

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF WYOMING

The Transportation Commission of Wyoming met via Zoom on July 20, 2023. Chair Holmes convened the meeting at 8:40 a.m. The following members were present constituting a quorum:

Chair Susan Holmes, Sheridan
Vice Chair Jon Dolezal, Evanston
Commissioner Micheal Baker, Thermopolis
Commissioner Patrick Crank, Cheyenne
Commissioner Mark Hughes, Sundance *via Zoom*
Commissioner Brandt Lyman, Rock Springs
Commissioner Jim Willox, Douglas
Commission Secretary Caitlin Casner
Interim Director Darin Westby

Others present and participating in the meeting: Dennis Byrne, Chief Financial Officer (CFO); Mark Gillett, Chief Engineer; Tom DeHoff, Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations; Keith Fulton, Assistant Chief Engineer for Engineering and Planning; Lieutenant Colonel Joshua Walther, Wyoming Highway Patrol (WHP); Taylor Rossetti, Support Services Administrator; Mike Kahler, Senior Assistant Attorney General; MacKenzie Sewell, Assistant Attorney General; Brian Olsen, Aeronautics Administrator; Nicholas Gronski, Procurement Services Program Manager; Rodney Freier, Budget Program Manager; Carlos Machado, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Other meeting attendees: Doug McGee, Public Affairs Manager; Mark Horan, Public Affairs; Matt Groth, Public Affairs; Mark Ayen, District Two Engineer; John Eddins, District Three Engineer; Ali Ragan, Grants and Contracts Policy Program Manager; Pam Fredrick, Senior Budget Analyst; Julie Newlin, Program Performance Manager; Chelsey Lindsay, Senior Budget Analyst; Dan Benford, Association of General Contractors, Wyoming (AGC-WYO); Sara DiRienzo, Transportation, Wildlife, and Gaming Policy Advisor to Governor Gordon; Susan Elliott, Executive Assistant; Kimberly Chapman, Public Safety Communications Commission and Aeronautics Commission Secretary.

1. Pledge of Allegiance: Chair Holmes led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3A. June 15, 2023 Business Meeting Minutes: It was recommended by Secretary Casner, moved by Commissioner Hughes and seconded by Commissioner Dolezal to approve the June 15, 2023 Business Meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

16. Executive Session-Personnel-Select Candidates for Director Appointment by Governor Gordon: It was moved by Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Willox to enter in to Executive Session pursuant to Wyoming State Statute 16-4-105(a)(ii) to consider appointment of a professional person. The motion carried unanimously.

Commission recessed to Executive Session at 8:50 a.m.

Commission returned to public session at 8:59 a.m.

6A. Director Candidate Search Update: Chair Holmes summarized the candidate search process and thanked all involved in the process. Commissioner Willox thanked the search committee for their work in selecting the candidates, and thanked the Chair for sharing recordings of the interviews and copies of the resumes and applications. Commissioner Lyman also thanked the candidates for submitting their applications and proceeding through the interviews. Vice Chair Dolezal echoed Commissioners Willox and Lyman, and also thanked Human Resources Division Manager Cristina Taylor for her work in coordinating the entire endeavor.

It was moved by Commissioner Hughes and seconded by Commissioner Willox to forward the names of Matthew Petry, Taylor Rossetti, and Darin Westby to Governor Gordon's office for consideration of appointment to the position of WYDOT Director. The motion carried unanimously.

6B. Bonding for Propane Bidding: Mr. Gronski presented to the Commission regarding the two types of bid bonds WYDOT currently requires, a bid bond and a performance bond. Mr. Gronski explained each type of bond and what type of project they are required for as well as the requirements to obtain each type of bond.

Mr. Gronski also explained to the Commission what kind of projects WYDOT requires the different bonds for. Commissioner Baker stated that he has been advised by a local supplier that has previously supplied to WYDOT for several years this type of bonding requirement is new and clarity is lacking regarding when bids are required. Mr. Gronski advised that before the bidding process began, vendors were contacted regarding the changes in process and the changes were also put in to the new bid packets.

Commissioner Crank stated that he believes there needs to be an addition to the contracts that states that if the winner of the bid does not deliver within a certain period of time, WYDOT can turn to an alternative supplier for the product, and charge the additional cost back to the original winning bidder. Commissioner Crank does not believe that any cost increase is worth the performance guarantee a bond offers, and that WYDOT should protect any interests for propane through contractual efforts.

