

STATE OF WYOMING)
) ss.
COUNTY OF FREMONT)

LANDER, WYOMING
OFFICE OF THE FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JUNE 14-15, 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, Vice-Chairman Larry Allen, Jennifer McCarty, Clarence Thomas and Michael Jones. County Clerk Julie A. Freese was present.

Larry Allen 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 June 7, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to accept the bills for payment, with the exception of the WCCA bill. Motion carried unanimously. Discussion on the WCCA bill for the congressional tour was discussed further with Commissioner Jones in support of paying this bill. This allows WCCA to invite the congressional staffers to regions in Wyoming as a way of educating them on Wyoming county issues and tours will be rotated around the state into the five regions set out by WCCA. Chairman Becker's concerns are that he is not certain it is an appropriate expenditure to bring congressional staffers to Wyoming. Congressional staffers work for Wyoming congressional elected officials and it is their job to know what the issues are in Wyoming. Commissioner Jones countered that it's not necessarily for Wyoming staffers, but other staffers for congressional elected officials that can influence voting regarding Wyoming who may not fully understand Wyoming issues. Chairman Becker still did not know if there is any benefit to this. Commissioner Jones stated there have been some "aha moments" for the staffers that have been in Wyoming that received this education. Commissioner Thomas has always been against the county's dues into WCCA and now this cost for the additional project. There is a great deal of distain for the federal government and spending and he feels that to have them here and "hob knob" isn't any better. He doesn't feel they will be able to adequately speak for Wyoming just by coming here. Commissioners Allen and McCarty agreed. Mike Jones moved to approve the bill to the Park County Commissioners on behalf of WCCA in the amount of \$1,626.00 for the congressional tour. Motion died for lack of a second. Chairman Becker asked Commissioner Jones to contact the WCCA Executive Director regarding the bill.

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Ace Hardware-Lander	Segregated	Materials/Supplies	\$1,143.41
Ace Hardware-Riverton	Segregated	Materials/Supplies	\$64.38
AlSCO Inc	County Buildings	Laundry	\$260.16
Avail Valley Construction WY LLC	Road Construction	Country Acres Road	\$81,729.14
Bailey Enterprises, Inc	Inventory	Bulk Fuel	\$36,059.26
Bank of the West	Segregated	Credit Card Charges	\$75,605.74
Bank of the West Account Analysis	Investment Pool	Analyzed Charges	\$410.97
Big Horn Water	Youth Services	Water Bottles	\$55.97
Breadboard, The	District Court	Jury- Meals	\$171.50
Burden, Dan	County Buildings	Security System	\$5,458.50
Casper Psychological Services	County Attorney	Trial Testimony	\$2,050.70
Centurylink	Computer Services	Telephone Service	\$628.16
Charter Communications	Computer Services	Internet Service	\$354.96
Communication Technologies, Inc	Support Services	Maintenance/Repairs	\$2,961.87
Cottonwood Creek Wool LLC	Special Tax	MOVE Award	\$3,500.00
Daniels, Makenzie K.	County Attorney	Witness Fee	\$30.00
Desert Mountain Corporation	Road Construction	Mag Chloride	\$23,229.59
Donahue, James K	County Attorney	Witness Fee	\$159.00
E.M. Tech Inc	County Elections	Printer Service	\$80.00
Eagle Uniform & Supply Co	Vehicle Maintenance	Laundry	\$85.87
Eaton Sales & Service, LLC	Fuel Facility	Parts & Supplies	\$435.90
Fremont Counseling-Lander	Health & Welfare	Title 25	\$1,500.00
Fremont County School District #25	Youth Services	JDAI Meals	\$213.25
Fremont County Solid Waste	County Buildings	Dump Fees	\$15.40
Fremont Motors - Lander	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts/Supplies	\$156.70
Fremont Orthopaedics PC	Detention Center	Inmate Medical	\$730.00
Grainger	County Buildings Detention	Materials/Supplies	\$33.40
High Plains Power, Inc	County Buildings	Utility Services	\$1,202.03
Injury Prevention Resources	Segregated	Contractual Services	\$440.00
KONE Inc	County Buildings	Elevator Maintenance	\$1,341.63

