

STATE OF WYOMING )  
 ) ss.  
COUNTY OF FREMONT )

LANDER, WYOMING  
OFFICE OF THE FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
AUGUST 11, 2020

### **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 and Clarence Thomas. Commissioner Michael Jones was absent. Fremont 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 Special Meeting held on August 3, 2020 for the Mill Levy Setting and Board of Equalization Hearings, and the Regular Meeting held on August 4, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Larry Allen moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to accept the bills for payment. Chairman Travis Becker abstained from voting on The Print Shop voucher. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Becker noted the bills included a voucher to Town of Dubois for Rights-of-Ways for the Horse Creek Road project.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
71 Construction	1% Infrastructure Projects	Materials	\$61,804.96
A & I Distributors	Vehicle Maintenance	Oil/Fluids	\$1,482.91
Ace Hardware-Lander	Search & Rescue	Materials/Supplies	\$25.69
Ace Hardware-Riverton	County Buildings	Materials/Supplies	\$61.32
Airgas USA LLC	Segregated	Supplies	\$768.84
Bailey Enterprises, Inc	Inventory	Bulk Fuel	\$13,170.00
Bank of the West	Segregated	Credit Card Charges	\$20,190.13
Big Brothers Big Sisters of NW WY	TANF Grant	TANF CPI Grant	\$5,691.71
Bowdel, Steven P.	Detention Center	Medical Services	\$2,812.50
Central Wyoming College	Dispatch Center	Tower Lease	\$996.00
Charter Communications	Segregated	Internet Services	\$330.66
Clifford, Gregory P. MD PC	Detention Center	Inmate Medical	\$11,773.00
Communication Technologies Inc	Segregated	Maintenance Agreement, Repairs	\$3,090.77
Cooper, Eric	Detention Center	Expense Reimbursement	\$20.40
Cowboy Chemical Inc	Detention Center	Inmate Laundry & Kitchen Supply	\$479.10
DOWL LLC	Segregated	Engineering	\$24,036.07
Dubois Frontier, The	Segregated	Advertising	\$76.68
Dubois, Town of	Horse Creek Road	Right-of-Way	\$9,425.81
Election Systems & Software, Inc	County Elections	Election Supplies	\$330.10
Fremont Chevrolet GMC	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts/Repairs	\$837.14
Fremont Orthopaedics PC	Detention Center	Inmate Medical	\$818.00
Globalstar USA	Search & Rescue	Satellite Phone	\$189.01
Great Divide Towing & Recovery	Abandoned Vehicles	Vehicle Towing	\$100.00
High Country Construction Inc	Willow Creek Road	Road Shoulder Repair	\$237,778.50
HTO Chemical Company, LLC	County Buildings	Parts	\$121.00
Jeffres, Mary Jo	County Sheriff	Evaluation Services	\$200.00
John Deere Financial	Transportation	Materials/Supplies	\$19.99
Laboratory Corporation of America	Detention Center	Inmate Medical	\$64.00
Lander Medical Clinic PC	Detention Center	Inmate Medical	\$869.97
Lander Valley Auto Parts	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts/ Supplies	\$577.99
Lander, City of	County Buildings	Water & Sewer	\$2,964.40
Leonard, Anthony G.	Detention Center	Inmate Medical Services	\$1,312.50
Lyles, Jesse	County Sheriff	Expense Reimbursement	\$202.50
Mahlum, Zachary Hamilton	District Court	Court Appointment	\$37.50
Medical Imaging Associates of Idaho	Detention Center	Inmate Medical	\$704.00
Mr D's Food Center Inc	Detention Center	Supplies	\$441.98
Murdoch's Ranch & Home Supply	County Sheriff	Supplies & Equipment	\$38.97
Napa Auto Parts-Riverton	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts & Supplies	\$1,175.45
National Food Group Inc	Detention Center	Inmate Board	\$6,595.54
Norco Inc	County Buildings	Supplies	\$9,420.72
Palace Pharmacy	Detention Center	Inmate Rx's	\$8,469.40
Post and Associates	Segregated	Services	\$4,600.00
Post, Raymond	County Sheriff	Car Wash	\$64.20
Premier Vehicle Install., Inc.	County Sheriff	Parts for Vehicles	\$61.23
Print Shop, The	Segregated	Printed Office	\$143.75
Quadiant Inc	Segregated	Postage Machine Rental	\$148.60
Quill Corporation	Segregated	Office Supplies	\$850.33