Mr. Byrne stated that the bonding company would pursue the original winning bidder for propane and any additional costs that would arise. Mr. Gronski added that current contracts also allow for liquidated damages of up to \$500.00 a day, which would need to be assessed through the Commission. Commissioner Willox stated that he does not believe a performance bond is necessary on commodities like propane that are easily accessible, and WYDOT may want to institute a "keep full" contract with propane vendors so that levels are better monitored. Commissioner Willox requested a list of items that are easily accessible that also require a bond.

Director Westby advised that all relevant policies will be measured against current state statutes and updated accordingly.

6C: Adoption of Chapter 12 Rules, Wildlife Conservation License Plates: Mr. Rossetti summarized the Chapter 12 rules and advised the Commission that WYDOT only received one public comment regarding the rules.

It was recommended by Mr. Rossetti, moved by Mr. Lyman and seconded by Vice Chair Dolezal to adopt the Chapter 12 rules regarding Wildlife Conservation license plates. The motion carried unanimously.

Commission recessed to break at 9:43 a.m.

Commission returned to public session at 9:53 a.m.

7. Director's Report. Interim Director Westby advised that WYDOT Staff is working on the upcoming fiscal year budget for WYDOT and that he is appreciative of all the time and effort that is being put in to it at all levels.

Westby reminded the Commission that WYDOT is contracted with an individual in Washington D.C. that monitors current legislation. At this time, they are monitoring bills focused on Federal Transportation Housing and Urban Development appropriations as well as Federal Aviation Administration re-authorization. Westby summarized the Federal Transportation Housing and Urban Development appropriations bill for the Commission.

Interim Director Westby also reminded the Commission that compensation increases would be seen in state employee paychecks at the end of July. He thanked the Governor, the Legislature, and all involved for the increases which will help with recruitment and retention efforts. Westby noted that there is still room to grow however, especially in the area of law enforcement.

Commissioner Crank expressed concern that the wage for experienced WHP dispatchers is less than brand new county dispatchers, and that the high vacancy rate of WHP dispatchers combined with a bad winter could create a public safety emergency. Crank questioned if the increase in salary helped the vacancy rate at all, and if the Commission has the authority to increase salaries to at least match similar agencies. Interim Director Westby advised that WYDOT is actively working with Administration and Information (A&I) to address the wage disparity between similar agencies at the city and county level. Commissioner Crank asked what the Commission can do to help at this time. Interim Director Westby and Mr. Rossetti agreed that at this time, it is sufficient that official records such as minutes reflect that the Commission is supportive of staff pursuing appropriate measures to increase wages and fill vacancies through A&I.

Interim Director Westby advised the Commission that performance evaluations are progressing currently using the Performance Measurement Instrument, or PMI.

Follow up material from the last meeting has been sent to the Joint Transportation, Highways, and Military Affairs legislative committee by WYDOT. Preparations are underway for the next

committee meeting, which is scheduled for August 31-September 1. The agenda will have several topics such as fuel tax administration, I-80, commercial driver licenses, and draft bills. C

Work is still being done on the concerns brought forth regarding the Northeast Ports of Entry discussed at the June meeting. Colonel Cameron and the WHP is working with the Wyoming Trucking Association and local leaders in Northeast Wyoming to address concerns and find solutions.

WYDOT has recently been approached by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and local law enforcement agencies regarding usage of license plate readers. There are several positive and negative reasons for use of license plate readers being brought forth by several parties and WYDOT is working to come to an acceptable solution. Commissioner Crank requested Interim Director Westby research the usage of license plate readers by other states.

Interim Director Westby thanked the Commissioners for bringing forward issues that are brought to their attention in their individual districts, which gives Executive Staff the opportunity to address items as soon as they come up.

Interim Director Westby also advised the Commission of his recent travels around the state, including his travels to District Two, as well as attending Highway Patrol 90th Anniversary celebrations and meeting individually with commissioners.

8. Mr. Byrne presented the Chief Financial Officer's Report.

8A. Monthly Budget Report: Mr. Freier presented the monthly budget report. Overall, the budget report revealed that the Commission budget was 72 percent expended, and the legislative budget was 68 percent expended in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023.

