

STATE OF WYOMING)
) ss.
COUNTY OF FREMONT)

LANDER, WYOMING
OFFICE OF THE FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FEBRUARY 1, 2022

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, Clarence Thomas and Michael Jones. Vice-Chairman Larry Allen arrived later in the morning. County Clerk Julie A. Freese was present.

Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas 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 January 18, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

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

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
307 Shredding LLC	County Sheriff	Shredding Services	\$150.00
A & I Distributors	Vehicle Maintenance	Oil/Fluids	\$1,553.25
American Family & Life Insurance	Segregated	Insurance	\$5,980.84
Amerigas	County Buildings	Propane	\$824.73
Bailey Enterprises, Inc	Transportation	Vehicle Fuel	\$4,153.09
Best Western Ramkota	County Assessor	Lodging	\$356.00
Big Brothers Big Sisters of NW WY	TANF Grant	Grant Reimbursement	\$1,751.44
Big Horn Tire Inc	Segregated	Vehicle Tires	\$2,837.92
Black Hills Energy	County Buildings	Utility Service	\$12,896.84
Blue Cross Blue Shield of WY	Co Admin	Health Insurance Claims	\$514,247.13
Bobcat of the Big Horn Basin, Inc	County Buildings	Machinery	\$36,328.39
California State Disbursement	Payroll	Child Support	\$50.00
Cloud Peak Counseling Center	Health & Welfare	Title 25 Services	\$1,625.00
Colonial Life & Accident Insurance	Segregated	Insurance	\$1,257.80
DC Group Inc	Computer Services	Equipment Maintenance	\$1,632.00
Dooley Enterprises Inc	County Sheriff	Ammunition	\$7,653.85
DOWL LLC	Road Construction	Country Acres Reconstruction	\$19,600.93
DSPN Media And Consulting LLC	County Coroner	Training Conference	\$125.00
Eagle Uniform & Supply Co	Vehicle Maintenance	Laundry	\$82.21
Edwards Communications	Prevention Program	Radio Advertising	\$1,509.00
Fahey, Penny	Health Promotion	Wellness Services Contract	\$3,600.00
FC Circuit Court	Payroll	Garnishment	\$344.82
Floyd's Truck Center WY	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts	\$10.34
Fremont Auto Center Inc	County Sheriff	Vehicle Repair	\$5,623.28
Fremont County Library System	Health Promotion	Premium Reduction	\$35.00
Fremont County School District #25	Youth Services	Program Meals	\$462.50
Fremont County Treasurer	Co Admin	Health Insurance	\$328,200.00
Fremont County Treasurer	Co Admin	Section 125 Benefits	\$42,111.19
Fremont Orthopaedics PC	Detention Center	Inmate Medical	\$596.00
Gary Brink, Inc	County Buildings Detention	Materials/Supplies	\$250.50
Grainger	County Buildings	Materials/Supplies	\$411.75
Great West Trust	Segregated	Wyoming Benefits	\$6,325.00
Green, Kristi H	Clerk of District Court	Expense Reimbursement	\$1,733.26
Hall, Jared	Vehicle Maintenance	Expense Reimbursement	\$142.41
Healthsmart Benefit Solutions	Segregated	Insurance	\$912.00
Hollings, Lee	Transportation	Expense Reimbursement	\$110.00
Inberg-Miller Engineers	Road Construction	Project- Engineer	\$151.53
Kairos Broadcasting LLC	Prevention Program	Advertising	\$2,150.00
Kisling, Lisa	Public Defender	Rent	\$450.00
Lawson Products, Inc	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts & Supplies	\$39.37
Lopez, Marcel	Planning	Expense Reimbursement	\$44.11
Mark Scott McCormick, M.D.	County Coroner	Autopsy Service	\$1,250.00
Mark's Auto Sales & Towing	County Sheriff	Vehicle Towing	\$202.00
Master's Touch LLC	County Treasurer	Prepaid Postage	\$1,695.74
Midwest Connect	Support Services	Postage Supplies	\$290.00
Miller, Margaret	District Court	Office Rent	\$300.00
Mountain Dental PC	Detention Center	Inmate Medical	\$929.00
Mr D's Food Center Inc	Detention Center	Supplies	\$277.55
Natrona County Attorney	Health & Welfare	Title 25 Services	\$14,600.00
New York Life Insurance	Segregated	Insurance	\$133.11
Newman Traffic Signs	Transportation	Safety Signs	\$7,879.17

