

Board of County Commissioners

Minutes of the Proceedings - Final

Historic Courthouse
310 W 19th Street
Cheyenne, WY 82001



Tuesday, June 18, 2024

3:30 PM

Commissioners Board Room

Roll Call/Call to Order

Present: Chairman Brian Lovett, Vice Chairman Gunnar Malm, Commissioner Linda Heath, Commissioner K. N. Buck Holmes, Commissioner Troy Thompson

Minutes

1. Consideration of the Minutes of Proceedings for June 4, 2024.

[24 - 327](#)

Attachments: [Draft Minutes June 4, 2024](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner Heath, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lovett, Malm, Heath, Holmes, Thompson

Consent Agenda

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lovett, Malm, Heath, Holmes, Thompson

2. Consideration of an agreement between Laramie County, WY, and GALLS in an amount not to exceed \$40,950 to purchase ballistic shields for the Sheriff's office.

[24 - 301](#)

Attachments: [Agreement, GALLS](#)

This agenda item was approved.

3. Consideration of the ratification of a resolution authorizing submission of a grant application to the Rails for Trails Conservancy for a 2024 Trail Grant on behalf of the Laramie County Recreation Planning and Advisory Board in the amount of \$25,000 to request funds to build a formal pathway from the south end of Clear Creek Park, over the

[24 - 303](#)

creek to the beginning of the trail.

Attachments: [Grant Application, Rails for Trails Conservancy](#)

This agenda item was approved.

4. Consideration of the ratification of a resolution authorizing submission of a grant application to the WY Dept of Transportation, FFY25 Highway Safety Behavioral Grants Program, for Impaired Driving and Occupant Protection High Visibility Overtime Enforcement Grants in the amount of \$41,230.41. [24 - 304](#)

Attachments: [Grant Applicants, WYDOT, FFY25 HSP](#)

This agenda item was approved.

5. Consideration of an amendment to Next Generation 911 System agreement between Laramie County, WY, and ConvergeOne, Inc, as successor-in-interest to ISC, Inc, dba Venture Technologies, in the amount of \$37,175.16. [24 - 302](#)

Attachments: [Amendment, CovergeOne, Inc](#)

This agenda item was approved.

6. Consideration of an amendment to the client service agreement and renewal schedule of services and fees between Laramie County, WY, and Novo Benefits, LLC, to provide consulting and management of the self-funded employee benefit plans. [24 - 305](#)

Attachments: [Amendment and Schedule, Novo Benefits, LLC](#)

This agenda item was approved.

Resolutions

7. Consideration of a resolution giving notice of public hearing on the proposed establishment of the Woods Landing Estates Road Maintenance Improvement and Service District. [24 - 295](#)

Attachments: [Resolution, Proposed Woods Landing Estates Road Maintenance Improvement and Service District](#)

County Clerk Debra Lee explained the process for establishing a special district. She said the purpose of the resolution is to set a hearing date for the proposed district.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Malm, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lovett, Malm, Heath, Holmes, Thompson

-
8. Consideration of a resolution imposing stage one fire restrictions for Laramie County as a result of extreme fire danger.

[24 - 315](#)

Attachments: [Resolution, Imposing Stage 1 Fire Restrictions](#)

Commissioner Thompson requested this item be postponed for further discussion with fire chiefs on the propriety of issuing area/district fire restrictions instead of countywide ones.

A motion was made by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner Holmes, that this agenda item be postponed.

Commissioner Holmes noted the western and northwestern parts of the county are extremely dry and advised the general public to be careful with fires and fireworks.

Commissioner Heath encouraged the residents in rural areas to do fire mitigation practices.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lovett, Malm, Heath, Holmes, Thompson

Grants

9. Consideration of an agreement between Laramie County, WY, and KGA-Chey LLC in an amount not to exceed \$243,438 to purchase six F150 4x4 Cab XL-141 trucks for Public Works.

[24 - 300](#)

Attachments: [Agreement, KGA-Chey, LLC](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner Heath, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lovett, Malm, Heath, Holmes, Thompson

10. Consideration of an agreement between Laramie County, WY, and KONE, Inc, in an amount not to exceed \$277,900 for removal of the existing historic courthouse elevator and to provide an upgraded elevator.

