

09-15-2020 COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

The Board of County Commissioners met at the above date beginning at 9:00 am. Those present were Chairman Fred Frandson, Members Aaron Anderson by Zoom and Terry Wolf, Clerk to the Board Mary Grace Strauch. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Road and Bridge Superintendent Keith Bower. All present at the meeting maintained the six feet distance as is needed for social distancing.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Wolf to approve the September 1, 2020 minutes. Motion carried.

Road and Bridge Superintendent Keith Bower reported that the crew had been doing grading of county roads. The roller should be available for rent from Nowood Construction in the near future. Keith will be ordering salt for the winter months. At this time, the board will not be purchasing a used roller.

Ambulance Director Luke Sypherd and Sheriff Steve Rakness met with the board to discuss the CARES Act grant funding that is available with the State Lands and Investments Board. Discussion was held on which projects and payroll operations are covered regarding COVID 19. Steve does not have any problem with justifying the salary reimbursement request. Discussion was held on if one application or separate applications should be submitted for the funding. Discussion was held on the deadlines on implementing expenditures and knowledge that if the funds could not be spent that they must be paid back. It was decided to move forward with separate resolutions for each priority from the sheriff's department and the ambulance service.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wolf and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to adopt Resolution 353 for reimbursement of \$275,000 for Ambulance payroll expenditures. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wolf and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to adopt Resolution 354 regarding Sheriff's Department, Detention and Dispatch salary reimbursement and authorize the chairman to sign the resolution outside of a meeting if necessary. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wolf and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to adopt Resolution Number 355 regarding the possibility of purchasing an ambulance with CARES funding for \$315,000.00. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wolf and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to adopt Resolution No. 356 regarding the purchase of ventilators with CARES funds for \$35,000.00. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wolf and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to adopt Resolution No. 357 regarding the possible purchase of an HVAC system for the building on 125 South 8th Street and authorize the chairman to sign resolution outside of the meeting after firm figures have been received. Motion carried.

Ambulance Director Luke Sypherd asked if it would be possible to purchase the ambulance now and if the funds are received from the State Lands it would be reimbursed back to the county and the ambulance service. With possible upcoming budget cuts, the board does not want to spend the funds without knowing if there will be reimbursement available.

Public Health Nurse Amanda Heinemeyer reported to the board that surveillance testing is just being started within the county. Two providers were interested in this project. The county has been allocated 350 tests at this time and it consists of a mouth swab. This year flu clinics will be held as drive up clinics to allow for social distancing. Discussion was held on if the COVID 19 operation center should be left open any longer. Amanda will meet with Homeland Security Director Kami Neighbors and discuss at an upcoming meeting. Approval was given by the board that if it were possible to use CARES act funding she will would like to hire additional nursing staff for flu clinics.

Youth Alternatives Director Sarah Garcia, Grant Administrator Sheri Gunderson and Prevention Specialist Lila Jolley discussed with the board that this is suicide prevention month and there are several hotlines that are available for citizens to reach out to for assistance. October is Drug Take Back month so all outdated prescriptions can be dropped off at several locations. Sheri reported that that approval has been granted for the third year of the drug free communities grant. Discussion was held on videos and posters that would be made available for outreach to students regarding a drug free community. Discussion was held on funding loses regarding the Juvenile Justice Grant. Sheri and Sarah have been working on other possible grants that may be available.

Planner David Anderson will publish an RFP for gravel crushing at several county pits. Separate bids for each pit will be opened on October 6 with a completion date of May 1, 2021. Regarding the Brubaker Pit there are several state permits that will need to be completed before any crushing can take place. David will start to work on those permits. Commissioner Wolf reported that he has discussed a road issue with BLM Field Manager Mike Phillips regarding the BLM taking on an easement across a state lands section to connect two numbered BLM roads. This section of road had been used by Black Hills Bentonite for their mining operations and is no longer in use. David will coordinate with the BLM in regards to a survey across this section.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wolf and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to convene into executive session beginning at 10:47 am with County Attorney John Worrall to discuss possible litigation. Motion carried. A motion was made by Commissioner Wolf and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to reconvene into regular session beginning at 10:57 am. Motion carried. No action was taken.