County Commissioner Minutes  
August 11, 2020

R C Lock & Key	County Sheriff	Keys, Supplies & Services	\$11.03
Ratigan, Daniel, M.D.	Detention Center	P.A. Supervisor Contract	\$6,950.00
Reed's Moghaun Office Supply	Dispatch Center	Office Supplies	\$24.95
RELX, Inc.	County Attorney	Research Subscription	\$625.00
Riverton Ranger, Inc	Segregated	Advertising	\$12,435.12
Rocky Mountain Power	Segregated	Utilities	\$11,529.49
Sagewest Health Care	Detention Center	Inmate Medical	\$37,701.45
Shultz, Kevin	Computer Services	Expense Reimbursement	\$82.35
Skaggs Companies, Inc	County Sheriff	Uniforms/Supplies	\$509.85
Snider, Yvonne	Sheriff Victim Services	Reim. Mileage & or Expenses	\$176.32
Sysco Montana Inc	Detention Center	Inmate Supplies	\$8,510.09
US Foods Inc	Detention Center	Supplies	\$9,516.34
Wind River Towing	Abandoned Vehicles	Towing	\$1,475.00
WY Law Enforcement Academy	Detention Center	Training Basic Cost Ammo	\$1,365.20
Wyoming Behavioral Institute	Health & Welfare	Title 25	\$9.00
Wyoming Dept. of Agriculture	Detention Center	Food License	\$50.00
Wyoming Machinery Co	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts	\$910.84
Wyoming Waste Systems	County Buildings	Trash	\$2,763.34
Wyoming.com	Segregated	Internet Service	\$1,999.90

Jennifer McCarty moved, Larry Allen seconded, to approve a voucher to Wyoming Behavioral Institute in the amount of \$3,770.00 for five Title 25 patients. Motion carried unanimously.

The following items in the Signature File were reviewed: 1) Record of Proceedings. Clarence Thomas moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between the Wyoming Office of Guardian *Ad Litem* and Fremont County. Motion carried unanimously. Clarence Thomas moved, Larry Allen seconded, to approve an Agreement between the Fremont County Commissioners and Cloud Peak Counseling Center to provide Title 25 services to patients in Fremont County. Motion carried unanimously. Clarence Thomas moved, Larry Allen seconded, to approve Resolution No. 2020-19 granting waiver of the in-state contractor and material requirements for the State Lands and Investments Grant approved project for the Detention Facility Security Upgrade, the letter to Governor Gordon requesting waiver, Grant Agreement and Certification Statement. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Becker adjourned as the Board of Fremont County Commissioners and convened as the Fremont County Board of Equalization. Scott and Alyssa McFarland (Docket No. 2020-05) County Board of Equalization Dismissal Order was read into the record. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve the Order of Dismissal, stating the Petitioner's appeal is dismissed pursuant to County Board of Equalization Uniform Rules § 20, Failure to appear at hearing. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Travis Becker adjourned as the Fremont County Board of Equalization and reconvened as the Board of Fremont County Commissioners.

The public comment period was held.

Alex Dannenberg, Albert Bertagnolli and Dave Hohl expressed concern about the road base on the Lander Cut Off Road off Highway 28, leading to the White Acorn Ranch, and continuing on through to Sublette County. Transportation Superintendent Billy Meeks and Lander Supervisor Clyde Winchester were present. The men presented photos of the road and barrow ditch and several jars of the mine reject material that consists of sharp points, which cause extensive tire damage to all travelers on the road on a routine basis. They suggested resurfacing an 8-10 mile stretch if possible. Meeks and Winchester stated the operator has been taking of the material and bringing up native material whenever that area is bladed. The men agreed the material has helped in muddy situations in spring and fall and the semi trucks hauling in and out of the ranch have not had to chain up since the material was laid several years ago. Commissioner Thomas asked Meeks to work with the men to see if there is any federal money available that could assist in resurfacing the road. Meeks will discuss the situation on the Sublette County side with their Transportation Supervisor to see if a joint venture could be entered into.