Novo Benefits	Health Benefit Plan	Insurance Services	\$5,253.00
Orkin LLC	County Buildings	Pest Control Service	\$125.00
Osage Industries, Inc	Vehicle Maintenance	Vehicle Repairs Parts	\$501.64
Parker, Jason	Transportation	Expense Reimbursement	\$110.00
Payroll Taxes	Co Admin	Withholding/FICA	\$195,478.26
R C Lock & Key	County Buildings	Materials/Supplies	\$27.78
Ratigan, Daniel, M.D.	Detention Center	P.A. Supervisor Contract	\$4,675.00
Reed's Moghaun Office Supply	Clerk of District Court	Office Supplies	\$204.13
Riverton, City of	County Buildings	Water/Sewer	\$831.66
Rocky Mountain Automatic Doors	County Buildings	Parts/Services	\$75.00
Sagewest Health Care	Detention Center	Inmate Medical	\$4,585.83
Schoneberger, Valerie	District Court	Appointed Representation	\$285.00
Secretary of State	Transportation	Notary Fee	\$60.00
Shirts & More Inc	County Buildings Detention	Office Supplies	\$126.00
Six Robblees' Inc	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts	\$332.06
Skaggs Companies Inc	County Sheriff	Uniforms/Supplies	\$741.96
Smith Psychological Services	Dispatch Center	Psychological Services	\$400.00
Smith, Mariah	Prevention Program	Administrative Assistance	\$125.00
Soule, Sierra	Public Defender	Office Rent	\$450.00
Stanley Convergent	Detention Doors Upgrade	Jail Equipment Upgrade	\$293,760.00
State Disbursement Unit	Payroll	Child Support	\$1,066.25
State of Wyoming	Public Defender	Office Rent	\$1,650.00
Sweetwater Aire LLC	County Buildings Detention	Supplies/Parts/Repair	\$90.00
Sweetwater County Sheriff	Detention Center	Inmate Housing	\$2,635.00
Sylvestri Customization	Prevention Program	Graphic Design/Social Media	\$6,086.80
Terrance R. Martin PC	Segregated	Rent/Contractual Services	\$3,075.00
Total Net Salaries	Segregated	Salaries	\$640,299.43
Trans-West, Inc	Capital Asset Acquisitions	Service Truck	\$87,925.00
Traveling Computers	Computer Services	Computer Supplies/Services	\$5,026.50
Trihydro Corporation	Road Construction	Road ELE Replacement	\$7,082.18
Tri-Star Detention, Inc.	Detention Doors Upgrade	Detention Center Doors	\$72,182.00
Uinta County	Maternal Child Health	Supplies/Service	\$159.95
Wamcat	Segregated	Training	\$300.00
Waving At You.Com	County Buildings	Outdoor Flags	\$98.00
WCTA	County Treasurer	County Dues	\$200.00
Western Printing, Inc	Segregated	Printed Supplies	\$1,711.24
Winsupply of Riverton	Segregated	Materials/Supplies	\$151.62
WY Dept of Employment	Segregated	Unemployment Claims	\$0.00
WY Dept of Transportation	Vehicle Maintenance	Transfer County Plates	\$2.00
WY SDU	Payroll	Child Support	\$1,480.00
Wyo Child Support Enforcement	Segregated	Child Support	\$806.00
Wyo Dept of Workforce Services	Co Admin	Workers Comp	\$17,361.31
Wyoming Dept of Transportation	County Sheriff	Fuel	\$1,654.62
Wyoming Retirement System	Co Admin	Contributions	\$157,712.59

Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to accept a voucher from Wyoming Behavioral Institute in the amount of \$5,278.00 for three Title 25 patients. Motion carried unanimously.

