

STATE OF WYOMING)
) ss.
COUNTY OF FREMONT)

LANDER, WYOMING
OFFICE OF THE FREMONT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OCTOBER 4, 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 amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 20, 2022 and Special Meeting held on September 26, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to accept the bills for payment. Motion carried unanimously.

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
A & I Distributors	Vehicle Maintenance	Oil/Fluids	\$358.71
Agri Drain Corporation	County Buildings	Supplies	\$110.52
Albright, Harold	Planning	Reimbursement	\$84.00
American Family & Life Insurance	Segregated	Insurance	\$5,476.24
Amerigas	County Buildings	Propane	\$616.11
Avail Valley Construction WY LLC	Road Project	Road Reconstruction	\$114,975.56
B & T Fire Extinguishers Inc	County Buildings	Extinguisher Services	\$306.00
Bailey Enterprises, Inc	Inventory	Bulk Fuel	\$34,850.13
Beddoes, Heather	County Elections	Reimbursement	\$68.93
Bill Jones Plumbing & Heating	County Buildings	Supplies/Parts	\$17.08
Black Hills Energy	County Buildings	Utility Service	\$2,374.17
Bloedorn Lumber-Lander	County Buildings	Supplies	\$431.92
Blue Cross Blue Shield of WY	Co Admin	Health Insurance Claims	\$234,381.24
California State Disbursement	Payroll	Child Support	\$50.00
Calvert, Hattie	Youth Services	Reimbursement	\$36.57
Campbell County Sheriff's Office	Detention Center	Inmate Housing	\$2,325.00
Casper Orthopaedic Assoc PC	Detention Center	Inmate Medical	\$293.68
Circuit Court	Payroll	Garnishment	\$137.83
Colonial Life & Accident Insurance	Segregated	Insurance	\$807.55
Comes, Patrick	County Elections	Reimbursement	\$92.74
Crosseyed Custom Rifles LLC	Capital Asset Acquisitions	Custom Rifles	\$20,247.00
Danyne Cooper Counseling, LLC	CAST	Contractual Services	\$1,500.00
Davis & Cannon LLP	County Attorney	Property Tax Appeal	\$33,195.91
Drug Testing Services LLC	Segregated	Drug Testing Service	\$190.00
Dubois Telephone Exchange	Segregated	Telephone Service	\$721.30
E-470 Public Highway Authority	Youth Services	Toll Charges	\$29.65
Edwards Communications	Prevention Program	Radio Advertising	\$584.00
Empower Trust	Segregated	Wyoming Benefits	\$6,825.00
Fahey, Penny	Health Promotion	Wellness Services	\$2,500.00
Federal Express Corp	County Attorney	Shipping	\$75.58
Floyd's Truck Center WY	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts	\$1,025.47
Fremont Counseling-Lander	Health & Welfare	Title 25	\$5,100.00
Fremont County Suicide Prevention	Prevention Program	Flyer Publication	\$75.00
Fremont County Treasurer	Co Admin	Health Insurance	\$352,002.00
Fremont County Treasurer	Co Admin	Section 125 Benefits	\$37,048.32
Fremont County Treasurer	County Commission	Property Tax	\$4,577.64
Fremont Motors – Lander	Planning	Parts/Supplies	\$663.20
Gebes, Jeannie	Public Defender	Services	\$1,959.75
Gilgen, Dani	County Elections	Reimbursement	\$96.66
Grainger	County Buildings	Materials/Supplies	\$472.21
Groomsmith, Tauna	Prevention Program	Reimbursement	\$144.80
Healthsmart Benefit Solutions	Segregated	Insurance	\$784.00
High Country Senior Citizens	Health & Welfare	Allocation	\$10,000.00
Holder, Philip	County Elections	Reimbursement	\$102.29
Johnson, Edie	County Elections	Reimbursement	\$58.87
Kessler, Douglas E	Planning	Reimbursement	\$59.00
Kisling, Lisa	Segregated	Professional Services	\$684.78
KONE Inc	County Buildings	Elevator Maintenance	\$1,385.64