Lander Medical Clinic PC	Detention Center	Inmate Medical	\$2,535.65
Lander Valley Auto Parts	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts/Supplies	\$194.64
Lander, City of	County Buildings	Water/Sewer	\$2,645.68
Larson, Nancy H.	County Attorney	Witness Fee	\$54.30
Lawson Products, Inc	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts/Supplies	\$27.84
Locker Custom Cabinets	Special Tax	MOVE Award	\$3,500.00
Lyles, Jesse	County Attorney	Witness Fee	\$30.00
MHL Systems	Transportation	Parts/Supplies	\$8,457.00
Miller, Eli J	County Attorney	Witness Fee	\$255.00
Mountain States Lithographing LLC	County Elections	Election Code Books	\$217.18
Mr D's Food Center, Inc	District Court	Supplies	\$130.87
Munda, Ceasar D	County Attorney	Witness Fee	\$56.10
Napa Auto Parts - Dubois	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts/Supplies	\$140.32
Napa Auto Parts-Riverton	Transportation	Parts/Supplies	\$170.72
NMS Laboratories	County Coroner	Toxicology Services	\$2,697.00
Office Shop Inc, The	Segregated	Repair/Lease	\$184.70
Peep, Mindy	Simpson Lake Lodge Restoration	Website Design/Build	\$324.00
Post, Raymond	County Buildings	Car Wash	\$44.58
Quill Corporation	County Attorney	Office Supplies	\$400.55
RELX, Inc.	County Attorney	Research Subscription	\$674.00
Response Marketing, Inc	Public Health Emergency Prep	Office Furniture	\$3,264.00
Riverton Physician Practices LLC	Segregated	Drug Testing	\$147.00
Rocky Mountain Power	Segregated	Utilities	\$10,951.19
Sagewest Health Care	Detention Center	Inmate Medical	\$7,095.68
Shoshoni, Town of	County Buildings	Water/Sewer	\$60.00
Traveling Computers	Computer Services	Supplies/Services	\$1,234.43
TW Enterprises, Inc.	County Buildings	Generator Repair	\$1,145.50
United Healthcare Insurance Co	Health Benefit Plan	Transplant Program	\$2,080.14
Verizon Wireless	Segregated	Cellphone Service	\$1,358.08
Wilkerson, James A, IV, MD PC	County Coroner	Autopsy	\$2,500.00
Wind River Transportation Authority	Prevention Program	Special Transportation	\$3,344.00
WY Dept of Transportation	Vehicle Maintenance	Transfer County Plate	\$2.00
WY Public Health Laboratory	Public Health	Lab Fees/Supplies	\$162.00
Wyoming Behavioral Institute	Health & Welfare	Title 25	\$15,080.00
Wyoming Waste Systems	County Buildings	Trash Removal	\$2,914.05

The following items were addressed in the Signature file: 1) Award letters previously approved for MOVE Applicants; 2) Denial letters for unsuccessful MOVE applicants; and 3) Record of Proceedings. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve an Approach/Access Application from Keith Plaster for 266 Union Pass Road, Dubois. Motion carried unanimously.

No one was available for public comment.

County Commissioner reports were given:

Commissioner Larry Allen: He updated the board on Deer Valley Road in the Popo Agie Estates located south of Lander regarding minor flooding and stated three loads of sand were delivered to this area for sand bagging purposes and have been put into place. In addition, 13 loads of road base were hauled there to stabilize the sand bags. The work that had been done previously (taking out diversions) should be replaced. There is some other nuisance flooding occurring within the county due to the high temperatures. Boysen Reservoir is very full and may cause problems downstream. He visited with people in the Dubois area who reported high water but nothing to be worried about yet. He gets updates from the Emergency Management Coordinator and Transportation Superintendent on anything flood related. He attended the Fair Board meeting last week. They are looking at a land swap agreement with IDEA Inc. on the backside that borders the trail.

Sheriff Ryan Lee provided a monthly report. Agency wide, all budgets have been submitted with the exception of Dispatch which will be submitted today or tomorrow. Current budgets are looking good and under budget at this time. Traffic has been increasing in the upper country and they have an increase of call volume countywide. Detention: Total of 233 which is up 21 from the month prior. Current inmate population as of June 13, 2022: 178 in house and 183 in custody. Males 114, females 64, juveniles 5. Sentenced are 73 with 46 being male and 27 females. Pre-adjudicated inmates are 110, which is down 7 from the month prior. Staffing—Openings for 1 cook, 7 deputy sheriffs (have 2 conditional offers) and 1 nurse. Dispatch: Currently down 5 positions. They are still utilizing their five part-time dispatchers. The emergency dispatch committee has been re-instated with 1 representative from each agency and ex-officio members to include Director of Emergency Communications and the Emergency Management

Coordinator. Committee has convened a total of three times in the last several weeks. County Fire Chief Craig Haslam has been appointed the current Chairman and Shoshoni Fire Chief Chris Konija has been appointed Vice-Chairman. The committee convened last Thursday and approved budget and user fee assessments for submittal to the Clerk and Treasurer. Patrol: Down 1 position in the Riverton Division. Total calls for service this calendar year is 2960. They are finally starting to take possession of the Capital Revolving Police trucks. Search and Rescue: They are still under budget at this time. They have had 22 missions this fiscal year compared to 34 this time last fiscal year. Air resources were utilized 8 times and they had 4 fatalities this fiscal year.