The following items in the Signature File were reviewed: 1) Quarterly Payroll Reports for Commissioners; 2) Thank you letter to Michael Zirbel for service on the Fremont County Museum Board; 3) Letters of appreciation to Fremont County Assessor and staff for obtaining 2022 Property Tax Appraiser Certification; and 4) Record of Proceedings. Mike Jones moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between Wyoming Department of Health, Public Health Division and Fremont County setting forth terms and conditions by which the County shall utilize \$100,000 in grant funds for COVID-19 disease surveillance and testing activities. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between Wyoming Department of Health Public Health Division and Fremont County setting forth the terms and conditions by which the County shall utilize \$325,443.00 grant funds for COVID-19 vaccination outreach activities. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve Amendment One to the Contract between Wyoming Department of Health, Behavioral Health Division and Fremont County Juvenile Treatment Court for an increase of \$11,600.00 for a total grant award of \$191,609.48. Motion carried unanimously. Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve Amendment One to the Contract between Wyoming Department of Health, Behavioral Health Division and the Court Assisted Supervised Treatment Court for an additional \$9,200.00 for a total grant award of \$201,972.20. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between the Wyoming Supreme Court and Fremont County setting forth terms and conditions by which the Court agrees to provide a Virtual Private Network connection to District Court Clerk's Office. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve a letter of support for the Town

of Hudson's Wyoming Business Council grant to extend their water line to Frank's Butcher Shop, located just outside of the town limits. Motion carried unanimously.

There were no action items in the Priority Mail.

There was nobody present for the Public Comment period.

Transportation Superintendent Billy Meeks continued an earlier discussion regarding WYDOT's recommendation to remove and dispose of the condemned bridge on Diversion Dam Road, structure ELX. He contacted CC&G who submitted a quote of \$31,250 and stated Road Construction Funds will be used and the amount is under the \$50,000 threshold that would require the project to be bid out. Jennifer McCarty moved, Mike Jones seconded, to approve a Contract between Fremont County Government and CC&G, Inc. for a cost not to exceed \$31,250 to remove the condemned Fremont County Bridge "ELX" on Diversion Dam Road and properly dispose of the removed structure. Motion carried unanimously. Meeks stated the contractor will begin immediately so that the project is completed before high spring runoff and irrigation season begins.

In other business, Billy Meeks and Administrative Assistant Jill Johnson indicated they did not have a lot of new information on the new Federal regulations that will require training for all new Commercial Driver License applicants as of February 7, 2022. The presented a handout for Training Providers for review but do not have information on who can train locally; however, there are sites in several towns available. Meeks did not recommend the County pay for training for perspective employees that need to obtain their CDL and those currently employed with a CDL are grandfathered in. He has spoken with numerous entities in Fremont County (municipalities, Solid Waste District, etc.) and everybody is still waiting on more information on trainers and costs, which is anticipated to cost \$5,000 per individual. Commissioner McCarty relayed a conversation with Representative Lloyd Larsen the previous evening who indicated they would look into the federal requirement at the upcoming legislative session and since agriculture is exempted, it may be possible to exempt the training for CDL drivers who only travel in state.

Public Health Nurse Supervisor Becky Parkins and Prevention Coordinator Tauna Groomsmith were both scheduled to present a grant application request; however, were both unable to attend. Chairman Travis Becker presented the 2021-2025 Substance Abuse Prevention Program request for application for the prevention of adult overconsumption, underage drinking, and the use, misuse, and abuse of opioids and other drugs. Groomsmith would like to apply for \$100,000 to focus on the Wyoming mining and energy production industries, which have a top rate of alcohol misuse and abuse by labor sector. The exact use for substance use varies, but frequent reasons include long hours, elevated stress, swing shifts, injuries and more. This increased use by the industry adds danger to a workplace where risks are already elevated, damages the workforce and ultimately impacts the overall state economy. The Commissioners were in agreement that Groomsmith submit a funding application for the requested prevention program funding.

Vice-Chairman Larry Allen joined the meeting at this time.

Commissioner meeting reports and concerns were given.

Commissioner Clarence Thomas discussed an upcoming meeting where the Secretary of State will be in Fremont County to discuss the election process in Wyoming. He expressed appreciation to County Clerk Julie Freese and her efforts to run a very good election. Chairman Becker concurred that she has ran a great election with the greatest of integrity.

