

STATE OF WYOMING)
) ss.
COUNTY OF FREMONT)

LANDER, WYOMING
OFFICE OF THE FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JUNE 23, 2020

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. Fremont County Clerk Julie A. Freese was present. Chief Civil Deputy Attorney Jodi Darrough was present via speaker phone.

Larry Allen 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 June 16, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to accept the bills for payment. Chairman Travis Becker abstained from voting on The Print Shop voucher. Motion carried.

Bills are listed below in the following format: Vendor Name-Department-Description-Amount: Ace Hardware-Lander-Segregated-Materials/Supplies \$99.39; Adams, Chelsea-Health Nurse-Reimburse Expenses \$158.50; American Shooters Las Vegas, Inc-County Sheriff-Ammunition \$8921.00; Bailey Enterprises, Inc-Segregated-Fuel \$10750.56; Big Horn Co-Operative-Transportation-Parts & Supplies \$39.96; Bloedorn Lumber-Lander-Segregated-Materials \$226.28; Bullington, Shaun-1% Gravel Projects-Contract Services \$1540.00; Carroll Septic Service-Transportation-Services \$150.00; Center for Education - County Sheriff-Publications \$124.95; CenturyLink-Segregated-Phone Services \$1965.86; Cowboy Chemical Inc-Detention Center-Inmate Laundry, Kitchen \$556.30; Dell Marketing, L.P.-Detention Center-Computer Equipment \$3102.60; Denevan, Danny L.-1% Gravel Projects-Contract Services \$2090.00; Evan's Trucking-1% Gravel Projects-Contract Services \$4070.00; Federal Express Corp-County Sheriff-Shipping Fees-20.22-Floyd's Truck Center WY-Vehicle Maintenance-Parts -271.15-Fremont Broadcasting-Prevention Program-Advertising Radio \$1250.00; Fremont County Solid Waste-County Buildings-Bags \$20.00; Gerard, Jonathan M. - District Court - Court Representation \$1515.00; Grainger-County Buildings - Materials/Supplies \$255.72; High Plains Power, Inc-County Buildings-Utility Services \$885.74; Jerry Bornhoft Construction Inc-1% Gravel Projects-Contract Services \$3960.00; Lyles, Jesse-County Sheriff-Expense Reimbursement \$72.00; Mark's Auto Sales & Towing-Abandoned Vehicles-Vehicle Towing \$190.00; McKay, Katherine G.-District Court-Court Appointment \$3622.50; Media Works, Inc-Segregated-Supplies \$295.96; MHL Systems-Transportation-Parts & Supplies \$16944.00; Moore, Christy L.-Detention Center- Uniform Repairs \$110.50; Mowrey, Lindsey-Dispatch Center-Reimburse Expenses \$14.40; Mr D's Food Center Inc-Segregated-Supplies \$342.80; National Business Systems Inc-County Treasurer-Postcards \$428.41; One Stop Market-Search & Rescue-Fuel \$53.49; Peep, Mindy-Simpson Lake Lodge Restoration-Website Design \$488.00; Postmaster-County Treasurer-Delinquent Tax Reminders \$1198.40; Print Shop, The-County Elections-Printed Office \$1376.80; Quadient Leasing USA Inc-County Attorney-Postage Machine \$266.52; Quill Corporation-County Attorney- Office Supplies \$26.28-R C Lock & Key-County Buildings-Keys, Supplies & Services \$10.60; Remote Satellite Systems-Search & Rescue-S & R Equipment \$56.00; Sparkleen-CAST-Cleaning Services \$90.00; Specialized Pathology Consult-County Coroner-Autopsy Fee \$1250.00; Spoonhunter, Leslie-Fremont County WIC-Reimburse Expenses \$57.50; Sylvestri Customization-Prevention Program-Event Kits \$14190.00; Sysco Montana Inc-Detention Center-Inmate Supplies \$1943.54; Taylor Creek Exxon-County Sheriff-Car Wash \$11.00; Tegeler & Associates-Detention Center- Notary Bond \$50.00; Teton Pathology PC-Detention Center-Inmate Medical \$54.00; Traveling Computers-Computer Services-Computer Supplies, Services \$827.00; T-Y Excavation Inc-Transportation-Dubois Road Maintenance \$11110.00; Union Telephone Company-Segregated-Cellphones \$746.11; US Foods Inc-Detention Center-Inmate Board \$2105.30; West Payment Center-District Court-Library Plan \$73.22; Wilkerson, James A, Iv, MD PC-County Coroner-Autopsy \$1250.00; Wyoming Machinery Co-Transportation-Parts \$10946.99.

