

## **TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF WYOMING**

The Transportation Commission of Wyoming met via Zoom and in person March 20-21, 2024 in Douglas. Chair Holmes convened the meeting at 12:30 p.m. on March 20<sup>th</sup> and 8:30 a.m. on March 21<sup>st</sup>. The following members were present both days, constituting a quorum.

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

Others present and participating in the meeting: Dennis Byrne, Chief Financial Officer (CFO); Colonel Timothy Cameron, Wyoming Highway Patrol (WHP); Captain Tom Pritchard, WHP; Mark Gillett, Chief Engineer; Tom DeHoff, Assistant Chief Engineer, Operations; Keith Fulton, Assistant Chief Engineer, Engineering and Planning; Mark Ayen, District Two Engineer; Nathan Smolinski, Chief Technology Officer; Mike Kahler, Senior Assistant Attorney General; MacKenzie Sewell, Assistant Attorney General; Brian Olsen, Aeronautics Administrator; Rodney Freier, Budget Program Manager; Doug McGee, Public Affairs; Taylor Rossetti, Support Services Administrator; Brian Harnisch, Director and Senior Research Scientist, Wyoming Survey and Analysis Center (WYSAC); Brittany Wilson, McGee, Hearne, and Paiz; Hank Rettinger, Federal Highway Administration; John Davis, Management Services Manager; Nicholas Gronski, Procurement Services Manager; Doug Jensen, Contracts and Estimates; Sara DiRienzo, Transportation, Wildlife, and Gaming Policy Advisor to Governor Gordon; Senator Stephan Pappas; Representative Kevin O'Hearn; Susan Elliott, Executive Assistant; Kimberly Chapman, Public Safety Communications Commission and Aeronautics Commission Secretary.

### **March 20, 2024**

Education Session Topic One: Mr. Byrne introduced Brittany Wilson from McGee, Hearne, and Paiz. Ms. Wilson presented to the Commission regarding the financial and compliance audit for the year ended September 30, 2023. Ms. Wilson covered topics and procedures such as Generally Accepted Auditing Standards, Government Auditing Standards, uniform grant guidance, financial statement highlights, WYDOT's modified approach, and significant accounting estimates as well as new accounting standards. Ms. Wilson added that there were no significant unusual transactions, disagreements with management, significant issues, or difficulties.

Mr. Byrne thanked all WYDOT employees that assisted with the audit.

*Commission recessed to break at 1:12 p.m.*

*Commission returned to public session at 1:17 p.m.*

Education Session Topic Two: Mr. Gillett introduced Brian Harnisch with WYSAC, who presented the 2023 WYDOT Employee Satisfaction Survey.

Mr. Harnisch presented several topics covered in the survey, including questionnaire development, survey administration, response rate, survey results, wording of questions, assessment of agency leadership culture, and assessment of workgroup flexibility. Also discussed was satisfaction rates with supervisors, as well as job satisfaction, workplace safety, insights on employee engagement, retention, and effectiveness, what employees viewed as the best thing about working for WYDOT, and ways employees would make WYDOT more effective.

Director Westby thanked Mr. Harnisch for conducting and helping to analyze the Employee Satisfaction Survey.

*Commission recessed to break at 2:20 p.m.*

*Commission returned to public session at 2:30 p.m.*

1. Captain Tom Pritchard presented to the Commission regarding the Highway Patrol Professional Standards and Conduct section. Captain Pritchard provided an overview of the section's responsibilities including administrative investigations, background investigations, evidence audits, policy manual drafting, as well as expense reimbursements and management of two Highway Safety grants. Pritchard also advised that the Standards and Conduct section is also responsible for complaints as well as recognition, and presented a breakdown of what type of investigations are completed.

Fatal Crash Summary: Colonel Tim Cameron presented the Fatal Crash Summary through February 29, 2024, which includes seven fatal crashes involving ten deaths. The fatalities include multi-vehicle crashes and commercial crashes.

There was one fatal crashes deemed drug or alcohol related, resulting in two deaths through February 2024.

Of the ten deaths this year, three were attributed to not using occupant restraints, rollover crashes, multi-car collisions, or fixed objects. Two perished that were under 21 years old.

Of the seven fatal crashes so far this year, it is unknown whether six of those drivers had no distractions. One driver was distracted, and four were not.

Of the seven fatal crashes that have occurred this year, two occurred on city/county roads and five occurred on primary/secondary highways.

The days of the week for fatal crashes in 2024 are as follows:

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

The times of day for fatal crashes in 2024 are as follows:

12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.	2 crashes
6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	1 crash
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	3 crashes
6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.	1 crash

There were 942 patrol investigated crashes so far in 2024.

2. Mr. Olsen presented the Aeronautics Report, beginning with the February 2024 Aeronautics Flight Operations Passenger Summary Report.

