

## **TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF WYOMING**

The Transportation Commission of Wyoming met virtually via Zoom on May 14, 2020. Chairman Newton convened the business meeting at 9:45 a.m. The following members were present constituting a quorum:

Rick Newton, Chairman, Buffalo  
Phil Schmidt, Vice Chairman, Casper  
Mike Larson, Commissioner, Lusk  
Jim Espy, Commissioner, Savery  
Jon Dolezal, Commissioner, Evanston  
Lee Filer, Commissioner, Cheyenne<sup>1</sup>  
K. Luke Reiner, Director  
Sandra J. Scott, Commission Secretary

Others present and participating in the meeting: Dennis Byrne, Chief Financial Officer; Shelby Carlson, Chief Engineer; 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; Troy Babbitt, Chief Technology Officer; Colonel Kebin Haller, Wyoming Highway Patrol (WHP) Administrator; Mike Kahler, Senior Assistant Attorney General; Ryan Thompson, Assistant Attorney General; Rodney Freier, Budget Program Manager; and Bryan Cawley, Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Other meeting attendees: Senator Michael VonFlatern; Representative John Eklund; Erica Legerski, Senior Policy Advisor to Governor Gordon; John Mulcare, Administrator, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration; Hank Rettinger, FHWA; Katie Legerski, Executive Director, Associated General Contractors (AGC) of Wyoming; Tom DeHoff, District Engineer; John Davis, Management Services Program Manager; Doug McGee, Public Affairs Program Manager; Doug Jensen, Contracts & Estimates Engineer; Melissa DeFratis, Legislative Liaison; Rhonda Holt, Controller; and Maria Laborde, Internal Review Services.

1. Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Newton led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of Minutes: It was recommended by Secretary Scott, moved by Commissioner Dolezal, seconded by Commissioner Larson, and carried to approve the minutes from the April 16, 2020, business meeting.
3. Director Reiner presented the Director's report.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Briefing: WYDOT currently has 61 active surface transportation projects. Fortunately, COVID-19 has not influenced WYDOT's ability to proceed with its usual construction season. WYDOT has worked closely with the Associated General Contractors of Wyoming to work safely in construction zones.

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<sup>1</sup> Commissioner Filer attended the meeting by telephone, but he did not vote.

Director Reiner has received several inquiries about when workers will return to regular working conditions, and he advised that WYDOT will follow Governor Gordon's guidance for teleworking. Director Reiner believes WYDOT's current operating format is set and working well, and that there is no urgency to rush back to the former working conditions. Some employees are returning to their former work format, but each circumstance is evaluated case-by-case .

The State of Wyoming recently received \$1.25 billion through the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. WYDOT has participated in meetings with the Governor's office to discuss its need for a portion of the COVID-19 funds. Funding eligibility requires that the expenses be COVID-19-related, expenditures must be made before December 31, 2020, and the expense cannot have been budgeted for in the past. WYDOT has submitted 11 requests for funding so far.

The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) has requested another \$50 billion backstop from the federal government for state departments of transportation (DOT). The funding is to assist DOTs with fuel tax revenue shortfalls attributed to COVID-19. WYDOT recently sent a letter to Wyoming's Congressional delegations supporting and justifying the need for the funding approval.

WYDOT FY 2021 Budget: WYDOT is beginning the process to prepare its FY 2021 budget. Some cuts to usual budget items will be necessary to balance the budget. The executive staff will need to consider whether the Department can afford to continue to participate in certain activities or projects statewide.

To date, COVID-19 has reduced Wyoming's automobile traffic counts by 25 percent and commercial truck traffic by about 10 percent. Traffic counts are beginning to stabilize, and WYDOT will continue to monitor its effect on Department revenue.

Legislative Interim Meetings: Colonel Haller and Director Reiner will testify before the Joint Judiciary Committee on May 20, 2020, to discuss various potential changes to driving under the influence (DUI) laws to generate consistency throughout Wyoming statutes.

