

STATE OF WYOMING)
) ss.
COUNTY OF FREMONT)

LANDER, WYOMING
OFFICE OF THE FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JUNE 6, 2023

FULL DETAILED REPORT

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 (Zoom) and Ron Fabrizius. County Clerk Julie A. Freese and Civil Deputy Attorney Nathan Maxon was present.

Jennifer McCarty moved, Mike Jones seconded, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Ron Fabrizius moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on May 23, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to accept the bills for payment. Motion carried unanimously.

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A & I Distributors	Vehicle Maintenance	Oil/Fluids	\$847.70
Alexander Excavation	Road Construction	Riverview/N Fork Roads	\$701,478.39
AlSCO, Inc.	County Buildings	Laundry	\$243.44
American Family & Life Insurance	Segregated	Insurance	\$5,073.75
B & B Enterprises LLC	Planning	Signs & Supplies	\$331.40
B & M Septic & Excavation Svcs LLC	Road Construction	Culvert Replacement	\$2,849.00
Bailey Enterprises, Inc.	Inventory	Bulk Fuel	\$27,080.91
Bank of the West Acct Analysis	Investment Pool	Charges	\$298.49
Big Horn Tire, Inc.	Vehicle Maintenance	Tires	\$876.90
Bill Jones Plumbing & Heating	County Buildings	Supplies/Parts	\$93.27
Black Hills Energy	County Buildings	Utility Service	\$5,938.67
Bloedorn Lumber-Lander	County Buildings	Materials Supplies	\$37.85
Blue Cross Blue Shield of WY	Co Admin	Health Insurance Claims	\$302,651.82
Bowdel, Steven P.	Detention Center	Medical Services	\$2,500.00
California State Disbursement	Payroll	Child Support	\$553.75
CDW Government, Inc.	Dispatch Center	Equipment & Supplies	\$349.00
Clifford, Gregory P. MD PC	Detention Center	Inmate Medical	\$1,658.00
Cloud Peak Counseling Center	Health & Welfare	Title 25	\$325.00
CNA Surety	Clerk of District Court	Surety Bond	\$100.00
Colonial Life & Accident Insurance	Segregated	Insurance	\$699.07
Cowboy Chemical, Inc.	Detention Center	Supplies	\$677.20
Davis, Karla	County Sheriff	Reimburse Expenses	\$238.00
Desert Mountain Corporation	Transportation	Supplies	\$1,680.00
Donaho, Dannine	Culture & Recreation	Printed Materials	\$809.25
Dowl LLC	Road Construction	Professional Services	\$1,017.50
Dubois Frontier, The	Support Services	Advertising	\$66.75
Dubois Telephone Exchange	County Sheriff	Telephone	\$721.32
Empower Trust	Segregated	Wyoming Benefits	\$8,490.00
Floyd's Truck Center WY	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts	\$91.34
Fremont County Treasurer	Co Admin	Health Insurance	\$357,192.00
Fremont County Treasurer	Co Admin	Section 125 Benefits	\$35,012.97
Garnishments - Other	Payroll	Garnishment	\$374.59
Gee, Brian	Detention Center	Medical Services	\$5,580.00
Globalstar USA	Search & Rescue	Satellite Phone	\$272.07
Healthsmart Benefit Solutions	Segregated	Insurance	\$720.00
Kessler, Douglas E	Planning	Expense Reimbursement	\$59.00
Laboratory Corporation of America	Detention Center	Inmate Medical	\$73.00
Lander Medical Clinic PC	Detention Center	Inmate Medical	\$2,807.55