Federal Update: Mr. Olsen reminded the Commission that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) was funded through March 8, 2024. On March 8, Congress did approve the final FAA spending bill, which approved appropriations through the end of Fiscal Year 2024. Key takeaways included overall funding for airport improvement projects remains flat, however, \$482 million worth of earmarks were added to the bill. The Jackson airport applied for an earmark through Representative Hageman's office for \$3 million for a de-icing pad, and was awarded the funding. Funding was also put in place for 1,800 new air traffic controllers.

The Fiscal Year 2025 budget request from the Biden Administration was released to Congress on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Overall, this request is similar to past years and added an additional 2,000 new air traffic controllers.

Mr. Olsen and staff continue to monitor the progress of the House and Senate regarding the FAA Reauthorization, as the current Reauthorization goes through May 10, 2024. Discussions are occurring to reconcile the differences between the House version and the Senate version.

Division and Airport Updates: Mr. Olsen advised that at the end of February, the Reno Air Races released their list of the top three cities to relocate the races to, and Casper was on that list. Pueblo, Colorado and Roswell, New Mexico are the other two finalists. There is a significant amount of support for Casper, including public and private. The Wyoming Legislature set aside \$2.5 million to assist in attracting the Air Races to Casper. This funding is from the tourism account and is matched one to one.

Mr. Olsen and the Wyoming Airports Coalition (WAC) recently had the opportunity to meet with staff members of all three members of the Wyoming congressional delegation. The FAA Reauthorization was discussed, with Mr. Olsen and the WAC reminding those present of those aspects that are important to Wyoming. Also discussed were next steps after the FAA Reauthorization is approved.

Aeronautics Division staff are finishing their review of final contract documents in preparation for bids. Projects are starting to go out for bid, but federal projects are delayed due to the delay in the Reauthorization.

The Aeronautics Commission met March 19<sup>th</sup> and approved the Capital Improvement Plan update.

Air Service News: Load factors in Wyoming in February were slightly lower than what was seen at the same time last year. Gillette and Cheyenne did very well, with Gillette at 81 percent load factor and Cheyenne at 74 percent. Bookings for March are increasing, and spring and summer should have strong demand.

Nationwide, the four largest airlines (United, Delta, American and Southwest) have all announced plans to either stop or slow down pilot training and hiring due to not receiving aircraft from Boeing and Airbus as quickly as they would prefer. Mr. Olsen hopes that the pilot shortage issue will start to turn around in the near future.

Commissioner Lyman requested Mr. Olsen look into possible delays from Rock Springs to Denver due to operations issues.

3. Mr. Rossetti presented the Support Services Report.

Employment Summary: WYDOT employed 1,846 personnel as of February 27, 2024, compared to 1,842 a month ago and 1,780 one year ago. Mr. Rossetti advised that in June 2023, there were 332 vacancies. As of the end of February, vacancies had dropped to 259, showing significant progress. Maintenance numbers have remained steady, but there are still some concern for engineering staffing levels, especially due to colleges not graduating as many engineering students as they did in the past.

Mr. Rossetti advised that a group of nine individuals will be starting with WHP dispatch on April 1<sup>st</sup>, and 13 individuals ready to be put through background testing. It is possible that the WHP dispatch could be fully staffed, which hasn't happened in recent memory.

Commissioner Willox asked if it is possible to use community college graduates in the engineering program. Mr. Rossetti advised that those graduates would most likely be used as technicians. Commissioner Willox added that he would like to investigate this at a later date.

3A. Temporary Position Discussion: Mr. Rossetti presented to the Commission regarding temporary WYDOT positions and how they are used in the work force as well as limitations of

using temporary employees. Mr. Rossetti also explained the use of intermittent positions, especially within the executive detail division of WHP, to fill in gaps. Also discussed were at-will contract positions.

Mr. Rossetti explained that WYDOT has approximately 150 temporary positions, and over the last three years, has averaged utilizing 34 of those positions on a monthly basis. Mr. Rossetti advised that he would be asking the Commission in the March 21<sup>st</sup> business meeting to support the conversion of up to ten (10) temporary positions to at-will contract positions. The positions will be utilized on several projects, including the Revenue Information System (RIS) modernization and reissuance cycle for Motor Vehicle Services.

Commissioner Crank asked if the Department of Administration and Information (A&I) has to approve this conversion. Mr. Rossetti explained that A&I will support the conversion once Transportation Commission support is granted. These converted positions would not pull from the budget, as vacancy savings would be utilized.

Commissioner Willox asked if there would be any issues with the conversion and oversight/supervisory requirements for contract employees. Mr. Rossetti clarified that taxes would be withheld from the pay of these contract employees, which would solve any issues that Mr. Willox referenced.

