

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF WYOMING

The Transportation Commission of Wyoming met in the Commission Room of the Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT) Headquarters building, 5300 Bishop Boulevard, in Cheyenne on February 21, 2019. Chairman Ruwart convened the business meeting at 8:30 a.m. The following members were present constituting a quorum:

Bob Ruwart, Chairman, Wheatland
Mike Larson, Vice Chairman, Lusk
Todd Seeton, Commissioner, Jackson
Rick Newton, Commissioner, Buffalo
Louie Pfrangle, Commissioner, Worland
Phil Schmidt, Commissioner, Casper
Jim Espy, Commissioner, Savery
William T. Panos, Director
Sandra J. Scott, Commission Secretary

Others present and participating in the meeting: Dennis Byrne, Chief Financial Officer; Keith Fulton, Assistant Chief Engineer for Engineering and Planning; Mark Gillett, Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations; Taylor Rossetti, Support Services Administrator; Brian Olsen, Aeronautics Administrator; Pat Lewis, Chief Technology Officer; Lieutenant Colonel Shannon Ratliff, Highway Patrol Operations Commander; Mike Kahler, Supervising Attorney General; Rodney Freier, Budget Program Manager; and Bryan Cawley, Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Other meeting attendees: Tom DeHoff, Lowell Fleenor, Keith Compton, Scott Taylor, and Pete Hallsten.

Ms. Shelby Carlson, Chief Engineer, was absent.

1. Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Ruwart led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Since it was his last Commission meeting, Chairman Ruwart expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve as a commissioner, stating it has been an honor to serve with the WYDOT staff and other personnel, and he thanked everyone for the extraordinary work they do for WYDOT on a daily basis.

The commissioners thanked Chairman Ruwart and Commissioner Seeton for their hard work and commitment to the Department over the years.

3. Approval of Minutes: It was recommended by Secretary Scott, moved by Commissioner Schmidt, seconded by Commissioner Newton, and carried to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2019, breakfast meeting, business meeting, and education session, the February 14, 2019, emergency meeting and executive session, and the February 19, 2019, special meeting.

4. Director Panos presented the Director's report.

Director Panos thanked Chairman Ruwart and Commissioner Seeton for their six years of service to the Commission and to Wyoming citizens.

Legislative Update: WYDOT is tracking about 150 bills that are moving through the legislative session, of which 56 have failed, 26 have passed, and 68 remain active. Director Panos believes WYDOT executive staff is well organized and that they have a good working relationship with the legislature today. Director Panos thanked the executive staff for their hard work throughout the session.

HB0001/SF0001, General Appropriations, passed the House and the Senate this week, and it now goes to Governor Gordon for his consideration. The bill includes a 2.1 percent increase for state employee salaries less than \$80,000. No general funds are appropriated for WYDOT salaries, but the Department has set aside funding to cover that expense, if the measure passes.

The legislature approved \$15 million for the Capacity Purchase Agreement (CPA) for Wyoming's commercial air service. Director Panos thanked the legislature, the Aeronautics Commission, the Aeronautics Division staff, and local communities for their work on the Commercial Air Service Improvement Council throughout the year to make the CPA come to fruition. The effort will realize \$7 million in savings over the next 10 years to the State, and it will stabilize commercial air service for many Wyoming communities.

A budget amendment was proposed in the legislature to force the sale of the state's two Cessna Citations and have the proceeds go toward funding WYDOT's surveying and other emergency services. The Senate conceded to not forcing the immediate sale and to conduct a study to possibly outsource WYDOT's photogrammetry and aerial survey work.

HB0228 and SF0162 were proposed in this legislative session to promote various options to fund wildlife crossing construction in Wyoming. WYDOT currently implements wildlife crossings into road construction projects, when feasible, in an effort to reduce design and construction costs for the crossings. These bills, if passed, will inject between \$11 million to \$12.4 million of WYDOT funds and \$5 million in federal mineral royalties to wildlife crossing projects. If the bill passes, the Game and Fish Department and local entities would also be required to inject funds into those projects.

SF0074, Professional Services Procurement, would require in-state preference to firms providing professional architectural, engineering, and land surveying services to the State. The Senate amended the bill to include only state-funded contracts, as WYDOT would have been forced to forfeit federal funds for those contracts.

A bill was proposed to establish a "9-1-1" coordinator at WYDOT. The bill focuses on protecting first responders statewide.

The Joint Transportation, Highways & Military Affairs Committee (JTC) will meet at noon today to discuss interim topics.

Federal Infrastructure Bill: Wyoming is actively participating in developing new federal infrastructure legislation. The Five-State Coalition, representing Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming, has provided significant input into key infrastructure issues and ideas that will benefit rural states. Director Panos provided a handout to the Commission depicting some of the main points the Five-State Coalition is advocating in regards to any future infrastructure legislation.

