

STATE OF WYOMING)
) ss.
COUNTY OF FREMONT)

LANDER, WYOMING
OFFICE OF THE FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY 9, 2024

OFFICIAL MINUTES

The Board of Fremont County Commissioners met in Regular Session at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Chairman Larry Allen, Vice-Chairman Mike Jones, Jennifer McCarty, Clarence Thomas and Ron Fabrizius. Deputy County Clerk Margy Irvine and Deputy Civil Attorney Nathan Maxon were present.

Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Clarence Thomas moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2024 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Jennifer McCarty moved, Ron Fabrizius seconded, to accept the bills for payment. Motion carried unanimously.

Bills are listed in the following format: Vendor – Department – Description – Amount: 307 Aerial Services LLC-Road Construction-Surveying-\$263.64; 71 Construction-ARPA Program Grant-Contract Service -\$58,788.08; Ace Hardware-Lander-Segregated-Materials / Supplies -\$113.32; All Service Lysite Inc-1% Gravel Projects-Contract Services-\$8,047.50; AlSCO Inc-County Buildings-Laundry-\$415.12; Amerigas-County Buildings-Utilities -\$1,468.63; Arcsearch Corporation-ARPA Program Grant-Project Service-\$4,000.00; Bailey Enterprises, Inc-Inventory-Bulk Fuel -\$16,991.04; Big Brothers Big Sisters of NW WY-TANF Grant-CPI Grant Reimburse-\$3,174.93; Black Hills Energy-County Buildings-Utility Service-\$14,856.78; Bloedorn Lumber-Lander-County Buildings-Materials Supplies-\$160.02; BMO Financial Group-Segregated-Credit Card Charges-\$58,480.69; Bowdel Steven P.-Detention Center-Medical Services-\$1,437.50; Burden, Dan-County Buildings-Security Service-\$398.00; Carroll Septic Service-Transportation-Services -\$170.00; Charter Communications-Segregated-Internet Service-\$359.96; Circuit Court of the Ninth District-County Attorney-Service Fee-\$5.00; Clerkin, Sinclair & Mahfouz LLP-Search & Rescue-Claim Reimburse-\$2,985.20; DOT FHWA-Road Reconstruction-Horse Creek Road-\$676,086.27; DOWL LLC-Segregated-Services -\$44,610.80; Dubois Frontier, The-Support Services-Advertising-\$53.40; Dubois Telephone Exchange-County Sheriff-Telephone Services-\$720.96; Enos Trucking LLC-1% Gravel Projects-Contract Services-\$5,256.25; Foutz, Traci L-Public Health Emergency Prep-Expense Reimburse -\$32.76; Fremont County Assoc. of Govt.-Special Tax-Economic Development -\$54,245.02; Gee, Brian-Detention Center-Contract Supervisor-\$5,580.00; Grainger-County Buildings Detention-Materials/Supplies -\$286.13; High Plains Power, Inc.-County Buildings-Utility Services-\$1,673.73; Jace Water Service Inc-1% Gravel Projects-Contract Services-\$2,610.00; Jones, Michael-County Commission-Expense Reimburse-\$93.60; Kisling, Lisa-District Court-Court Services-\$1,839.82; Kleen Pipe LLC-County Buildings-Services-\$1,086.23; Lander, City Of-County Buildings-Utility Services-\$2,453.95; Mahlum, Zachary Hamilton-District Court-Court Services-\$503.23; Norco Inc-Segregated-Supplies -\$1,530.43; Normont Equipment Company-Vehicle Maintenance-Parts & Supplies -\$3,716.10; Office Shop Inc, The-Computer Services-Lease/Maintenance-\$7,044.16; Palazzolo, Alicia-Detention Center-Contract Services-\$1,781.25; Pavillion, Town of-County Buildings-Utilities-\$112.50; Perfect Power Electric Inc.- ARPA Program Grant-Services-\$42,802.65; Post, Raymond-County Buildings Detention-Car Wash -\$34.21; Print Shop, The-Segregated-Supplies -\$465.00; Quill Corporation-Segregated-Office Supplies-\$4,536.22; R T Communications-Dispatch Center-Telephone Service-\$444.11; Redwood Toxicology Laboratory-CAST-Supplies-\$40.00; RELX, Inc.-County Attorney-Subscription-\$819.00; Riverton Ranger, The-Transportation-Advertising-\$302.25; Riverton, City of-Special Tax-Economic Development-\$108,490.04; Roach, Rebekah-County Attorney-Expense Reimburse-\$26.00; Rocky Mountain Power-County Buildings-Utilities -\$11,328.05; Rodney's Collision & Custom-County Sheriff-Service-\$9,961.96; Soule, Sierra-District Court-Court Services-\$885.00; State of Wyoming - ETS-County Clerk-Digital Storage-\$6.11; Stotz Equipment-Vehicle Maintenance-Parts/Supplies-\$28.19; Traveling Computers-Computer Services-Subscription-\$588.50; Tumbleweed Propane Inc.-County Buildings-Utility Service-\$675.14; Tyler Technologies Inc.-County Clerk-Program Support -\$19,500.00; Verizon Wireless-Segregated-Cellphone Service-\$1,820.75; Western Printing, Inc.-County Clerk-Office Supplies-\$555.78; Whiting Law, P.C.-District Court-Court Services-\$832.50; Wind River Oilfield Service Inc-1% Gravel Projects-Contract Services-\$13,775.00; Wind River Unity Council-Prevention Program-Project Support -\$6,000.00; Wolf, Nancy J-Detention Center-Medical Services-\$1,750.00; Workpartners-Health Benefit Plan-Insurance Service-\$320.00; Wyoming Behavioral Institute-Health & Welfare-Title 25-\$9,802.00; Wyoming Machinery Co-Transportation-Parts/Service-\$2,088.04; Wyoming Waste Systems-County Buildings-Trash Service-\$3,418.71; Wyonet Inc.-Computer Services-Telephone/Internet Service-\$5,537.76.

