

## 04-02-2013 COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

The Board of County Commissioners met at the above date beginning at 10:30 a.m. Those present were Chairman Aaron Anderson, Member Ron Harvey, Terry Wolf and Clerk to the Board Mary Grace Strauch. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Building Maintenance Manager Tom Schmeltzer.

A motion was made by Commissioner Harvey and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2013 meeting. Motion carried.

Road and Bridge Superintendent Tete Weston received permission to have the snow plow and other scrap metal taken to Pete Smet. The crew is continuing to work on equipment. The Winchester Bridge has been repaired. Discussion was held on damage on Sesame Street and the Lower Nowood. Tete will get prices for cold mix for the upcoming summer. Tete will get a priority list to the board by the next meeting regarding roads that need chip sealed and he will check with Mountain Construction to see if it is possible for them to do chip sealing for the county in the future. Also discussed was adding the Landfill Road to the list of roads that need to be crack sealed.

Building Maintenance Manager Tom Schmeltzer reported that all work is almost complete in the Clerk of Court office. Carpet will be finished this week. Tom will receive prices to replace the carpet in the hallway by the Clerk of Court.

Hospital Board members Dan Scheuerman, Anna Venable, Ruth Bower, Rob Orchard, Gil McEndree, Washakie Medical Center CEO Margie Molitor, Western Region President Jim Fernando, Mayor Dave Duffy, Clarence Beck, Publisher Lee Lockhart, Washakie Development Director Le Ann Chenoweth and County Attorney Marcy Argeris met with the board to discuss a proposal brought forward by the hospital board to have Banner Health upgrade the current hospital with 23.4 million dollars in improvements in exchange for the building. Discussion was held on the strategic plan that has been worked on for several years and the main focus points that were established with the plan. The top five priorities as listed in the Final Report by Washakie Medical Center were facility improvement, including the emergency department and ambulatory care, provider mix to include obstetrics, chemotherapy/oncology services, marketing the hospital and limiting the migration of services. The hospital board asked Banner Health to propose upgrading the facility and by making said improvements Banner Health would own the building and provide the necessary service to the community. The buildings that are wanted are the actual hospital and the new medical clinic along with any equipment the county owns in the hospital. The building that houses the VA, Crisis Center and Homeland Security is not wanted with this proposal. The board feels that due diligence requires further research to be completed and information gathered and compiled before any decision is made. Public meetings will be held asking for input regarding the upgrades and possible ownership transition. Discussion was held on receiving an appraised value of the hospital. County Attorney Argeris stated that by Wyoming's State Constitution, the county cannot simply donate an asset, such as the hospital, to Banner Health or other entity. Other supporting authority,

Attorney General Opinions and case law, state that there must be a comparable or equal exchange made. The question was raised if the 23 million dollar upgrade was an exchange. Discussion followed that since Banner would own the building and the upgrades and not the county, it would not be considered an exchange under the supporting authorities discussed. The hospital board and Banner Health were requested to supply the Board with a current list of what equipment was actually owned by the county, when and how it was acquired. The board feels that they need to make sure what the best option for the county is before any decision is made. Discussion was held on receiving additional bids on the hospital from other interested parties. A work session will be held on April 5, 2013 beginning at 3:00 pm at the hospital and a tour will be conducted. After the tour public input meetings will be scheduled and held before any decision is made by the board.

County Attorney Argeris discussed with the board the possibility of having the building appraised and procedures to follow.

A motion was made by Commissioner Harvey and seconded by Commissioner Wolf to allow Commissioner Harvey to locate an Independent Medical Facility Consultant and/or appraiser to do a study of the current hospital. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wolf and seconded by Commissioner Harvey to approve Pay Estimate Number 6 with Lamax in regards to the Septage Site. Motion carried.

Vouchers for March 2013 were paid was follows:

Planner David Anderson met with the board to discuss Road Petition No. 103 which was filed by Jerry Spadt. This is a 750 foot portion of roadway on Lane 6 that was not completed correctly in the past. Discussion was held on if the entire roadway is needed to be viewed or just this portion. A motion was made by Commissioner Wolf and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to appoint Commissioner Harvey as the road viewer of the proposed petition and report back to the board at the next meeting. Motion carried.

Planner David Anderson reviewed with the board the footage of fence that would be needed to fence the septage site area. A motion was made by Commissioner Wolf and seconded by Commissioner Harvey to allow Planner Anderson to complete specifications for the fence and received bids. Motion carried. David reported that the honey monster was delivered last week and should be installed in the near future. There will be another FEMA planning grant public meeting held on April 17 at 7:00 pm to discuss the progress on the study. David stated that there is a water meter that needs to be replaced with South Worland Water Users and they are wondering who will do repairs on the bike path. David will meet with County Attorney Marcy Argeris to discuss this issue further. David will begin to draft resolutions in regards to vacating several portions of Lane 14A. David will begin to work on resolutions that may be needed on several other county roads.

A call was placed to Jerry Harvard in regards to the work that needs to be completed on Lane 12 in regards to the water issue and the bike path. Jerry reported that he will get the work completed this week.

Kent Gillette and Planner David Anderson met with the board to see if the county was interested in purchasing a portion of land south of Washakie Ave for a parking lot in regards to the bike path. The estimated value is \$28,000.00 and is currently owned by the First Southern Baptist Church. If there is no interest in purchasing Kent asked if the board was interested in helping to maintain the area. A map will need to be looked at and further discussion held on a culvert that may need to be placed before a decision is made by the board. The board will view the area on April 16 at 1:00 pm.

#### CONSENT AGENDA

1. Accept monthly reports from Clerk of Court \$2,438.00, County Clerk \$7,064.50, Sheriff's Department \$1,805.00, Treasurer's office trial balance and cash balance.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wolf and seconded by Commissioner Harvey to accept the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

Staff Sergeant Cassidy Lang and Staff Sergeant Brant Knight and family, Beth Shaffer and family 4-H Educator Amber Armajo met to present the proclamation for Month of the Military Child. The proclamation was read by Commissioner Anderson. A motion was made by Commissioner Wolf and seconded by Commissioner Harvey to allow all commissioners to sign the proclamation as presented. Motion carried.

Public Health Nurse Lori Schaal met with the board to ask permission to lift the hiring freeze in regards to replacing a state paid nurse in her office that the county matches 35% of the salary. Discussion was held on if the county did not allow this replacement. By contract at this time the county has agreed to the staff that is currently within the program. Discussion was held on if the position could possibly be terminated at budget time and because of the contract signed this is not an option either. A motion was made by Commissioner Harvey and seconded by Commissioner Wolf to lift the hiring freeze only for public health and allow the position to be filled with a 24 to 32 hour position. Motion carried. Lori reported that the nurse practitioner that public health currently uses has terminated with Dr. Zimmerman and she will be contracting with public health on her own. The contract was reviewed. A motion was made by Commissioner Harvey and seconded by Commissioner Wolf to approve the contract as presented for Debra K. Frank. Motion carried. The nurse practitioner would like to start her own practice and possibly rent a room at public health. Discussion was held on the conflicts this may be caused with others in the building and how the work load and supplies would be kept separate. Also discussed was how much would be charged and how many days the room would be rented. With the division of services being such a great concern the board does not feel that this should be pursued at this time.

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Commissioner Wolf and seconded by Commissioner Harvey to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

(Seal)

Mary Grace Strauch  
Clerk to the Board

Aaron Anderson, Chairman  
Washakie County Commissioners