Transportation Commission Appointments: Governor Gordon has nominated three individuals to fill seats on the Aeronautics and Transportation Commissions. Chairman William DeVore was nominated for reappointment to the Aeronautics Commission. Messrs. Lee Filer, of Cheyenne, and Jon Dolezal, of Evanston, were selected to replace Transportation Commission Chairman Bob Ruwart and Commissioner Todd Seeton, respectively, effective March 1, 2019. All three appointments are contingent upon Senate confirmation.

Wyoming Highway Patrol (WHP) Academy Relocation and Laramie County Community College (LCCC) Partnership: For the past 16 years, the WHP Academy has been held at the Camp Guernsey training facility, 100 miles from WYDOT Headquarters. Many concerns exist with the facility's location, amenities, and the cost of training at the site.

The WHP is investigating the possibility of moving its WHP Academy training to LCCC in Cheyenne. Director Panos advised that LCCC offers many benefits for hosting Academy training, but some hurdles will have to be overcome to make it become a reality.

Headquarters Building 6100 Renovation Project: WYDOT has been planning a heating and ventilation rehabilitation project for Building 6100 in Cheyenne for several years. Director Panos advised that the project was recently postponed until a full assessment of all WYDOT facilities can be made to prioritize all building improvements statewide.

WYDOT Accomplishment Summary: Director Panos shared a summary of WYDOT accomplishments from late 2015 through 2018. The summary was also shared with Governor Gordon and others to document and reflect on the vast achievements by WYDOT employees during that period.

Director Panos thanked the Commission for affording him the honor and privilege of serving the State of Wyoming, the Commission, and the Department of Transportation over the last 3.5 years. The Commission collectively thanked Director Panos for his service to WYDOT.

5. Mr. Byrne presented the Chief Financial Officer's report.

Monthly Budget Report: Mr. Freier presented the monthly budget report. The January 2019 budget report revealed that the Commission budget is 31 percent expended, and the legislative budget is 32 percent expended, which is within budget tolerances.

WYDOT has expended about \$16 million for snow control through January in this fiscal year compared to \$14 million in FY 2018. Another \$2.5 million has been expended so far just this month, bringing the total snow control expenditures to \$18.5 million this fiscal year.

6. It was recommended by Mr. Byrne, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Schmidt, and carried to move Bid Numbers 19-063, 19-078, 19-079, 19-081, and 19-084, to a consent list.

It was moved by Commissioner Seeton, seconded by Commissioner Newton, and carried to approve, by consent, the following bids:

- Bid No. 19-063 to furnish 11,472 each Shur-Flex delineator kits, posts, joints, and snow poles, for use in various locations statewide. The bid was awarded to Geotec Industrial Supply, of Mills, Wyoming, for the sum of \$322,931.27.
- Bid No. 19-078 to furnish 14,200 tons of performance grade 64-22 oil hot mix bituminous pavement material, ½-inch, and 120 tons of tack oil, for use in Cheyenne and Laramie. The bid was awarded to Knife River, of Cheyenne, Wyoming, for the sum of \$730,350.00.
- Bid No. 19-079 to furnish 12,372 tons of performance grade phase binder hot plant mix bituminous pavement material, ½-inch and ⅜-inch, for use in Casper. The bid was awarded to 71 Construction, of Casper, Wyoming, for the sum of \$644,256.12.
- Bid No. 19-081 to furnish 5,850 tons of performance grade asphalt binder warm plant mix bituminous pavement material, ⅜-inch; 3,850 tons of commercial cold mix; and 35 tons of tack oil, for use in Riverton and Cody. The bid was awarded to 71 Construction, of Riverton Wyoming, for the sum of \$266,500.00, and Mountain Construction Company of Lovell, Wyoming, for the sum of \$484,530.00, for a total sum of \$751,030.00.
- Bid No. 19-084 to furnish a heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) control replacement for use at WYDOT Headquarters in Cheyenne. The bid was awarded to Johnson Controls, Inc., of Cheyenne, Wyoming, for the sum of \$240,000.00.

Wyoming Governmental Spending and Efficiency Study: The 2017 Wyoming Legislature passed SF0156, State Government Efficiencies, to review potential efficiencies in Wyoming state government. Alvarez & Marsal (A&M) Public Sector Services was hired to conduct a state efficiency study. One element of the study was to develop a shared services model to identify what state services, if any, could be shared across state agencies. WYDOT met with A&M representatives to discuss the matter. Mr. Byrne expressed concern that, if the study results are implemented, the Department would have no control over the level of service provided or cost of those services. A&M took the concerns under advisement.

The second part of the study was to identify additional efficiencies within individual agencies, such as the number of commissions or the number of duplicative services. A comprehensive draft report is anticipated in March. More information will be shared with the Commission when it becomes available, possibly later this year.