[24 - 319](#)

Attachments: [Agreement, KONE, Inc](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Vice Chairman Malm, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lovett, Malm, Heath, Holmes, Thompson

Contract/Agreement/Leases

11. Consideration of an addendum to the sales order agreement between Laramie County, WY, and Election Systems & Software, LLC, to provide election hardware and software service and maintenance for equipment described in attachment A, in an amount not to exceed \$77,600 and the hardware maintenance, firmware license, maintenance and support fees described in attachment C, in an amount not to exceed \$6,610. [24 - 316](#)

Attachments: [Addendum, Election System & Software, LLC.](#)

County Clerk Debra Lee requested this item be withdrawn. She said the Wyoming Secretary of State's office informed her today, June 18, 2024, that they will make arrangements to purchase the equipment through the state's Election Readiness Account established by the state legislature in 2019. Lee expressed her appreciation to Secretary Gray and his staff.

Commissioner Malm asked when the original request was made. Lee said the equipment was initially requested on Feb 23, 2024, and she provided additional information on March 8, 2024, ensuring all necessary details were covered.

The item was withdrawn.

12. Consideration of an agreement between Laramie County, WY, and BenchMark Engineers, PC, to provide engineering and surveying services. [24 - 323](#)

Attachments: [Agreement, BenchMark Engineers, PC](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Vice Chairman Malm, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lovett, Malm, Heath, Holmes, Thompson

13. Consideration of an agreement between Laramie County, WY, and JTL Group Inc, dba Knife River, for the Archer Parkway Rd & Site Improvement Project. [24 - 324](#)

Attachments: [Agreement, JTL Group, Inc, dba Knife River, Archer Parkway Rd & Site Improvement Project](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Malm, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lovett, Malm, Heath, Holmes, Thompson

14. Consideration of an agreement between Laramie County, WY, and Stasis Design, PC, in an amount not to exceed \$108,850 to provide professional design services in connection with the design of the new Archer storage building and horse barns. [24 - 326](#)

Attachments: [Agreement, Stasis Design, PC](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner Heath, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lovett, Malm, Heath, Holmes, Thompson

Appointments

15. Consideration of a resolution appointing a member to the Laramie County Planning Commission for a three-year term, expiring June 30, 2027. [24 - 306](#)

Attachments: [Planning Commission Appointment](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Malm, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, to reappoint Jason Caughey. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lovett, Malm, Heath, Holmes, Thompson

Items #16 and #17 were consolidated into one motion.

16. Consideration of a resolution appointing a member to the Cheyenne-Laramie County Economic Development Joint Powers Board for a three-year term, expiring June 30, 2027. [24 - 307](#)

Attachments: [Cheyenne-Laramie Co Economic Development JPB Appointment](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Heath, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, to reappoint Mike Williams. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lovett, Malm, Heath, Holmes, Thompson

17. Consideration of a resolution appointing a member to the Cheyenne-Laramie County Economic Development Joint Powers Board for a three-year term, expiring June 30, 2027. [24 - 308](#)

Attachments: [Cheyenne-Laramie Co Economic Development JPB Appointment](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Heath, seconded by Commissioner

Thompson, to reappoint Kevin Marquardt. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lovett, Malm, Heath, Holmes, Thompson

18. Consideration of a resolution appointing a member to the Laramie County Hospital Board of Trustees for a five-year term, expiring June 30, 2029. [24 - 309](#)

Attachments: [Hospital Board Appointment](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Malm, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, to reappoint Pete Obermueller. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lovett, Malm, Heath, Holmes, Thompson

19. Consideration of a resolution appointing a member to the Laramie County Library Board for a three-year term, expiring June 30, 2027. [24 - 310](#)

Attachments: [Library Board Appointment](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, reappoint Steven Leafgreen. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lovett, Malm, Heath, Holmes, Thompson

Items #20 through #22 were consolidated into one motion.

20. Consideration of a resolution appointing a member to the Cheyenne-Laramie County Joint Powers Board for Frontier Park Improvements for a three-year term, expiring June 30, 2027. [24 - 311](#)

Attachments: [Cheyenne-Laramie Co JPB for Frontier Park Improvements Appointment](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Malm, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, reappoint Phil Van Horn. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lovett, Malm, Heath, Holmes, Thompson

21. Consideration of a resolution appointing a member to the Cheyenne-Laramie County Joint Powers Board for Frontier Park Improvements for a three-year term, expiring June 30, 2027. [24 - 312](#)

Attachments: [Cheyenne-Laramie Co JPB for Frontier Park Improvements Appointment](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Malm, seconded by Commissioner

Thompson, to reappoint Ken McCann. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lovett, Malm, Heath, Holmes, Thompson

22. Consideration of a resolution appointing a member to the Cheyenne-Laramie County Joint Powers Board for Frontier Park Improvements for a three-year term, expiring June 30, 2027. [24 - 313](#)

Attachments: [Cheyenne-Laramie Co JPB for Frontier Park Improvements Appointment](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Malm, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, to reappoint Jerry Jessen. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lovett, Malm, Heath, Holmes, Thompson