Clarence Thomas moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to accept a voucher for Title 25 patients from Fremont Counseling Service for December patients in the amount of \$4,200.00. Motion carried unanimously.

The following items in the Signature File were reviewed: 1) 2022-2024 Community Prevention Grant Point of Contact Information Form; 2) Notice of Award and Agreement for Use of Economic Development Tax Funds for five MOVE recipients; 3) thank you letter to Kassie Holdren upon resignation from Fremont County Fair Board; and 4) Record of Proceedings. Mike Jones moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to

approve an Agreement between Fremont County Museums and Bohemian Builders for a shop at the Dubois Museum for a cost not to exceed \$365,017.00. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve an Agreement between Fremont County Museums and Bohemian Builders for a vestibule for ADA ingress and egress at the Pioneer Museum in Lander for a cost not to exceed \$72,500.00. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Ron Fabrizius seconded, to approve an Agreement between Fremont County Museums and Pavement Maintenance, Inc. for repair, crack seal, overlay and parking lot striping at the Pioneer Museum in Lander at a cost not to exceed \$58,300.00. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve a Public Official Bond and Oath for Deputy Assessor Angela Wilson. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve a letter to WYDOT District Engineer Pete Hallsten indicating the County's approval to proceed with the project to replace bridge ELX located on County Road 298 over the Wyoming Canal. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve Fiscal Year 2024 Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program Sub Recipient Agreement between the Wyoming Department of Transportation, Local Government Coordination Office and Fremont County in the amount of \$116,776 for magnesium chloride application to 16.57 miles of county roads. Motion carried unanimously.

There were no action items in the Priority Mail.

The Public Comment period was held.

Troy Jones stated his objection towards financial support of the proposed Riverton Rescue shelter. They state their intent is that anybody is welcome, they will be offered free food and they won't have to use their own money. This perpetuates and makes the problem worse. To receive funding from taxpayers is removing God and religion, these people needing the shelter need to appeal to family, church or private organizations such as the Salvation Army. If they need the money for the shelter, it should come from private donations and not the government.

Transportation Department Superintendent Billy Meeks informed the board of a recent vacancy for a Truck Driver/Operator position. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to authorize refilling the position at a salary not to exceed \$46,800. Motion carried unanimously.

Commission Meeting Reports and Concerns were given.

Sheriff Ryan Lee presented a monthly update.

County Coroner Erin Ivie provided a 2023 Case Summary & Comparison (as of January 8, 2023).

Treatment Courts and Youth Services Director Cassie Murray presented a monthly report.

County Planning Supervisor Steve Baumann stated that WYDOT is proposing to Relinquish the ROW for those portions of the road that were re-aligned in 2021 and 2022 on Highway 122 (Blue Sky Highway) between the intersection of Highway 287 and Ethete. The old road location ROW was obtained through a Resolution to Establish the Road by the Fremont County Commissioners so statutorily WYDOT is required to ask if the County would have any interest in the acquisition of the ROW proposed to be relinquished. This section of State highway is entirely within the Diminished Wind River Indian Reservation, and he recommended that the relinquished ROW be turned over to either the landowners of record or the Tribes. Baumann stated there are two landowners who access deeded property along the route and the Board asked him to make sure these individuals have access to their property and once confirmed, notify WYDOT that the County has no interest in the proposed relinquished ROW.

The Board adjourned as the Board of Fremont County Commissioners and convened as the District Boundary Board of Fremont County, which consists of the county assessor, board of county commissioners and county treasurer. Joining the meeting was Assessor Tara Berg who stated that the annual meeting of the Board is pursuant to W.S. § 21-6-203 and that she is not aware of any school district changes within Fremont County's eight school districts, noting there is one unified at this time (School District #38). W.S. § 21-6-205 further requires that a chairman and secretary be selected. Jennifer McCarty moved, Mike Jones seconded, to re-appoint both Larry Allen as Chairman and Secretary Tara Berg as Secretary of the District Boundary Board of Fremont County for 2024. Motion carried unanimously. The District Boundary Board of Fremont County adjourned and the Board of Fremont County Commissioners reconvened.