Fremont Counseling Executive Director Scott Hayes discussed the need to enter into a contract with Fremont County for the purpose of guiding conduct and payment for emergency mental health services (Title 25 patients). Such an agreement was in place up until FY 29 when the state allowed reimbursement for Title 25 evaluations through their state contract. That allowance ended June 30, 2020 and Fremont Counseling Service will renew invoicing Fremont County for those services rendered. Hayes proposed an evaluation rate of \$150 (\$140 in previous years), with placement attempt at Wyoming Behavioral Institute and/or Cloud Peak Counseling (Lighthouse Crisis Stabilization Unit) as needed. Using the estimated 274 evaluations for persons under Fremont County jurisdiction, this comes to an estimated \$41,100. He further speculated 12 difficult-to-place persons last year would total \$6,000 at \$50 an attempt. The contractual price would be per evaluation and

not the total estimated amount, which was presented for discussion purposes. The Board stated they would request the Chief Civil Deputy Attorney draft a contract for the new fiscal year at the discussed rates. Commissioner Thomas stated that in future years, it may be appropriate to send out a Request for Proposal in case there are other agencies interested in such a contractual agreement for Title 25 patients. In other business, Vice-Chairman Allen asked for an update on the status and placement of the county transport van that was used to transport individuals to the powwow grounds during the outbreak of the COVID epidemic in March. Commissioner Thomas stated Wind River Cares has the unit at their facility and will get an update on when it can be returned to the County.

Fremont County Coroner Mark Stratmoen presented a monthly update. To date the number of Coroner cases in 2020 is down by 10 (80 compared to 90 last year). Natural deaths are about the same (50 compared to 52 last year); Accidents are down (14 compared to 24 last year); Suicides are up (10 compared to 6 last year); homicides down (3 compared to 5 last year). There are currently two pending cases as a result of the first motor vehicle deaths since May 8<sup>th</sup> that occurred July 29<sup>th</sup>, which was a single vehicle rollover, of which both were ejected with no seatbelts in use. In prepping the Lander morgue for use, a condensing receiver on the cooler needed repaired at a cost of \$1,049.78, increasing the estimated project budget accordingly. The forensic pathologist is expected to be relocated to Fremont County the end of August and will begin performing autopsies soon after. He provided a COVID-19 update by stating all 11 reported deaths for Fremont County occurred in medical facilities and were not coroner cases. The highest effected age group in Fremont County is in the 19 years and under group (ranked at #4 in the State); with the second highest age group 20-29 years of age (ranked #1 in the State). His office continues to monitor cases for issues associated with the virus.

Fremont County Museums Central Director Scott Goetz gave an annual report for FY 2019-2020. Reviewed for the Dubois, Pioneer and Riverton Museums was the Year in Review, Visitation, Programs, Acquisitions/Backlog Accessions, Maintenance, Marketing, Visitation and Exhibit Installations. A new addition to the Dubois Museum will be incorporating the Visitor's Center information within their facility, at an annual contractual price of \$7,500 during open hours and current staff. As budgeted for, will be using a majority of the self-revenue funding this year. Some hours have been cut, volunteers mainly, so he is helping cover at each museum when needed. Priorities are keeping doors open 6 days week, from 9:00 am – 5:00 p.m.; continuing programs and maintenance. The 5-year fire system inspection at the Pioneer Museum was more expensive than normal and crack sealing the parking lot in four year increments is occurring and painting has been completed of the exterior. Also at this museum will be an unexpected cost to replace the main sign due to extensive wind damage, with replacement of the second sign anticipated in upcoming years. As a result, self generated funds for this museum are already over budget. A new site manager in Riverton will begin the end of the month. He spoke of the collaboration between the Big Horn Sheep Center and the new Museum in Dubois.

Assessor Tara Berg and County Clerk Julie Freese updated the Board on staffing vacancies between their two offices. Assessor Deputies Angie Wilson and Mike Klaassen and County Clerk Deputy Margy Irvine were present in the audience. During the budget session they volunteered to share one employee to help with the budget deficits instead of each refilling a position. To everyone's surprise, each office has been experiencing unprecedented workloads (Freese noted June experienced the highest revenue in her office since 2014). Freese stated many documents coming through the Clerk's Office have to statutorily be filed within a certain time frame; as a result, she is allowing employees to work over time to insure this is being done. Berg further brought a large stack of deeds to be processed, extremely high for one month. Now each office is experiencing an additional vacancy. As a result, the part time employee working in the Clerk's office will be returning to a full time position in the Assessor's Office the end of September. Freese is requesting permission to fill that position (only filled by part time since July) back to a full time position, as well as the new vacancy, two full time position to be filled as soon as possible. She further indicated she is hopeful that she can fill the Financial Assistant position soon. If former employee Joe Felix agrees to return to help train a new employee on a contractual basis for one week, she noted she may be short in her budget but will work diligently to stay within the budgeted contractual amount. Berg updated the Board on a recent Field Appraiser vacancy and noted the person in the part-time position was shared with the County Clerk will be taking that position. That will still leave a vacant part-time position and she will opt to wait until the first of the year to see how the work load is progressing. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve refilling two full time positions in the County Clerk's Office and a full time position in the County Assessor's Office. Motion carried unanimously.