8B. Third Quarter Budget Revisions: Mr. Freier presented the Fiscal Year 2023 third quarter budget revisions.

It was recommended by Mr. Freier, moved by Commissioner Baker, and seconded by Commissioner Hughes to approve the Fiscal Year 2023 third quarter budget revisions. The motion carried unanimously.

8C. Award of Procurement Services Bids. It was recommended by Mr. Byrne, moved by Commissioner Lyman, and seconded by Commissioner Hughes to move Bid numbers 23-169RC, 23-172AC, 23-178RE, 23-201NG, and Requisition Number 0000068033 to a consent list. The motion carried unanimously.

It was recommended by Mr. Byrne, moved by Vice Chair Dolezal, and seconded by Commissioner Lyman to approve, by consent, the following bids. The motion carried unanimously.

- Bid 23-169RC to furnish 34,600 tons of maintenance stockpiled material to departments located in District Two. The bid was awarded to RiverView Sand & Gravel, LLC, of Torrington, Wyoming, for the sum of \$860,150.00, and Recycled Material, LLC of Casper, Wyoming, for the sum of \$1,057,086.00.
- Bid 23-172AC to furnish Cardinal Scale load cell conversion to departments located statewide. The bid was awarded to Utah Scale Center of Sandy, Utah, for the sum of \$296,324.00.
- Bid 23-178RE to furnish light duty mark-up patrol vehicles to departments located statewide. The bid was awarded to Bob Ruwart Motors, Inc., of Wheatland, Wyoming, and Fremont Chevrolet Buick GMC of Riverton, Wyoming.
- Bid 23-201NG to furnish Quealy Dome salt and sand building to the department located in Laramie. The bid was awarded to A&B Construction, Ltd., of Harper, Iowa, for the sum of \$229,258.00.
- Requisition Number 0000068033 to furnish RIS project management plan amendment number seven for use by the Wyoming Department of Transportation. The requisition was awarded to Mathtech Inc., of Hamilton, New Jersey, for the sum of \$528,000.00

It was recommended by Mr. Byrne, moved by Commissioner Willox, and seconded by Commissioner Baker to award Bid 23-149AC to furnish information technology systems/variable speed limit road weather information systems replacement to the department located in Evanston. The motion carried unanimously. The bid was awarded to the low bidder, Modern Electric Co., of Casper, Wyoming, for the sum of \$228,900.00.

Mr. Byrne explained that the bid received for bid 23-145EW was above the originally budgeted amount, but re-prioritization of another project and the pursuit of reimbursement from the driver of the vehicle that originally damaged the equipment would offset the overage.

Commission recessed to break at 11:26 a.m.

Commission returned to public session at 11:36 a.m.

9. Mr. Gillett presented the Chief Engineer's Report.

Commission Road Improvement Program (CRIP): Mr. Gillett clarified from the June 2023 meeting that the CRIP actually originated in the late 1990s when Crook County had a paved road from I-90 into Keyhole State Park that was very narrow and had several potholes. Crook County did not have the funds to repair the potholes and came to WYDOT to request assistance in fixing the road. In exchange, WYDOT asked Crook County to assist in the maintenance of a small portion of road that was on the state system at that time.

After this project, the County Road Improvement Program was introduced in May 2000, but was replaced with the current title in July 2001.

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA): New Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs) have been posted by the USDOT. The Infra-, Mega, and Rural Grant Program were rolled in to one NOFO package and WYDOT is examining potential projects. Another NOFO that was posted is the Advanced Digital Construction Management Systems Grant, and WYDOT is examining the requirements for this new grant.

WYDOT plans to apply for several grants including a \$1.4 million Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) grant, and would use the funds to purchase an aerial Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) instrument to assist in disaster preparedness and response. The equipment could also be for monitoring natural disasters and mapping landslides as well as standard roadway mapping.

WYDOT is also close to submitting a wildlife crossing grant application in the amount of \$24 million to construct overpasses and underpasses on US 189 between Kemmerer and Evanston.

Recently, WYDOT was notified that it is the recipient of a \$13 million Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant for the redesign of the I-80/I-25 interchange. This grant requires a \$1.44 million match.

Teton Village was also recently awarded a grant in the amount of \$945,000.00 from the Federal Transit Administration for the purchase of electric buses.