Lander, City of	County Buildings	Water & Sewer	\$4,008.88
Media Works, Inc	County Assessor	Supplies	\$28.99
Medow, Aubrey	Planning	Reimbursement	\$37.50
Miller, Margaret	District Court	Office Rent	\$300.00
Miller, Michael	County Elections	Reimbursement	\$87.90
Mountain Drivetrain	Vehicle Maintenance	Supplies / Equipment	\$873.44
Netwrix Corporation	Computer Services	Subscription	\$3,656.25
New York Life Insurance	Segregated	Insurance	\$133.11
NMS Laboratories	County Coroner	Services	\$2,569.00
Norco Inc	Segregated	Supplies	\$6,628.45
Novo Benefits	Health Benefit Plan	Insurance Services	\$5,253.00
Office Shop Inc, The	Agriculture Department	Copy Service/Repair	\$21.01
Osage Industries, Inc	Vehicle Maintenance	Parts	\$463.13
Payroll Taxes	Co Admin	Withholding/FICA	\$214,482.07
Quadient Leasing USA Inc	County Attorney	Postage Meter Lease	\$266.52
Quill Corporation	County Attorney	Office Supplies	\$128.35
R R Brink Locking Systems Inc	County Buildings Detention	Materials/Supplies	\$940.00
R T Communications	Segregated	Telephone Service	\$444.11
Reed's Moghaun Office Supply	County Elections	Office Supplies	\$31.70
Riverton, City of	County Buildings	Water/Sewer	\$888.30
Rocky Mountain Power	Segregated	Utilities	\$11,250.83
Sagewest Health Care	Detention Center	Inmate Medical	\$20,534.43
Schoneberger, Valerie	District Court	Representation	\$232.50
Schumacher Law Firm, P.C.	County Commission	BOE Tax Protest Hearings	\$15,575.57
Smith Psychological Services	Detention Center	Psychological Services	\$800.00
Soule, Sierra	Public Defender	Office Rent	\$600.00
State Disbursement Unit	Payroll	Child Support	\$480.25
State of Wyoming	Public Defender	Office Rent	\$1,650.00
Terrance R. Martin PC	Public Defender	Office Rent	\$600.00
Total Net Salaries	Segregated	Salaries	\$688,804.11
Traveling Computers	Segregated	Computer Supplies, Services	\$27,009.93
Utah Medical Insurance Assoc.	Detention Center	Medical Insurance	\$5,910.00
Watkins, Frank B PC	District Court	Court Appointment	\$432.00
Weber, Pearline	County Elections	Reimbursement	\$92.69
Whiting Law, P.C.	District Court	Professional Services	\$840.00
WY Dept of Employment	Segregated	Unemployment Claims	\$0.00
WY SDU	Payroll	Child Support	\$1,480.00
Wyo Child Support Enforcement	Segregated	Child Support	\$1,531.00
Wyo Dept of Workforce Service	Co Admin	Workers Comp	\$29,167.44
Wyoming Behavioral Institute	Health & Welfare	Title 25	\$4,524.00
Wyoming Dept of Transportation	Segregated	Fuel	\$3,420.24
Wyoming Family Sonography LLC	Detention Center	Inmate Medical	\$450.00
Wyoming Retirement System	Co Admin	Contributions	\$165,768.71
Wyonet Inc.	Computer Services	Telephone Service	\$5,272.30

Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to accept a voucher from Fremont Counseling Service in the amount of \$3,750.00 for August Title 25 patients. Motion carried unanimously.