Lander Valley Auto Parts	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts/Supplies	\$28.07
Lander, City of	County Buildings	Water/Sewer	\$2,887.61
Lyles, Jesse	County Sheriff	Contract Services	\$1,387.50
Mahlum, Zachary Hamilton	District Court	Court Appointment	\$1,054.22
Medow, Aubrey	Planning	Expense Reimbursement	\$75.00
Mountain West Towing LLC	Abandoned Vehicles	Vehicle Towing	\$900.00
New York Life Insurance	Segregated	Insurance	\$133.11
Norco, Inc.	County Buildings	Supplies	\$2,523.44
Novo Benefits	Health Benefit Plan	Insurance Services	\$5,410.59
Office Shop Inc., The	Agriculture Department	Repair/Service	\$107.84
Olson's Auto Body & Towing	County Sheriff	Vehicle Repair	\$3,501.77
Palazzolo, Alicia	Detention Center	Contract Service	\$2,312.50
Payroll Taxes	Co Admin	Withholding/FICA	\$198,881.76
Plainsman Printing & Supply	Clerk of District Court	Printed Supplies	\$1,408.28
Quadient Inc.	Support Services	Maintenance/Service	\$816.00
Quill Corporation	Segregated	Office Supplies	\$710.33
R C Lock & Key	County Buildings	Supplies/Services	\$5.20
R T Communications	Dispatch Center	Telephone Service	\$444.11
Reed's Moghaun Office Supply	County Elections	Office Supplies	\$26.50
Riverton Physician Practices LLC	Dispatch Center	Services/Testing	\$199.00
Riverton, City of	County Buildings	Water/Sewer	\$858.18
Sagewest Health Care	County Coroner	Labs/X-rays	\$4,953.36
Schooner, Maggie	Dispatch Center	Expense Reimbursement	\$119.12
Shaker, Todd	County Attorney	Expense Reimbursement	\$179.20
Shirts & More ,Inc.	Segregated	Decals	\$438.00
Shoshoni, Town of	County Buildings	Water/Sewer	\$70.00
Smith Psychological Services	Detention Center	Services	\$400.00
Smith, Mariah	Prevention Program	Administrative Assistance	\$1,858.50
State Disbursement Unit	Payroll	Child Support	\$1,960.41
Sylvestri Customization	Prevention Program	Website Maintenance	\$4,600.00
Total Net Salaries	Segregated	Salaries	\$663,228.66
Tower, Kimber	Planning	Expense Reimbursement	\$31.50
Traveling Computers	Segregated	Supplies/Services	\$5,296.39
University of Utah Adult Services	Detention Center	Inmate Medical	\$344.55
University of Utah Hospital	Detention Center	Inmate Medical	\$105.90
Valley Lumber & Supply Co., Inc.	Segregated	Materials/Supplies	\$364.23
Verizon Wireless	Segregated	Cell Service	\$772.81
Whiting Law, P.C.	District Court	Professional Services	\$1,245.00
Wind River Development Fund	Special Tax	MOVE Award	\$25,000.00
Wolf, Nancy J.	Detention Center	Medical Services	\$2,375.00
WY Dept of Employment	Segregated	Unemployment Claims	\$0.00
WY SDU	Payroll	Child Support	\$1,330.00
Wyo Child Support Enforcement	Segregated	Child Support	\$850.00
Wyo Dept of Workforce Service	Co Admin	Workers Comp	\$27,659.09
Wyoglass LLC	ARPA Program Grant	Repair/Glass	\$12,197.00
Wyoming Behavioral Institute	Health & Welfare	Title 25	\$6,786.00
Wyoming Dept of Transportation	Segregated	Fuel	\$2,401.22
Wyoming Machinery, Co.	Transportation	Parts	\$7,150.84
Wyoming Retirement System	Co Admin	Contributions	\$158,955.73
Wyoming Waste Systems	County Buildings	Trash Removal	\$3,108.10
Wyonet, Inc.	Computer Services	Telephone/Internet Service	\$5,322.77
Yeates Construction, Inc.	ARPA Program Grant	Remodel	\$338,564.00

Ron Fabrizius moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to accept a Title 25 voucher from Fremont Counseling Service for April patients in the amount of \$3,450.00. Motion carried unanimously.

The following items in the Signature File were reviewed: 1) Record of Proceedings. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to accept the bid from Trailers Plus Casper in the amount of \$8,623.64 for an enclosed trailer for the Extension Office with funding through the Capital Revolving Fund. Motion carried

unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve an Inberg-Miller Engineers Proposal for Engineering Services for the South Pass Snow Fence for an amount of \$52,625.00. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve a Modification of Grant or Agreement between the Shoshone National Forest and Fremont County Sheriff to work under the provision of the Cooperative Law Enforcement Agreement for an amount of \$8,700.00. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve an Approach/Access Application from Cheryl Parino for Cliff Drive. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve an Approach/Access Application from Boaz Raber for Eight Mile Road. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve Resolution No. 2023-12 "Appointment of a Special Prosecutor" from the Big Horn County Attorney's Office. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve Resolution No. 2023-10 denoting the first regular schedule meeting in July as being on July 11, 2023 as the first Tuesday in July is the Independence Day Holiday. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve Resolution No. 2023-11 "Declaration of Dry Creek Road as County Road #10". Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to re-authorize the LATC award of \$99,266 to \$99,856 for two ambulance replacements. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to accept the bid from Fremont Chevrolet Buick GMS in the amount of \$99,856 for two cab and chassis that are specked for the ambulance prep package with LATC funding. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Ron Fabrizius seconded, to accept the bid from Arrow Manufacturing, Inc. in the amount of \$297,890 for the remounts of two ambulance modules with funding through LATC. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to re-authorize an ARPA #2 project for a Hotsy Steam Cleaner from \$12,000 to \$12,039. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to accept the bid from Bernard Plumbing in the amount of \$1,380.17 for set up for the Hotsy Steam Cleaner with APRA #2 funding. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to re-authorize an LATC funded project for two end dump trucks for Transportation from \$320,000 to \$645,614. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to accept the bid for the LATC project for two end dump trucks from Floyd's Truck Center in the amount of \$645,614. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to re-authorize a Capital Revolving Fund purchase of one end dump truck for Transportation from \$160,000 to \$323,000. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to accept the bid from Floyd's Truck Center in the amount of \$322,807 for one end dump truck for Transportation with funding through the Capital Revolving Fund. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to purchase one end dump from Floyd's Truck Center in the amount of \$322,807 with funding from the Transportation Department Road and Bridge Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

The following items in the Priority Mail were reviewed: 1) Fremont County Weed and Pest Control District invitation to a drone demonstration on June 12th; 2) transfer of a surplus pickup (former Fair 1996 Ford F-250) to the Recreation Commission. Commissioner Jennifer McCarty stated this transfer will be canceled and another unit has been found that will stay within the County fleet and be used by the Recreation Commission on an as-needed basis; 3) Wyoming Rural Road Safety Program report to help counties develop a strategy for improving safety on high risk rural roads; 4) MOVE Final Reports from Kintzler Holdings LLC; Riverton Medical District and Freedom Healthcare LLC; 5) USDA documents sent by Bridger-Teton Public Relations Officer: Understanding Your Opportunities for Participating in the Forest Planning Process, a Guide for State, Local and Tribal Governments; and A Citizens Guide to National Forest Planning; 6) letter from Planning Department Supervisor to BLM regarding expiration of a right-of-way on Oregon Buttes Road; 7) monthly revenue reports from various departments; and 8) thank you from City of Lander for the County providing a site to dump snow.

Library Director Anita Marple provided personnel updates. A full-time Lander Library staff member has retired and she requested authorization to refill the essential position for the replacement which is within their budget. In the event that an existing part-time employee is promoted to this full-time position, she then requested approval to rehire the part-time vacated position. Jennifer McCarty moved, Ron Fabrizius seconded, to approve the Library Director to hire a full-time Library Assistant II for the Lander Library at a base salary not to exceed \$33,280, and in the event a part-time Library Assistant II is promoted to the full-time position, to refill the part-time position at a base salary not to exceed \$13,956. Motion carried unanimously.

The Public Comment period was held. Treasurer Jim Anderson introduced his newly hired Deputy, Brian Green to the Commission. Brian stated he was born and raised in Lander and looks forward to the new opportunity.

Commissioner Ron Fabrizius attended the Central Wyoming Airport Board meeting and was happy to report that there has been a 12% increase in May boarding's. This is most likely due to the extra flight several days per week.

JR Oakley, JR Project Management LLC, reviewed bids on five additional windows originally overlooked in the Courthouse window project with ARPA #1 funding. These five windows are only visible from the rooftop and were missed in the original count. He requested a Change Order be approved for an additional \$19,149 from Renewal by Anderson to be added to the original amount of \$294,128. A partial payment of 147,064 has been made, and with the additional cost, the total remaining amount to be paid is \$313,277. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve Change Order No. 2 for an additional \$19,149 and approve a final payment including this amount of 313,277. Motion carried unanimously.

Planning Department Supervisor Steve Baumann reviewed the Resolution approved earlier in the meeting declaring Dry Creek Road a County Road (#10). He stated his office sent out bid packets to the six fuel supply companies who had bid this year for WYDOT fuel deliveries in Fremont County. The bid is for the purchase and delivery of fuel at the four Fremont County controlled distribution sites and the two Fremont County Solid Waste Disposal District facilities. At closing, only one bid had been received and was opened publically. Following the bid opening, it was determined that Bailey Enterprises bid provided all the information necessary to qualify under the terms of the bid and he recommended accepting Bailey Enterprises bid and enter into a new contract for one year beginning July 1, 2023. Under the term of the bid documents, Bailey's mark-up for delivered unleaded fuel will \$0.24 per gallon and \$0.25 per gallon for diesel.