7. Mr. Cawley presented an update on FHWA topics.

Heavy Vehicle Use Tax Review: Over the past month, the FHWA and WYDOT staff reviewed the Wyoming Heavy Vehicle Use Tax program. The review verified WYDOT's compliance with heavy vehicle use tax requirements and provided an opportunity to explore enhanced efficiencies. Some recommendations for program enhancements include maintaining a record of vague or potentially fraudulent stamps or watermarks for training, exploring opportunities to provide shared database resources/software with counties, and help county treasurers to enhance the quality of the Heavy Vehicle Use Tax program at the local level.

Closing of Stale-But-Active Projects: In January, WYDOT closed 11 stale-but-active projects, which allowed for re-obligating about \$3 million to other WYDOT projects.

Emergency Relief Funding: WYDOT has been allocated an additional \$12 million in emergency program funds as follows:

- \$57,000 to finish and close the 2015 Wind River Canyon flooding,
- \$2.7 million for various projects associated with the 2016 flooding, and
- \$9.3 million for various projects associated with the 2017 snowpack and runoff.

- Federal-aid Funding: President Trump signed an appropriations bill into law on February 15 that will fund the U.S. government through September 30, 2019. Some key items of this law are:
 - Overall obligation limitation level of \$45.3 billion, which is equal to the level set forth in the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act and President Trump's FY 2019 budget request
 - \$900 million for the National Investment and Infrastructure, or the discretionary Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Transportation Discretionary Grants program
 - \$3.25 billion from the General Fund to fund the following:
 - \$2.7 billion as a subset of Surface Transportation Block Grant Programs (STBG) for the elimination of hazards and installation of protective devices at railway-highway crossings
 - \$16 million for Puerto Rico Highway Program activities
 - \$5 million for Territorial Highway Program activities
 - \$25 million for Nationally Significant Federal Lands and Tribal Projects Programs
 - \$475 million for formula-based bridge replacement and rehabilitation programs, to be dedicated to states with:
 - At least 7.5 percent bridge deck areas in a poor condition
 - Wyoming is one of only 19 states that qualify for this funding

8. Mr. Fulton presented the Chief Engineer's report in Ms. Carlson's absence.

Wyoming Engineering Society (WES) President's Project of the Year Award: WYDOT recently received the 2018 WES President's Project of the Year Award for its work on the Laramie Streets Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) Overpass project. WYDOT and Tri-Hydro Corporation, a consultant for the project, submitted the project for consideration in the award. The annual competition recognizes excellence in engineering and surveying projects that benefit Wyoming citizens.

The project was planned for many years and was ultimately completed in 2018. The newly realigned roadway has five lanes, two lanes each direction with a center turn lane, pedestrian sidewalks, a bicycle path that ties into the existing bike path system, a new structure over the UPRR tracks, a widened existing bridge over the Laramie River, and decorative lighting and railing. The contract also included removing the old Clark Street Viaduct. The new road and structure will provide better access, mobility, and long-term benefits to the Laramie community.

The Commission moved into the lobby at WYDOT Headquarters to recognize those who participated in the project's success and to congratulate the participants on the WES award.

The Commission came back to order in the Commission Room.

Mr. Freier did not return to the meeting.

Beartooth Highway Project Update: WYDOT received a \$16.6 million BUILD grant for the 1.6-mile Beartooth Highway project. The Central Federal Lands (CFL) Highway Division, which is providing the design, construction engineering, and construction management for the project, estimates the cost of the project will be more than the anticipated \$16.6 million. WYDOT worked with CFL to modify the plans to include a base bid portion including the bridge, retaining walls, and approximately half of the roadway work. The remainder of the planned work will be bid as options. WYDOT, working with FHWA, are reviewing if this plan of action will meet grant requirements. If approved, the project will be let with optional bid items, allowing WYDOT and CFL to choose the options that will maximize the available funding. Meanwhile, other funding sources are being sought to cover the costs of the optional work.

Grant Applications: Mr. Fulton advised that WYDOT is currently working on three Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) Grant applications. One INFRA grant application is for an I-80 pavement project with a truck climbing lane, another is to extend existing truck climbing lanes on I-80 in western Wyoming, and the third grant application is for the widening of WYO 59 to five lanes near Wright, Wyoming, and to extend several existing passing lanes. Grant applications are due in March, and a response is expected by the end of the year. The grants require 20 percent state and 80 percent federal matching funds.

Legislative Update: The state-owned Cessna Caravan is currently used for all WYDOT aerial mapping, and surveying, and photography. The aircraft is also used to map changes in roadways and rivers over time and in emergency situations, such as ice jams, major crash scenes, slides, flooding, and forest fires.

In the 2019 General Appropriations bill, via a footnote, the Wyoming Senate proposed selling the Caravan. A Joint Conference Committee amended the bill to require only a study of the current aircraft use to determine whether selling the plane is practical. WYDOT will hire a consultant to conduct the study. The report is due to the Joint Appropriations Committee by November 1, 2019.

