

**WESTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OFFICIAL MINUTES
JUNE 16, 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. Vice Chairman Ed Wagoner, Commissioners Garrett Borton, Vera Huber, and Marty Ertman, Deputy Clerk Amber Green, and County Attorney Michael Stulken were present. Commissioner Borton opened the meeting with a prayer, and Commissioner Ertman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Commissioner Borton. During discussion, Commissioner Wagoner informed the Board that he would need to leave briefly at approximately 10:00 a.m. to attend a meeting at the refinery as part of the congressional tour. Carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Upton Mayor Nick Trandahl explained that, in his *Mayor's Corner* article, he reported attending an open meetings seminar where it was discussed that, once a meeting has started, the agenda cannot be changed. Mayor Trandahl noted that the seminar was held during the Wyoming Association of Municipalities Conference, so the requirements may differ between municipalities and county governments. He suggested that a rolling agenda might be something to consider.

MINUTES OF JUNE 2, 2026

Commissioner Borton moved to approve the minutes of June 2, 2026, as amended; seconded by Commissioner Ertman. During discussion Vice Chairman Wagoner recused himself from the vote, as he was not present at the meeting. Carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF JUNE 2, 2026 – EMPLOYMENT

Vice Chairman Wagoner recused himself from viewing executive session minutes, as he was not present at the meeting.

Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the executive session minutes of June 2, 2026; seconded by Commissioner Borton. During discussion, Vice Chairman Wagoner recused himself from the vote because he was not present at the meeting. However, Chairman Todd asked County Attorney Michael Stulken to review the executive session minutes, as he had not been present during the executive session. Carried.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Chairman Todd abstained from the Library Board reappointments.

Commissioner Borton moved to reappoint Becky Todd and Debra Piana to the Library Board for another three-year term; seconded by Commissioner Ertman. Carried

Vice Chairman Wagoner and Commissioner Huber abstained from the Weston County Solid Waste Disposal District Board appointment.

Commissioner Ertman moved to appoint Chuck Bartlett to fill the vacancy on the Weston County Solid Waste Disposal District Board for the remainder of Bob Hartley's term; seconded by Commissioner Borton. Carried.

MAINTENANCE POSITION

Commissioner Ertman stated that she had found a job description but felt there were a few items that needed to be updated before providing it to the applicants. The Board wanted to ensure the job description accurately reflects the position before asking the applicants whether they are still interested in the job and before making a hiring decision. The matter will be placed on the next agenda for the Board to make a hiring decision.

COURTHOUSE GENERATOR

Homeland Security Coordinator Gilbert Nelson reported that the grant application for a generator was unsuccessful. However, he stated that the FEMA grant opportunities released the previous day include language specific to generators, which may improve the County's chances of receiving funding. Coordinator Nelson noted that he already had quotes on file, but if the County moves forward with a new application, updated quotes will be required. He also explained that the County would need to determine whether to pursue generators that would provide power only for heating and cooling systems or generators capable of operating the entire facility. The Commissioners directed Coordinator Nelson to be proactive by beginning the necessary groundwork, gathering updated information, and returning to the Board with a proposed plan for consideration.

COURTHOUSE SECURITY

District Court Clerk Riki Kaiser was present to further discuss the Court Security Grant with the Commissioners. She explained that the Board will need to identify which security improvements they would like to pursue from the list of available options and submit quotes when they submit the application. The Commissioners stated they were still unclear about the status of the metal detector, including whether it could be used effectively or if it was operational. Commissioner Ertman noted that the courthouse is a historic building; however, there has been no directive from the historic preservation authority. She stated that the Board would like to still seek guidance from them. It was also noted that a generator may be considered as a potential court security improvement. Court Clerk Kaiser discussed ongoing audio issues in the courtroom, but it was noted that there are limited options to address the issue beyond major renovation or reconstruction of the courtroom.

ELECTION SECURITY

Coordinator Nelson stated that he had developed an election assistance plan several years ago and would forward it to Deputy Clerk Green for review. He suggested that everyone review the plan to determine whether any updates or adjustments were needed.

