

STATE OF WYOMING)
) ss.
COUNTY OF FREMONT)

LANDER, WYOMING
OFFICE OF THE FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JUNE 28, 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.

Jennifer McCarty moved, Larry Allen seconded, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Jennifer McCarty moved, Larry Allen seconded, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 21, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

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

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A & I Distributors	Vehicle Maintenance	Oil/Fluids	\$647.88
Addison, Ashley	County Attorney	Witness Fee	\$49.80
Apex Surveying, Inc	Road Construction	North Fork Project	\$14,438.38
Big Horn Tire Inc	Vehicle Maintenance	Vehicle Tires	\$10,982.40
Black Hills Energy	County Buildings	Utility Service	\$3,987.29
Brazil, Megan	Sheriff Victim Services	Expense Reimbursement	\$64.16
Burden, Dan	County Buildings	Security System	\$1,170.00
Cloud Peak Counseling Center	Health & Welfare	Title 25	\$6,175.00
CMI Teco	Vehicle Maintenance	Supplies	\$8.04
Cowboy Chemical Inc	Detention Center	Supplies	\$1,030.15
Dealers Electrical Supply	County Buildings	Materials/Supplies	\$22.58
Desert Mountain Corporation	Road Construction	Mag Chloride	\$236,823.60
Donahue, James K	County Attorney	Witness Fee	\$590.00
Drug Testing Services LLC	Transportation	Drug Testing Service	\$95.00
Election Systems & Software, Inc	County Elections	Voting Machines Supplies	\$539.00
Federal Express Corp	Detention Center	Shipping Fees	\$22.24
Fremont County Assoc. of Govt.	Special Tax	Economic Development	\$16,124.43
Fremont County Solid Waste	County Buildings	Trash	\$25.00
Frontier Ambulance LLC	Fremont County Ambulance	Ambulance Subsidy	\$150,588.00
Grainger	County Buildings Detention	Materials/Supplies	\$142.32
Heidenreich, Aurora L	County Sheriff	Compliance Services	\$220.00
Hometown Freedom Healthcare LLC	Special Tax	MOVE Award	\$75,000.00
Jones, Thomas W.	Planning	Reimburse Expenses	\$3.60
Kessler, Douglas E	Planning	Expense Reimbursement	\$53.10
Kintzler Holdings LLC	Special Tax	MOVE Award	\$50,000.00
Kisling, Lisa	District Court	Professional Services	\$5,208.94
Lander LLC	Special Tax	MOVE Award	\$100,000.00
Lander Old Timer's Rodeo Assn Inc	Special Tax	MOVE Award	\$15,000.00
Liberty Mutual Insurance Co.	County Coroner	Coroner Bond	\$100.00
Lowe, Sara	Detention Center	Enforcement Training	\$1,000.00
Matthew Bender & Co., Inc	County Treasurer	Gov't Accounting Principles	\$592.72
Medow, Aubrey	Planning	Expense Reimbursement	\$67.50
Miller, Margaret	District Court	Court Appointments	\$352.50
National Test Systems	Segregated	Drug Testing	\$5,759.10
Natrona County Sheriff	Detention Center	Inmate Housing	\$13,552.50
Novo Benefits	Health Benefit Plan	Insurance Services	\$5,253.00
Peterbilt of Wyoming	Transportation	Used Trailer	\$27,500.00
Peterbilt of Wyoming	Transportation	Parts	\$1,441.01
Print Shop, The	Segregated	Print Services	\$1,463.00
R C Lock & Key	Segregated	Key Programming, Code Keys	\$88.26
Ratigan, Daniel, M.D.	Detention Center	P.A. Supervisor Contract	\$4,675.00
Riverton, City of	County Buildings	Water/Sewer	\$1,102.22
Riverton, City of	Special Tax	Economic Development	\$32,248.86
Shaw, Taliana	County Sheriff	Compliance Services	\$330.00
Shoulderblade, Leighanna	County Attorney	Witness Fees	\$49.80
Smith Psychological Services	Detention Center	Psychological Services	\$400.00

Sweetwater Aire LLC	County Buildings Detention	Supplies / Parts / Repair	\$9,585.00
Terrance R. Martin PC	CAST	Contractual Services	\$2,835.00
Tilton, Kathleen	Juvenile Treatment Court	Contractual Services	\$2,250.00
W C C A	County Commission	Congressional Tour	\$1,626.00
Wilkerson, James A, IV, MD PC	County Coroner	Autopsy	\$1,250.00
WY Law Enforcement Academy	Detention Center	Training	\$1,716.00
WY Public Health Laboratory	Juvenile Treatment Court	Drug Testing	\$9.00
Wyoming Behavioral Institute	Health & Welfare	Title 25	\$3,016.00
Wyoming Dept of Transportation	County Sheriff	Fuel	\$2,772.13
Wyoming Machinery Co	Transportation	Parts	\$623.22
Youngchief, Jesse	County Attorney	Witness Fee	\$83.40

Clarence Thomas moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to accept a voucher from Wyoming Behavioral Institute in the amount of \$754.00 for one Title 25 patient. Motion carried unanimously.

