

STATE OF WYOMING)
) ss.
COUNTY OF FREMONT)

LANDER, WYOMING
OFFICE OF THE FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

FULL DETAILED REPORT

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

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

Jennifer McCarty moved, Mike Jones seconded, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 7, 2021 as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Jennifer McCarty moved, Mike Jones 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	\$1,788.26
Ace Hardware-Lander	Segregated	Materials/Supplies	\$762.05
Ace Hardware-Riverton	County Buildings	Materials/Supplies	\$17.26
Alliance Commercial Equip, Co.	County Buildings Detention	Equipment/Supplies	\$32.70
Bank of the West	Segregated	Credit Card Purchases	\$97,972.74
Big Horn Water	Youth Services	Water & Cooler Rental	\$73.70
Burback's Refrigeration	PHEP COVID Response	Repair	\$382.50
Charter Communications	Computer Services	Internet Services	\$349.96
CMI TECO	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts & Supplies	\$534.06
Communication Technologies, Inc	Support Services	Maintenance Agreement	\$2,961.87
Eagle Uniform & Supply, Co	Vehicle Maintenance	Laundry	\$82.21
Fremont County Assoc. of Governments	Economic Development	Sales Tax MOU	\$46,883.60
Fremont Motors - Lander	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts/Supplies	\$7,271.01
Injury Prevention Resources	Segregated	Contractual Services	\$1,400.00
Lander Valley Auto Parts	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts & Supplies	\$1,358.61
Lander, City of	County Buildings	Water & Sewer	\$3,854.00
Lawson Products, Inc	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts & Supplies	\$18.80
Midwest Connect	County Attorney	Postage Supplies	\$54.00
Motorola Solutions, Inc	County Sheriff	Equipment Lease	\$58,725.00
Motorola Solutions, Inc	Dispatch Center	Equipment Lease	\$225,849.00
Napa Auto Parts-Riverton	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts & Supplies	\$2,726.24
NMS Laboratories	County Coroner	Toxicology Services	\$3,917.00
Norco, Inc	Transportation	Supplies	\$376.70
Novo Benefits	Health Benefit Plan	Insurance Services	\$5,100.00
Office Shop Inc, The	Agriculture Department	Repair/Service	\$41.10
Orkin LLC	County Buildings	Pest Control Service	\$125.00
RELX, Inc.	County Attorney	Research Subscription	\$644.00
Riverton Ranger, Inc	Segregated	Advertising	\$4,488.91
Riverton, City of	Economic Development	Sales Tax MOU	\$93,767.20
Rocky Mountain Power	Segregated	Utilities	\$12,997.81
S & L Industrial	Road Construction	Striping Project	\$195,028.58
Sagewest Health Care	County Coroner	Services	\$2,451.39
Schumacher Law Firm, P.C.	County Commission	Protest Hearings	\$90.00
Shoshoni, Town of	County Buildings	Water/Sewer	\$60.00
Verizon Wireless	Segregated	Cell Phone Service	\$991.72
Wilkerson, James A, IV, MD PC	County Coroner	Autopsy	\$1,250.00
Wind River Auto & Diesel, Inc	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts & Service	\$2,621.20
WY Public Health Laboratory	Youth Services	Drug Testing	\$2,718.00
Wyoming Behavioral Institute	Health & Welfare	Title 25	\$7,540.00
Wyoming Machinery, Co	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts	\$949.44
Wyoming Waste Systems	County Buildings	Trash Removal	\$2,632.97

The following items in the Signature File were reviewed: 1) Record of Proceedings. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve a Contract between Fremont County Government and Hoffman Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$17,650.00 for electrical services for an electronic message board sign at the Riverton County Office complex building. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve a Contract between Fremont County Government and ABC Sign, Inc. in the

amount of \$42,544.40 for construction and installation of an electronic message board sign at the Riverton County Complex building. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve a Contract between Wyoming Department of Family Services and Fremont County Commissioners setting forth conditions by which the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Community Partnership Initiative will be operated for continuum of services for the Greater Wyoming Big Brothers Big Sisters Fremont County (\$18,400.00) and Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming (\$8,350.00) programs. Motion carried unanimously.

There were no Priority Mail items.

The Public Comment period was held.

HD 34 Representative Pepper Ottman was present and distributed a brochure entitled "A campaign of American Stewards of Liberty Guide to Fight the 30 x 30 Land Grab." She stated the information is educational and to give a heads up to the Commission on "how to fight the radical environmental agenda from taking 30% of America's land by 2030."

