

STATE OF WYOMING)
) ss.
COUNTY OF FREMONT)

LANDER, WYOMING
OFFICE OF THE FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 5, 2023

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. County Clerk Julie A. Freese and Civil Deputy Attorney Nathan Maxon were present.

Jennifer McCarty moved, Mike Jones 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 August 22, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

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

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

71 Construction-Road Material Inventory-Materials -\$76723.25; Ace Hardware-Lander-County Buildings-Materials / Supplies -\$24.31; Ace Hardware-Riverton-Vehicle Maintenance-Materials / Supplies-\$33.95; Alliance Commercial Equip Co-County Buildings Detention-Equipment / Supplies-\$1255.12; American Family & Life Ins.-Segregated-Insurance-\$4637.84; Anderson, Tarah-County Attorney-Expense Reimburse-\$26.00; B & B Enterprises LLC-Road Construction-Signs & Supplies-\$470.00; Bailey Enterprises, Inc.-Search & Rescue-Vehicle Fuel-\$83.78; Bank Of The West Acct Analysis-Investment Pool-Analyzed Charges-\$249.26; Big Sky Communications Inc.-Dispatch Center-Equipment-\$2624.00; Black Hills Energy-County Buildings-Utility Service-\$2762.52; Bloedorn Lumber-Lander-County Buildings-Materials Supplies -\$26.81; Blue Cross Blue Shield Of WY-Co Admin-Health Ins Claims-\$752442.30; Boyle Electric Inc-County Buildings Detention-Services-\$757.41; Bull's Service & Towing LLC-Segregated-Tow / Fuel-\$1229.52; Burden, Dan-County Buildings-Security Service-\$240.00; Center Of Hope-Health & Welfare- Allocation-\$35000.00; Charter Communications-Computer Services-Internet Service-\$129.98; Colonial Life & Accident Ins-Segregated-Insurance-\$519.73; Conder, Jason M-District Court-Expense Reimburse-\$124.30; Department Of Family Services-Public Health-Background Check-\$49.00; Desert Mountain Corporation-Road Construction-Supplies-\$52154.36; Dowl LLC-Road Construction-Services -\$380.00; Drug Testing Services LLC-Transportation-Service-\$345.00; Dubois Telephone Exchange-County Sheriff-Telephone Service-\$719.66; Empower Trust-Segregated-Wyoming Benefits-\$8690.00; Enos Trucking LLC-1% Gravel Projects-Services-\$2610.00; Federal Express Corp-County Sheriff-Shipping -\$21.19; Filman, Richard D-Transportation-Reimburse Expense-\$201.72; Fleetpride Inc.-Vehicle Maintenance-Parts -\$272.82; Floyd's Truck Center WY-Vehicle Maintenance-Parts -\$60.98; Fremont County Treasurer-Co Admin-Health Insurance-\$360311.00; Fremont County Treasurer-Co Admin-Section 125 Benefits-\$35396.97; Fremont Engineering & Surveying-Road Construction-Services -\$2573.75; Fremont Motors - Lander-Capital Asset Acquisitions-Parts / Supplies-\$3696.39; Globalstar USA-Search & Rescue-Satellite Phone-\$272.88; Grainger-County Buildings-Materials / Supplies-\$61.44; Hall, Tatum-Health Promotion-Expense Reimburse-\$54.19; Hancock, Timothy-County Attorney-Reimburse Expense-\$26.00; Healthsmart Benefit Solutions-Segregated-Insurance-\$688.00; High Plains Power, Inc.-Horse Creek Road Reconstruction-Utility Relocation -\$1447.88; Honnen Equipment-Vehicle Maintenance-Parts / Supplies-\$117.33; Inberg-Miller Engineers-Road Construction-Projects Engineering -\$2422.10; Kessler, Douglas E-Planning-Expense Reimburse-\$29.50; Lander, City Of-County Buildings-Water & Sewer-\$4920.10; Mahlum, Zachary Hamilton-District Court-Court Appointment-\$778.51; Medow, Aubrey-Planning-Expense Reimburse-\$37.50; Mr. D's Food Center Inc.-Segregated-Supplies -\$333.19; Napa Auto Parts Of Dubois-Vehicle Maintenance-Parts / Supplies -\$210.92; New York Life Insurance-Segregated-Insurance-\$133.11; Norco Inc.-Segregated-Supplies -\$1579.05; Novo Benefits-Health Benefit Plan-Insurance Services-\$5410.59; Office Shop Inc., The-Segregated-Repair / Service -\$224.81; O'reilly Automotive Inc.-Vehicle Maintenance-Parts & Supplies -\$63.50; Osage Industries, Inc.-Vehicle Maintenance-Repairs Parts -\$367.19; Payroll Taxes-Co Admin-Withholding/Fica-\$212674.62; Print Shop, The-County Coroner-Office Supplies-\$301.00; Quadiant Inc-County Attorney-Machine Rental-\$267.03; R R Brink Locking Systems In.-County Buildings Detention-Materials / Supplies -\$442.00; R T Communications-Dispatch Center-Telephone Service-\$444.11; Reed's Moghaun Office Supply-Segregated-Office Supplies -\$53.00; Relx, Inc.-County Attorney-Subscription-\$773.00; Riggs, Ella-County Assessor-Reimburse Expense-\$80.00; Riverton Ranger, The-Support Services-Advertising-\$113.40; Riverton Senior Citizens-Health & Welfare-Allocation -\$31000.00; Riverton, City Of-County Buildings-Water / Sewer-\$922.71; Secretary Of State-Detention Center-Notary Fee-\$60.00; Smith Psychological Services-Detention Center-Services-\$400.00; Soule, Sierra-District Court-Appointment -\$1980.00; State Disbursement Unit-Payroll-Child Support-\$1870.41; Sublette Co. Sheriff's Office-County Commission-Economic Survey-\$2500.00; Sylvestri Customization-Prevention Program-Website Maintenance-\$2300.00; Total Net Salaries-Segregated-Salaries-\$708878.37; Traveling Computers-ARPA Program Grant-Project Services-\$33503.50; Whiting Law, P.C.-District Court-Appointment -\$892.50; Wolcott, Holly J-Health Benefit Plan-Allocation -\$5000.00; Wolf, Nancy J-Detention Center-Medical Services-\$1937.50; WY Brand Industries-Detention Center- Supplies-\$4750.00; WY Dept. Of Employment-Segregated-Unemployment Claims-\$0; WY Dept. Of Health-Health Nurse-Payroll Reimburse-\$36303.15; WY Law Enforcement Academy-Detention Center-Training -\$3477.00; WY Public Health Laboratory-Public Health-Fees / Supplies-\$247.00; WY SDU-Payroll-Child Support-\$1330.00; Wyo Child Support Enforcement-Segregated-Child Support-\$850.00;