The following items in the Signature File were reviewed: 1) sympathy card; 2) thank you letter to John Bass for service on the Wind River Visitor's Council; 3) Abatement Summery and Adjustment to Assessment Summary cover page; and 4) Record of Proceedings. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve a Memorandum of Understanding among the Boards of County Commissioners of the Sate of Wyoming Regarding the Congressional Tour Initiative. Motion carried unanimously. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve the Blue Cross Blue Shield ASO Group Plan Changes document, effective July 1, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

There were no action items in the Priority Mail.

There was nobody present for the Public Comment period.

Commissioner meeting reports were given:

Commissioner Mike Jones attended the Solid Waste Disposal District Board monthly meeting. They are working on upgrading the scales at Sand Draw and having difficulty in securing a contractor, they will build the housing units themselves to help move the process along. There is no funding available to assist with the cleanup efforts on the Wind River Indian Reservation. He attended the monthly FCAG meeting and reported that WRTA is in the process of purchasing new vans; however, delivery dates are expected to be a long time out. He referenced various celebrations taking place around the county, one of them being Hudson Days. Shoshoni is converting the former school to their Town Hall and are also experiencing issues with securing a contractor.

Commissioner Jennifer McCarty attended the Fremont County Planning Commission monthly meeting and noted Supervisor Steve Baumann would be in later to discuss the Wind and Solar Energy Regulations being proposed.

Commissioner Clarence Thomas had had discussion with the IHS Director regarding their non-payment of ambulance costs. Further discussion is ongoing.

Vice-Chairman Larry Allen has been meeting with the Fair Director Pat Hart, Transportation Superintendent Billy Meeks and Building Maintenance Supervisor J.R. Oakley regarding the paving project planned for the Fairgrounds and County building parking lots.

Chairman Travis Becker relayed conversations he had with Priority Ambulance representatives regarding his concern with the County increasing their subsidy for the upcoming fiscal year. He expressed his frustration with them that there is still no contract in place with IHS or BCBS.

A Public Hearing was held at 9:15 a.m., as advertised, regarding the uses for Title III County Funds. In accordance with the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, there is a requirement that Fremont County must hold public comment for forty-five days, of which the comment period began May 11, 2022 and ended June 27, 2022. No comments were received regarding the proposed funding of Title III funds as follows: Search & Rescue - \$15,000; Fire Prevention Programs - \$38,992 for a total of \$53,992. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve the Title III funding as advertised for Calendar Year 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairman Larry Allen stated Transportation Superintendent Billy Meeks was unavailable to report on the Riverview Road Cutoff as scheduled, so he provided a brief update. The ROW and Easements are secured, engineering is done and the project will be put out to bid this fall for construction in the spring of 2023. This project encompasses the road from Highway 26 to Riverview Road.

In another matter, he reviewed an updated 71 Construction Budget Proposal for the Fremont County Fairgrounds and Youth Services building parking lots totaling \$908,034.28. The ARPA funding award for the projects was \$700,000 and the original 71 Construction Proposal was \$858,000.00 to which the Transportation Department had planned to remove the asphalt to bring the cost down to the ARPA award amount. Updated information indicated the Company had contracted with another company to roto-mill the asphalt so the County could not perform the work to reduce the proposal. Included in the final proposal was ADA work for the sidewalks and doors and striping in front of the buildings. Another cost will be the removal of the large light pole in the Fairgrounds parking lot and lights will be mounted on the buildings instead. The County is also requesting testing be performed at an estimated additional cost to the County of \$4,600. Vice-Chairman Allen requested an additional ARPA amount of \$220,000, which as a current balance of \$340,000. Chief Civil Deputy Jodi Darrough will review the contract with 71 Construction when available as the proposal prices if only good for seven days. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to reauthorize the amount for the Fairgrounds and Youth Services parking lot projects from \$700,000 to \$920,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Planning Department Supervisor Steve Baumann presented a plat for the Mustang Meadows Subdivision, Lots 27, 28 & 29 and 30A Re-Subdivision, Lots 29A & 30A Re-Subdivision. The proposal is to divide the current two 23.3 acre lots into three lots for residential purposes. One issue was discussed by the Planning Commission regarding the improvements to the ephemeral drainage along the west side of the Re-Subdivision and they subsequently determined it to be adequate to convey any runoff from the drainage to alleviate any runoff washing out Jackson Drive. Jennifer McCarty moved, Larry Allen seconded, to approve the Re-Subdivision as proposed and as recommended by the Fremont County Planning Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