Stacy Stebner was present to provide reasons why a six-month extension was being requested on The Bossert Collective MOVE award of \$2,000 for the Pushroot Brewing Company Mural. The one-year final report due date is March 16th and due to issues regarding the building not being ready until summer, the extension was requested. As new reporting requirements have been approved by the Commission from one annual final report to quarterly reporting, Commissioner McCarty recommended they be put in place for this project extension reporting requirement. Mike Jones moved, Ron Fabrizius seconded, to approve a six-month extension until July 9, 2024 and to require the quarterly reporting requirements be required. Motion carried unanimously.

Riverton Rescue Mission representative Kara Hancock returned to the meeting to provide an update on funding received to-date for start-up costs for the homeless shelter. Riverton Mayor Tim Hancock was present in the audience. The \$25,000 required will go towards a feasibility study that will measure the community's ability to support a shelter and gather data such as likely donors, the amount of money that can potentially be raised, as well as gathering feedback from the community. The Riverton Rescue Mission has already raised \$7,000 toward the \$25,000 goal, including a \$5,000 contribution from the Riverton Peace Mission and \$2,000 from other donors. The City of Riverton donated \$9,000 in unobligated funds with an anticipated match from Fremont County for the remaining \$9,000. In closing, Tim Hancock stated Wyoming Rescue will be the fiscal agent and would be able to provide a budget. Clarence Thomas moved, Mike Jones seconded, to donate \$9,000 from the County General Fund to the Riverton Rescue Mission feasibility study. Motion carried unanimously.

Newly appointed Fremont County Fire Chief Ron Wempen joined the meeting to update the board on his duties as Fire Chief. This meeting was in response to an earlier meeting with former Fremont County Fire Chief Craig Haslam, who also serves as the Fremont County Fire Warden.

Fremont County Library Director Anita Marple presented a Library System Update and read a prepared statement. Board Chair Carrie Johnson was present in the audience.

JR Oakley, JR Project Management LLC, returned to the meeting to discuss the Lander Circuit Courtroom stairwell bids. This has not been authorized for funding yet as discussion was held earlier on this option or a sprinkler system, and even whether or not the additional project was necessary according to the Fire Marshall. Oakley stated it is better to error on the side of caution when dealing with public safety. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to authorize \$54,000 from LATC funds for the Lander Circuit Courtroom emergency exit project. Motion carried unanimously. Clarence Thomas moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to accept the bid from Yeates Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$49,232.64 for the project. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Mike Jones reviewed the draft Fremont County General Comments on the 2023 Rock Springs Resource Management Plan and EIS. As the comment deadline is prior to the next regular meeting, he asked for approval of the letter for submission. He summarized the comments by stating "Understandably the Federal Government can view this area as a smaller portion of all federal lands but we encourage the BLM to return to better practices and consider our County comments, and our Fremont County Natural Resource Management Plan, updated in 2021, as recently documented views on the land that fully take into account the socioeconomics of all the outlying areas affected, specifically Fremont County". There are four Alternatives: Alternative A – No Action; Alternative B – Agency Preferred Alternative; Alternative C – Emphasizes resource use; and Alternative D- explores a management approach to use and develop resources while promoting environmental conservation. Following submission of the comments, they will be reviewed at the federal level and a final draft produced, at which time further comments can be submitted. Clarence Thomas moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approval submittal of the comments on behalf of Fremont County. Motion carried unanimously. The Commissioners thanked Commissioner Jones for his extensive work on the final submission.

Jennifer McCarty moved, Mike Jones seconded, to adjourn into Executive Session for potential property acquisition and personnel. Motion carried unanimously. LATC Committee member Jim Anderson was present for the first portion of the session. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to return to Regular Session. Motion carried unanimously.

The Commissioners stated they would offer the recent vacancy on the Fremont County Fair Board to the second alternate following their interviews in December. If said alternate declined, the Board asked that the vacancy be re-advertised.

Janelle Hahn had left a written statement for the Board regarding how Fire Departments are paged and that the Lander Fire Chief's priority will be to recruit for firemen.

There being no further business, Jennifer McCarty moved, Mike Jones seconded, to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 1:00 p.m. and reconvene for a Regular Meeting at 9:00 a.m. on January 23, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

A full detailed report (informational only) and the official minutes are posted on Fremont County's website (www.fremontcountywy.gov). The meeting can also be accessed via YouTube (Fremont County WY Government).

/s/ Larry Allen, Chairman
Fremont County Commissioners

ATTEST:

/s/ Julie A Freese, Fremont County Clerk and Clerk of the Board