Two other bills were proposed for additional wildlife crossings throughout Wyoming. Both bills initially included funding for additional crossings, but they were ultimately changed and, if the bills pass, WYDOT will have to pay for the projects. Both bills have stalled in the session. WYDOT hosted a wildlife summit in 2017, and the Wyoming Wildlife Roadway Initiative Implementation Team (WRIIT) was formed to address wildlife migration corridors statewide. A list of prioritized wildlife crossing projects was established to address problem areas statewide.

9. Mr. Fulton presented the following bid tabulations from the letting held February 14, 2019, in Casper.

Federal project STP-1500018, involving grading, placing bases, bituminous pavement surfacing, chip sealing, and miscellaneous work on 5.20 miles of WYO 290, beginning at reference marker (RM) 6.06, between Meeteetse and Pitchfork, in Park County. Completion date: October 31, 2019

Engineer's Estimate	\$2,289,898.75	
McGarvin-Moberly Construction Co., Worland, WY	\$2,280,817.71	-0.4%
Mountain Construction Company, Lovell, WY	\$2,299,945.83	
Century Companies, Inc., Lewistown, MT	\$2,454,134.50	
Riverside Contracting, Inc., Missoula, MT	\$2,459,354.13	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Pfrangle, seconded by Commissioner Newton, and carried that McGarvin-Moberly Construction Co., Worland, Wyoming, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder. The Federal Highway Administration concurred with this decision.

State project IRP-CN18061, involving grading, milling plant mix, placing crushed base, and miscellaneous work on approximately 18.20 miles of County Road 68 (D Road), just north of Moorcroft, beginning at RM 0.00, in Crook County. Completion date: October 31, 2019

Engineer's Estimate	\$2,249,333.00	
Croell, Inc., Sundance, WY	\$1,599,815.41	-28.9%
Timberline Services, Inc., Sundance, WY	\$1,618,667.86	
Earth Work Solutions (WY), Gillette, WY	\$1,910,799.60	
Western Construction, Inc., Rapid City, SD	\$2,089,501.00	
Plus 5% for Comparison	\$2,193,976.05	
Simon Contractors and its subsidiaries, Cheyenne, WY	\$2,524,238.81	
Frost Rock Products Company, Lovell, WY	\$2,609,943.56	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Schmidt, and carried that Croell, Inc., Sundance, Wyoming, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder. Crook County concurred with this decision.

Federal projects STP-RF-B195010 and CMP-RF-B195025 combined, involving removal and replacement of right-of-way fence and miscellaneous work at various locations in Transportation District 5, including Big Horn, Hot Springs, Park, and Washakie counties. Completion date: October 31, 2020

Engineer's Estimate	\$1,797,326.65	
King Enterprises, Mills, WY	\$1,592,320.75	-11.4%
Patrick Construction, Inc., Lander, WY	\$2,348,152.43	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Newton, seconded by Commissioner Seeton, and carried that King Enterprises, Mills, Wyoming, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder. The Federal Highway Administration concurred with this decision.

Federal project NHPP-N345108, involving grading, milling plant mix, placing crushed base and bituminous pavement surfacing, chip sealing, and miscellaneous work on approximately 5.00 miles of US 310 and WYO 789, beginning at RM 230.00, between Greybull and Lovell, in Big Horn County. Completion date: October 31, 2019

Engineer's Estimate	\$1,719,884.25	
Mountain Construction Company, Lovell, WY	\$1,672,701.76	-2.7%
Century Companies, Inc., Lewistown, MT	\$1,725,335.00	
Riverside Contracting, Inc., Missoula, MT	\$1,992,751.75	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Pfrangle, seconded by Vice Chairman Larson, and carried that Mountain Construction Company, Lovell, Wyoming, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder. The Federal Highway Administration concurred with this decision.

Federal project STP-BROS-CN08077, involving grading, placing crushed base and bituminous pavement surfacing, structure replacement, and miscellaneous work at RM 44.00, at the Sybille Creek Bridge (County Road CN8-204), in Platte County. Completion date: May 31, 2020

Engineer's Estimate	\$1,130,883.25	
Reiman Corp., Cheyenne, WY	\$1,051,572.50	-7.0%
S & S Builders, LLC, Gillette, WY	\$1,079,283.09	
Dietzler Construction Corporation, Yoder, WY	\$1,109,467.31	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Schmidt, and carried that Reiman Corp., Cheyenne, Wyoming, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be conditionally awarded the contract as low bidder, pending Platte County Commission concurrence. When Platte County concurrence is received, WYDOT executive staff is permitted to remove the condition and award the contract. The Federal Highway Administration concurred with this decision.