Steve Baumann discussed land use authority over fee lands within the Wind River Indian Reservation and had asked for Civil Deputy Attorney Maxon's review of the matter. His recommendation is that Fremont County has the authority to regulate uses of fee land owned by non-Indians within the WRIR. Conversely, the tribes lack authority to regulate the use of fee land unless such use would threaten the political integrity, economic security or health and welfare of the tribes. Question No. 2 was who should developers approach when proposing to subdivide or develop fee land on the WRIR. Attorney Maxon indicated this question depends on a variety of factors, but suggested a formal agreement with the Tribes may be the best way to reduce the uncertainty for fee owns, protect county and tribal interests and reduce the likelihood that litigation may ensure. Depending on the outcome, the County Regulations may need to be changed to include fee land on the WRIR. The Commission agreed this would be a topic to discuss when a meeting is scheduled with the Wind River Intertribal Council in the near future.

Clerk of District Court Kristi Green reviewed a memo she had sent to the Commission regarding a restructure of office staff and duties she would like to implement in FY 2022 and, at that time, the request was denied, and the money cut from the budget. She reviewed the continued difficulty she has in hiring and retaining employees who move on to higher paying jobs. In October 2022 she was able to rehire a retired employee at a salary less that she made when she left. This employee has over 30-years of experience and has made it possible to manage the office while still being short two full-time positions. She subsequently asked that the Commission restore the budget salary line item and allow her to pay the retired/rehired employee the salary she was making upon her retirement (\$52,000). She also noted that her other employee has learned the new jury computer system. In 2021 she requested this employee be moved to a level four position within her structural system with a salary of \$48,500. This request was also denied and she again requested this employee be moved to a level four position. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve the salary requested for the retire/rehire position and approve the advance of the employee to a level four position. Motion carried unanimously.

County Clerk Julie Freese and Treasurer Jim Anderson discussed several level adjustments they would like to make. Freese stated an employee has been evaluated by both herself and her direct supervisor and she would like to move her up on the internal scale from a 1-1 to a 1-3 level which equates to a \$1,000 annual increase (\$33,000 to \$34,000). Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve the request. Motion carried unanimously. Anderson stated he has three employees who have been here one year now and are qualified to move up on his scale. He proposed moving them up on his level system based on their qualifications and extra tasks which would equate to a \$3,000, \$2,000 and \$1,000 annual increase to these three position. Ron Fabrizius moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve his level changes as recommended. Motion carried unanimously.

Budget hearings were held:

Dispatch Enterprise Fund. Present was Sheriff Ryan Lee, Communications Sergeant Carl Freeman, Administrative Assistant Karla Davis and Dispatch Committee Chairman Craig Haslam. Last year's budget was \$1,694,321. This year's request is \$1,570,075. Discussion was held on the salaries for communication officers. Sheriff Lee passed out a 2022 Wyoming APCO/NENA Survey on populations served, and positions held, and amount of salaries per person. Fremont County was about \$5.00 per hour under the top 5 positions of same of population and positions. The Sheriff proposed they drop two positions and move those salaries across the board to the communication officers which is included in the budget. Sheriff Lee asked for a decision now if possible otherwise, they would need to strategize more about how to obtain and retain employees in another way. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve the Dispatch reorganization request to change from twelve staff positions to ten and to spread the salary from the two positions to the remaining staff resulting in \$4,320/employee per year. Motion carried unanimously. The next topic was the Allocation of Dispatch Fees for FYE 2024. Fremont County Sheriff pays 37.88% or \$325,411. Lander Police Department pays 23.63% or \$202,996. Shoshoni Police Department pays 2.26 or \$19,410. Dubois Police Department pays .58% or \$4,996. EMS/Frontier pays 31.72% or \$272,458. Fremont County Coroner pays .74% or \$6,390. Fremont County Fire Protection District pays 2.14% or \$18,360. Dubois Fire District pays .23% or \$1,985. Jeffrey City Fire District pays .10% or \$817. Lander Volunteer Fire Departments pay .72% or \$6,223. For a grand total of \$859,045 revenue for this budget. Freeman also mentioned that the application for LATC funding was rejected by the Commission asking them to spend it out of their replacement fund and Commissioners confirmed this action. As a result, their fund balance will be reduced to \$681,771 rather than what is on the budget presented today. Sheriff Lee also mentioned that other revenues to the Dispatch Fund come from the E-911 surcharge fees and he recommended that the commission \$.75 per line which is the maximum they can approve, which will bring in an estimated \$437,390 (\$15,504 more than last year). Treasurer Jim Anderson stated that two line items in the revenue section are no longer used so the \$4,000 for interest and \$194,000 from E-911 fund should be removed and the Sheriff's Office should recalculate their budget based on this information.