County Coroner Larry DeGraw provided a monthly report: Number of cases in 2022 is 68. Last year, there were 57. Total coroner cases are significantly higher, however, non-natural cases are lower with accidental deaths at 13 (last year was 18), suicides at 4 (5 last year), and homicides at 0 (1 last year). Accidental deaths are still mainly attributed to an increase in vehicular accidents, with 6 so far this year, compared to 9 for the same period in 2021. Drugs and/or alcohol use continues to be a common factor in a majority of these incidents (4 cases are pending toxicology). DeGraw stated meth added with alcohol is the highest drug contributing to the deaths. He reported there are no fentanyl deaths for this period. They spent last week doing inventory and will need to order some items in the next month.

Commissioner Meeting Reports continued. Chairman Becker had conversations with both Forest Service Managers and they are going to open the Loop Road soon. There is worry about the water in some of the areas up there and he cautions motorists of all types that they shouldn't try to cross Pass Creek or Sawmill Creek, as they are not safe. The Forest Service stated that they are "user beware" areas.

Steve Baumann County Planner presented four proposed subdivisions for approval:

Little Horse Creek Subdivision, which is located up Horse Creek Road approximately five miles before the Forest boundary. This is a five lot simple subdivision. There was no public comment and the proposal was approved by the Fremont County Planning Commission. Jennifer McCarty moved, Mike Jones seconded, to approve the Little Horse Creek Subdivision as recommended by Fremont County Planning Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

Mountain View Acres Fourth Subdivision, Lot 2 Re-Subdivision. This is part of the original Mountain View Acres Subdivision and has been approved by the City of Riverton Planner and Riverton City Council as the City provides water and sewer. There was one citizen complaint (across the road) but no other comments. The Fremont County Planning Commission recommended this for approval. Jennifer McCarty moved, Mike Jones seconded, to approve the Mountain View Acres Fourth Subdivision, Lot 2 Re-Subdivision, as recommended by Fremont County Planning Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

Vacation of the Rancho Caballero Subdivision. This was developed in 1981 and was never finished and pieces were sold, but then re-sold to one owner, adjacent to the property. The Fremont County Planning Commission recommended approval to vacate it. Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve the Vacation of the Rancho Caballero Subdivision as recommended by the Fremont County Planning Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

Skyline Subdivision, Tract 6 Re-Subdivision. This is located outside of Lander just past Country Garden's Road on the Flats before Hudson. Tract 6 is to be divided by the current land owner and meets the minimum requirements of the Planning Department. There was discussion whether there was covenants on this property and the Planning Commission reviewed it and concluded that the covenants are a civil issue and not a job of the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission approved the Re-Subdivision. Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve the Skyline Subdivision, Tract 6 Re-Subdivision as recommended by the Fremont County Planning Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

Steve Baumann presented a department report: Marcel has been very busy with septic system permits and he is reviewing several a month. General level of activities in the department as a whole is busy. Subdivision activities and rural addressing all are busy. He appreciates his professional staff and they are in good shape with their current budget.

Commissioner Budget—Mike Jones presented. Last year's budget was \$354,173. This year's request is \$368,792. It appears they are over in some of the line items. Discussion on their contractual line was held which is for the Board of Equalization Hearing Officer fees. They discussed that the Wyoming County Commissioner Association Fees were increased by 27%. The expected Fremont County Association of

Governments dues at recommended at \$8000. Chairman Becker stated that the dues cover many items including work at the Legislature. In this last session, the Legislative work they did provided an increase of \$175,000 more for local distribution.

Ambulance Budget-- Larry Allen. Vice-Chairman Larry Allen stated the budget is not complete. He will work with County Clerk Freese after determining the subsidy.