Federal project STP-PM-B194022, involving chip sealing and miscellaneous work at various locations in Transportation District 4, including Campbell County. Completion date: August 31, 2019

Engineer's Estimate	\$1,126,250.00	
Bituminous Paving, Inc., Ortonville, MN	\$ 935,491.00	-16.9%
Simon Contractors and its subsidiaries, Cheyenne, WY	\$ 997,025.00	
Northern Improvement Company and Sub, Fargo, ND	\$1,021,090.00	
Intermountain Slurry Seal, Inc., North Salt Lake, UT	\$1,116,380.00	
Riverside Contracting, Inc., Missoula, MT	\$1,124,185.00	
71 Construction, Casper, WY	\$1,222,648.71	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Newton, seconded by Commissioner Seeton, and carried that Bituminous Paving, Inc., Ortonville, Minnesota, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder. The Federal Highway Administration concurred with this decision.

Federal project STP-PM-B199002, involving installing epoxy pavement lines and miscellaneous work at various locations in Transportation Districts 1 and 4, in Albany, Campbell, Carbon, Crook, Johnson, Laramie, Sheridan counties. Completion date: September 30, 2019

Engineer's Estimate	\$767,970.00	
Streamline Markings, Inc., Billings, MT	\$775,020.00	+0.9%

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Seeton, seconded by Commissioner Newton, and carried that Streamline Markings, Inc., Billings, Montana, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder. The Federal Highway Administration concurred with this decision.

State project SCP-TC-B182023, involving chip sealing and miscellaneous work at various locations in Transportation District 2, including Goshen and Platte counties. Completion date: August 31, 2019

Engineer's Estimate	\$638,150.00	
Bituminous Paving, Inc., Ortonville, MN	\$563,458.50	-11.7%
Plus 5% for Comparison	\$591,631.43	
Intermountain Slurry Seal, Inc., North Salt Lake, UT	\$628,870.00	
Plus 5% for Comparison	\$660,313.50	
71 Construction, Casper, WY	\$722,716.71	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Newton, and carried that Bituminous Paving, Inc., Ortonville, Minnesota, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder.

Federal project HSIP-B193026, involving the installation of epoxy pavement lines and miscellaneous work at various locations in Transportation District 3, including Sublette, Sweetwater, Teton, and Uinta counties. Completion date: July 31, 2019

Engineer's Estimate	\$530,860.00	
Streamline Markings, Inc., Billings, MT	\$548,360.00	+3.3%

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Seeton, seconded by Commissioner Pfrangle, and carried that Streamline Markings, Inc., Billings, Montana, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder. The Federal Highway Administration concurred with this decision.

10. Mr. Gillett presented the Operations report.

District 2 State-of-the-District Report: Mr. Fleenor advised that, like the other districts, District 2 has persevered and survived the budget cuts, recruitment and employee retention, and other perplexing issues over the past year.

The district continued to work on the Westwinds Interchange project in the Bar Nunn area through 2018. The project is open to traffic this winter, and final work will be complete this summer.

The northbound lane of the I-25 Cassa Section project, between Wheatland and Glendo, is also nearly complete. The southbound lane will be constructed in 2019.

The Lusk to Van Tassell project, east of Lusk, was scheduled to be complete in 2019, and it is nearly complete, with very minor finish work left to be done. The adjoining project to the west will be let in 2019, which will complete the construction of that corridor.

Industrial traffic has significantly increased on WYO 59, between Douglas and Wright, because of the resurgence of the energy industry. US 20/26, between Casper and Shoshoni, is also experiencing higher traffic volumes due to gas field production in the area. Passing lanes and overlay projects are planned for that highway to help mitigate the impacts.

Some of District 2's biggest challenges are budget constraints in maintenance, equipment, and traffic. There are currently 4 permanent position vacancies on the construction crews, 10 permanent maintenance openings, and 3 temporary snow plow driver position vacancies. The district's Traffic Operations division has two openings, and there is one vacancy in the Equipment Shop. Mr. Fleenor indicated District 2 currently has a 10 percent position vacancy rate.

District 3 State-of-the-District Report: Mr. Compton recognized Chairman Ruwart and Commissioner Seeton for their service to the state over the last six years and thanked them for their exemplary work.

The district let 13 construction projects to contract last year, totaling about \$54.3 million. One of the more notable projects is the continuation of the Jackson South project that involves expanding the highway from two to five lanes. The Ham's Fork Road 17-mile overlay project was completed at a cost of \$4.5 million. A \$9.3 million contract was also let for an 8-mile milling and overlay and structure rehabilitation project on I-80 between Lyman and Granger. The Rock Springs to Rawlins project, Point of Rocks West, was also let for \$16.9 million.

Maintenance crews assisted with the 60,000-acre Roosevelt Fire in Sublette County adjacent to US 189/191 in the summer of 2018, which was at one time the number one priority firefighting effort in the nation. At the direction of Governor Mead, crews also worked with the U.S. Forest Service and affected landowners late last fall, after the fire was put out, in an effort to make improvements that would help prevent future erosion and damage to the road this spring.