County Clerk Julie Freese thanked the Board for their ongoing support of the election process. There is a lot of movement across the nation of distrust in the process and she feels transparency is a very good thing. She stated the importance of educating the public on a constant basis. Freese stated they are working on educational materials that will be used to educate Fremont County voters which will be presented live and recorded on Zoom. She thanked the Commissioners for allowing the Courthouse to be closed during both the primary and general elections so that staff can assist at the polls. She said the State will be allowing state employees 20 hours to work elections in respective areas. Volunteerism is an ongoing concern both in the past and future.

Commissioner Jennifer McCarty attended the Fremont County Recreation Commission monthly meeting and noted the will be on the Commissioner's agenda on February 8th to discuss their plans for 2022. She also attended the Fremont County Planning Commission monthly meeting.

Commissioner Mike Jones attended two meetings associated with the Fremont County Association of Governments. The first one was a meeting held to discuss a long term solution to the Fremont County Ambulance ground ambulance service funding other than by the County's general fund. The regular FCAG meeting held discussion with the Fremont Counseling Service Executive Director Scott Hayes regarding their services as a Gatekeeper for Title 25 patients. Evanston has built a holding facility (not a medical or detention center) to help secure beds in that area. There have been several very severe incidents involving Title 25 patients. Commissioner Thomas stated the State decreased mental health funding beginning in 2015 and the legislators need to understand the funding need still exists, especially during the recent pandemic.

Chairman Travis Becker attended the Riverton Airport Board meeting. The new sign for the Airport advertising tourist related activities in the County will be presented to the Riverton City Council that evening for approval. There is concern that United Airlines is cutting back to only one flight out of Riverton per day due to pilot shortages even though there have been a very high number of enplanements this past year.

Fremont County Museums Director Scott Goetz was joined by Board members Sue Peters, Stephanie Weaver, Joanna Kail and outgoing member Mike Zirbel, to discuss their request to formally acquire the Museum of the American West property, facilities, collections, etc. on behalf of the Fremont County Pioneer Museum as a donation from MAW. The property sits adjacent to the Pioneer Museum and has become a fundamental part of cultural heritage tourism in Lander and Fremont County. The MAW property can no longer be managed successfully or to its fullest potential by the MAW Board and volunteers. He stated a transition to Fremont County Pioneer Museum, and a modest increase in personnel and financial resources, could be more effectively utilized for the benefit of Fremont County. He provided a draft revenue budget including admissions, rentals, gift/concessions, donations, foundation income and miscellaneous revenue totaling \$64,687. The projections assume no additional staff and would be conducted basically as it is now with the Livery Stable and Pavillion available for rentals. The remainder of the other buildings on MAW property would be open once barriers could be constructed to secure and protect collections. The use of volunteers would still be necessary for scheduled tours. Insurance, utilities and maintenance costs were projected to cost \$27,600. The additional property would add a lot of value to the Pioneer Museum's efforts, as they work jointly with them now to host larger events (Sheep Shearing Day, Halloween, etc.). Long term efforts would be to hire a Maintenance and Restoration position but for the short term he would expect current staff to handle the property. MAW recently received Fremont MOVE (1/2 percent economic development) funding for their groundskeeper position, which Goetz felt would be used for the duration of the grant funding for the position. Long term would also involve grants, etc. and he is always looking to keep all the Museums open seven days per week during peak tourist months (May – September) which are key revenue months. Mr. Zirbel, who is leaving the Museum Board to accept the presidency of the Wind River Cultural Centers Foundation, stated the foundation will be funded by grants, donations, etc. for the benefit of the Museum. Commissioner McCarty discussed the Museum's efforts to rebrand their name top the Wind River Cultural Center – Lander, Riverton and Dubois, respectively. Discussion was held on other support groups involved with the property besides MAW (Pioneer Association). Lander Mayor Monte Richardson spoke and indicated the visitor's center on MAW property is a Lander community asset and he wants to make sure it runs smoothly whoever takes it over. Doug Thompson, representing the Pioneer Association, are a support group funding projects for the Pioneer Museum and they do have legal ownership of two buildings on MAW property (cabin and pavillion). As multiple questions were still unanswered, Goetz was asked to keep moving forward on ownership issues and report back.