Glenn Leland, Chief Growth Officer, Priority Ambulance was present. Although there are State and Federal Funding possibilities in the future, Frontier Ambulance needs immediate revenue increases that can only come from increased subsidy from Fremont County or the communities. The revenue generated by the fee-for-service system is not sufficient to cover the costs of sustaining an EMS system; therefore, Fremont County provides Frontier Ambulance an annual subsidy as an additional revenue source to ensure sustainable operations. The majority (74%) of revenues to support the Fremont County ambulance service operation come from user fees charged to patients and their insurance based on rates set in the contract between Fremont County and Frontier Ambulance. Blue Cross Blue Shield is the primary private health insurance in Fremont County and has been unwilling to contract with Frontier Ambulance at reasonable and commercially viable rates. They have received almost no reimbursements from them when they should have received almost \$500,000 to date. Indian Health Service, a US Federal program that provides compensation for medical services to Native Americans, was discussed. Frontier has submitted claims for service, but only received its first payments several weeks ago. Initial leadership prior to service and implementation indicated that Frontier could anticipate Medicare like rates and prompt payment if Frontier Ambulance contracted with IHS. However, they have not successfully completed the contract. Medicaid: Wyoming has taken measures to apply to the US Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services which would significantly increase the reimbursement of ambulances services to Medicaid beneficiaries. User fee increases may be viable, but due to the contract and expectation that higher fees would result in payments from the other agencies, it has been decided that Frontier will only request a 5% rate increase. Labor costs are at (72%) and this is higher than anticipated. They are able to recruit and staff adequately now and are fully staffed. Labor costs have come down but still higher than anticipated. They have worked with some Commissioners on what to do to get better revenues or less expenses. They attended a state EMS meeting where the Governor stated this was a top priority (ambulance service). Cost savings ideas are as follows:

1. Continue service as present and increase subsidy by \$532,000 for a total subsidy of \$1,435,000.
2. Generate other areas of subsidy. Most significant area of cost is Dubois as it is remote. If Dubois provides pro-rata subsidy of \$528,000 in addition to the County's \$908,000 the program could stay at the present service level.
3. If the county eliminates Dubois and they provide their own ambulance, the subsidy would be \$908,000 plus and additional \$390,000 subsidy.
4. If they continue a county-wide service but have Dubois volunteer as a 2nd staff on the Dubois ambulance in addition to Frontier supplying 1 staffer the additional subsidy would be \$329,000 in addition to the \$908,000 subsidy.
5. Other items they have contemplated are whether they can fuel in the county fuel program other than the market place, thereby saving money.

Chairman Becker addressed questions from the audience on Zoom who stated that "Dubois" is an unfair term as the ambulance service serves all of what they call the "Upper Country". Other questions about volunteers and insurance contracts were discussed. Commissioner Jones stated the committee working on this had no answers for this upcoming budget season, but that Senator Case and Representative Larsen would work on a bill for an EMS District which might be a better option. It was reminded that the City of Lander had donated \$100,000 but no other entities had voluntarily provided any funding for the ambulance service.

Abandoned Vehicle Fund Budget. Jim Anderson presented. Last year's budget was \$25,001. This year is expected to be at \$30,000. This fund receives funding from the \$1 collected when each vehicle title is issued in the County Clerk's Office. The money is used for towing fees that occur when towing companies are requested to tow a vehicle that has been abandoned on the roads and highways. Towing costs are expected to remain consistent with the past several years. The rest is transferred to the general fund per statute. This year that is expected to be \$22,000.

Investment Pool Budget. Jim Anderson presented. Last year's budget was \$544,791. This year's expected budget is \$613,200. Revenue streams for investment pool include interest earned on

investments, and an adjustment to the fair value and gain/loss of sale of investments. Bank charges have increased over the past couple of years primarily due to the movement of investments to an asset management firm. Treasury rates are on the rise. As the current investments mature, they are able to reinvest at a higher rate. Fair market value of existing investments goes down because of the lower interest rate being paid on those investments. Jim expects the interest rate that they pay to internal and external funds will increase this year.

Capital Revolving Fund. Jim Anderson presented. Jim is waiting until the final CRF list is approved so he could do a better estimate of this budget.

Spencer Home Sites. Jim Anderson presented. There is no budget as their loan was paid off and the fund has \$1500 in the fund balance that will be refunded to the home owners and then the county can proceed with dissolution of this special district.

Fuel Distribution Budget. Jim Anderson stated he will work with Steve Baumann on this fund.