WIC. Present was Christine Frederick State Supervisor (via Zoom) for the Women, Infants, and Children program. Last year's budget was \$77,080. This year's request is \$80,982. They have included a 5% administrative cost to help cover the County's job of handling this budget for the state. This program is 105% reimbursed to the County. They have had staff turnover but are currently staffed. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to adjourn into Executive Session regarding potential litigation with Civil Deputy Attorney Nathan Maxon. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Ron Fabrizius seconded, to return to Regular Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Health Insurance Committee members Jim Anderson, Julie Freese and Margy Irvine discussed health insurance rates for the upcoming fiscal year. Comparison of current and next year's rates were discussed and the members recommended a health insurance rate increase for full-time employees of 3.5% for the county and 3.1% for employees. MASA will increase \$1/employee/month.

Based on previous discussions regarding a possible COLA adjustment for next fiscal year, County Clerk Julie Freese had compiled a spreadsheet based on an 8.5% cost of living percentage of all salaries and then divided up so every employee gets the same amount. This equals \$3,800 per year increase for all full-time employees, and part-time employees will receive a percentage of this based on hours worked. She indicated that Elected Officials and Chief Deputies are not eligible for the COLA increase. The full amount to add to the budget would be \$870,594.

Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve an 8.5% COLA for FY 2023-2024 which will equate to \$3,800 per full-time employee per year with part-time employees receiving a prorated amount for hours worked. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve the health insurance rate adjustments for FY 2023-2024 as 3.5% increase for the county and 3.1% increase for employees. Motion carried unanimously.

Julie further reviewed the draft budget that includes all budget requests at this time, she stated the ambulance subsidy is unknown at this time and recommended any SOC change be made after the new fiscal year begins in July. The assessed valuation was updated to \$1,041,686,806. She will need to advertise the draft budget on June 17th which is one week prior to the budget hearing scheduled on June 26th. She stated the Commissioners will be discussing all budgets at their next meeting of June 13th and begin making cuts as the current mill levy on the draft budget is at 15.753.

County Clerk Julie Freese provided information for a pre-budget hearing to be advertised and held on June 13th.

Budget hearings were held as follows:

Museum General Fund Budget. Present was Director Scott Goetz. Last year's budget was \$676,589. This year's request is \$861,107. There is a request for another full time employee at each museum, which is an increase of \$57,258 at each branch. They have two full time employees at each branch currently. Adding these additional, new positions would help with overall coverage. They are also seeing increases in utilities and insurance which is due to increase in MAW (Museum of the American West) assets.

Museum Self-Generated Budget. Present was Director Scott Goetz. Self-Generated budgets are those that are not tax funded but rather funded through grants, donations, gifts, rentals etc. Dubois Self-Generated estimates \$52,100 in revenue for the year. The largest donation will be from the Wind River Cultural Foundation for Program Development. This budget is tentatively set for \$54,379. Kemmerer Foundation Grant is funded by the foundation and is estimated at \$7,500 this upcoming year. The budget is tentatively set at \$7,000.

Lander Self-Generated is expecting \$92,500 in revenue with \$45,000 from the Wind River Cultural Foundation to purchase a tractor for \$30,000 and \$15,000 going to Program Development. With heat being added to the Livery Stable, they anticipate they will be able to rent that facility more and expect more rental income.

Riverton Self-Generated is expecting \$26,500 in revenue with \$15,000 coming from the Wind River Cultural Foundation for Program Development.

Marketing estimates \$3,000 in Sponsorships and other revenue equaling \$3,100. The budget is set for \$4,200. This covers all of the marketing items for all museums.