Wyo Dept. Of Workforce Serv-Co Admin-Workers Comp-\$33383.23; Wyoming Machinery Co-Segregated-Parts & Service-\$39536.52; Wyoming Retirement System-Co Admin-Contributions-\$167788.06.

The following items in the Signature File were reviewed: 1) Abatement Summary cover page; and 2) Record of Proceedings. Mike Jones moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve Resolution No. 2023-19 "Appointment of a Special Prosecutor" from Sublette County Attorney's Office. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to accept the bid from Wasatch Trailer Sales in the amount of \$37,302.91 for a command and communication trailer for the Sheriff's Office purchased with ARPA funding. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve a Memorandum of Agreement between Juvenile Justice Services of Fremont County and Fremont County School Districts for the development of a Day Reporting Center for at-risk youth. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve an Approach/Access Application from Smartlink on behalf of Vertical Bridge for a Jeffrey City Cell Tower. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve a WYDOT Draft Reconnaissance Report for the Bridge over Haymaker Draw. Motion carried unanimously. Clarence Thomas moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve a bid from Sutherlands for 30 guest chairs for the Commissioners meeting room at a cost of \$13,500 with ARPA #2 funding. Motion carried unanimously.

The following items in the Priority Mail were reviewed: 1) Subdivision concerns from Sandy Neubauer (forwarded to Sheriff Lee as it referenced illegal activities occurring).

The Public Comment period was held.

Assessor Tara Berg reviewed a Notice of Valuation Change just received from the Department of Revenue indicating the Mineral Tax Division discovered they only allocated volumes and values from Contango Resources, Inc. to Fremont County and should have divided it with Natrona County, which will result in a reduction of \$9,338,257 taxable value of natural gas production to Fremont County. She expressed concern that the County had just approved their 12 mill levy for the new fiscal year and this amount will result in a valuation decrease to Fremont County of \$112,059. Those special districts being affected will have to be notified as their budgets will be reduced. She is waiting on a phone call from the Department of Revenue asking if the County could expect other such decreases and negative budget impacts as this is very frustrating. In another matter, she stated that the Contango Resources, Inc. 2022-31 tax protest appeal of the State Board of Equalization's decision has been submitted to District Court and subsequently approved by that Court to issue an Order Certifying the Case to the Wyoming Supreme Court.