Governor Gordon's office recently released the application process for requesting state matching funds for grants funded by IIJA. The application allows for matching fund requests before grant applications are submitted.

WYDOT's Local Government office recently sent the application for the 2024 Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Grant to local governments around the state. This grant is primarily used by counties to help with dust mitigation on gravel roads.

Change Order: Mr. Gillett recently approved a change order on July 7, 2023 in the amount of \$493,916.00 for project STP-PMB233021, which is a paving project between Lyman and Kemmerer in District Three. There were three areas where the underlying base and subgrade became saturated and was unable to support traffic. The change order allowed the excavation of two feet of unsuitable material and backfilling of rotomill tailings, new base, and new pavement.

9Ai. Mr. Fulton presented the Engineering and Planning Report, beginning with the bid tabulations from the July 13, 2023 letting.

Federal Project COVID-B212047 involving electrical, traffic control, sidewalk/curb and gutter and miscellaneous work at various locations in Transportation District 2 in Carbon, Converse, Goshen, Johnson, Natrona, and Platte Counties. Completion Date: October 31, 2024.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$3,814,375.00	
Advanced Electrical Contracting, Inc., Sheridan, WY	\$2,727,173.00	-28.5%
Casper Electric, Inc., Casper, WY	\$3,200,884.48	
Delta Wye, Inc., Gillette, WY	\$4,569,890.00	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Willox and seconded by Commissioner Hughes that Advanced Electrical Contracting, Inc., of Sheridan, Wyoming, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder. The motion carried unanimously. FHWA concurred with this decision.

Federal Projects ER-ND52213 and ER-ND52215 combined involving seeding/erosion control, traffic control, grading and miscellaneous work at RM 21.90 and RM 12.20 on US 14/16/20 between Yellowstone and Cody in Park County. Completion Date: October 31, 2023.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$1,566,292.00	
Oftedal Construction, Inc., Casper, WY	\$1,772,743.50	13.2%
Wilson Bros. Construction, Inc., Cowley, WY	\$1,823,062.75	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Dolezal and seconded by Commissioner Lyman that Oftedal Construction Inc., of Casper, Wyoming, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder. The motion carried unanimously. FHWA concurred with this decision.

Federal Project HSIP-P423031 involving bituminous surfacing, surfacing, traffic control, grading, fencing, milling and miscellaneous work on approximately 0.50 mile on WYO 387 beginning at RM 138.68 between Midwest and Wright in Campbell County. Completion Date: July 31, 2024.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$1,238,007.00	
Simon Contractors, Cheyenne, WY	\$1,109,679.08	-10.4%
Croell, Inc., Sundance, WY	\$1,292,853.66	
Northern Improvement Company, Fargo, ND	\$1,685,753.30	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Hughes and seconded by Commissioner Baker that Simon Contractors, of 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 motion carried unanimously. FHWA concurred with this decision.

State Project SCP-I806216 and DR17867 combined involving structure, traffic control, bituminous surfacing, surfacing and miscellaneous work at RM 360.39 on I-80 and at RM5.62

on WYO 212 between Laramie and Cheyenne in Laramie County. Completion Date: June 30, 2024.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$968,307.00	
Reiman Corp., Cheyenne, WY	\$1,158,651.00	19.7%
S&S Builders, LLC, Gillette, WY	\$1,851,101.00	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Dolezal that Reiman Corp., of 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 motion carried unanimously. FHWA concurrence was not required.

9Aii. July 2023 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Addendum: Mr. Fulton presented the July 2023 STIP Addendum.

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Dolezal, seconded by Commissioner Hughes, and carried unanimously to approve the July 2023 STIP addendum.

9Aiii. Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) and Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) Advisory Committee Nomination Appointment: Mr. Fulton explained that the Local Government office uses these committees to review and recommend projects to the Commission for the available funding each year, and are usually brought forward in October or November each year for appointment. The committee members are nominated by the Committees they represent and the Commission decides on the final representative. Mr. Fulton presented the names of the candidates for each committee.

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Willox and seconded by Vice Chair Dolezal that the Commission approve three year terms on the TAP Committee for Noel Reed, Trenton Vonberg, and Sandra Eldridge. The motion carried, with Commissioner Baker voting against.