Chief Deputy Coroner Erin Ivie presented a monthly update. Total number of cases in 2021 are 113 (compared to 99 in 2020). Natural deaths have increased (60 compared to 55 in 2020), accidents are up (32 compared to 23 in 2020), suicides are down (9 compared to 14 in 2020), homicides down (2 compared to 3 last year), traffic fatalities are up (15 compared to 5 last year). There are currently eight cases pending investigation. There have been three Search and Rescue/Recovery operations this fiscal year. There is heightened concern over the illicit use of Fentanyl as a recreation drug with potentially fatal results and, as of this date, there have been two confirmed Fentanyl related/caused deaths in July. She applied for a grant through Department of Health and was successful for NARCAN nasal spray (treats opiate overdose) that is in each coroner response vehicle in the event of accidental exposure by Coroner staff and first responders. Methamphetamine accounts for eight of the drug related/caused deaths this year and alcohol remains a common factor in many of the natural and non-natural Coroner cases. This year's budget was prepared using Dr. Frost as completing the majority of autopsies; however, following the resignation of Dr. Frost, autopsies are again being sent to Colorado. As a result, the budget did not factor in those costs along with travel related expenses. Other unanticipated costs include training at the Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy and overtime incurred by current deputies. With the resurgence of COVID 19 and the Delta variant, the office had to restock PPE inventories. Some federal funding assisted with the cost of obtaining PPE last year but no such funding is available this year, as a result, the Infection Control line item is over budget as well. Due to one staff member being off for the next several weeks, only two deputies remain to respond to all coroner cases which may result in longer than normal response times. Commissioner Thomas recommended Ivie contact Indian Health Center, Wind River Cares, etc. to see if they have a surplus of PPE supplies and County Clerk Julie Freese is working with the Coroner's Office to stay on top of their budget issues and will suggest a budget infusion when necessary. There may be funding available in Fiscal Recovery Funding the County received to assist the office.

Sheriff Ryan Lee presented a monthly report and was joined by Communications Supervisor Carl Freeman. Detention: 166 bookings in August (down 9 from the prior month) by the following agencies: Riverton Police Department - 62; Sheriff's Office - 48, Lander PD - 42, Wyoming Highway Patrol - 10 and US Marshall's Office - 1. Current inmate population as of September 13th is 175 in house and 186 in custody. Fifty-two inmates are sentenced and pre-adjudicated inmates total 100. There are currently three inmates quarantined due to COVID. The facility upgrade is underway and the additional bedding in the minimum area has been completed. Current staffing vacancies are for one cook, four deputy sheriffs and one nurse. Budget considerations include increased costs due to recent juvenile housing out of county. Emergency Dispatch Center: August statistics include 2,177 calls dispatched, 1,349 emergency 911 calls answered (89% originating from cellular devices). Currently down four positions with two conditional offers of employment made. No budget concerns. Working with Frontier Ambulance on mapping and data interfacing which led to the discussion on a Motorola Solutions Quote and Purchase Addendum totaling \$11,724.13 to purchase two modules for a Geo Validation Upgrade for the Spillman system. Freeman stated the modules will allow for real time data and location on maps which will allow Frontier Ambulance to provide monthly reports with detailed accuracy. Sheriff Lee expected the contract to be available within several days. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve purchase of the two modules from Motorola not to exceed \$12,000, with funding through the Ambulance Fund, pending review of the contract when available by Chief Civil Deputy Darrough. Motion carried unanimously. Patrol/Enforcement: Down one position in the Riverton division and one in Dubois. There have been 5,400 calls for service this calendar year. Capital Revolving asset rifle purchases have arrived and vehicle purchases are in the process. At this time, there are no budget concerns. Search and Rescue:

11 missions this fiscal year (compared to 16 this time last year). Out of these 11 missions, air resources were utilized five times and three fatalities occurred, resulting in recovery costs. No budget concerns at this time.

Commissioner Clarence Thomas arrived at this time.

Jennifer McCarty moved, Mike Jones seconded, to adjourn into Executive Session with County Attorney Patrick LeBrun regarding personnel. Following that session, J.R. Oakley was present for personnel, joined by Deputy County Clerk Margy Irvine. Jennifer McCarty moved, Mike Jones seconded, to return to regular session. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner meeting reports were given.

Commissioner Clarence Thomas expressed concern over COVID protocol currently in place for Fremont County. The Fremont County COVID-19 Guidelines, August 2021, were reviewed. County Clerk Julie Freese stated she and Deputy Margy Irvine work with Elected Officials and Department Heads when requested to determine the best approach to the various situations. It was determined to send out the Guidelines again and ask Elected Officials and Department Heads to ensure their employees are knowledgeable of the Guidelines. Chief Civil Deputy Darrough stated employees not following them could be disciplined for insubordination. Chairman Becker requested Commissioner Thomas develop a plan for ensuring all employees are made aware of the Guideline document.

Fremont County Planning Department Supervisor Steve Baumann reviewed a Petition to Vacate a portion of Darnall Road, a publically dedicated road, which was signed by electors of the county residing within twenty-five miles of the road proposed to be vacated. The Petitioner, ReNae Hedges, requests the vacation of the final 54.4' of Darnall Road adjacent to her property, where a garage had been erected many years ago. Chief Civil Deputy Darrough reviewed the Petition and it was subsequently recorded at the County Clerk's Office. In addition to the Petition, Mrs. Hedges provided a list of all persons owning or having an interest in the land over which the proposed vacation is being made, in accordance with State Statute. As part of the process, a viewer is to be appointed to examine the proposed road vacation and to prepare a written report and the Commission must provide a notice to be mailed to all persons owning lands or claiming any interest in any lands over or across which said road is proposed to be vacated. Jennifer McCarty moved, Mike Jones seconded, to appoint Steve Baumann as Viewer. Motion carried unanimously. Jennifer McCarty moved, Mike Jones seconded, to advertise a 45-day comment period and hold a public hearing on November 2, 2021 to review comments. Motion carried unanimously.