23. Consideration of a resolution appointing a member to the board of Community Action of Laramie County for a three-year term, expiring June 30, 2027. [24 - 314](#)

Attachments: [Community Action of Laramie County Board Appointment](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Malm, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, to reappoint Lois Prickett. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lovett, Malm, Heath, Holmes, Thompson

Land Use: Variances/Board App./Plats

24. Consideration of the cancellation of the public hearing regarding a subdivision permit and plat for R Bar H Ranch Estates, 3rd Filing, Laramie County, WY. [24 - 285](#)

Attachments: [R Bar H Ranch Estates, 3rd Filing, Subdivision Permit and Plat](#)

Justin Arnold, Planning, said Monty and Tammy Hilliker, applicants, requested this item be withdrawn.

The item was withdrawn.

25. PUBLIC HEARING regarding board approval for a 16-inch water main located in Sects 24 and 25, T13N, R67W of the 6th PM, Laramie County, WY. [24 - 320](#)

Attachments: [Swan Ranch, LLC, Board Approval](#)

Justin Arnold, Planning, said AVI, PC, on behalf of Swan Ranch, LLC, submitted a

board approval application for a 16-inch water main. He said the water line is being installed to serve properties looking to develop and must be looped to the properties.

Arnold said based on evidence provided, staff recommends approval with the adoption of findings of fact a.

Chairman Lovett opened the hearing for PUBLIC COMMENT. Hearing no PUBLIC COMMENT, Chairman Lovett closed the hearing.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Malm, seconded by Commissioner Holmes, to approve the 16-inch water main located in Sects 24 and 25, T13N, R67W of the 6th PM, Laramie County, WY, and adopt the findings of fact a of the staff report. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Lovett, Malm, Heath, Holmes, Thompson

26. PUBLIC HEARING regarding the proposed Ready Wyoming Transmission Lines Project.

[24 - 325](#)

Attachments: [Public Hearing, Ready Wyoming Transmission Lines Project](#)

Justin Arnold, Planning, said Electrical Consultants, Inc, on behalf of Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power, submitted several permitting applications to approve large high-power transmission line projects. He referred to a project map and narrative from the developer. Under Laramie County Land Use Regulations 2-2-127, the board is required to hold a public hearing for every proposal to construct high-power transmission lines in Laramie County to discern the public's position on the project and to assure that the project will be located to minimize disruption of existing county residents and land users. Arnold said while the board does not have the discretion to disapprove the applications, this hearing provides the developer a chance to hear public concerns, answer questions, and make any changes deemed appropriate.

Arnold said the current use of the properties being crossed is primarily agricultural land situated across Laramie County. There are a total of four lines proposed: 1) A 115kV line to connect the Cheyenne Prairie Generation Station west of Campstool Rd exit to the Allison Draw substation about halfway between I-80 and Chalk Bluff Rd; 2) A 230kV line to connect Sweetgrass substation and head in a generally northeasterly direction across the county, into Goshen County, and eventually into Nebraska; 3) A 230kV line to connect the West Cheyenne substation and travel generally north across the county into Platte and then Converse County, ending at the Windstar substation outside of Glenrock; and 4) A 230kV line to connect the West Cheyenne substation just outside of the North Range Business Park to the proposed Sweetgrass substation on the east side of South Greeley Hwy.

Chairman Lovett opened the hearing for PUBLIC COMMENT. Art Van Nostrand, resident, had three questions: 1) Why was the electric line off of Chalk Bluff Rd being run onto properties and the need for an additional maintenance road? 2) What do the

power line poles look like? 3) Will the fence lines be relocated to reflect the correct property lines? Jim Watson, Black Hills Energy and applicant, spoke about the location of electric line off of Chalk Bluff. He said there are a couple of electric lines there; the location is driven by keeping it in a current corridor. He said there is established access to the line and an access road does not need to be established. He said the electric line would use 90-foot wood poles. Watson said the fence would be replaced with a gate in the locations and placed in the area as it was.

Hearing no further PUBLIC COMMENT, Chairman Lovett closed the hearing.

The report was received and filed.

The meeting adjourned at 4:05 pm.

CERTIFICATION

I, Debra K. Lee, Clerk of Laramie County, do hereby certify the above to be a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Proceedings for Tuesday, June 18, 2024.

Approved by : Debra K. Lee, County Clerk

Reviewed by : Brian Lovett, Chairman,

Board of County Commissioners

Reasonable Accommodations

This information is available in alternate forms. If reasonable accommodations are required, contact Laramie County Human Resources at (307) 633-4355 or humanresources@laramiecountywy.gov at least two business days prior to the meeting. Per WS §18-3-516(f), access to county information can be obtained at laramiecountywy.gov.