Jennifer McCarty moved, Larry Allen seconded, to accept a voucher from Natrona County Legal Department in the amount of \$4,700.00 for seven Title 25 patients. Motion carried unanimously.

The following items in the Signature File were reviewed: 1) Abatement Summary; 2) Adjustment to Assessment Summary; 3) letter of appreciation to Building Maintenance Supervisor J.R. Oakley; and 4) Record of Proceedings. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve Resolution No. 2020-13 "Appointment of a Special Prosecutor" to enter into an agreement with District Attorney for Laramie County to perform prosecutorial duties concerning a case where there is a conflict of interest. Motion carried unanimously. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve a Magnesium Chloride Supply Agreement between Fremont County Government and Desert Mountain Corporation, for delivery of the dust suppressant at County storage facilities in Dubois and Lysite. Motion carried unanimously. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve a Communications Technologies, Inc. annual service agreement for Fremont County Radio Equipment in the amount of \$35,542.44. Motion carried unanimously. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve a Cooperative Agreement for Responsibilities between the Wyoming Department of Family Services, Child Support Program and Fremont County Clerk of District Court for FY 2020-2021. Motion carried unanimously. Later in the day, Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve a Contract between State of Wyoming,

County Commissioners Meeting
June 23, 2020

Department of Family Services and Fremont County Board of County Commissioners for FY 2020-2021. Motion carried unanimously.

The following items in the Priority Mail were reviewed: 1) BLM notice to cooperating agencies for the Rock Springs Resource Management Plan regarding meeting on July 14, 2020.

There was nobody present for the public comment period.

County Clerk Julie Freese presented an updated preliminary budget hearing, the budget adjustments will be advertised and the final hearing held on June 30, 2020.

Larry Allen moved, Mike Jones seconded, to adjourn into Executive Session with Treatment Courts Director Melinda Cox regarding potential litigation. Motion carried unanimously. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to return to Regular Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner meeting reports were given:

Continued discussion was held on options for alternate space for the Extension Offices. Present was County Coordinator Alex Malcolm, Educator Chance Marshall and Office Manager Rachel Fisk. Clarence Thomas moved, Mike Jones seconded, to move the Lander Extension Office to office space within the Transportation Department at the Courthouse and move the Riverton Extension Office to office space within Heritage Hall on the Fairgrounds in Riverton. Motion carried unanimously. By moving offices into other locations in Lander and Riverton will keep a presence in each location.

Interviews were held with the following for open positions on the Fremont County Historical Preservation Commission: Incumbent Judy Pedersen, and new applicants Joyce Hartman, Colleen Nelson and Nita Kehoe (who attended via speaker phone). One more incumbent will interview the following meeting and the Board chose to hold off making appointments until that interview has taken place next week.

Deputy Treasurer Jim Anderson and Assessor Tara Berg continued discussion on the SageWest Health Care's letter indicating Fremont County apply reimbursement due SageWest Health Care towards the tax liability owed by the hospital. Treasurer Tom Majdic was present in the audience. SageWest's action is per the original 1981 agreement when the County sold the hospital which stated the hospital would provide medical services to indigent care residents, in return, the County agreed to offset 75% of the amount paid for indigent care, up to the amount of yearly ad valorem property taxes owed by the hospital. Since the original agreement, the hospital has sold several times and one property has been sold. To confuse the issue further, a mortgage company has made a payment for the first half of taxes for one of the hospital properties. Mike Jones moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to reimburse the mortgage company \$148,772.15 for the tax payment received. Motion carried unanimously. This will keep the County in compliance with the 1981 agreement. County Clerk Julie Freese will prepare a voucher to SageWest Health Care in the amount of \$262,953.51 as per the agreement for reimbursement for indigent care services for tax year 2019-2020. Treasurer Majdic stated he will be researching property on Highway 287 sold to Lander Physician Practices LLC which is now not part of hospital property. Chairman Becker agreed that research needs to be done on the remaining hospital property that has been sold to a real estate investment trust firm.