Grothouse President Fred Bronnenberg, TSP Architect Mark Averett by Zoom, Planner David Anderson, Library Director Karen Funk, Library Board member Theresa Livingston, Building Maintenance Manager Tom Schmeltzer, County Attorney John Worrall and Grant Administrator Sheri Gunderson met with the board to discuss a budget alignment that was made in the proposed library remodel. With the elevator option, the budget alignment estimated cost is now \$2,177,907. All were in favor of keeping the elevator in the building versus a lift chair. Also discussed for additional reductions was the use of a furnaces rather than a HVAC system, re-routing of the waterline from Robertson Ave., gypsum prices, use of the patio for storage will not be available due to no fire suppression. Also discussed was using the county owned building on South 8th street instead of bringing a construction trailer into the parking

lot. Final designs will be available from TSP to Groathouse Construction by September 25 and will be presented to the board on October 6.

A public hearing was opened at 1:30 pm and was held at the Washakie County Fairgrounds conference room to discuss the possibility of vacating Lane 18 ½ and to take public input on creating Road 17 ½ Tie Down Road as a county road. This public hearing was recorded. Those present for the hearing were Beverly and Eddie Shumway, Diane and Harold Hazen, Attorney William Miller, Steven and John Snyder, Teresa Craft, and Steve Perry. The legal notice was read for the vacation of Lane 18 ½. There were no written objections received for the vacation of this roadway. If the road is vacated the land would revert to the current landowners. There was discussion on why the road was formed and that it has not been maintained by the county for many years. John Snyder voiced an objection to the vacation of Lane 18 ½ due to the fact that the road is used for farming operations and he does not want to see the roadway go away. John does not have an objection to the county not maintaining but wants the road to stay as it is now. Discussion was held on there being a water meter in the area that will need to be taken into consideration. This information will be taken under consideration by the board before any decisions are made. Also discussed was the benefit to landowners if this is kept as a county road and this land was just given access as a walk in area for hunters.

The Road 17 ½ Tie Down Road petition legal notice was read. There were two written objections to the road becoming a county road. Commissioner Frandson reported to all present that any shrubs, trees, fences, and irrigation pipelines would be grandfathered into the right of way and would not be disturbed by the county. The county will also take responsibility for the pipeline after one year. Any new developments within the right of way will need to be permitted. Discussion was held on the petition and the length of roadway the county would like to take on as county road. The petition takes in more roadway than the county has originally maintained and the additional portion of roadway would need to be brought up to county standards before the board would be willing to take this portion of the roadway as a county road. Also discussed was a bridge that was included in the petition that would need to be brought up to state standards. Steven Snyder as the petitioner stated that he is willing to modify the petition to exclude the bridge but would like to know what the county standards are on the additional roadway to see if the landowners would be willing or able to afford to bring this portion of roadway up to standards. There are several issues regarding the canal bank, riverbank and safety issues that would need to be addressed. With the commodities in the area, it would be beneficial to have a county maintained roadway. All information was taken under advisement. A motion was made by Commissioner Wolf and seconded by Commissioner Anderson to close the hearing at 2:50 pm. Motion carried. The petitioner did not have any issues with amending the original petition and the chairman tabled the petition.

The meeting was recessed beginning at 3:10 pm to conduct road and bridge employee interviews. Commissioner Anderson was not on Zoom for the interviews or the remainder of the meeting.

The meeting reconvened at 4:45 pm.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Accept monthly report for August for the following County Clerk \$11,879.00, Sheriff's Dept. \$6,856.14, Clerk of Court \$976.90, Treasurer's office Trial Balance and Cash Balance.

2. Authorize chairman to sign Wyoming State Forestry Division draw down request for \$3,880.00 regarding the CAFA grant.
3. Authorize chairman to sign Wyoming State Forestry Division draw down request for \$38,590.66 regarding the Firesmart Grant.
4. Authorize chairman to sign Family Planning Expense/Revenue report for August 2020.
5. Authorize chairman signing Tumbleweed Propane contract for one year.
6. Ratify chairman signing HRA agreement with HUB International and EBMS insurance.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wolf and seconded by Commissioner Frandson after removing himself from the chair, to accept the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the board, a motion was made by Commissioner Wolf and seconded by Commissioner Frandson after removing himself from the chair, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

(Seal)

Mary Grace Strauch
Clerk to the Board

Fred W. Frandson, Chairman
Washakie County Commissioners