A Public Hearing was held at 10:15 a.m., as advertised, for budget transfers and unanticipated revenues. Present was County Clerk Julie Freese and Financial Specialist Michelle Neuenschwander. Mike Jones moved, Larry Allen seconded, to approve Resolution No. 2022-05 "FY 2021-2022 Budget Amendment No. 4." Motion carried unanimously.

County Planner Steve Baumann, County Assessor Tara Berg and Mapping Technician Andy Fontaine provided an update on a portion of Ray Lake Road. In the mid 1960's Highway 287, then called the Lander-Diversion Dam Road and located between Lander and Fort Washakie, was reconstructed by the Wyoming Department of Transportation to its current location. As part of that process, the section of the old highway, between approximately the intersection with Blue Sky Highway and where the north end

of the current Ray Lake Road intersects with the Highway, was relocated and straightened. Following State Statutes relating to the abandonment of State Highways when they are relocated, the County was given the option to take over the abandoned section. Subsequently, a 1968 State Highway Commission of Wyoming Quitclaim Deeded to Fremont County the metes and bounds of the Lander-Diversion Dam Road, now known as Ray Lake Road. For an unknown reason, the Quitclaim Deed was not processed as a parcel of land in 1968 and is only represented as a right-of-way in two short sections of the road. The major area of concern is a parcel of land, owned by Eddie Womack Jr., which is the only area where the property described in the Quitclaim Deed from the Wyoming Highway Commission to Fremont County is where no road exists. In this area, the section of old Highway was abandoned and a new section was constructed (most likely by WYDOT) to make the southern intersection of Ray Lake Road and Highway 287 be at a right angle to facilitate safety and to have it and Blue Sky Highway for a four-way intersection. Baumann believes, upon County Attorney review, that the portion of right-of-way that should be deeded to Mr. Womack will require the County Commission to vacate that section by formal process prior to deeding that portion to Mr. Womack. This must follow the formal process of a Petition to Vacate, Viewer's Report and Public Hearing. Then the remaining sections of Ray Lake Road that do not show public ownership will need to be revised to indicate just that. In all cases, affected landowners should be contacted and apprised of the situation. Once it is determined by the County Attorney's Office if new deeds will be required for those land owners, that process must take place, and will result in reduced taxes on those parcels that currently do not reflect any diminishment. Berg will prepare a report of all land owners affected and outline a plan to meet with them all to correct this situation.

The Fremont County Financial Committee, comprised of the County Commissioners Travis Becker and Larry Allen, County Clerk Julie Freese, Financial Assistant Michelle Neuenschwander, County Assessor Tara Berg and County Treasurer Jim Anderson gave a preliminary 2022 Estimate of Value for Revenue Projections. Freese noted she is statutorily required to present a budget picture to the Commission by May 15th. Some legislative changes are expected this month as well.

Budget packets will be distributed during the February 14th Elected Officials and Department Heads meeting and discussion was held on whether the Fremont County Recreation Commission will be able to be funded to some extent this fiscal year for grant awards. Chairman Becker suggested a figure of \$100,000 be budgeted, and to further allow Social Services to once again apply for funding. It needs to be clear that until the final budget picture is available, funding for these departments is pending. All Departments will again be asked to submit their budget status quo once more, and if additional personnel are needed, it will be addressed at their subsequent budget hearing.

County Clerk Julie Freese further noted that during the upcoming February 14th Elected Officials and Department Heads meeting, Commissioner Jones and herself would be presenting the ARPA application and process information.

Chairman Travis Becker relayed a concern from a recent MOVE applicant (½% Economic Development fund) that receiving the grant in December created some tax implications to their business as they did not have expenditures to offset the revenue. Discussion was held on adding wording to their award letter recommending they seek advice from their tax consultant prior to accepting the award.

There being no further business, Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 a.m. and reconvene for a Regular Meeting at 9:00 a.m. on February 8, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

A full detailed report (informational only) and the official minutes are posted on Fremont County's website (www.fremontcountyywy.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