Clarence Thomas moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to adjourn into Executive Session regarding potential litigation. Motion carried unanimously. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to return to Regular Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Acting Fremont County Library Director Anita Marple and Board Chairman Don Newman discussed their recommended pay out for two employees that have been laid off due to budget cuts to the Library for the next fiscal year. Riverton Branch Manager Shari Haskins was present in the audience. The Library operates under a Personal Leave Time schedule for benefits and this differs from the County's benefit policy which uses Vacation and Sick Leave. The Commissioners stated they would revisit the issue following their lunch break.

A budget work session was held for the remainder of the meeting.

Present were County Clerk Julie Freese, Deputy Treasurer Jim Anderson, Sheriff Ryan Lee, Sheriff Administrative Assistant Karla Davis, Assessor Tara Berg, Clerk of District Court Kristi Green, County

County Commissioners Meeting
June 23, 2020

Attorney Patrick LeBrun, Acting Library Director Anita Marple, Riverton Branch Manager Shari Haskins and Riverton Public Works Director Kyle Butterfield.

County Attorney Patrick LeBrun reviewed information from the State regarding potential budget cuts. Under the current structure, the State pays an average of 43.12% of the Fremont County Attorney and six assistant salaries. Each county has been asked to look at a 10% and 20% cut from state funding, and he stated the County's current state reimbursement is \$225,915.00. LeBrun estimated the County needed to expect a reduction from the State from between \$31,334 (10%) and \$78,054 (20%). The Commissioners stated they would budget a revenue reduction of \$50,000.

The Radio Equipment List was discussed. Sheriff Lee stated most of the radios on the Communications Technologies, Inc. agreement are older units; however, he felt the agreement was still a better option than paying \$120/hour for service. The service agreement will total \$35,542.44 and be an addition to the proposed budget.

County Clerk Julie Freese stated the Historic Preservation Commission has stated they will use some of their \$1,000 budget prior to the end of the fiscal year. She will adjust the fund balance from \$1,000 to \$500.

After these changes, there is still a deficit of \$90,000. She is still working on figures for the Moneta-Lysite Road Shoulder Project and a refund of \$16,000 to the contractor. A recent Change Order has added another \$12,000 to the project. She did state the county received a \$1,500 refund for a Title 25 patient that had insurance coverage.

Chairman Travis Becker felt the sales tax projections seem to be better than expected. By October we will have better figures and also know more about the status of the gas plant. County Clerk Julie Freese stated the budget will need to be reviewed monthly.

Assessor Tara Berg updated the Commission on her work with Burlington Resources representatives and the Assessor's consultant, TY Pickett. This will result in a decreased valuation of \$11 million, of which the County will see a decrease of \$85,000 in tax valuation for the next fiscal year.

Commissioner Mike Jones noted that Riverton Public Works Director Kyle Butterfield was in the audience. He reminded the Board they had not approved the FAST budget request of \$100,000 for air service sustainability. Commissioner Jones stated a recent conversation with Representative Larsen reiterated that any COVID CARES funding will be for airport operations, not sustainability. Chairman Becker stated he had been considering a quarterly payment if the sales tax projections increased; however, the County is still looking at approximately a \$150,000 deficit currently, not to mention the \$4.5 million already cut, so that option is most likely not probable.

The Commissioner revisited the payout issue for the two Library employees. It was again discussed that the Library Board is a governing board, and have the duty to manage the Library funds. Commissioner Thomas stated that after July 1st, the Commission should look at the governing board status and consider changing to an advisory board. Based on their current policy, four of the five Commissioners felt they had to allow the pay out as per the Library Board's current policy. They reiterated the need to have the policy brought into compliance with the county as soon as possible. County Clerk Julie Freese stated she will be requiring a statement from the Library Board authorizing the payout as they requested as well as minutes documenting the action for audit purposes. She further stated that she will consider not doing the bookkeeping duties for the Library Board in the future if their policies are not standard for all county employees.

Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 2:20 p.m. and reconvene for a Special Meeting on June 29, 2020. Motion carried unanimously

A full detailed report (for informational purposes only) and the official minutes are posted on Fremont County's website at www.fremontcountywy.org.

/s/ TRAVIS BECKER, CHAIRMAN
FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

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