Solid Waste Board. Present was Board Member Rob Dolcater, Accountant Susan Brodie and Camille Woody, Accounting Manager. This year's budget request is \$14,865,067. The district is utilizing the closure, post-closure & future development reserve to help fund capital improvement projects scheduled for FYE2024. Total Capital projects budgeted is \$9.9 million and \$5.1 million is funded by the reserve. The remaining balance in the closure, post-closure & future development reserve is \$13 million. The board adopted a plan for wage adjustments using the Bureau of Labor Statistics and Occupational Classification review. And the district has also budgeted for a 7% inflation allowance. The district will evaluate the salary and possible adjustment for each employee using the SOC data. They have 26 full time positions and 2 part-time positions. They are expecting a health insurance rate increase of 24%. Worker's compensation rates have been significantly reduced through safety training and safety incentive programs saving the district approximately \$20,000 per year.

Wind River Visitor's Council. Present was Director Helen Wilson, Board Members Cy Lee and Kip Post (County Representatives) Owen Sweeney (Lander Rep and incoming president) and Hal Herron (Riverton Rep and Secretary). Last year's budget was \$729,575. This year's request is \$1,018,182. Revenues from lodging tax is estimated at \$1,016,610. This was a record breaking year for tourism. TAD funds this year will be actual and not projected. They also received revenue from Destination Development Program in the amount of \$300,000 which must be spent by June 30, 2024. The board has approved an expansion of the Art Banner project in Hudson and Riverton, a TravelStorys Downtown Dubois walking tour, wayfinding/informational signage in Lander, signage at the Bus Loop in Lander, two State marketing co-ops, advertising in the National Park Journal, Yellowstone, trail and informational signage in Dubois, communication//meetings/graphic design supplies, a kiosk on the Wind River Indian Reservation, a video profiling fishing in the backcountry of the Wind River Range and a video display in the Lander Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center. Because the annual lodging tax collections and CARES revenue exceeded \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2021- to 2022, they were required to have a CPA financial audit. Budgeted expenses are as follows: Accounting, CPA and Board Operation \$36,150 or 3.55% of the budget. Office staff payroll, taxes, benefits, office services (rent and administration) is \$215,398 or 21.16%. TAD Programs is \$269,753 or 26.49%. Marketing campaign is \$466,881 or 45.85%. Air Service Marketing (FAST) is \$30,000 or 2.95%. Lodging tax was approved in November of 2022 with 72% voting in favor of renewing. The 5% statewide lodging tax went into effect

on January 1, 2021 and Fremont County started receiving 2% lodging tax collections. TAD programs are administered from the Joint Powers board of Dubois, Hudson, Lander, Riverton and Shoshoni. Dubois receives 37.6% or \$95,562. Lander receives 30.2% or \$76,754. Riverton receives 32.2% or \$81,837. Shoshoni and Hudson gets a flat rate or \$10,400 for Shoshoni and \$5,200 for Hudson. Commissioner Allen noted again that the county still is not on the TAD grant funding list.

Weed and Pest. Present was Director Aaron Foster and Board Member Sollie Cadman. Proposed budget for the year is \$3,558,600 with reserves at \$481,200. They are basically looking at the same type of budget as last year. The board is reviewing an 8.5% inflation rate to get an increase for their employees as they have held their salaries for some time and feel a need to update their salaries to meet rising inflation. They are going to ask for a mill levy of 1.98 which is for both programs. The tax request would be approximately \$1,773,881. They receive revenue from grants through the Wyoming Game and Fish, local Sage Grouse Working Group, and State Allocations Committee. Self-generated revenues: they provide noxious weed management services to many state and federal agencies. The district provides quality weed control on public lands and rights of way that directly affect nearly every property owner and taxpayer in the county. The district charges for these services at market rates for herbicide and labor. The district also treats weeds on privately owned no-crop sites for designated noxious weeds and treats some crop land for leafy spurge where other local commercial applicators are unavailable. They expect to generate \$1,132,200 which is used to extend the district's programs beyond what the property tax collections would allow.

Youth Services: Present was Director Cassie Murray. Last year's budget was \$347,573. This year's request is \$341,392. Cassie took over and was missing a lot of information on her budgets so the \$15,333 OJJDP/VOA grant was awarded in FY2022 but they were not paid for it. The contractor has indicated they will work to get the required documentation and award them at least this amount. A majority of this budget is salary and benefits. She recently has a position open and hopes to have the new employee be able to help with the monitoring of grants. Lander Schools opened a program which affected this program and Riverton schools are discussing the same type of change. That's likely the biggest change to their programming. The vehicles they received can't be paid for out of the grants so they are listed in this budget.