On May 21, 2020, WYDOT staff will testify before the Joint Transportation, Highways & Military Affairs Committee (JTC). Agenda topics include a COVID-19 update, revenue, highway safety, and general statute updates. An introduction to the proposed road usage charge (RUC) will also be presented at the meeting, with a more in-depth presentation about the RUC planned for the July 10, 2020, JTC meeting.

A bill was introduced during the 2020 legislative session that, if passed, would have removed sovereign immunity from WYDOT and the Transportation Commission. The bill stemmed from some contentious contract negotiations in northwestern Wyoming. The sponsor withdrew the bill. WYDOT staff has been working with the bill sponsors to amend Department rules and regulations to address how contract issues are processed and to avoid future unnecessary

conflicts or lawsuits. Director Reiner noted that over the past 10 years, only 3 of about 1,700 highway contracts have had lawsuits, of which two filings were generated from the same lawyer. Further information will be shared with the Commission as this topic progresses.

RUC Working Group (RUCWG) Update: WYDOT is working with a consultant, WSP, to develop the RUC plan. The first planning step is identifying stakeholder needs and to discuss potential friction points and solutions. Some key stakeholders are the Wyoming County Commissioners' Association, Wyoming Trucking Association, Associated General Contractors of Wyoming, Wyoming Taxpayers Association, and the Wyoming Petroleum Distribution Association. If possible, Director Reiner would like to have the RUC in place by next spring.

Director Reiner thanked Vice Chairman Schmidt for his valuable participation in the RUCWG.

Chief Engineer Retirement: Chief Engineer Shelby Carlson will retire from WYDOT on June 5, 2020. Director Reiner thanked Ms. Carlson for her 31 years of dedicated and committed service to the state, of which 29 years was with WYDOT and 2 years with the State Construction Department. Director Reiner and the Commission wished Ms. Carlson all the best in her retirement years.

Commission Vacancy: Director Reiner advised that he spoke with the Governor's office this week about the vacant Commission District 5 seat. The COVID-19 pandemic and the upcoming special legislative session have delayed filling the vacancy, but Director Reiner confirmed that the Governor is aware of the need and he will soon consider individuals for the position.

Federal Funding Update: Vice Chairman Schmidt asked if infrastructure funding is still being considered for state DOTs. Director Reiner advised that the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act expires September 30, 2020. A reauthorization of surface transportation funding passed in the Senate at the committee level, but it has not passed the U.S. House of Representatives. If the bill does not pass by October 1, an extension of the existing bill will be necessary to fund the surface transportation program.

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

Monthly Budget Report: Mr. Freier presented the monthly budget report. The April 2020 budget report revealed that the Commission budget is 59 percent expended, and the Legislative budget is 56 percent expended, which is within budget tolerances.

Improper Payments: Mr. Freier presented a letter to the FHWA detailing three improper payments recently made to vendors. Journal entries were made to move expenditures to the correct project, at no cost to the Department. Doing so created credits to the wrong project, and since it was a federal project, Mr. Freier brought the matter to the Commission for explanation.

The third improper payment occurred when a railroad vendor sent incorrect invoices that did not contain in-kind details, leading to WYDOT paying a wrong amount. The correction generated a refund to the FHWA. The refund came at no cost to WYDOT.

WYDOT continues to work on its corrective action plan and training Budget Program personnel to avoid future erroneous transactions.

5. FY 2019 Financial and Compliance Audit: McGee, Hearne & Paiz (MHP) conducted an audit of WYDOT's FY 2019 financial statements. MPH presented the audit results to the Commission via Zoom immediately prior to this Commission meeting.

It was recommended by Mr. Byrne, moved by Vice Chairman Schmidt, seconded by Commissioner Espy, and carried to accept the FY 2019 Audit Report as presented in detail by Mr. Herr of McGee, Hearne & Paiz, LLC, CPAs and Consultants.

6. Ms. Carlson presented the Chief Engineer's report.

Rock Springs Interchange Road Project: At its April 16, 2020, meeting, the Commission rejected bids on the Rock Springs Interchange Road project because two important agreements were not executed as expected. One agreement was for the city water line improvement in the railroad right-of-way, and the other was for the new bridge over the railroad. The duration of the delay was unknown, and awarding the contract could potentially have jeopardized the project schedule and potentially spurred a contractor claim before the project began.