Steve Baumann presented proposed Wind and Solar Energy Facility Siting Regulations, as requested by the Commission in November of 2021 when he approached them as their department was routinely receiving questions regarding the status of certain properties within Fremont County for the purpose of installing utility scale solar project(s). The Planning Commission developed the Regulations pursuant to what Title 18, Chapter 5, Article 5 of the State Statutes said regarding the permitting of Wind and Solar Energy Facilities. They further looked at all other County Regulations already in place. Baumann stated the State Statute generally addresses only those facilities that are Commercial in nature and are developed as projects that exceed 500 KW (0.5 Megawatt) in size. The Planning Department proposed a permit process that broke the development down into two size categories: Large Scale – 500 KW or greater; and Small Scale – 35 KW to 500 KW. The reason for the standard for the Small Scale facilities was driven by height of wind towers, noise factors, corresponding issues related to adjoining landowners, and for solar by the amount of land covered by solar collectors and, in both cases, compliance with any FAA Regulations. The Planning Department will be responsible for review of all Permit applications, once finalized with a proposed fee of \$200 for Small Scale projects and \$2,000 plus \$200/MG for Large Scale permits. To implement the Regulations when the Commission is ready, they would need to advertise a comment period between 45 and 60 days and a public hearing to review comments. The Commission felt that the Small Scale project should be regulated more, as related to landfill costs, burden to neighbors, view sheds, road impacts, etc. Commissioner Jones stated the Fremont County Natural Resource Management Plan does address some of these issues and consistence with that Plan is important. Baumann stated he would reach out to local realtors to start compiling their thoughts as well prior to recommending the Regulations were ready for public review.

Wind River Visitor's Council Executive Director Helen Wilson was joined by Board President Randy Lahr and newly appointed County Representative Kip Post to continue review of the FY 2022-23 budget. Wilson reviewed a recent meeting with the County Clerk, County Treasurer and several Commissioners to continue discussion on the County's concern with large cash carry over. She reiterated that the budget model increases accuracy of budgeting by switching to a three-year cycle, where year one actuals re used for year threes firm budget. The actuals for year two become the firm budget for year four, and the cycle continues. With this new process, the cash excess (or shortfall) is consumed completely in a three-year cycle. The WRVC is aware of the County's concerns and prompted them to review the expressed concerns. Commissioner Thomas expressed confidence in the County's representative recently appointed to the Board, and Chairman Becker still questioned whether the proposal is an exact budget.

Wilson noted their board will be going through an audit this year and County Clerk Julie Freese requested a copy of that report when available. Several Commissioners still expressed concern with the large cash carry over amount and Commissioner Jones asked for a bylaw review specifically related to TAD funding in the very near future. Mike Jones moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve the Wind River Visitor's Council FY 2022-2023 budget and operating plan. Motion carried unanimously.

A Budget Hearing was held at 10:30 a.m., as advertised, regarding Unanticipated Revenues and Budget Transfers. County Clerk Julie Freese stated they will be the final actions taken to close out the FY 2021-2022 budget year. Larry Allen moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve Resolution No. 2022-17 "FY 2021-2022 Budget Amendment No. 8". Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Jim Anderson presented the Fremont County Health Benefit Plan Contribution Rates proposal. Jim and Julie Freese had estimated a premium for the county budgets and that amount was very close to what is needed. The discussion about how much the county and employees would pay had never been discussed. It is the recommendation of the Health Insurance committee to have the county pay the increase this year with the message to employees that they should plan on a small increase every year as rates go up every year. Rates are as follows: Death Benefit goes stays the same at \$12/month, MASA from \$14.00 to \$19.00/month, Fulltime Health Premium from \$1550 to \$1704/monthly and Part time Health from \$882 to \$954/monthly. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve the health insurance premium with the County paying the increase this year. Motion carried unanimously.

The presentation the previous evening by Communications Supervisor Carl Freeman was reviewed in which he proposed that the E-911 surcharge remain at \$.75 for the upcoming fiscal year. This is a 911 surcharge per access line, both wireless and landline, for an estimated revenue of \$408,769. Each of the ten Users of the Dispatch Center are requested (charged) to contribute a revenue percentage based upon that agency's call volume. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve the \$.75 surcharge for FY 2022-23. Motion carried unanimously.

County Clerk Julie Freese reviewed changes that had been made to the advertised proposed FY 2022-23 Fremont County Government budget which has an amended assessed valuation of \$847,207,649 and changes that had been requested within the last several weeks by various departments. Chairman Travis Becker expressed his frustration that the county is once again having to subsidize the ambulance service, this year for a total of \$1.438 million. He stated that the City of Lander did contribute \$100,000 as requested last fiscal year; however, is the only entity to do so, including the Tribes. He stated his disappointment that the other have chosen not to contribute to the county wide operation. He further stated his intent to make it very clear that the Fremont County Fire District be required to pay their share of Dispatch Fees as proposed for all ten agencies using the system, as the County did fund the Fremont County Fire Warden \$15,000 for the new fiscal year, but only if the FY 2021-22 and FY 2022-23 payments are made to the county.. Again, due to only budgeting what the county needs to operate, the upcoming fiscal year budget is based on 10 mills and not 12 mills. Clarence Thomas moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve the FY 2022-2023 budget as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Becker proceeded to read a written statement, first and foremost thanking the elected officials, department heads and employees of Fremont County Government, whom if they had not had an eye towards fiscal conservancy and common sense, the County would not be in the shape they are in today by being able to base the budget on 10 mills instead of 12. (The full letter is available in the Commissioners' Office). He concluded by stating Fremont County is the only county who lowered the mill levy that will result in lower property taxes.

There being no further business, Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 a.m. and reconvene for a Regular Meeting at 9:00 a.m. on July 5, 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