

STATE OF WYOMING )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF FREMONT )

LANDER, WYOMING  
OFFICE OF THE FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
JULY 13, 2021

### OFFICIAL MINUTES

The Board of Fremont County Commissioners met in Regular Session at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Chairman Travis Becker, Vice-Chairman Larry Allen, Jennifer McCarty and Clarence Thomas. Commissioner Mike Jones was absent. County Clerk Julie A. Freese was present.

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

Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on July 5, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to accept the bills for payment. Motion carried unanimously.

Bills are listed in the following format: Vendor Name – Department – Description – Amount: A & I Distributors-Vehicle Maintenance- Oil/Fluids-\$253.45; American Medical Response-Fremont County Ambulance-Settlement Agreement-\$246000.00; ANDA Inc-Public Health- Vaccine-\$4533.31; Artery Construction Inc-1% Gravel Projects-Contract Services -\$550.00; Bailey Enterprises, Inc-Inventory-Bulk Fuel -\$31113.53; Bank Of The West-Segregated-Credit Card Charges-\$77543.18; Bank Of The West Acct Analysis-Investment Pool-Analyzed Charges-\$279.36; Big Horn Water-Youth Services-Water Cooler Rental-\$13.00; Bill Jones Plumbing & Heating-Vehicle Maintenance-Supplies/Parts-\$28.56; Charter Communications-Computer Services-Internet Service-\$124.98; CMI TECO-Vehicle Maintenance-Parts & Supplies-\$7.68; Communication Technologies Inc-Support Services-Maintenance Agreement, Repairs-\$2961.87; Dave's Asphalt, Inc-1% Gravel Projects-Contract Service -\$2200.00; Desert Mountain Corporation-Road Construction-Mag Chloride-\$21448.92; DOWL LLC-Road Construction-Engineering-\$1552.67; Dubois Telephone Exchange-Segregated-Telephone -\$715.73; Floyd's Truck Center WY-Vehicle Maintenance-Parts-\$404.13; Freese, Julie-County Clerk-Reimbursement-\$5.50; Fremont Broadcasting-Prevention Program-Radio Advertising-\$800.00; Fremont County Library Riverton-Prevention Program-Meeting Room -\$175.00; Fremont County Treasurer-County Treasurer-Penalty-\$3761.49; Fremont Motor Riverton Inc-Vehicle Maintenance-Parts/Supplies-\$154.78; Fremont Motors - Lander-Vehicle Maintenance-Parts/Supplies -\$344.73; Inberg-Miller Engineers-Road Construction-Engineering-\$1551.50; Kairos Communications -Segregated-County 10 Advertising-\$1500.00; Lander Valley Auto Parts-Fuel Facility-Parts/Supplies-\$74.05; Lander, City Of-County Buildings-Water & Sewer-\$3162.57; Martinsen, Jacob-Transportation- Reimbursement-\$232.09; MHL Systems-Transportation-Parts & Supplies-\$7738.00; Miller, Margaret-District Court-Court Appointments-\$487.50; Mountain Dental PC-Detention Center-Inmate Medical-\$1294.00; Napa Auto Parts-Riverton-Vehicle Maintenance- Parts & Supplies-\$3375.13; N-Compliance Safety Services, Inc-Transportation- Training-\$5000.00; Norco Inc-Segregated-Supplies -\$4986.51; Office Shop Inc, The-Agriculture Department-Repair/Service-\$52.39; Palace Pharmacy-Detention Center-Inmate Rx's-\$4177.92; Premier Vehicle Install, Inc.-Vehicle Maintenance-Parts / Supplies-\$819.93; Quadiant Inc-Planning-Parcel Shipments-\$12.17; R T Communications-Segregated-Telephone Service-\$542.03; Redwood Toxicology Laboratory-Cast-Drug Testing Supplies-\$3438.50; Relentless LLC-Prevention Program-Criminal Workshop-\$599.00; RELX, Inc.-County Attorney-Research Subscription-\$625.00; Riverton Ranger, Inc-Transportation-Advertising-\$187.20; Rocky Mountain Power-Segregated-Utilities-\$12926.87; Rodriguez, Jessica-Detention Center-Contract Services-\$781.25; Secretary Of State-County Attorney-Notary Fee -\$60.00; Six Robbles' Inc-Transportation-Parts-\$30.12; Skaggs Companies Inc-County Sheriff-Uniforms/Supplies-\$6285.00; Stoudt, Sally A.-Youth Services-Expense Reimbursement-\$45.85; Sylvestri Customization-Prevention Program-Graphic Design / Social Media-\$6650.00; Terrance R. Martin PC-Segregated-Services-\$5175.00; Tilton, Kathleen-District Court-Court Appointment-\$1417.50; Traveling Computers-Computer Services-Subscription-\$110.00; Trihydro Corporation-Transportation-Road ELE Replacement-\$10970.25; US Foods Inc.-Detention Center-Inmate Board-\$7218.30; Verizon Wireless-Segregated-Cell Service-\$1029.41; Whiting Law, P.C.-District Court- Services -\$2550.00; Wyoming Waste Systems-County Buildings-Trash Removal-\$2610.76; Wyonet Inc.-Computer Services-Telephone/Internet-\$7397.40.

Clarence Thomas moved, Larry Allen seconded, to accept a voucher to Wyoming Behavioral Institute in the amount of \$1,508.00 for one Title 25 patient. Motion carried unanimously.