The following items in the Signature File were reviewed: 1) Record of Proceedings. Mike Jones moved, Larry Allen seconded, to approve an Agreement between Fremont County Government and Gales Carpet One Floor & Home in the amount of \$72,889.44 for carpeting of the Courthouse hallways and lobby areas with ARPA funding. Chairman Travis Becker abstained. Motion carried. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve an Agreement between Fremont County Government and Fine Line Painting and Construction in the amount of \$22,600.00 for painting of the Courthouse hallways and lobby areas with ARPA funding. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve a Fremont County Bank of the West Credit Card application for Rewa Gaudern in the amount of \$2,500.00 and Ashli Woods in the amount of \$1,500.00. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to acknowledge receipt by September 30, 2022 of the Fiscal Year ending 6/30/2022 Statement of Expenditures from the Fremont County Clerk and the Statement of Gross Revenues from the Fremont County Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve a bid from Axon Enterprise, Inc. in the amount of \$88,200 for tasers for the Sheriff's Department with ARPA funding. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to ratify approval of the Notice of Award with S & L Industrial, Inc. for the Fremont County 2022 Striping Project for a contract amount of \$238,867.20. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to Proclaim the week of October 2-8, 2022 at National 4-H Week. Motion carried unanimously.

The following items in the Priority Mail were reviewed: Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to regrettably accept the resignation from Melinda Cox as the Executive Director of the Fremont County Treatment Courts and Juvenile Justice Services. Motion carried unanimously. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to ratify removal of the Fremont County Fire Ban, effective September 26, 2022. Motion carried unanimously. The Extension Office had sought approval for three volunteers to take six youth to the Fremont County Horse Judging team to represent Wyoming 4-H program at the All American Quarter Horse Congress in Columbus, Ohio. They will be driving to Denver and leaving the county vehicle there while they fly out to the competition. Larry Allen moved, Mike Jones seconded, to approve three 4-H volunteers to drive a county vehicle, upon providing necessary documents in order to be covered under the County's insurance coverage. Motion carried unanimously. The Apple Valley Tree and Lawn Care final report of their MOVE funding was acknowledged.

The Public Comment period was held with nobody present.

County Assessor Tara Berg requested authorization to refill a Field Appraiser position at the annual salary of \$33,000. Mike Jones moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve refilling the position. Motion carried unanimously.

Transportation Department Administrative Assistant Jill Johnson informed the Board of a vacancy for a Road Maintenance I (\$37,500) or Road Maintenance 2 (\$41,000) vacant position. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve refilling either position depending on experience. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Allen stated a bid opening was held the previous week for the crushing for Lost Wells and Lost Cabin Pits totaling 50,000 cubic yards. Larry Allen moved, Mike Jones seconded, to accept the bid submitted by 2M Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$375,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

A Public Hearing was held at 9:45 a.m., as advertised, regarding a Retail Liquor License Transfer of Ownership from Greg Rochlitz d/b/a Lou's Midvale Store to Midvale Station LLC d/b/a Midvale Station. Elaine Whittenberger was present as owner of the LLC. There were no comments either for or against the transfer. Mike Jones moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve the Transfer of Ownership as presented. Motion carried unanimously. Receipt of the \$100.00 transfer fee was acknowledged.

Information Systems Supervisor Kevin Shultz presented a draft Lease Agreement with the City of Riverton for the construction, use and maintenance of the Griffey Hill Communications Tower. Several changes were suggested. A revised Lease was presented later in the day. Mike Jones moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to approve the Lease as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

In other business, Kevin Shultz reviewed the ARPA approved project for a Lynx Alert System in the amount of \$15,000; however, the final bid is for a total amount of \$18,250 which includes one-time set up charges. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve the Lynx Alert System purchase for an amount not to exceed \$18,500. Motion carried unanimously. Shultz noted the system will then cost an annual fee of \$3,250 which will be part of his future budgets.

Planning Department Supervisor Steve Baumann presented a plat for Lost Wells Butte for the purpose of taking the current three lots and reducing them to two lots, as currently defined by fences. Jennifer McCarty moved, Mike Jones seconded, to approve the Replat for Lost Wells Butte Filing No. 1 Lots 37D, 37E and 37F Replat, as recommended by the Fremont County Planning Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

Steve Baumann presented a Corrected Plat Vacation Recordation Statement for Lander Ranchettes West, Tract 2 Replat which was signed by Chairman Becker.