Health Benefit Plan. Jim Anderson presented. Last year's budget was \$5,904,746. This year's request is \$6,169,636. The Health Insurance Committee and Commissioners have discussed hiring a wellness/safety coordinator and they are in the application/interview process. The salary will be split between the health plan and a new department for safety (20% of the salary). Revenue for the Health Benefit plan is insurance contributions (county, employees and outside entities on our plan). Insurance reimbursements from stop loss claims. Other revenues mostly prescription drug rebates. Expenditures. Largest expenses are the payment of claims. Current year budgeted \$5,400,000 but anticipate spending \$5,100,000 which is under budget. In addition is the transplant rider for \$27,000. Stop loss premium is less this year by \$30,000.

Health promotion: Last year's budget was an independent contract of \$45,000. This year's request is \$80,636 which is going back to an employee and department situation.

Jim presented an ASO plan change mostly all required by federal laws, Clarence Thomas moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve the ASO Group plan changes. Motion carried unanimously.

Ron Wempen, Fremont County Wildfire Coordinator, presented a yearly update. 2022 is the mark of their 20-year anniversary of this program. He presented his Federal report for review. They spent \$157,389 last calendar year and completed 28 projects. Title III has contributed to 294 completed acres since 2019. The money they receive from the Title III projects is advertised for public hearing.

Vice-Chairman Larry Allen reported that he received word from Emergency Management Coordinator Vonda Huish that she just received word that, due to flooding Yellowstone National Park is being evacuated which could impact Fremont County due to travelers coming through our county as they are leaving Yellowstone. Homeland Security would like to know if they experience impacts to those areas.

The Board interviewed applicants for three vacancies on the Fremont County Library Board: interviewed were: Sherry Shelley, Carrie Johnson, Polly Hinds, John Angst, and Stefani Farris. Following the Board interviews, a weighted ballot was taken. Larry Allen moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to appoint the top three vote getters to the Library Board as John Angst and Carrie Johnson for three-year terms and Sherry Shelley for a one-year term. Motion carried unanimously.

Melinda Cox gave a program update via a telephone conference call: Her CAST team is as follows: Circuit Court Judge Jeff Coombs, CAST participating Judge; County Attorney Patrick Lebrun (or his designee); Terry Martin, Public Defender; Attorney Karen Quinn; Trey Maus, Probation and Parole; Case Managers Heather Britain and Stacy Strasser; herself as the Executive Director; Kaitlyn and Travis Slagowski, additional Case managers; and Brenda Springs as the Administrative Assistant. Clarence Thomas moved, Mike Jones seconded, to approve the CAST team as presented by Melinda Cox. Motion carried unanimously.

The Juvenile Treatment Team is as follows: Participating Judge is Aaron Vincent (who replaces Judge Teresa McKee); Prosecuting attorney is Micah Wyatt; Kathleen Hart Tilton, Public Defense Attorney; herself as the Executive Director; Stacey Strasser; McKenzie Farrar, Hattie Calvert, Brittney Keele, Sally Stoudt, and Casey Murray; and the Department of Family Service will be as assigned; and Brenda Spriggs

as Administrative Assistant. Clarence Thomas moved, Larry Allen seconded, to approve the JTC team as presented by Melinda Cox. Motion carried unanimously.

The first round of the American Rescue Plan Act money (ARPA) was reviewed. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve the following Priority 1 and 2's: Dispatch/Hudson/Lysite paging expansion \$58,154; Network upgrade for the Information Systems Support \$19,600; Griffey Hill network tower update for Information Systems Support \$90,000; Recreation Commission—Heritage Trail banks & bollard repairs \$56,000; Recreation Commission Youth Camp solar project \$165,000; Sheriff tasers \$88,200; Treasurer- microfiche reader machine \$7,500; Transportation-walk and roll \$150,000; Transportation three motor graders \$1,070,000; Buildings—courthouse renovations \$840,000; County Clerk—land records digitization project \$300,000; Emergency Management ID system \$8,000; Fairgrounds and Department County alert system \$15,000; Prevention program—drug terminator and advertisement on WRTA buses \$9,946; for a total of \$3,583,350. Motion carried unanimously.

County Clerk Julie Freese stated the Capital Revolving Fund committee desired to return \$914,000 from Cash Reserve back into the Capital Revolving Committee Budget. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve moving \$914,000 from the Cash Reserve to the Capital Revolving Fund Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

County Clerk Julie Freese stated that all vehicles had to be ordered already in order to be successful in their availability in the near future. As a result, the Vehicle list was presented for approval. Jennifer McCarty moved, Mike Jones seconded, to approve vehicle purchases in this fiscal year in the amount of \$1,375,964 minus trade-ins for a net of \$1,248,127. Motion carried unanimously. The Departments receiving vehicles were Museum, Sheriff, Sheriff Jail, Prevention, Planning, Youth Services, Assessor, Extension, Vehicle Maintenance, Buildings, Commissioners and Transportation. A detailed copy is available upon request.