Ms. Carlson reported that the railroad agreements are still pending. Union Pacific Railroad recently advised that the contracts are in the hands of their legal team for consideration, and the final execution date remains unknown. Railroad executives are being furloughed one week every four weeks, which will further delay their progress.

There are currently no plans for an August letting, however, the Department will consider letting this project, if the agreements are executed in time, as well as the I-80 Winter Freight project.

Transportation Needs Study: Dye Management is seeking four to six individuals living in each of WYDOT's five districts to participate virtually in a focus group for the study. Focus group candidate selections will generate diversity based on age, weekly miles driven, ethnicity, perception of the highway, and gender. Respondents can refuse to reveal any of these facts. Participants must be at least 18 years old and must be licensed drivers to participate. Individuals will have to commit about 90 minutes over a three-day period. Participants will receive a stipend for their time to encourage participation.

Key stakeholders from outside WYDOT and the chairmen and vice chairmen from all three WYDOT commissions will be interviewed for the study. WYDOT is working with the consultant to prepare information about the concept and the intent of the survey, and participants will be asked to respond.

WYDOT and Dye Management will form an outreach advisory committee, to include legislators and external stakeholders, to check in with and advise on the study progress, the direction of the study, outcomes and to educate as to the needs of the agency.

Reallocation of Resources and Ongoing Review of State-Funded Activities: WYDOT recently postponed 12 highway improvement projects. Those funds will be redistributed to much-needed pavement and bridge maintenance projects statewide. Other entities effected by this change will be notified soon about the project delays.

WYDOT is considering cuts to some state-funded activities to meet budget constraints.

Chief Engineer Carlson's Retirement: Ms. Carlson advised that she has enjoyed working with the Commission and the executive staff over the years, and that she appreciated the opportunity to serve the Department for 29 years and the state of Wyoming for 31 years.

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

Mr. Cawley expressed his appreciation for being able to work with Ms. Carlson during her career at WYDOT, and he wished her well in her retirement.

Joint Process Reviews: The FHWA recently completed a joint process review of the WYDOT Right-of-Way (ROW) Cost Estimate and Certification Program. No corrective actions were identified in the review, but WYDOT and FHWA leadership are considering some recommendations that came from the review. Mr. Cawley thanked Messrs. Kevin Lebeda and Roy Weber of WYDOT's ROW Program and Mr. Walt Satterfield of the FHWA for their participation in the review.

The FHWA is reviewing WYDOT's engineer's estimate process. Mr. Cawley has interviewed WYDOT leadership and Commissioners Filer, Larson, and Newton. Future appointments are scheduled with Commissioners Schmidt and Dolezal for their input, and Commissioner Espy will be scheduled in the next couple of weeks. The technical review team is analyzing the data and processes, interviewing engineers and financial specialists, and writing the report. The final report is expected in July or August 2020.

The FHWA has completed its target achievement assessment for the 2018 safety performance targets, based upon the 5-year averages for 2014 to 2018. In accordance with 23 CFR 490.211(c)(2), WYDOT has met its targets for limiting the number of fatalities, the rate of fatalities, the number and rate of serious injuries, and the number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries. Mr. Cawley thanked WYDOT for doing its part to plan and program safety projects aimed at reducing fatalities and serious injuries on Wyoming roadways.

The FHWA is prepared to sign the FY 2018 Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Agreement for the I-80 Winter Freight Improvement Project. This project will construct approximately four miles of passing lanes and two truck-parking areas outfitted with dedicated short-range communication roadside radios along Interstate 80, between Sinclair and Quealy Dome Road. Wyoming will receive \$20 million in FY 2018 BUILD grant funding within a couple weeks of the FHWA signing the project agreement.

8. Mr. Fulton presented the Engineering and Planning report, beginning with the bid tabulations from the letting held May 7, 2020, via teleconference.