The Commission had been scheduled to meet with the Wind River Intertribal Council later in the day; however, the meeting had been postponed until January. In preparation of that meeting, Steve Baumann had planned to give them an update on the ownership status of 17 Mile Road. The Bureau of Indian Affairs had informed the County that they are no longer interested in pursuing acquisition of the Road and that the County should contact the Wind River Intertribal Council instead. A letter to that effect was sent to the WRITC in June of 2022 with no response to date. Baumann expressed his ongoing concern regarding the ability of property owners along this Road and their ability to retain valid access to their property if the Road is not transferred to an entity that will maintain it for public use into perpetuity.

Discussion regarding entering into a MOU with the Tribes to take over maintenance of the Road was discussed, similar to the agreements already in place on several other County Roads on the Wind River Indian Reservation. Commissioner Thomas noted the discussion needs to take place between government to government agencies and noted the Ray Lake Road is another issue that needs addressed with the WRITC. Vice-Chairman Allen relayed his attempts to meet with the BIA Superintendent to no avail. In closing, Baumann stated the Tribes are in the process of renaming 17 Mile Road to Big John Smith Highway despite the fact the Road has not been officially transferred.

Erin Shirley was present to interview for a vacancy on the Fremont County Historic Preservation Commission. At this time, two partial terms are vacant, both expiring June 30, 2023. Following her interview, Jennifer McCarty moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to appoint Erin Shirley to a vacancy on the Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner meeting reports were given.

Vice-Chairman Larry Allen informed the Board that the blade stationed at Lysite has lost a turbo and is still under warranty. As a result, it will be out of commission for the time being.

Commissioner Jennifer McCarty attended the Planning Commission monthly meeting. She stated the Regular and Simple Subdivision proposed changes will be coming before them in the near future.

Chairman Travis Becker fielded several calls regarding tree thinning activity being conducted under the direction of the Forest Service in the Horse Creek Double Cabins area that is impeding hunting in that area. He and Vice-Chairman Larry Allen met with Priority Ambulance EMT-P Director of Government and Industry Relations Dennis Rowe and expressed their frustration that they had not received expected information from Rowe regarding their attempts to seek reimbursements from Indian Health Service. This information was going to be presented during discussions with the WRITC at the meeting scheduled later in the day, but has since been cancelled.

Commissioner Clarence Thomas has received calls of concern regarding the recent fatal traffic accident in the Wind River Canyon. He suggested possible double lines be put in for the entire length of the canyon which would impede passing. Chairman Becker volunteered to visit with the Hot Springs County Commission to get their thoughts and then both counties could meet with WYDOT with suggestions.

County Clerk Julie Freese updated the Board on her request for a credit card limit increase. She had asked Departments to use their cards more but now larger purchases are pushing the credit limit on a monthly basis. She stressed that the purchases are all approved but the payment method has changed to their credit cards. She plans to check individual limits and will bring any approved increase before the Board before accepting an increase to the credit limit for Fremont County Government.

Chief Civil Deputy Attorney Jodi Darrough and Executive Health Insurance Committee members Margy Irvine and Jim Anderson were present to continue discussion on the MASA contract. A successful video meeting was held and Darrough stated MASA has agreed to pay all the claims from February 2022 until the end of this year upon payment by the County for the fees. Then in January 2023 they would like to contract for a new rate and we will be assigned another claims representative. Irvine noted the Executive Health Insurance Committee still have concerns but to continue with MASA is the best alternative at this time. A final contract should be coming in the near future for approval by the Board. In the meantime, Irvine was asked to send out a broadcast to all employees, and reiterate with Department Heads on behalf of their employees, to provide any outstanding claims or denial letters with MASA to the Health Insurance Committee for action.

The vacant County Health Officer position was discussed. A Zoom interview had taken place the previous meeting with an out of state physician. Chairman Becker noted that at one time in the past, the CHO operated from out of state, even prior to Zoom capability. Clarence Thomas moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, that in the best interest of the county to resume advertising for an in-county physician. Voting against the motion: Travis Becker. Motion carried. Interim Nurse Manager Christi Kraus was present via Zoom and was asked to inform the applicant of this decision.