Like other districts, District 3 also faces staffing challenges, particularly in maintenance, with a 25 percent turnover rate in 2018. Within the district, 31 percent have less than 2 years with WYDOT, and 40 percent have less than 5 years with the Department.

About 60 to 65 percent of the district's FY 2019 snow control budget has been expended. Teton Pass has received record-breaking snowfall so far in February 2019. WYDOT's avalanche team has worked tirelessly to control the number of avalanches on Teton Pass and the surrounding area to ensure the safety of motorists. The Town of Jackson and Teton County have also struggled with avalanches. One avalanche occurred within Jackson's city limits, it dammed Flat Creek, and caused area flooding.

Mr. Compton is working with the U.S. Forest Service to address a long-standing issue of winter recreationalists parking along the highway on Teton Pass and skiers triggering avalanches that reach the road. Meetings have been scheduled with the Forest Service and the Backcountry

Alliance to discuss each entity's mission, address parking issues, and to create a safer environment for skiers and for the traveling public.

Affordable employee housing is still scarce in Teton County. WYDOT has attempted to develop Department-provided employee housing in the Jackson area. Mr. Compton hopes to pursue this further over the next couple of years. Department-provided housing will be critical for WYDOT to fulfill its mission in the future as more employees retire. Attracting and retaining employees will also be extremely difficult given the availability of affordable housing.

WYDOT currently has two projects planned in the Star Valley area, between Etna and Alpine, that will convert the two-lane highway to five lanes. An area that is not currently in the State Improvement Program (STIP) is Alpine north. Alpine is one of the fastest growing towns in Wyoming, and it may require some road construction with capacity and operational improvements on US 26 between Alpine and the Idaho state line.

District 3's table of organization includes about 191 authorized positions that make up 7 construction crews, 13 maintenance crews, 4 traffic crews, and 4 mechanic shops.

Mr. Gillett continued his Operations report.

Construction Update: The emergency rock-fall mitigation project at the tunnels west of Cody was completed in early February. WYDOT has only minor cleanup remaining on the project.

The contractor is replacing riprap at Diversion Dam on WYO 26 to repair washed out areas from flooding that occurred last year.

Kilroy Construction is building a detour on the Afton to Auburn project to prepare for a structure replacement.

Reiman Construction continues its work on the Alcova Bridge project in Natrona County.

Many other smaller projects are ongoing that involve crack sealing, crushing aggregate, and signal upgrades.

Maintenance Update: Maintenance crews have been very busy with snow control operations. Extreme winter conditions necessitated closing I-80 and other state highways statewide. Four snow plow trucks, including a tow plow and a frontend loader-mounted rotary plow were moved from northwest Wyoming to assist with snow removal operations along I-80. District 4 has been utilizing its rotary plow to clear the pass over the Big Horn Mountains, when necessary, to allow access to western Wyoming.

On January 22, 2019, a plow truck's side-mount plow hit a pedestrian on WYO 530 south of Green River. The pedestrian's vehicle was stuck in the snow in the opposite lane, and he was struck while putting chains on his vehicle. The individual was taken to the Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County and was later moved to Salt Lake City for further treatment.

On February 7, 2019, an 8-yard plow truck was involved in a crash with a semi-truck on WYO 220, between Casper and Muddy Gap. The plow truck remains out of service and it is still being evaluated for the necessary repairs.

Eight other plows were involved in crashes so far this month. Those vehicles sustained minor damage and there were no reported injuries. A total of 16 WYDOT plows have been struck so far this winter.

Teton County recently experienced a few natural avalanches. One event buried a vehicle on Teton Pass near WYDOT's vehicle arrestor system, and the driver escaped with no injuries. Another avalanche occurred south of Jackson on US 89, four in Hoback Canyon, and one more in the Snake River Canyon. No vehicles were damaged in these later incidents, and there were no reported injuries.

Two avalanches occurred in the town of Jackson, and one of those buried part of Spring Gulch Road.

US 89 in the Snake River Canyon was closed and WYO 22 over Teton Pass for most of the day on February 15 due to a high avalanche risk and avalanche mitigation.

District crews performed 11 manmade avalanche missions so far this winter, of which four were conducted this month.

US 89 north of Jackson goes through Teton National Park and, although it is designated as a highway, it is not under WYDOT's jurisdiction; the Park Service is responsible for maintaining that portion of the highway. Mr. Gillett noted that WYDOT has occasionally assisted with US 89 North snow removal in the past and is working with the Park Service to potentially help in the future, too.

During March, many school events are planned in Casper, which will significantly increase travel in the area. Maintenance crews will work diligently, including weekends, to keep the roads cleared of snow and ice for those travelers.

Traffic Operations Update: In addition to servicing their striping equipment, traffic crews are assisting maintenance personnel with snow removal operations through the winter.

Sign Crews: Weather permitting, sign crews are replacing damaged signs and also assisting with snow plowing efforts.