Federal project STP-1507041, involving bituminous pavement surfacing, drilled shaft foundations, and miscellaneous work at on WYO 296, beginning at reference marker (RM) 32.50, for approximately 0.2 mile, which is 13.7 miles west of its intersection with WYO 120, in Park County. Completion date: June 30, 2021

Engineer's Estimate	\$8,131,106.25	
Condon-Johnson & Associates, Inc., Oakland, CA	\$5,757,568.10	-29.2%
Malcolm Drilling Company, Inc., San Francisco, CA	\$6,253,051.08	
Oftedal Construction, Inc., Casper, WY	\$7,328,261.81	
Wilson Bros. Construction, Inc., Cowley, WY	\$7,500,931.55	
Ralph L. Wadsworth Const. Co., LLC, Draper, UT	\$7,946,319.44	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Vice Chairman Schmidt, seconded by Commissioner Dolezal, and carried that Condon-Johnson & Associates, Inc., Oakland, California, 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-N853092, involving milling plant mix, bituminous pavement surfacing, chip seal, and miscellaneous work on approximately 14.50 miles of US 85, beginning at RM 115.64, between Lingle and Lusk, in Goshen County. Completion date: October 31, 2021

Engineer's Estimate	\$4,426,585.00	
Northern Improvement Company, Fargo, ND	\$3,820,449.50	-13.7%
Croell, Inc., Sundance, WY	\$3,965,333.45	
McGarvin-Moberly Construction Co., Worland, WY	\$4,177,223.47	
Riverside Contracting, Inc., Missoula, MT	\$4,239,304.00	
Simon Contractors, Cheyenne, WY	\$4,389,952.72	
JTL Group, Inc. DBA Knife River, Cheyenne, WY	\$4,562,669.00	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Vice Chairman Schmidt, seconded by Commissioner Larson, and carried that Northern Improvement Company, Fargo, North Dakota, 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 NHF-N341112, involving grading, milling plant mix, placing crushed base and bituminous pavement surfacing (recycle), chip seal, fencing, and miscellaneous work on approximately 8.80 miles of US 20/26, beginning at RM 21.24, between Casper and Shoshoni, in Natrona County. Completion date: July 31, 2021

(Approved)

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Engineer's Estimate	\$3,870,167.00	
JTL Group, Inc. DBA Knife River, Cheyenne, WY	\$3,930,612.58	+1.6%
Croell, Inc., Sundance, WY	\$4,042,140.90	
McGarvin-Moberly Construction Co., Worland, WY	\$4,055,683.20	
Simon Contractors, Cheyenne, WY	\$4,073,092.00	
Riverside Contracting, Inc., Missoula, MT	\$4,077,568.60	
Mountain Construction Company, Lovell, WY	\$4,338,794.22	
71 Construction, Casper, WY	\$5,086,067.10	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Dolezal, seconded by Vice Chairman Schmidt, and carried that JTL Group, Inc. DBA Knife River, Cheyenne, 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-N212111, involving grading, milling plant mix, placing crushed base and bituminous pavement surfacing (recycle), plant mix wearing course, and miscellaneous work on approximately 2.45 miles of WYO 220, beginning at RM 108.41, between West Belt Loop and Robertson Road, in Natrona County. Completion date: June 30, 2021

Engineer's Estimate	\$2,526,367.00	
JTL Group, Inc. DBA Knife River, Cheyenne, WY	\$2,769,697.11	+9.6%
Simon Contractors, Cheyenne, WY	\$2,892,332.57	
Riverside Contracting, Inc., Missoula, MT	\$2,899,664.00	
71 Construction, Casper, WY	\$3,602,671.50	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Vice Chairman Schmidt, and carried that JTL Group, Inc. DBA Knife River, Cheyenne, 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-1800015, involving grading, profile milling plant mix, bituminous pavement surfacing, reclaimed asphalt pavement, and miscellaneous work on approximately 4.81 miles of WYO 350, beginning at RM 0.25, just west of Big Piney, in Sublette County. Completion date: July 31, 2021

