

STATE OF WYOMING )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF FREMONT )

LANDER, WYOMING  
OFFICE OF THE FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MAY 24, 2022

**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, Clarence Thomas and Michael Jones. 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, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on May 10, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to accept the bills for payment with the exception of a voucher to the Wyoming County Commissioners Association in the amount of \$1,626 for a WCCA Legislative Meeting (moved to the following meeting for further discussion). Chairman Becker abstained from voting on The Print Shop voucher. Motion carried.

Bills are listed in the following format: Vendor – Department – Description – Amount: A & I Distributors-Vehicle Maintenance-Oil/Fluids-\$2323.35; Ace Hardware-Riverton-Vehicle Maintenance-Materials/Supplies -\$17.09; Airgas USA LLC-Vehicle Maintenance-Supplies-\$30.36; B & B Enterprises LLC-Planning-Signs & Supplies-\$497.80; Bailey Enterprises, Inc-Inventory-Bulk Fuel -\$25098.49; Bank he West Acct Analysis-Investment Pool-Analyzed Charges-\$357.24; Bob's Truck Repair, Inc-Vehicle Maintenance-Service / Repair-\$2620.00; Bowdel Steven P.-Detention Center-Contract Service-\$2375.00; Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming-Prevention Program-Smart Moves Program-\$3000.00; Breadboard, The-District Court-Jury Meals -\$138.60; Bull's Service & Towing LLC-County Sheriff-Towing-\$250.00; Calvert, Hattie-Youth Services-Reimbursement-\$52.11; Capital Business Sys. Inc-Covid 19 Grant-Supplies & Service -\$64.89; Carquest Auto Parts-Vehicle Maintenance-Parts & Supplies-\$380.29; Carroll Septic Service-Transportation-Services -\$150.00; Centurylink-Computer Services-Telephone Service-\$630.62; Charter Communications-Computer Services-Internet Service-\$229.98; Clifford, Gregory P. MD PC-Detention Center-Inmate Medical-\$1019.00; Conder, Juli-Phep Covid Response-Expense Reimbursement-\$18.98; Dealers Electrical Supply-County Buildings-Materials/Supplies-\$195.95; Desert Mountain Corporation-Transportation-Mag Chloride-\$12043.93; Eagle Uniform & Supply Co-Vehicle Maintenance-Laundry Service-\$636.83; Edwards Communications-Prevention Program-Radio Advertising-\$2661.00; Federal Express Corp-Detention Center-Shipping Fees-\$15.90; Fremont Counseling-Lander-Health & Welfare-Title 25-\$4650.00; Fremont County School Dist #25-Youth Services-JADI Meals-\$355.75; Grainger-County Buildings Detention-Materials/Supplies -\$216.08; HDR Engineering Inc-Transportation-Engineering -\$11893.65; Hehr, Ryan B-Prevention Program-Admin Assistance-\$101.50; Inberg-Miller Engineers-Transportation-Road Project-\$180.00; Int'l Academies Of Emergency Dispatch-Dispatch Center-Training -\$120.00; Kairos Broadcasting LLC-Segregated-Advertising-\$2350.00; Lander Community Foundation-Special Tax-Move Award-\$7000.00; Lander Journal-County Clerk-Subscription -\$40.00; Lander Medical Clinic PC-Detention Center-Inmate Medical-\$1060.80; Larimer County Coroner-County Coroner-Autopsy Services-\$1000.00; Lawson Products, Inc-Vehicle Maintenance-Parts & Supplies-\$375.55; Master's Touch LLC-Segregated-Postage Account -\$5174.46; MHL Systems-Transportation-Parts & Supplies-\$11606.00; Midwest Connect-Support Services-Machine Maintenance-\$1680.00; Mr D's Food Center Inc-District Court-Jury Supplies-\$140.38; NMS Laboratories-County Coroner-Toxicology Services -\$953.00; Norco Inc-Transportation-Services / Supplies-\$10.20; OCV LLC-Covid 19 Grant- App Development-\$20396.25; Orkin LLC-County Buildings-Pest Control Service-\$260.00; Pavilion, Town of-County Buildings-Water Utilities-\$122.29; Post, Raymond-Segregated-Car Wash -\$34.94; Premier Vehicle Install, Inc-Capital Asset Acquisitions-Sheriff Vehicle-\$46943.58; Print Shop, The-County Sheriff-Printed Office-\$122.00; Pro-Vision, Inc-Capital Asset Acquisitions-Equipment -\$10085.12; Quadient Inc-Segregated-Postage Machine-\$987.17; Quill Corporation-County Attorney-Office Supplies-\$302.77; Remote Satellite Systems-Search & Rescue-Equipment -\$56.00; Riverton Physician Practices LLC-County Sheriff-Drug Testing-\$151.00; Riverton Ranger, Inc-Segregated-Advertising-\$4428.45; Rocky Mountain Applicators,Inc-County Buildings-Install Roofing-\$5500.00; Sagewest Health Care-Detention Center-Inmate Medical-\$2216.63; Secretary Of State-County Clerk-Notary Fee -\$60.00; Shirts & More Inc-County Buildings Detention-Number Stickers-\$291.00; Smith, Mariah-Prevention Program-Administrative Assistance-\$659.38; Soule, Sierra-District Court-Court Appointment-\$97.50; Sylvestri Customization-Prevention Program-Website Maintenance-\$3600.00; T-Y Excavation Inc-Transportation-Road Maintenance-\$3637.50; Union Telephone Company-Segregated-Cellphones-\$2556.84; USPS- Hasler-County Attorney-Postage-\$1000.00; Valley Lumber & Supply Co Inc-County Sheriff-Supplies / Materials-\$189.90; Verizon Wireless-Computer Services-Wireless Service-\$172.35; Western Printing, Inc-County Treasurer-Printed Supplies-\$435.65; Wilkerson, James A, Iv, MD PC-County Coroner-Autopsy-\$1250.00; Wind River Towing-Abandoned Vehicles-Tow Vehicle-\$200.00; Wind River Unity Council-Prevention Program-Community Forum-\$8000.00; Winsupply Of Riverton-County Buildings-Materials/Supplies-\$13.40; WY Dept Of Transportation-Vehicle Maintenance-Transfer County Plate -\$4.00; WY Public Health Laboratory-Public Health-Lab Fees/Supplies-\$252.00; Wyoming Dept Of Transportation-Segregated-WYDOT Fuel-\$2073.46.

Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve a voucher to Cloud Peak Counseling Center in the amount of \$1,625 for a Title 25 patient. Motion carried unanimously.

The following items in the Signature File were reviewed: 1) Memorandum of Understanding between the University of Wyoming and Commissioners of Fremont County (forwarded to the June 7, 2022 meeting); and 2) Record of Proceedings. Clarence Thomas moved, Mike Jones seconded, to accept the bid from Olsen's Auto Body & Towing in the amount of \$3,383.30 for repairs to a Sheriff's Office Patrol Vehicle (CO-2511) and a purchase from NAPA Auto Parts for a front bumper totaling \$1,595.00 with payment from the Sheriff's Office budget. Motion carried unanimously. The Central Wyoming College Foundation MOVE Award of \$25,000 was made with the stipulation the funding would go directly to winners of the Start-Up Challenge winners. Those awards have been selected and partial funding was requested for \$3,500 each to Eric Locker, Locker Custom Cabinets; Alicia D. Rux, Cottonwood Creek Wool and Daniel Bristol Stewart, High Country Fungus. After the judges determine the remainder of the award amounts on June 16<sup>th</sup>, CWC will request another check for each applicant in various amounts to deplete the total award of \$25,000. Clarence Thomas moved, Mike Jones seconded, to approve the warrants as requested. Motion carried unanimously. Clarence Thomas moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve a Wyoming State Forestry Division, Fremont County Interagency Cooperative Fire Management Agreement. Motion carried unanimously. Clarence Thomas moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to ratify the EMS Week Proclamation proclaiming May 15-21, 2022 as Emergency Medical Services Week. Motion carried unanimously. Later in the meeting, Larry Allen moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve a Bore, Cut, Overhead and Parallel Public Utilities Right-of-Way Permit for High Plains Power, Inc. for Coal Mine Road. Motion carried unanimously.

The following items in the Priority Mail were reviewed: Letter of concern from Mr. Manchester regarding the Shoshoni Senior Citizens Service District. County Clerk Freese reviewed her conversation with him and indicated the District board members had been invited to the June 7<sup>th</sup> meeting for their budget hearing with the Commissioners to update the Board on their new district.

There was nobody present for the Public Comment period.

Planning Department Supervisor Steve Baumann presented his Viewer's Report regarding the Vacation of the Spur Road connected to Deer Valley Drive within the Popo Agie Ranch Estates Subdivision or Designate it as Private. Mike Jones moved, Larry Allen seconded, to accept the Viewer's Report. Motion carried unanimously. Comments are being taken until June 6<sup>th</sup> with a public hearing scheduled on the June 7<sup>th</sup> County Commission Meeting Agenda at 9:30 a.m. to review concerns or claims for damages.

In another matter, Steve Baumann stated his research has indicated the ambulance fleet can use the County fuel system, even though the county assets are leased by Frontier Ambulance. He will work with Chief Civil Deputy Darrough on a formal agreement.

1838 Rendezvous Association President Kyle Lehto introduced fellow board members Brian Semich and CJ Vandermeulen to provide an update on the annual 1838 Mountain Man Rendezvous which is scheduled for June 19, 2022 through July 3, 2022.

Fremont Counseling Service Executive Director Scott Hayes provided a Title 25 Gatekeeping Report from January 1, 2022 through March 31, 2022.