Karen Wetzel referenced the public statements issued the previous meeting by the Commission and County Clerk regarding Administrative Secretary Becky Enos as related to the recent Library Board vacancy and appointment process. She felt the statements did not reference Director Marple or Board Member Cook's involvement. She referenced the angry comments several meetings ago made by Commissioner Thomas that the Commission had no prior knowledge of the FOIA request. She felt that the County Attorney and Administrative Secretary were at fault for not sharing that information. She stated that their concerns earlier expressed to the Library Director were not acted upon so their next step was to express them to the Commissioners directly. She closed her statement by indicating she expected no results from the Commission and Clerk as they "stick together like glue".

Treatment Courts Director Cassie Murray requested authorization to refill a recently vacated Adult Case Manager position within the Court Assisted Supervised Treatment program. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to authorize refilling the position at a salary not to exceed \$56,883. Motion carried unanimously.

Building Maintenance Supervisor Mike Meeker requested authorization to refill a Custodial position recently vacated. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve refilling the position at a salary of \$37,800. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Health Nurse Manager Jeanna Stewart joined Certified Prevention Specialist Tauna Groomsmith who provided a program update.

An interview was held with Stacey Stanbury to fill a vacancy on the Fremont County Museum Board. Later in the meeting, Jennifer McCarty moved, Ron Fabrizius seconded, to appoint Stacey Stanbury to a

vacancy on the Fremont County Museum Board with term expiration June 30, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

County Clerk Julie Freese presented a preliminary budget hearing.

Commissioner meeting reports were given:

A presentation from the Riverton Trails Committee was held. Present was Randy Lehman, Trails Committee and Wyoming Pathways Liaison; Devon Kellerhall, Riverton Chamber Secretary; and Executive Director, Wyoming Pathways, Michael Jusiek. Transportation Superintendent Billy Meeks was present in the audience.

Transportation Superintendent Billy Meeks was joined by Terry Zink, Apex Surveying, Inc., to state the Riverview Cutoff Widening and Overlay Project was substantially completed August 31, 2023. There is a 30-day time frame to finalize the punch list (guardrail, reflectors and one sign). Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve the Certificate of Final Completion effective August 31, 2023. Motion carried unanimously. It was noted that the project came in under budget.

The draft Fremont County Board Appointment Procedure was reviewed and one amended suggested by Vice-Chairman Jones. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve the Procedure as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Larry Allen reviewed a Priority Ambulance update on recent negotiations with the United Steelworkers Union pursuit of a Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) for Frontier Ambulance. The union's best, and final offer, would increase Priority Ambulance's operating expenses significantly in 2023, and because of cost-of-living increases built into the wage scale, there would be increased operating expenses each of the two subsequent years of the contract. For them to continue operating in Fremont County, they would need additional funding of \$386,796 in the first year of the CBA and an estimated increase of an additional \$11,500 per subsequent contract year for cost-of-living increases. The Commissioners request the Civil Attorney review the information and draft an agreement for review at the next meeting.

Applications have been received for the EMS Advisory Committee. Chairman Allen asked each Commissioner to designate two applicants from each district for appointment to the Committee. Names will be finalized at the next meeting.

A work session was held to review the status of grant funded projects (ARPA #1 and #2 and LATC). Committee members Julie Freese and Jim Anderson were present and an updated spreadsheet was distributed. LATC projects not yet authorized was the focus of the discussion, totaling \$4,735,410.

Dispatch Supervisor Carl Freeman and Deputy Chief Dan Oakley reviewed the Dispatch radios and paging project totaling \$1,360,771. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to authorize \$1.4 million for the Dispatch Radios and Paging Project. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Thomas was absent from the remainder of the meeting.

County Clerk Julie Freese distributed a list of the Buildings projects that have been authorized with grant funding, the projected cost and priority rating of each. She will also ask that updates be given on authorized projects that the Commission has not received bids on yet by October 3rd. She will contact Undersheriff Mike Hutchison, also the Search and Rescue spokesperson, to get his recommendations on the Search and Rescue buildings in Dubois and Lander. An authorized LATC project for the Coroner/S&R/et al building purchase and remodel project in the amount of \$1,500,000 was discussed. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to proceed with a bid proposal of \$650,000 for a building in Riverton. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 1:05 p.m. and reconvene for a Regular Meeting at 9:00 a.m. on September 12, 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 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