Engineer's Estimate	\$1,668,088.00	
Kilgore Companies, LLC dba Lewis & Lewis, Inc., Rock Springs, WY	\$1,448,383.20	-13.2%
H-K Contractors, Inc., Idaho Falls, ID	\$1,496,669.00	
McGarvin-Moberly Construction Co., Worland, WY	\$1,538,974.48	
Avail Valley Construction-WY, LLC, Afton, WY	\$1,546,546.00	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Dolezal, and carried that Kilgore Companies, LLC dba Lewis & Lewis, Inc., Rock Springs,

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-RF-B215001, involving removal and replacement of fence and miscellaneous work at various locations in Transportation District 5, including Fremont County. Completion date: October 31, 2021

Engineer’s Estimate	\$1,225,585.00
King Enterprises, Mills, WY	\$1,450,511.51 +18.4%
Apex Energy Services, Douglas, WY	\$1,524,504.63

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Larson, 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.

State project SCP-TRFSN20, involving upgrading logo signs and miscellaneous work at various locations along I-80 in Transportation Districts 1 and 3, including Albany, Carbon, Laramie, Sweetwater, and Uinta counties. Completion date: June 30, 2021

Engineer’s Estimate	\$320,395.00
S & L Industrial, Cowley, WY	\$280,168.00 -12.6%
Delta Wye, Inc., Gillette, WY	\$341,560.00

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Dolezal, seconded by Vice Chairman Schmidt, and carried that S & L Industrial, Cowley, Wyoming, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder.

9. FY 2020 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Addendum: Mr. Fulton presented an addendum to the FY 2020 STIP for Commission consideration.

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Larson, and carried to approve the FY 2020 STIP addendum as presented.

10. Mr. Gillett presented the Operations report.

Construction Update: WYDOT’s construction season is in full swing with 61 active construction projects statewide.

Maintenance Update: District maintenance crews’ primary focus is on patching potholes and road damage surfaces in various areas, and they starting to move their paving machines to locations where hot plant mix can be obtained from commercial sources. WYDOT will begin its hot plant operations in the Guernsey area on June 1, 2020.



Maintenance crews are also repairing fence, guardrail, delineators, and performing litter pickup statewide.

Winter maintenance activities are ongoing, with Districts 1, 4, and 5 performing snow removal to reopen mountain passes.

WYDOT snowplows have been struck 27 times this winter compared to 28 one year ago.

WYDOT Snow Control Impacts: The Commission received a spreadsheet depicting “Total Statewide Monthly Snow Control Costs by Fiscal Year With 5-Year Average.” The graph on the handout showed that FY 2020 snow control costs are significantly higher than the five-year average.

Mr. Gillett provided the Commission another handout titled, “Wyoming SNOTEL Current Snow Water Equivalent (SWE) % of Normal.” The handout contained a map depicting most drainage areas across Wyoming at 108 to 122 percent snow-water equivalent, which suggests some potential flooding in certain areas this spring.

Traffic Operations Update: Traffic Operations has been issuing an increased number of access permits, which is typical when the construction season resumes.

District crews are striping roads as weather permits, and sign crews are installing new signs and repairing damaged signs. Electrical crews are performing routine maintenance on signals, lighting, and roadside electronic devices.

Mechanics Update: Mechanics are preparing summer equipment for spring operations, and they are working on snow removal equipment to reopen Wyoming’s three mountain passes. To date, District 1 has four, District 2 has two, and District 3 has one inoperable rotary plow. Most of those rotary plows are decades old, making it difficult to acquire parts for the repairs.

The District 1 urban striper truck has a blown engine, so it is temporarily out of service.

WYDOT Facilities Update: The Meriden Rest Area on US 85, between Cheyenne and Torrington, remains closed due to water well issues. WYDOT initiated a contract for drilling a new well. The rest area reopening is expected in July 2020.

The Orin Junction Rest Area closed temporarily this month due to a power shutdown.

COVID-19 Update for Operations: Last month, the FHWA approved permitting food truck vendors to provide food for travelers at rest areas along Wyoming’s interstate routes. So far, the Department has issued only one permit.