Fremont County Wellness Program Manager Penny Fahey presented a Wellness Program Report. Executive Health Insurance Committee member Margy Irvine was in the audience. Since she officially resigned as a county employee on June 30, 2020 and became an independent contractor with Fremont County, she has been working from her home in Casper and traveling on a routine basis back to Fremont County monthly for in person visits. She coordinated scheduling the upcoming Employee Health Fair with the Lander Library and

Fair Manager for locations and with Wyoming Health Fairs on flyers, appointments, etc. Her July visit included personal visits as well as meeting with 10 different departments away from the Courthouse in both Lander and Riverton. She completed premium reduction biometric measurements for 53 participants and have continued teaching in person and remote Tai Chi classes. August plans are to meet with additional participants to continue biometric measurements, promote the Health Fair and continue Tai Chi classes. Since premium reduction forms are due October 13, she expects to be busy during September trips as well completing biometric measurements. She reviewed current participation levels as follows: Premium Reduction Program: 85% of eligible employees and spouses participating; Chronic Disease Management Program: 98 participants; and Participation Incentive for July: 25. She feels the Wellness Program continues to work well and she has been able to successfully complete responsibilities while living in Casper. In closing, the Commissioners presented a plaque of appreciation to Fahey for her service as a County employee from November 14, 2011 through June 30, 2020.

Transportation Superintendent Billy Meeks and Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor Brad Meredith were present to review a Wyoming Association of Risk Management Final Proof of Loss for the 2018 Motor Grader that was involved in a wreck in May that seriously injured an employee. The adjustor deemed it a total loss and the Final Loss and Damage is \$274,690, less \$5,000 deductible, less \$15,000 Member Surcharge, for a total amount of claim of \$254,690. Meeks stated a new unit delivery date is six months out, and recommended a rental in the meantime for a motor grader, especially important when heading into the winter months. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to authorize a purchase of a CAT Motor Grader with funding through the Capital Revolving Fund. Motion carried unanimously. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to accept a bid not to exceed \$275,000 from Wyoming Machinery Company for a 2021 Cat Motor Grader. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner meeting reports were given.

Chairman Travis Becker participated in a conference call with Wyoming County Commissioners Association regarding the County's successful application of \$4.5 million from the State Lands and Investments Board Coronavirus Relief Grant Program. He stated there are new rules to be published August 27<sup>th</sup> and there are a lot of unknowns at this time on required documentation in order to receive the full amount.

County Clerk Julie Freese stated they have successfully tested all eight Vote Center sites and noted that Fort Washakie School Gymnasium, Wyoming Indian High School Gymnasium and Arapahoe Charter School sites will require masks, the other five sites will recommend masks, but they will not be mandatory. The Secretary of State has issued a directive that absentee ballots can be counted on August 13, 14 and then on Primary Election Day August 18<sup>th</sup>. As a result, the absentee board will convene on Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup> to begin processing ballots, as numbers are almost double that of the prior Primary Election two years earlier. She has been busy compiling information to reply to a request from a South Dakota based company, Four Directions Co-Director, regarding "Ballot Access for Native voters" including a separate petition being circulated regarding in-person early voting offices in Fort Washakie, Ethete and Arapahoe for the 2020 Primary Election. As mentioned earlier, she has a potential candidate for the Financial Assistant position. She stated the FY 2020-2021 budget was adopted, but she is still waiting on the grants component that does not affect the 12 mills.

Vice-Chairman Larry Allen stated he has been approached by several people to request the Commission make their meetings available remotely again, as had been done during the several months the Courthouse was closed to the public. County Clerk Julie Freese stated the county has a one year membership to "Go To Meetings" which was the avenue used those months.

Larry Allen moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 a.m. and reconvene for a Regular Meeting on August 25, 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.gov](http://www.fremontcountywy.gov).

/s/ TRAVIS BECKER, CHAIRMAN  
FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

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