Steve Baumann stated the Fremont County Planning Commission is recommending amending the current Rural Addressing Regulations. The document has been re-formatted and eliminates redundancies and language changes. Mike Jones moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to advertise a 45-day comment period for amendments to the Rural Addressing Regulations and set a public hearing on November 2, 2021 to review comments. Motion carried unanimously.

Transportation Superintendent Billy Meeks stated a Committee selected DOWL for the Country Acres Reconstruction and Apex Surveying and Engineering Associates for the Riverview Cutoff Overlay/Widening Project. Ranking sheets were distributed for information. Fee proposals from both firms will be available after their selection is confirmed. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve the Committee's selection of DOWL for the Country Acres Reconstruction and Apex Surveying and Engineering Associates for the Riverview Cutoff Overlay/Widening Project. Motion carried unanimously.

DOWL Engineer Kasey Jones presented four documents to conclude the 8 Mile Road Transverse Rumble Strips project. Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve a Final Acceptance Certificate. Motion carried unanimously. Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve the Certificate of Final Completion. Motion carried unanimously. Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve the Warranty. Motion carried unanimously. Jennifer McCarty moved, Mike Jones seconded, to approve Change Order No. 1 that serves as a reconciliation change order for under/over runs for a reduction of \$1,000 for a total contract price of \$16,680.41. Motion carried unanimously.

Inberg-Miller Engineer Dawn Willhelm presented Change Order No. 1 for the Fremont County Roads Striping Project to revise quantities for actual paint placed for an increase of \$9,728.00. Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve Change Order No. 1. Motion carried unanimously.

Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve a Certificate of Substantial Completion. Motion carried unanimously. Jennifer McCarty moved, Mike Jones seconded, to approve Contractor's Application for Payment. Motion carried unanimously. Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve advertising a Notice of Final Payment to Contractor with final payment due October 30, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

Trihydro Engineer Scott Lee provided a Construction Contract between Fremont County and CC & G, Inc. for the Paradise Valley Structure ELE Replacement Project. Clarence Thomas moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve the Contract. Motion carried unanimously. Lee informed the Board of the necessity of an additional change order for a budget infusion. The Board asked him to report back with a detailed accounting to back up the request.

Commission meeting reports continued.

Chairman Travis Becker attended an initial meeting with Forest Service representatives working on the Sand Creek Fire. Recent rains have helped with the fire that now consumes 750 acres. As of this date, the fire is located on Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management property. No structures have been damaged at this point and approximately 1.1 million has been expended. There was no fly over last week as the planes were called away to another fire. Crews are setting lines on the ground.

Chairman Becker expressed concern with the number of county employees listening to the Commissioners' meeting on Zoom during the work day. The other Commissioners indicated they had no issue if they were still able to do their jobs while listening and Department heads should visit with their employees if they are concerned.

Chairman Becker distributed copies of a December 2016 document titled "County Commission Liaison Duties" for review and update as needed. He asked fellow Commissioners' to let him know if they are having issues with any of their liaison responsibilities (conflicts, concerns, etc.).

County Clerk Julie Freese reported on the stakeholders meeting held on September 9th at CWC regarding legislative redistricting which has begun and to determine the needs in Fremont County. Once this is done, they can work on legislative and commissioner district lines and schedule public meetings in Fremont County. There were 27 people present at the meeting where the process was outlined. Currently Wyoming residents choose 60 senators and 30 representatives to serve as state legislators. Some lawmakers have proposed reduction the ratio to 52-26 or maybe increasing 62-31.

In other business, Julie Freese acknowledged a USDA grant opportunity forwarded by Margaret Wells that may benefit the ambulance service. She will share with the Commissioners.

Commissioner Thomas was absent from the remainder of the meeting.

A Work Session was held to continue the Standard Occupational Classification equity among county employees. Chairman Becker suggested the Commission needed to rethink their thought process. The intention was not to give everybody raises but to bring positions in line with SOC's and where they fall in line with the northwest medium scale figures. County Clerk Julie Freese recommended the Commission honor the levels set by Department Heads and Elected Officials. She acknowledged the total monetary requests are higher than budgeted (\$650,000 to include benefits). For comparison purposes, an 8% increase overall would be 746,377.68 and 5% would be \$466,486.05 and departments range from 3% increase to over 25% in some cases. Commissioner Jones would like to honor the framework set in motion and develop priorities to consider. Freese will prepare subsequent spreadsheets listing the percentage each department is requesting. Another work session was tentatively set for October 5th.

There being no further business, Jennifer McCarty moved, Mike Jones seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 2:30 p.m. and reconvene for a Regular Meeting on September 28, 2021. 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/ TRAVIS BECKER, CHAIRMAN
FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

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