Under the direction of the Wyoming Department of Health, WYDOT personnel continue weekend transports of COVID-related materials and supplies to and from various health institutions statewide.

Yellowstone National Park and Grand Teton National Park officials are planning to reopen those parks to travelers on Monday, May 25, 2020. To support the effort, WYDOT is deploying digital message signs and Highway Advisory Radio (HAR) messages at the south and east entrances of the parks to alert travelers of the reopening.

#### 11. Colonel Haller presented the Highway Patrol report.

The Fatal Crash Summary through April 30, 2020, includes 21<sup>2</sup> fatal crashes involving 24<sup>2</sup> deaths. The fatalities include 8 rollover crashes, 12 multi-car crashes, 2 fixed objects, 1 motorcycle, and 1 pedestrian. Of the 21 fatal crashes that have occurred in 2020, 8<sup>3</sup> involved commercial vehicles.

There were five<sup>4</sup> fatal crashes deemed drug or alcohol related, resulting in five<sup>4</sup> deaths. Of those deaths, three<sup>4</sup> were attributed to not using occupant restraints. Three were rollover crashes, one was a multi-car crash, and one involved a pedestrian. None<sup>3</sup> of the drug or alcohol-related fatalities involved commercial vehicles.

Of the 24 deaths that have occurred this year, 10 can be attributed to the non-use of occupant restraints, with 6 involving rollover crashes, 3 involving multi-car collisions, and 1 involving a fixed object. Seven of those who died from the non-use of occupant restraints were Wyoming residents. One of those who perished were under 21 years of age, and that fatality was attributed to the failure to use proper occupant restraints.

Of the 21 fatal crashes so far this year, it was deemed that 3 of those drivers had no distractions and 1 driver was distracted by an object from inside the vehicle. In 13 of the fatal crashes, it was unknown whether a distraction caused the incident.

Of the 21 fatal crashes that have occurred this year, 12 of them occurred on primary/secondary highways, 6 occurred on interstate highways, and 3 occurred on city/county roads.

Three multiple-fatality crashes occurred on Wyoming highways in 2020, of which two involved multiple vehicles and one involved a commercial vehicle.

In locations where rumble strips/stripes were present, there were eight<sup>5</sup> crashes. There were seven<sup>5</sup> crashes where rumble strips/stripes were not present.

Inclement weather or road conditions contributed to seven vehicle crashes in 2020, which resulted in seven deaths. Speed was a factor in four of the vehicle crashes, causing four deaths.

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<sup>2</sup> Numbers at the time of reporting; final numbers may change.

<sup>3</sup> Number not included in total deaths (sub-crash data).

<sup>4</sup> Not all chemical tests were available at the time of reporting.

<sup>5</sup> Numbers at the time of reporting from submitted crash reports.

The days of the week for fatal crashes in 2020 were as follows:

Sunday	4 crashes
Monday	4 crashes
Tuesday	1 crashes
Wednesday	2 crashes
Thursday	3 crashes
Friday	3 crashes
Saturday	4 crashes

The times of day for fatal crashes in 2020 were as follows:

12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.	2 crashes
6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	5 crashes
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	7 crashes
6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.	7 crashes

The Commission also heard the following statistics:

- 75 percent of those who died in rollover crashes were unbelted.
- 25 percent of those who died in multi-vehicle crashes were unbelted.
- 50 percent of those who died fixed object crashes were unbelted.
- 75 percent of the fatalities in 2020 were drivers.
- 25 percent of the fatalities in 2020 were passengers.
- 70 percent of the resident fatalities were unrestrained.
- 25 percent of the non-resident fatalities were unbuckled.
- Alcohol and/or drug impairment was a factor in 21 percent of the fatalities.

Patrol-Investigated Crash Summary: The Patrol-Investigated Crash Summary depicts 1,870<sup>6</sup> crashes statewide, of which 708<sup>6 & 7</sup> involved commercial vehicles.

The Commission also received a pin map depicting locations of the 2020 fatal crashes.

COVID-19 Update: Troopers are becoming more comfortable with wearing their personal protective gear and dealing with various COVID-related issues.