Deputy Clerk Green asked Undersheriff Dan Fields whether the Sheriff's Office would again be able to assist with transporting the election jump drives from the polling locations, noting that the process had worked well in previous elections. Undersheriff Dan Fields indicated that he believed the Sheriff's Office would be able to provide that assistance.

CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE ON 2025 SHSP IIS1 GRANT

Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the Chairman's signature on the 2025 SHSP WES CO IIS1 GRANT in the amount of \$6,500 with the understanding that the funds will be used to purchase panic buttons; seconded by Commissioner Huber. During discussion, the Commissioners asked Coordinator Nelson to encourage the State to complete the process within the next couple of weeks. Carried.

CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE ON 2025 SHSP IIS2 GRANT

Commissioner Huber moved to approve the Chairman's signature on the 2025 SHSP WES CO IIS2 GRANT in the amount of \$62,182.00 with the understanding that the funds will be used for the installation of the new emergency sirens; seconded by Commissioner Borton. Carried.

MILL LEVY FOR OSAGE IMPROVEMENT & SERVICE DISTRICT

No decisions were made.

BOARD'S SIGNATURE ON TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the Board's signatures on the Treasurer's reports; seconded by Commissioner Borton. Carried.

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

Dru Bower-Palmer with Dru Consulting and Jeanne Whalen of Whalen Consulting participated via Zoom and reported that there were no significant updates from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Newcastle Plan. However, they anticipate that the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process will begin toward the end of the year. They stated that it is important to ensure the Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) list is accurate and limited to species that meet the criteria, rather than including a broader list of animals and plants. They also reported that the BLM has rescinded the Public Lands Rule.

CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE ON RESOLUTION 2026-21

Road and Bridge Superintendent Jim Hansen reported that the CMAQ Fiscal Year 2027 project has a total estimated cost of \$136,100, with the County responsible for a 20% match totaling \$27,220. Commissioner Ertman moved to approve the Chairman's signature on the CMAQ Attachment E Resolution, 2026-21; seconded by Commissioner Borton. Carried

BOARD'S SIGNATURE ON COUNTY ROAD FUND PROJECT ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATION FORM

It was noted that, once the CMAQ Fiscal Year 2027 project is approved, the County Road Fund Project Eligibility Certification Form will be revisited.

GRAVEL PRE-BUY

It was discussed to use the remaining General Miscellaneous Gravel Road Material Fund to stockpile gravel at the current cost of \$8 per ton before the price increases to \$9 per ton on July 1. The stockpiled gravel will be used throughout the year, resulting in potential cost savings.

ROAD & BRIDGE UPDATE

Superintendent Hansen reported that he had rented a mower from RDO for \$16,740.00, provided it is not operated more than 80 hours per month.

FAIRGROUNDS UPDATE

Board Member Mason Kaiser reported that the Fair Board plans to hold a Calcutta during this year's Ranch Rodeo at the Weston County Fair. He stated that the Fair Board had contacted the Wyoming Gaming Commission, obtained the licensing requirements, and provided a copy to the Commissioners for review. Under the proposed format, 10% of the proceeds will be donated to the Friends of Fair, and the remaining 90% will be paid to the contestants.

24-HR PERMIT FAIRBOARD FOR 2026 FAIR

The required signatures for the check for the liquor permit were not obtained prior to the meeting. The matter will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

KAP SERVICES SEALING PARKING LOT AT PUBLIC HEALTH

Vice Chairman Wagoner moved to approve KAP Services proposal to seal, repaint, and stripe the Public Health parking lot for \$3,290.44, seconded by Commissioner Borton. During discussion, the Commissioners asked whether KAP Services could also complete the Courthouse parking lot at the same time to reduce costs. It was noted that the projects would need to be completed on separate days because this is the contractor's weekend business and the equipment would have to be moved across town. Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

Upton Mayor Nick Trandahl reported that the Upton Police Department recently received tablets from the State at no cost for use during mental health crisis responses. The tablets allow law enforcement officers to connect individuals experiencing a mental health crisis with a licensed mental health professional through a video conference. He noted that the program may help reduce the number of involuntary Title 25 commitments by allowing individuals to receive an immediate mental health evaluation and intervention.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT

None

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:12 p.m.

Nathan Todd
Chairman

Attest: Amber Green
Deputy Weston County Clerk