Clerk Freese stated that the next list will be for the next fiscal year (2022-2023) and the recipients will not be able to commit the county until July 1, 2022. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve the list of all other capital revolving items for fiscal year 2022-2023 totaling \$1,858,400 minus trade-ins for a net of \$682,000. Motor graders will be paid for by \$100,000 Road Construction Fund and the rest \$1,070,000 from ARPA but run through the Capital Revolving Fund. Motion carried unanimously. The list is as follows: Museum \$10,000 for Museum Collections shelving and file cabinets; Information Systems Support \$10,400 for PC Replacements; Vehicle Maintenance \$10,814 for a 22 ft. tilt deck trailer; Fair \$17,439 for two 2022 John Deere Gators; ISS \$17,769 for a network storage server; Buildings \$18,750 for a zero turn mower; ISS \$23,000 for 4 copier replacements; Sheriff \$28,522 for three precision rifles and setups; Fair \$35,206 to fix and polish the Fremont Center floor; Museum \$50,000 for Museum Restoration Projects \$50,000; Assessor \$366,500 Eagleview pictometry Aerial; Transportation \$1,170,000 for three motor graders (being paid for by ARPA and RCF); and Emergency Repairs Fund \$100,000.

The board recessed at 4:45 p.m. and reconvened their meeting on Wednesday, June 15, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

Brad Meredith, Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor, was present and discussed his SOC increase requests. Brad indicated that he will do evaluations next year and if employees qualify for another level, this is the amount that they will potentially receive. It's not "chiseled in stone" at this point. Commissioner Jones stated that just because they have met certain criteria, doesn't mean that they get an increase every year. Commissioner Thomas stated that's why it's very important to do the evaluations every year to justify any increased levels and associated pay increase. Commissioner Jones said this is an 11% increase and there was only one department that got that much in the initial SOC adjustments. Commissioner Jones asked Brad if he had significant turnover in his department. There has been some turnover and Brad said he still wants to make sure that he can compete with the outside entities doing the same type of job. Brad realized he might not get the full amount, but felt he needed to put it in as they are moving through levels during the year. Commissioner Allen asked Brad about his notes under dues and subscriptions saying this line item is not needed if Motor Graders are purchased. There is another similar note in training. Brad confirmed that both of those lines could be dropped. No other discussion was held on this budget.

Each budget was discussed.

Treasurer Jim Anderson was asked to discuss the extra person he wishes to hire for grant management and audit purposes. Jim confirmed that he is looking for a contract for the audit preparation for this

upcoming year, but hoped to be able to hire a person for the future to do the same type of work. It was decided to leave ½ of the salary amount in the budget for Jim to pursue in January and the other half could go into contractual services for the contract help needed for the audit preparations this year. County Attorney. \$40,000 was added to contractual for the Assessor's legal contractual needs approved earlier in the month. The board asked that the Attorney and Assessor have an agreement that the Assessor have full access to the attorney and the payments are approved out of the Attorney's fund. This budget is updated.

Public Defender budget was updated to include \$600 rental payments for four public defenders not housed in the Public Defender's Office. The new budget total will be \$171,400.
Building Maintenance. All of the projects listed in this budget were taken out as a large portion of them were funded by ARPA. The new total is \$857,952.

Vehicle Maintenance—allow for the new employee in Lander and allow the SOC adjustments when performance evaluations are finished.

Public Health—Julie will ask the interim Manager if the Wyoming Reimbursement is final as the state was looking at salary increases for state nurses.

Museum—Four of the five new employee requests were taken out. The Maintenance Lead was left in the budget.

The tentative budget had over \$2 million in left over funds. The County Clerk had mentioned more money may be needed in Capital Revolving, but the cash reserves are at a good place. Commissioners determined that they had cut all they were willing to cut and to stay with their conservative way of handling Fremont County budgets, they would reduce the mill levy to 10 mills rather than the statutory 12 mills. This may be the only year they could do this, but they felt it would give the taxpayers some relief at this time. The remainder of funds will be placed in the Capital Revolving Fund to boost the fund for the next year. Clerk Freese will advertise the budget this weekend and be ready for the public hearing to be held on June 27, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Commissioner's Chambers along with the E-911 surcharge discussion. The final budget will be adopted on June 28, 2022.

There being no further business, Larry Allen 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 June 21, 2022. 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