**Wind River Visitor's Council budget hearing was held. Present was Helen Wilson, Executive Director and Board Members Owen Sweeney (Lander) and John Bass (Fremont County).**

Fremont County Museums Central Director was joined by Museum of the American West President Kendall Hayford and Museum Foundation Director Mike Zirbel for continued discussion regarding MAW's offer to donate buildings and real property to Fremont County, and specifically to the Pioneer Museum. Museum Board members Sue Peters and William Overturf were present in the audience, along with five MAW representatives (a complete list is available in the Commissioners' Office). MAW's fiscal year closes the end of the calendar year, so a Transfer Plan and draft Contract were reviewed. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to begin the process of accepting the donation of buildings and real property from the Museum of the American West and assume current MOU's with the City of Lander and Pioneer Association with a completion date of December 30, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

County Attorney Patrick LeBrun (via Zoom) joined Assessor Tara Berg to discuss the Assessor's valuation dispute and the need to have an attorney specifically assigned to this case that will be brought before the Fremont County Board of Equalization. LeBrun has to approve outside counsel and stated he would need up to \$40,000 more in his contractual line. The Board agreed to amend the County Attorney's budget for next fiscal year to include the additional contractual cost of \$40,000 for the County Assessor to have

representation from the firm of Davis-Buchanan in the tax protest hearing. In another matter, Berg noted Thos Y Pickett, will also be required to travel to Fremont County for the August hearing, so she will also require her to amend her next year's budget for an additional \$7,000 in her contractual budget. Any costs incurred this fiscal year should be minimal and can be covered by her current budget. The requested contractual increase of \$7000 for Thos Y Pickett travel for the valuation dispute was approved.

In another matter, Assessor Tara Berg informed the Board of a recent resignation within her office. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve refilling the position at a starting salary of \$33,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Health Insurance Committee members Jim Anderson and Margy Irvine were present to review renewal options for the Third Party Administrator (Blue Cross Blue Shield of WY); VOYA (Stop Loss Carrier) and an option from Optum (Transplant Rider Carrier). The Third Party Administrator has indicated a 6% increase in fees for the upcoming fiscal year. A spreadsheet was reviewed with costs associated with and without the addition of the Transplant Rider, and the Committee's recommendation is to accept the Rider for a total cost for all three services of \$657,919.80 (a 7% overall increase) compared to no Rider for a cost of \$674,107.44 (10% increase). Larry Allen moved, Mike Jones seconded, to accept the Committee's recommendation to approve contracting with Blue Cross Blue Shield of WY, VOYA and Optum for the upcoming fiscal year. Motion carried unanimously.

In other business, Executive Health Insurance Committee members Jim Anderson and Margy Irvine reviewed a Salary and Benefit Worksheet for the new position approved by the Commission titled "Wellness and Safety Specialist", with 80% funded by the Health Benefit Plan and 20% from another account for the "Safety" portion of the position. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to begin advertising for the Wellness and Safety Specialist position at an annual salary of \$60,000.

**Weed and Pest Budget Hearing. Present was Aaron Foster and board member Sollie Cadman.**

Commissioner meeting reports were given:

Vice-Chairman Larry Allen attended the EMS Task Force Meeting in Casper last week where Frontier Ambulance representatives joined him to discuss issues they are facing since taking over the Ambulance Service in Fremont County last year.

Chairman Travis Becker stated the Frontier Ambulance subsidy request needs to be reviewed soon so a budget can be finalized for the next fiscal year. Washakie District Ranger Steve Schacht informed him that the Loop Road remains closed due to large drifts. They will monitor it daily and open as soon as resource damage issues have passed. An ARPA Committee meeting will be held on June 7<sup>th</sup> to finalize projects.

Chief Civil Deputy Attorney Jodi Darrough reminded the Board that they need to appoint a judge to the Treatment Court as a result of the retirement of Judge Teresa McKee.

Commissioner Mike Jones was absent from the remainder of the meeting.

The following budget hearings were held:

**Transportation. Superintendent Billy Meeks was present.** Last year's budget was \$2,351,312. This year's request is \$2,499,366.

**1% Infrastructure Fund.** This year's funding is estimated at \$5,703,000.

**Road Construction Fund.** This year's funding is estimated at \$3,360,000.

**County Clerk Section 125. County Clerk Julie Freese was present. Jeanine Parrill presented.** The budget last year was \$625,000. This year's budget is estimated at \$488,812.

**County Clerk. County Clerk Julie Freese and Deputy Clerk Margy Irvine were present.** Last year's budget was \$1,041,340. This year's budget is \$1,089,461

**County Clerk Election Budget. County Clerk Julie Freese and Deputy Clerk Margy Irvine were present.** Last year's off year budget was \$208,288.

**Library. Self-Generated Budget. Present was Director Anita Marple and board member Perry Cook.** Last year's budget is \$163,441 and this year's estimate is \$190,283.

**Library General Fund Budget.** Last year's budget is \$1,064,771. This year's request is \$1,121,706.

**Solid Waste Disposal District. Superintendent Andy Frey, Susan Brodie, Bookkeeper, and Board Members Mark Moxley and Rob Dolcater were present.**

There being no further business, Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 4:00 p.m. and reconvene for a Regular Meeting at 9:00 a.m. on June 7, 2022. 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