Colonel Haller has been successfully conducting his annual field office visits virtually. Field personnel appear to be managing the stress of working in this COVID environment.

Trooper Vacancies Update: The WHP has nine new troopers who are riding with seasoned troopers as part of their field training. The next round of trooper testing is June 11, 2020. WHP will take the necessary precautions to follow recommended social distancing guidelines.

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<sup>6</sup> Does not contain all crashes worked to date; some reports are still pending.

<sup>7</sup> Total number of commercial vehicles involved; some crashes could contain multiple commercial vehicles.

Legislative Meetings: The WHP will testify before the JTC on May 21, 2020, about a proposed primary seatbelt law, rear-facing child car seats, photo radar or automated vehicle identification for traffic enforcement, enhanced penalties for speeding, and hands-free electronic devices.

The Joint Judiciary Committee meets May 20, 2020. DUI statute amendments are a primary agenda topic. The WHP is partnering with the Wyoming-Montana Safety Coalition and the Wyoming Association of Sheriffs and Chiefs of Police (WASCOP) to address DUI issues in Wyoming.

National Law Enforcement Week: May 10-16, 2020, is National Police Week, an event established by a joint resolution of U.S. Congress in 1962 to pay special recognition to law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others. National Police Week is a collaborative effort of many organizations dedicated to honoring America's law enforcement community. In 2019, 307 peace officers died in the line of duty. WHP has lost two troopers and one K9 in the line of duty since the Wyoming Highway Patrol was established. Law enforcement across the country will host virtual ceremonies to commemorate the service of those who lost their lives.

Oversize Loads Update: Vice Chairman Schmidt asked about the status of limiting mega-load transports in Wyoming. Director Reiner advised that, if approved by Governor Gordon, WYDOT will no longer permit loads wider than 26 feet on Wyoming highways that are less than 32 feet wide for safety reasons. WYDOT continues to work and communicate with companies that transport those loads to accomplish an alternate means of moving that equipment.

12. Mr. Olsen presented the Aeronautics report beginning with the April 2020 Aeronautics Flight Operations Passenger Summary Report.

COVID-19 Impact on Air Service: The COVID-19 event has severely affected air service nationwide, and a slow recovery is expected. Air traffic bottomed out in April with a 96 percent reduction in nationwide enplanements compared to last year at this time. There was a slight increase in enplanements in May with a 90 percent overall reduction in passengers flying compared to a year ago. About 50 percent of the entire commercial airplane fleet nationwide is not flying. With about 2,700 aircraft parked nationwide, WYDOT Aeronautics is monitoring the status of the 50-seat regional jet inventory, since that aircraft services Wyoming's smaller communities.

The lack of flights has severely affected airports nationwide, but Wyoming airports received \$49.5 million through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to assist them through the health crisis. The airports should begin receiving funds soon.

Mr. Olsen explained the effects of COVID-19 on the Wyoming's Air Service Capacity Purchase Agreement (CPA). In accordance with the agreement, WYDOT has reduced the airline's capacity requirements to limit the financial exposure caused by the pandemic. Unlike other small

communities around the nation, Wyoming's CPA will ensure air service into the future for our communities.

Airport Projects Update: After complications in the first lift of asphalt paving of the Wheatland Airport runway last fall, that reconstruction project is once again underway. The preliminary base work is finished, and the contractor is calibrating its equipment to complete the project.

There are currently six other active airport projects, with more bid openings planned soon for additional airport work. Mr. Olsen noted that, as bid lettings progress, they are seeing increased bid prices due to COVID-19 and the need for contractors to include non-typical items in their bids to protect workers.

13. Mr. Rossetti presented the Support Services report.

Employment Summary: According to the Employment Summary report, WYDOT employed 1,964 personnel as of May 4, 2020, compared to 1,945 a month ago and 1,929 one year ago. Pursuant to Governor Gordon's state hiring freeze last month, the Department is pursuing the filling of essential vacant positions through the Department of Administration and Information Human Resources Division.

There were 71 WYDOT retirements in 2019. As of March 31, 2020, about 18 percent of WYDOT's total workforce is retirement eligible.