The Major property agricultural lease was discussed as related to concerns of weeds, ditches not cleaned, non-irrigation, etc. Vice-Chairman Allen had met with the LeClair Irrigation ditch manager and they discussed the water availability for the property and he will be keep up to date. Chairman Becker stated the cost to put electricity back to the water tank will be about \$1,800. At this time, no action will be taken

until it is known if it will be needed. The letter sent to the lessee regarding the Commissioners concerns was acknowledged as being received by the lessee.

Interviews were held with Fair Board applicants Nikki Horton and Maralyne Middour and Fremont County Solid Waste Disposal District Board applicants Kyle Larson, Terry Cantrell and Patricia Kostreva. Gary Weisz had interviewed in July and was not re-interviewed. Later in the meeting, Larry Allen moved, Mike Jones seconded, to appoint Maralyne Middour to fill a vacant term on the Fremont County Fair Board with term expiration December 31, 2023. Motion carried unanimously. Mike Jones moved, Clarence Thomas seconded, to appoint Kyle Larson to fill an unexpired term on the Solid Waste Disposal District Board with term expiration of December 31, 2023. Voting against the motion: Larry Allen and Jennifer McCarty. Motion carried.

Melinda Cox, Executive Director of the Fremont County Treatment Courts and Juvenile Justice Services, was present for an Exit Interview, prior to her pending resignation on October 11, 2022. She expressed appreciation to the Commissioners for their support through the years. She has worked on a succession plan for the last several years but noted these types of jobs have a shelf life. Her new position became available which will feed her soul. She noted the bureaucracy of the system is very wearing and she feels the juvenile justice system is broken, but she feels change is happening in this area. She does have great staff members and states the obvious that substance abuse is such a huge problem in Fremont County and yet they have to recruit clients, and she would like another alternative for the judicial system to send clients their way. Her biggest frustration is with the judicial system knowing offenders need supervised probation and they are not required to do so. She closed by stating how much she has grown in this position as a manager and she feels she has always been a team player by working with other offices (elections, providing office space in Riverton). Both she and her predecessor had the same mindset to "ride for the brand". There are two other vacancies besides hers in the Department and advertising is taking place. She will work with her liaison, Commissioner Thomas, on a transition plan until a new Director can be hired. In closing, she stated she would be available to stay until the end of October to help with transition and work on upcoming CARF certification. The Board thanked her for her contributions and stated she will be hard to replace.

Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to approve Resolution No. 2022-21 "Appointment of a Special Prosecutor" through an agreement with Sweetwater County Attorney's Office. Motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Becker adjourned as the Fremont County Commission and convened as the Fremont County Board of Equalization. The Contango Resources (Docket No. 2022-01 and Docket No. 2022-02) County Board of Equalization Decision and Order was reviewed in which the Board affirmed the Assessor's 2022 valuation of Contango's property in both dockets because Contango did not present evidence sufficient to overcome the presumption in favor of the Assessor's valuation. Mike Jones moved, Larry Allen seconded, to ratify approval of the Decision and Order. Motion carried unanimously. Chairman Becker adjourned as the Board of Equalization and reconvened as the Board of Fremont County Commissioners.

Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to adjourn into Executive Session for personnel. Motion carried unanimously. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to return to Regular Session. Motion carried unanimously. Larry Allen moved, Jennifer McCarty seconded, to offer the Fremont County Emergency Management Coordinator position to Milan Vinich. Motion carried unanimously.

Information had just been received regarding the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund which is a general revenue enhancement program that provides additional assistance to eligible revenue sharing counties and eligible tribal governments. The LATC funding predominantly goes to Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) counties, which Fremont County is, and can use the funds the same as general revenues collected from local taxes. The Board agreed to begin meeting on the eligible funds and potential projects by scheduling it on their next agenda. The county can apply for and receive funds immediately and the first tranche will be paid within several days of application and the second tranche in calendar year 2023. The funds will remain available to eligible counties until expended. Mike Jones moved, Larry Allen seconded to authorize County Clerk Julie Freese to apply for the funds. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, Larry Allen moved, Mike Jones seconded, to adjourn the Regular meeting at 12:15 p.m. and reconvene for a Regular Meeting at 9:00 a.m. on October 11, 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