATIONS, annex comms, \$165.60, VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA, Q4FY26, \$2,125.00, WC SHERIFFS SEARCH & RESCUE, 1% sls tx, \$1,363.44, WEST END WATER DIST, airport util, \$60.00, WC SCHOOL DIST #7, prevention management, \$8,894.90, WC 4H COUNCIL, ext suppl, \$658.74, WC GAZETTE, law enf pre empl, misc print, treas suppl, \$874.25, WC HEALTH SERVICES, r&b cntct, \$50.00, WC HUMANE SOCIETY, Q4FY26, \$750.00, WC LIBRARY, Q4FY26, \$72,989.50, WC ROAD & BRIDGE, hmlnd sec, law enf, sheriff, maint veh fuel, \$3,877.00, WC SENIOR SERVICES, Q4FY26, \$8,228.50, WILDER GRAPHIC DESIGN, assr suppl, \$329.99, WLEA, sheriff school, \$305.00, WOODYS FOOD CENTER, victim witness, crthse jan suppl, \$99.97, WY BEHAVIORAL INSTITUTE, misc co ward, \$1,727.99, WY DEPT OF HEALTH/RENTAL, pub hlth mlg/trvl, \$165.00, WY DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION, r&b old hwy 85, \$24,675.80, WY DEPT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES, misc unemploy, \$8,141.98, WY LOCAL GOVT LIABILITY POOL, misc insurance, \$28,114.00, WY MACHINERY CO, r&b repair, \$2,839.92, WY NETWORK, misc financial admin, \$270.00, WY DEPT OF HEALTH – LAB, pub hlth suppl, \$28.00, WY OFFICE OF GUARDIAN AD LITEM, dist crt gal, \$4,116.93, NET PAYROLL, \$156,356.67.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

Nathan Todd
Chairman

Attest: Amber Green
Acting Weston County Clerk