4. Chief Technology Officer's Report: Mr. Smolinski presented the Chief Technology Officer's Report.

WyoLink: Mr. Smolinski summarized the WyoLink map provided to the Commission and briefly described current projects. Mr. Smolinski also summarized the Top 20 talk groups, and advised that this information is constantly analyzed and can be dependent on the time of year. Mr. Smolinski highlighted the fact that Uinta County has transferred several of their users to WyoLink, which has significantly increased their usage.

Transportation Management Center (TMC): Mr. Smolinski advised the Commission that news was recently released announcing the upgrade of the 511 system and webcams. In 2022, there were 2.2 billion hits on this system, and upgrades will allow for more. The webcams are extremely popular, but WYDOT will continue to recommend also reviewing the written information about a certain route or road conditions.

The TMC was also recently awarded a Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) grant in the amount of \$1.5 million. The grant is fully federally funded, and will be used to enhance work zone safety and participate in a work zone safety and status database. This project will begin in summer 2024.

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Holmes at 3:55 p.m. on Wednesday, March 20, 2024.

**March 21, 2024**

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

7A. February 14-15, 2024 Business Meeting Minutes: It was recommended by Secretary Casner, moved by Commissioner Hughes and seconded by Commissioner Baker to approve the February 14-15, 2024 Business Meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously. Chair Holmes noted that future versions of meeting minutes will include the location where the meeting occurred. Commissioner Willox also advised of the need to add the seconding Commissioner for a motion on page seven.

7B. February 15, 2024 Executive Session Minutes: It was recommended by Secretary Casner, moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Lyman to approve the February 15, 2024 Executive Session minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

9A. Policy 24-1(c) Contract Amendments Discussion: Director Westby presented a summary of the proposed updates to Policy 24-1(c), specifically language added in section IC

It was recommended by Director Westby, moved by Commissioner Dolezal, and seconded by Commissioner Willox to adopt the complete, updated Policy 24-1(c). The motion carried unanimously.

10A. Acknowledgement of Receipt of Audit: It was moved by Commissioner Lyman, and seconded by Commission Hughes to acknowledge receipt of the audit presented to the Commission on March 20, 2024.

10B. Position Modification: Mr. Rossetti reminded the Commission of the March 20, 2024 discussion regarding conversion of ten temporary positions to at-will employment contract positions.

It was recommended by Mr. Rossetti, moved by Commissioner Baker, and seconded by Commissioner Dolezal to support the transition of ten temporary positions to at-will employment contract positions. The motion carried unanimously.

11. Director's Report: Director Westby referenced the Employee Satisfaction Survey and advised that he and Executive Staff will take a deep dive into the survey and possibly implement changes. Westby also discussed possibly creating a program that would focus on employee recognition, retention, and recruitment. Commissioner Lyman asked Mr. Westby if Executive Staff believes the statistic that approximately 20% of responding staff would leave in the next three years to retire is accurate. Director Westby advised that this is accurate, and succession planning is extremely important. The possible program Westby is considering may have a large impact on all turnover rates, no matter the reason why the employee may leave WYDOT. Commissioner Crank asked if there is a process within WYDOT that may gauge people's interest in retirement. Westby advised that typically supervisors have that knowledge, but there is no formal process at this time. Commissioner Baker stated it is just as important to develop personnel within the agency as it is

to recruit. Westby agreed, and stated that one of the reasons he chose to come to WYDOT is WYDOT University, which offers training and certification as well as leadership courses to employees.

Also in the last month, Director Westby presented to the Concrete Association of Wyoming, the Telecommunication Association of Wyoming regarding broadband, and met with Casper airport leadership regarding the minimum revenue guarantee. Westby and Executive Staff also attended the Governor's Prayer Breakfast, which took place near the end of the session and featured Ret. Major Scott Smiley, who was the U.S. Army's first blind active duty officer. Westby also attended the Governor's Arts Awards ceremony, as well as the tourism convention, where he emphasized the impact of sound infrastructure on Wyoming. Several members of staff also attended a co-op meeting with the Association of General Contractors-Wyoming (AGC-WYO), which focused on building relationships to ensure the design and build of efficient construction.

Mr. Westby advised that complaints have been received regarding a bridge project in Jackson on WYO 22 and 390. These complaints involve flow of traffic issues, which are currently being worked on by WYDOT staff.

Westby referenced the recent loss of University of Wyoming athletes on Highway 287. Westby stated that this highway itself is not unsafe, and many issues that occur on this road are due to driver and passenger behaviors. Director Westby is hopeful that future legislation will include primary seatbelt enforcement, which could prevent future fatalities on all Wyoming roads. Colorado is conducting a safety study on their portion of Highway 287, which Wyoming has also done. Commissioner Lyman asked if there is a partnership between Colorado and Wyoming to address concerns on Highway 287. Director Westby confirmed that communication occurs between the states.