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Willox that the Commission appoint Scott Gamo to fulfill the term of the previous appointee to the CMAQ Advisory Committee. The motion carried, with Commissioner Baker voting against.

9B. Mr. DeHoff presented the Operations Report.

Construction: The construction season is currently in full swing. There are currently 83 active construction projects across the state. Paving efforts continue around weather events. Districts are also holding public STIP meetings, and Mr. DeHoff thanked all the Commissioners that have attended for doing so.

There will be a ribbon cutting held in the first week of September for the Build Freight project, and Commissioners are welcome to attend.

Mr. DeHoff also advised that there are websites currently set up to view projects in Teton County, including the Snake River Bridge project and the WYO 22 corridor.

Construction Zone Delays: Mr. DeHoff advised that the Association of General Contractors-Wyoming (AGC-WYO) will be attending the September meeting and can address along with Mr. DeHoff traffic control issues and fitting the work a contractor is currently doing.

Commissioner Crank stated that he believes the AGC-WYO should present on their own and not in conjunction with WYDOT regarding traffic control issues and why miles of highway may be shut down, as their priorities may be different than the Commission and WYDOT.

Operations: Normal summer operations are occurring, including asphalt patching, chip sealing, mowing, cleaning up ditches, repairing delineation and guardrail, and fencing.

The state hot plant is currently in Guernsey and is producing mix for District One crews. Other districts are utilizing commercial hot plants and chip sealing various roads.

District Five found a slide on US 14 at mile post 33.7. Geology is assessing the slide with District Five and when repairs are needed.

In District Four, a sinkhole was found due to a rotted pipe on I-90 at mile post 97.14 west of Gillette. The lane is closed and a plan is being formulated.

Traffic: Stripers are currently placing paint on highways and maintenance patches. Sign crews are installing signs and repairing damages.

Electrical: Crews are performing annual inspections and installing upgrades.

Shops: Mechanics are repairing summer equipment.

Facilities: All facilities and rest areas are open at this time.

10. Lieutenant Colonel Walther presented the Highway Patrol Report.

The Fatal Crash Summary through June 30, 2023, includes 49 fatal crashes involving 63 deaths. The fatalities include 14 rollover crashes, 36 multi-car crashes, 1 fixed-object crash, 3 motorcycle crashes, 1 all-terrain vehicle crash, 2 snowmobile crashes, and 6 pedestrian crashes. Of the 49 fatal crashes that have occurred in 2023, 19 involved commercial vehicles.

There were 4 fatal crashes deemed drug or alcohol related, resulting in 8 deaths through June 2023.

Of the 63 deaths this year, 26 were attributed to not using occupant restraints, with 10 involving rollover crashes, 15 involving multi-car collisions, and 1 involving fixed objects. Sixteen of those who died from the non-use of occupant restraints were Wyoming residents. Nine perished that were under 21 years old.

Of the 49 fatal crashes so far this year, 76 of those drivers had no distractions. In 28 of the reported crashes, it was unknown whether a distraction caused the incident.

Of the 49 fatal crashes that have occurred this year, 22 occurred on primary/secondary highways, 17 occurred on interstate highways, and 10 occurred on city/county roads.

Of the 49 fatal crashes that have occurred this year, 12 had multiple fatalities.

Inclement weather or road conditions contributed to 14 vehicle crashes in 2023, which resulted in 16 deaths.

The days of the week for fatal crashes in 2023 are as follows:

Sunday	7 crashes
Monday	5 crashes
Tuesday	9 crashes
Wednesday	11 crashes
Thursday	2 crash
Friday	6 crashes
Saturday	9 crashes

The times of day for fatal crashes in 2023 are as follows:

12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.	8 crashes
6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	7 crashes
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	21 crashes
6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.	13 crashes

The Commission also heard the following statistics:

- 71 percent of those who died in rollover crashes were unbelted.
- 42 percent of those who died in multi-vehicle crashes were unbelted.
- 100 percent of those who died in fixed-object crashes were unbelted.
- 63 percent of the fatalities in 2023 were drivers.
- 27 percent of the fatalities in 2023 were passengers.
- 29 percent of the resident fatalities were unrestrained.
- 21 percent of non-resident fatalities were unrestrained.
- 38 percent of fatalities involved alcohol and/or drug impairment.