The "no parking" signs with beacons that were installed on Teton Pass last month seem to be working as planned, and so far have been an effective tool to prevent drivers from parking on the pass.

Effective January 1, 2019, the City of Cheyenne will no longer perform maintenance on WYDOT-owned traffic signals within city limits. The City was performing such maintenance under an agreement with the Department. This change has had a significant impact on District 1 electrical crew, as they have been busy cleaning and replacing components and associated work related to bringing those signals back up to WYDOT's standard.

Mechanics Update: Mechanics have been very busy keeping plow trucks and other snow removal equipment in good working order. Mr. Gillett acknowledged their exceptional work to keep WYDOT's snow control operations moving forward.

WYDOT Facilities Update: All Wyoming rest areas are open, with no major building repairs going on at this time.

Mr. Gillett acknowledged and thanked Chairman Ruwart, Commissioner Seeton, and Director Panos for their service to the state and for their support over the years.

11. Mr. Lewis presented the Chief Technology Officer's report.

WyoLink Tower Build-Out Update: Mr. Lewis briefed the Commission about the WyoLink tower build-out project.

The geotechnical work for the Buffalo site was completed on February 18, 2019. Construction design will begin when the final geotechnical report is received, in about two weeks. Groundbreaking for the new tower at Buffalo is anticipated in April 2019.

Permission has been granted to commence drilling for the geotechnical work at the Wright tower site. The geotechnical work will begin sometime during the week March 4, 2019.

Approval of the proposed WYDOT-owned Orin Junction and Lusk tower sites is anticipated soon from the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Geotechnical work will begin at these locations as soon as SHPO approval is received.

The proposed Meadowlark-Ten Sleep area site is located on U.S. Forest Service (USFS) property. WYDOT staff has met with USFS personnel to work through the approval process for that tower installation.

Three proposed tower sites are located on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) property. Mr. Lewis indicated WYDOT has met with BLM officials about constructing those towers, and the meetings are going well.

Federal funds are being used to build all of the above-mentioned tower sites. Preconstruction meetings are being held to educate the contractors about the federal requirements and the engineering and inspection requirements when construction gets underway.

Random Acts of Kindness Week: Governor Gordon recently declared February 18-22, 2019, as Random Acts of Kindness Week. WYDOT was asked to utilize its dynamic message signs (DMS) to promote the event. DMS safety messages were broadcast along Wyoming highways with a twist of kindness added in.

Legislative Update: HB0161, Statewide 911 Coordinator, was introduced this legislative session. If passed, the bill would allow Governor Gordon to designate an individual within WYDOT as the statewide 911 coordinator. Many county government agencies are interested in 911 and NextGen 911 services. The federal government requires a statewide 911 coordinator, and since the Public Safety Communications Commission (PSCC) is part of WYDOT, the logical place for the 911 coordinator position is within this agency.

JTC Interim Topics: One of the proposed 2019 JTC interim topics is finding a long-term and dedicated funding stream for the PSCC and for WyoLink maintenance and operations. The PSCC's current statutory responsibility is the WyoLink system, and as other responsibilities are added, such as the 911 coordinator position, further statutory review is needed to identify the PSCC's full responsibilities. As the owner of all WyoLink assets and funding, Mr. Lewis will keep the Transportation Commission involved in any changes that may occur.

12. Lieutenant Colonel Ratliff presented the Highway Patrol report in Colonel Haller's absence.

Lieutenant Colonel Ratliff recognized Chairman Ruwart, Commissioner Seeton, and Director Panos for their leadership, support, and representation of the Department over the years.

The Fatal Crash Summary through January 31, 2019, includes 9 fatal crashes involving 14 deaths. The fatalities include 2 rollover crashes, 10 multi-car crashes, and 2 pedestrians. Of the nine fatal crashes that have occurred in 2019, four involved commercial vehicles.

Of the 14 deaths that have occurred this year, 4 can be attributed to the non-use of occupant restraints, with 1 involving a rollover crash and 3 involving multi-car collisions. All of those who died from the non-use of occupant restraints were Wyoming residents. None of those who perished were under 21 years of age.

There were two fatal crashes deemed drug or alcohol related, resulting in four deaths. Of those deaths, two were attributed to not using occupant restraints. One was a rollover crash, and three were multi-car crashes. No commercial vehicles were involved with the drug- or alcohol-related fatalities.

Of the nine fatal crashes that have occurred this year, six of them occurred on primary/secondary highways, three occurred on interstate highways, and none occurred on city/county roads.

Four multiple-fatality crashes occurred on Wyoming highways in 2019; all of them involved multiple vehicles, one involved a commercial vehicle, and one was alcohol related.

In locations where rumble strips/stripes were present, there was one crash. There were three crashes where rumble strips/stripes were not present.

Inclement weather or road conditions contributed to two vehicle crashes in 2019, which resulted in three deaths. Speed was considered a factor in five of the vehicle crashes that caused seven deaths.