The following items in the Signature File were reviewed: 1) Fremont County Simple Subdivision Regulations (previously approved); 2) Fremont County Quarterly Payroll Verification; and 3) Record of Proceedings. Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded to approve an Agreement among Wyoming Department of Health, Public Health Division, Fremont County WIC Program and Fremont County. Motion carried unanimously. Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve a 2021-2022 Sub Award Agreement between Volunteers of America Northern Rockies and Fremont County for Fremont County Juvenile Justice programs. Motion carried unanimously. Jennifer McCarty moved, Larry Allen seconded, to accept the bid from CMI-TECO for two sanders in the amount of \$26,990.65 each for the Transportation Department with funding through the Capital Revolving Fund. Motion carried unanimously. Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve Resolution No. 2021-20 "Establishing Fire Restrictions in Fremont County." Motion carried unanimously.

Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve Resolution No. 2021-19 "Appropriation Resolution". Motion carried unanimously.

The following item in the Priority Mail was reviewed: High Plains Power 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting Notice and Proxy vote. No action was taken.

The public comment period was held.

Mr. Fann encouraged the County Commission to appoint Coroner Deputy Erin Ivie to fill the vacancy of Mark Stratmoen upon his retirement.

Dr. Frost, Forensic Pathologist for Fremont County, stated that last night he was informed that Erin was not selected as one of the three finalists, and he basically went through five stages of death (disbelief, anger, denial, etc.) Although the Office is an elected position with political connection, it is primarily a professional office.

Mark Stratmoen, former Coroner, stated that he wanted to stay out of process of his replacement and let Erin stand on her own merit, but couldn't after all the calls he received from upset people regarding the travesty of the selection process.

Tony Simmers, Coroner Operations Deputy, stated the Central Committee did not submit the most experienced person as one of the three names for consideration and did not have the public's best interest

Fremont County Museum Central Director Scott Goetz informed the Board of an impending resignation in the Dubois Museum for the Collection Manager position. Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve refilling the position not to exceed the current salary. Motion carried unanimously.

Transportation Department Administrative Secretary Jill Johnson and DOWL Engineer Kasey Jones presented a 71 Construction Change Order No.2. The contractor is requesting an extension until the end of July due to scheduling conflicts on the 8 Mile Road Transverse Ruble Strips project. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve Changer Order No. 2 extending substantial completion to July 30<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried unanimously.

Jill Johnson updated the Board on a recent Lander Truck Driver position vacancy. Larry Allen moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve refilling the position at a salary not to exceed \$33,472. Motion carried unanimously.

W.S. § 18-3-315 "Preparation and publication of annual statements" was reviewed as related to the County Commissioners duty to request a statement of the receipts and expenditures of the county during the preceding twelve months setting forth the source and amount of all receipts and the purpose and the amount of expenditures to be prepared upon reconciliation of all accounts by the county clerk and county treasurer, not later than September 30<sup>th</sup>. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to request said statement from the county clerk and county treasurer by the deadline of September 30, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

Sheriff Ryan Lee provided a monthly report by stating bookings in June totaled 140, up from 18 the previous month.

Commissioner meeting reports were given.

Commissioner Clarence Thomas stated a meeting has been set with the Wind River Intertribal Council and WRITC Transportation Department on August 3, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. at the Frank B. Wise office in Fort Washakie, at their invitation.

Chief Deputy and Acting County Coroner Erin Ivie provided a monthly report.

Erin Evie presented a 2021 Mid-Year Summary (as of 7/1/2021)

In closing, Erin Ivie read a written statement she had prepared as a result of the Republican Central Committee meeting held the previous evening to interview and select three qualified persons to forward to the Commissioners for their appointment to the office. She was not one of the three names sent to the Commissioners for an interview and selection later in the meeting.

Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to adjourn into Executive Session with Chief Civil Deputy Jodi Darrrough regarding confidential legal advice. Motion carried unanimously. Larry Allen moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to return to Regular Session. Motion carried unanimously.

County Clerk Julie Freese reviewed the status of the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) process that the Commission asked all departments to provide for all their employees. The Commission extended their deadline for receipt of the information until July 23<sup>rd</sup>, and formulated what they want to see:

Fremont County Wellness Coordinator Penny Fahey gave an update on the program.

Pursuant to W.S. 22-16-111(a)(iii), the Republican Central Committee met on July 12, 2021 and interviewed applicants for an appointment to fill the County Coroner vacancy. Following those interviews, the Chairwoman conveyed the results to the County Commissioners that evening and followed up with a formal letter via fax this date which Chairman Becker acknowledged receipt of. The three names submitted did not include the current Deputy Coroner, Erin Ivie. Interviews proceeded with the three applicants as follows:

Larry DeGraw: Current owner of Wind River Investigations and previous experience in law enforcement and as a coroner investigator.

Karl Falken: Two bachelor's degrees in science including basic laboratory and testing training and education.

Dr. Joseph Lucero: Retired Anesthesiologist and U.S. Navy experience.

Following interviews, Vice-Chairman Larry Allen stated his preference to ask the Republican Party to submit a list of three names of more qualified applicants for the appointment. Fellow commissioners agreed and Chairman Becker stated he would send a letter to the Republican Party immediately. He stated this is uncharted water and the Commission has five days to make an appointment, the decision does not need to be made today.

There being no further business, Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 12:15 a.m. and reconvene for a Regular Meeting on July 20, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

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

/s/ TRAVIS BECKER, CHAIRMAN  
FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

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