There were 3,128 patrol investigated crashes so far in 2023.

11. Mr. Olsen presented the Aeronautics Report, beginning with the June 2023 Aeronautics Flight Operations Passenger Summary Report.

Federal Update: The House and Senate released their respective versions of the FAA Reauthorization bill last month. The House version just passed on July 20 with approximately 300 amendments submitted for debate, with the Rules Committee limiting discussion to 100 amendments. The House version is very positive for rural states and funding was strengthened. On the Senate side the bill has not been considered in committee yet and there is some debate regarding proposed pilot training requirement amendments. At this time, it does not appear that the bill will be complete by the end of the fiscal year.

For fiscal year 2024, appropriations for the aviation side were held at last year's amount. The House's proposal includes approximately \$300 million in general fund money for airport projects. There is one Wyoming project in the list of airport projects, which is \$3 million for a de-icing pad at the Jackson airport.

Division and Airport Updates: There are currently 21 active construction projects at airports around the state. Mr. Olsen has heard of some shortages of aggregate cement fly ash, particularly on the Cheyenne runway project. However, the contractor for the Cheyenne runway project is back on schedule after several weather delays.

Capital Improvement Plan Updates: An email has been sent out to all Wyoming airports requesting submission of projects. Aeronautics will review the submissions and will approve the projects in spring 2024.

Air Service News: Load factors in June finished strong for Wyoming airports. Month to date load factors for July are strong and August and September look good as well at Wyoming airports. Wyoming continues to work with SkyWest to try and add more capacity to markets such as Rock Springs and Riverton.

12. Mr. Rossetti presented the Support Services Report.

Employment Summary: WYDOT employed 1,737 personnel as of July 7, 2023, compared to 1,766 a month ago and 1,774 one year ago.

13. Chief Technology Officer's Report: Interim Director Westby presented the Chief Technology Officer's Report on behalf of Mr. Smolinski.

WyoLink: Interim Director Westby advised that there is a contractor on site in Newcastle, Meadowlark, and Kismet and will be rotating crews through sites as tasks require. The Northern Big Horn site is active as of July 11. System upgrades continue across the state, and are slated to be completed in October.

Mr. Smolinski is the Statewide Interoperable Coordinator (SWIC), and is currently in Casper for a development plan that will span the next five years covering emergency communications across Wyoming.

Hiring efforts for the Transportation Management Center (TMC) have begun to be aligned with the WHP and part time and full time positions to broaden recruitment efforts.

14. August 2023 Commission Meeting: Secretary Casner advised that the August 2023 meeting will be held via Zoom and in person in Cheyenne. Casner also covered topics that will be added to the agenda as well as the employee barbecue that will be held on August 16th that the Commission is welcome to join. Secretary Casner also asked for recommendations on topics for the August 16th Education Session.

15B. Commissioner Comments: Commissioner Crank advised that he will most likely be unavailable on August 17th for the Commission Business Meeting due to participating in oral arguments in front of the Wyoming Supreme Court. Commissioner Lyman stated that he recently had the chance to meet with District One Engineer Ralph Tarango and toured the Curtis Street Bridge project. Commissioner Lyman advised that there were incentives in place for the contractor to complete the work in a timely fashion and would like to see that applied to other projects if possible. Commissioner Willox asked if WYDOT has offered support to counties in pursuit of grants or if WYDOT has ever asked counties for support when pursuing grants, as it may be beneficial to both parties in obtaining a grant. Mr. Gillett advised that WYDOT has been asked for letters of support for grants from various counties, and WYDOT would ask a county for a letter of support if the situation warranted. WYDOT does have letters of support from other agencies, however, that may be impacted by a WYDOT project. Commissioner Willox asked that WYDOT consider gathering letters of support from local communities and counties when applying for a grant as it may “check a box” and advance WYDOT’s application. Commissioner Hughes requested a presentation from Mr. Gillett regarding A&B bidding and the incentives used on the Curtis Street Bridge project. Chair Holmes requested that alternative contracting also be included in the presentation by Mr. Gillett and his staff. Chair Holmes thanked the staff for their follow-up after meetings and the information that is provided to the Commission.

17. It was moved by Commissioner Hughes and seconded by Vice Chair Dolezal to adjourn the meeting at 12:59 p.m. on Thursday, July 20, 2023.