CAST Budget. Last year's budget was \$349,248. This year's request is \$384,049. The surcharge budgeted in revenue was never received. They anticipate a grant in the amount of \$200,272.20 from the Wyoming Department of Health. Participant fees are estimated at \$12,000. And since they were without therapists for 6 months, they lost out of getting money reimbursed for those salaries. Their focus is community engagement through activities and career development. They partner with CWC to provide academic opportunities for clients. They look for and use enhanced resources which provide housing, employment, and natural supports. Julie asked about Eagle's Hope (who is requesting funding for clients from CAST) and Cassie was very supportive that clients who are released from jail need a place to go to start over and this has helped them get on their feet again.

ITC Budget. Last year's budget was \$318,003. This year's request is \$353,343. Again the surcharge funding that was anticipated by the last Director will not be seen by Cassie. They have been assured they will receive \$6,715 surcharge this year from the DOH grant. They also have received \$216,725.98 from the Department of Health CAST grant. This budget will be short this year due to the lack of surcharge revenue coming in and the health insurance showed an employee as not taking health insurance who actually is on the insurance, these things are going to make this budget go over in this year.

Commission meeting reports were given:

Vice-Chairman Mike Jones attended the Wyoming County Commissioners Association spring meeting in Douglas. The good news is that annual dues will be going down \$300 per county. The bad news is that the WCCA took out a construction loan on a remodel that is an adjustable rate loan, which will see an interest increase the end of next year. The Executive Board asked that the counties consider paying off the loan of \$490,000 (\$31,590 for Fremont County). Most of the committee members were agreeable, however, he stated that he would have to visit with fellow commissioners before agreeing to the plan. The payment could be spread out over a two-year period and if the Commission agrees, he will update the Commissioner's budget to include half the amount this fiscal year and the remainder next fiscal year. As a result, an updated Commission budget will be sent out for review. He met with WCCA and the other 15 cooperating agency counties involved in the BLM Plan Amendments for the management of Greater Sage-Grouse. The Sage Grouse Implementation Team (formed 20 years ago) still meets and has

developed their own set of maps to make proposed changes to the core areas and he attended the local group meeting recently and will stay involved with them. They will submit their recommendations on the State of Wyoming's proposal to have it ready when the BLM submits their plan. This should be a great comparison tool. He stated BLM has two different things taking place: The Sage-Grouse Range Wide Management Plan (which the 15 counties are participating in) as well as a new proposed BLM Rule "Conservation and Land Use Rule" which he feels is a disaster, it is trying to make conservation equal to multiple use. He expressed kudos to Building Maintenance Supervisor Meeker for coming in over the weekend to review the punch list for the Circuit Court remodel project. He was very thorough when reviewing it and stated the project is slated for completion on June 26th.

Chairman Larry Allen visited with a structural engineer regarding the possible purchase of a building in the Riverton area. The Engineer stated that a structural inspection is not required and he suggested an architect design the area as proposed by the Commission. Chairman Allen noted a roof inspection will still be required and he received approval to get a quote on the cost.

County Clerk Julie Freese stated Fair Manager Pat Hart recommended a tour of the Fairgrounds be postponed until the following week due to a large event taking place this weekend. She further recommended that when the date is confirmed to tour their LATC application for an indoor arena, that time be scheduled to also see the improvements that have occurred with other grant funding (new windows, painting, parking lot, etc.). She further relayed a message from JR Oakley that the paving of the Courthouse parking lot has been postponed until August due to all the weather delays being experienced.

Commissioner Jennifer McCarty attended the monthly Recreation Commission meeting. A contractor has been hired for Rails to Trails work, they are still trying to get into the Green Mountain Campground to assess damages and the Youth Camp seems to have come through the winter relatively well with no major damages found.

Treasurer Jim Anderson presented bid information on the ARPA #1 funded project in the amount of \$7,500 for a Microfiche Reader. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to accept the bid from STimaging in the amount of \$6,940. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, Jennifer McCarty moved, Mike Jones seconded, to adjourn the Regular meeting at 4:05 p.m. and reconvene for a Regular Meeting at 9:00 a.m. on June 13, 2023. 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 You Tube (Fremont County WY Government).

/s/ LARRY ALLEN, CHAIRMAN
FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

/s/ JULIE A. FREESE, FREMONT COUNTY CLERK AND CLERK OF THE BOARD