The days of the week for fatal crashes in 2019 were as follows:

Sunday	1 crashes
Monday	1 crashes
Tuesday	1 crashes
Wednesday	2 crashes
Thursday	3 crashes
Friday	1 crashes
Saturday	0 crashes

The times of day for fatal crashes in 2019 were as follows:

12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.	0 crashes
6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	5 crashes
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	3 crashes
6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.	1 crashes

The following statistics were also provided to the Commission:

- 50 percent of those who died in rollover crashes were unbelted.
- 30 percent of all those who died in multi-vehicle crashes were unbelted.
- 71 percent of the fatalities in 2019 were drivers.
- 50 percent of the resident fatalities were unrestrained.
- Alcohol and/or drug impairment was a factor in 29 percent of the fatalities.

Patrol-Investigated Crash Summary: The Patrol-Investigated Crash Summary depicts 664 crashes statewide, of which 393 involved non-commercial vehicles, and 271 involved commercial vehicles.

A pin map was also provided to the Commission depicting the locations of the 2019 fatal crashes.

Trooper Vacancies Update: The WHP currently has trooper vacancies statewide.

Seat Belt Safety Campaign: At the January 17, 2019, business meeting, the Commission asked if the Wyoming Highway Patrol ever joined forces with the Wyoming Auto Dealers' Association (WADA) to help promote seat belt safety. The WHP recently reached out to the WADA to initiate the safety campaign.

New Trooper Commissioning: Eleven new troopers will be sworn in before the Wyoming Supreme Court on March 21, 2019. Lieutenant Colonel Ratliff invited the Commission to attend that event.

Towing Advisory Board and Towing Regulation Revisions: Pursuant to discussions with the legislature during the past few years, a Towing Advisory Board (TAB) was recently created to address significant concerns about Wyoming's towing industry. The TAB recently met and established a Towing Dispute Resolution Committee. Correspondence was mailed to every tow operator statewide notifying them of the TAB and inviting them to the meeting.

The TAB reviewed and revised Wyoming's current towing rules and regulations. The proposed new rule is being worked, and it will soon be advertised for public comment.

13. Mr. Rossetti presented the Support Services report.

Employment Summary: WYDOT employed 1,901 personnel as of February 13, 2019, compared to 1,906 a month ago and 1,920 one year ago. As of January 31, 2019, there were 33 vacant permanent snow plow operator positions statewide.

Mr. Rossetti provided a statewide summary of maintenance positions, including the number of vacant positions in each maintenance classification, the four-year average turnover rate, and the vacancy rate. In 2019, the statewide turnover rate for entry level maintenance positions (snow plow operators) was 19 percent, and the vacancy rate was 10.6 percent. Of the 310 entry level maintenance positions, the turnover rates were 17 percent in 2015, 18 percent in 2016, 19 percent in 2017, and 21 percent in 2018.

According to an October 2018 report from the State Department of Administration and Information, the overall state workforce turnover rate is 18.4 percent, and WYDOT's overall turnover rate was 15.9 percent, an increase of almost 3 percent over the last two years.

Messrs. Rossetti, Byrne, Lewis, and Lieutenant Colonel Ratliff left the meeting.

14. Mr. Olsen presented the Aeronautics report beginning with the January 2019 Aeronautics Flight Operations Passenger Summary Report. Mr. Olsen noted that FY 2018 and 2019 year-to-date information was added to the usual report this month.

Capacity Purchase Agreement (CPA) Update: The CPA negotiations are ongoing, and memoranda of understanding (MOU) are being drafted with the Sheridan, Rock Springs, Cody, and Gillette airport boards for commercial air service.

Consultant selection meeting is tentatively scheduled and pertinent documents are being gathered for the selection of an airline. The Wyoming Senate President and Speaker of the House were asked to appoint a legislator from each house to participate in the selection committee.

A \$15 million appropriation is included in HB0001/SF0001, General Government Appropriations, to fund the CPA.

Cheyenne Air Service Update: Cheyenne's air service is performing better than predicted, so American Airlines, working with SkyWest Airlines, added a second daily seasonal daily flight in and out of Cheyenne beginning May 4 through September 30, 2019. The second daily flight will run in the evening, which will accommodate later connections from Dallas-Fort Worth to Cheyenne.

15. General Matters: Commissioner Espy asked that the new commissioners be brought to Cheyenne earlier in the day on March 20, 2019, to allow time for orientation and perhaps meet with the other commissioners and executive staff members.

The Commission will elect new officers at its March 21, 2019, business meeting. Commissioner Espy also proposed creating a nominating committee consisting of Commissioner Schmidt, Chairman, Commissioners Espy and Pfrangle, to establish a slate of nominees for a new Commission chairman and vice chairman.

16. It was moved by Commissioner Seeton, seconded by Commissioner Newton, and carried to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Ruwart adjourned the meeting at 11:39 a.m., on Thursday, February 21, 2019.