COVID-19 Briefing: Mr. Rossetti advised that Cheyenne, Casper, Sheridan, Gillette, Cody, Jackson, Laramie, and Rock Springs Driver Services offices have resumed road tests by appointment only. Candidates are required to undergo a temperature screening and complete a medical questionnaire inquiring if they have certain COVID symptoms before they are tested.

The Baggs Driver Services examinations were typically conducted at the Baggs Library, but WYDOT had to suspend services there because of the library's closure due to the health emergency. The Baggs Library has authorized WYDOT to resume services June 1, 2020.

Commercial Driver License (CDL) examinations are being conducted as usual.

Employees' Group Insurance Premium Increases: State employee health insurance premiums increased significantly this year. Mr. Rossetti provided a handout to the Commission depicting rate increases for various levels of health insurance offered to state employees. WYDOT's annual contribution toward its employee premiums increased by about \$3.5 million, and another \$2 million increase will be effective August 1, 2020, for a total increase of \$5.4 million for WYDOT's contribution in 2020.

14. Mr. Babbitt presented the Chief Technology Officer's report.

COVID-19 Briefing: WYDOT has been working with state and local information technology (IT) leaders to assess and prioritize its technology and strategy throughout the COVID crisis.

WYDOT is reviewing its procedures to see how it can leverage and react faster to changing work environments during disruptive events. State agencies mobilized workstations for teleworking, and WYDOT is reviewing its IT requirements and how they have evolved since teleworking began in March. The Department is evaluating how technology is working now and how it will be post-pandemic.

WYDOT plans to continue virtual meetings in the future.

CARES Act and Potential IT Solutions: WYDOT is preparing some IT solution ideas for consideration of CARES Act funding.

WYDOT's IT team is working with MathTech, the Revenue Information System (RIS) consultant, to map the RIS. That project is progressing well, and Mr. Babbitt hopes to request proposals for the project by December 31, 2020.

The Intelligent Transportation Systems/Graphical Information Systems Program has been busy keeping the public informed of COVID-related details and requirements on its dynamic message signs statewide.

The Transportation Management Center (TMC) established an alternate workspace for virtual TMC work in case workers need to be quarantined.

Wyoming Travel Authorization Program (WTAP): WYDOT is developing a new software application that will combine the Wyoming Authorized Travel (WAT) program, the road closure authorization (RCA), and the memorandum of understanding for use on mobile devices. Mr. Babbitt is optimistic the mobile application will be available for use next winter.

Connected Vehicle (CV) and Autonomous Vehicle (AV) Update: The CV project is progressing even though the 5GHz spectrum will no longer be dedicated to highway safety and security projects.

WYDOT is actively participating in the Autonomous Vehicle Working Group (AVWG). The AVWG has five subcommittees that address policy, legal, technology, infrastructure, and safety. The Department's participation in the AVWG will provide information about AVs for WYDOT's future planning.

Vice Chairman Schmidt asked to be included in the dissemination of information about CVs and autonomous vehicle developments.

Enhancing Emergency Communications: WYDOT has successfully tested its emergency communications through Rave Mobile Safety, a software company that provides a suite of software applications for safety. The newly installed software allows the Department to distribute emergency messages to WYDOT personnel in a moment's notice.

WyoLink Update: The Orin Junction and Wright WyoLink towers will be operational in about two weeks, and other sites will follow this summer.

NextGen 911 Update: Mr. Babbitt continues to work with local public safety officials to finalize a statewide 911 plan, which will make Wyoming eligible to apply and compete for federal 911 Plan grants. WYDOT must submit an annual report to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) by July 31, 2020.

Broadband Update: WYDOT is collaborating with internet service providers to determine what the Department can offer to establish better broadband services, including answering questions about right-of-way and expansion.

Cyber Security: WYDOT remains diligent about pursuing cyber security by communicating with Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) to protect Department resources from hackers.

15. It was moved by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Vice Chairman Schmidt, and carried to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Newton adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m., on Thursday, May 14, 2020.