WYDOT is in partnership with Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, and South Dakota and recently held a leadership conference that involves DOT employees of every level. This conference addressed several issues, including the marketing of infrastructure needs.

Director Westby, Chair Holmes, and Commissioner Baker will be traveling to Basin in the next week to present the G. Clyde Larson Award to four WYDOT employees for their recent lifesaving efforts.

WYDOT employee town halls will occur the first week of April, and many issues brought forward on the Employee Satisfaction Survey will be discussed.

Westby summarized the bills monitored by WYDOT during the recent legislative session, including commercial driver's licenses and hauling of hazardous materials by 18 to 21 year olds. Other bills WYDOT monitored included the reporting of fuel tax information, public employee retirement contributions and actuarial analysis, light and high profile vehicle restrictions, and law enforcement retirement contributions. Staff also followed several bills that did not end up passing for various reasons, as well as budget amendments. Interim topics were introduced, and stateside funding as well as current and future funding mechanisms were discussed. Westby added that

safety and education have also been proposed as an interim topic as well as the updating of statutes regarding this issue.

*Commission recessed to break at 9:47 a.m.*

*Commission returned to public session at 9:55 a.m.*

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

12A. Monthly Budget Report: Mr. Freier presented the monthly budget report. Overall, the budget report revealed that the Commission budget was 40 percent expended, and the legislative budget was 70 percent expended in Fiscal Year 2024.

12B. Award of Procurement Services Bids. It was recommended by Mr. Byrne to move Request for Proposal (RFP) 23-231AC, Bid Number 24-092NG, and Requisitions 0000070188 and 0000070209 to a consent list. Commissioner Lyman requested Requisition 0000070188 be removed from the proposed consent list. Commissioner Baker requested Bid Number 24-092NG to be removed from the proposed consent list as well. Commissioner Hughes requested RFP 23-231AC from the proposed consent list. After these items were removed, there were no projects that could be voted on via a consent list.

It was recommended by Mr. Byrne, moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Hughes to award RFP 23-231AC to Tyler Technologies of Plano, Texas to furnish a crash reporting system to the department located in Cheyenne for the sum of \$436,790.00.

Commissioner Hughes asked for clarification regarding the amount of bids received in relation to the sum requested. Mr. Byrne advised that this amount is for the first year of the contract, and more dollars will be added after Commission approval for upcoming years of the contract.

Commissioner Baker asked that in the future, the scoring rubric for RFPs be included so the Commission can understand the individual scores better.

Mr. Gronski shared the cost proposal for this RFP, which included installation and implementation, start up, customization, texting, training, and cloud hosting costs. Operations and maintenance for three years are also included in the proposal, as well as inflationary costs.

The motion carried, with Commissioner Crank voting no.

It was recommended by Mr. Byrne, moved by Commissioner Lyman, and seconded by Commissioner Dolezal to award Bid 24-092NG to A&B Construction, LTD of Harper, Iowa to furnish a salt and sand building to the department located in Cheyenne for the sum of \$346,700.00.

Commissioner Baker asked for clarification on the size and materials for this building, as he feels that the price may be too high and there are disparities between the bids. Mr. Byrne and Mr. Gronski advised that they are unable to explain the disparities between the bids. Mr. DeHoff advised that this building would be in Cheyenne and would be made of tent-like materials. Mr.



Gronski showed the Commission a drawing of the proposed building. Mr. DeHoff explained that this building will address recent Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) concerns and make operations easier for WYDOT employees. Commissioner Crank asked if WYDOT had previously used the winning contractor, and Mr. Gronski stated that they are currently building two other salt and sand storage facilities.

The motion carried unanimously.

It was recommended by Mr. Byrne, moved by Commissioner Baker, and seconded by Commissioner Hughes to award Bid 24-096RE to Floyd's Truck Center of Gillette, Wyoming to furnish two (2) new and most current model cab and chassis with crane, digger, and winch with 50 feet working height for the sum of \$891,898.00.

Mr. Byrne explained that Floyd's Truck Center was the second lowest bidder, but the lowest bid from Technology International, Inc. did not meet specifications. Mr. Byrne also clarified that the delivery times should be much shorter than listed on the bid sheet, but trucks similar to the ones requested take longer as the truck has to be manufactured and then shipped off to be outfitted.

The motion carried. *Commissioner Crank declared a conflict and abstained from voting.*

It was recommended by Mr. Byrne, moved by Commissioner Willox, and seconded by Commissioner Dolezal to award Requisition 0000070188 to Generation X Guardrail of Sheridan, Wyoming, to furnish the first contract extension for guardrail repair and associated work to the department located in District Three for the sum of \$350,000.00.

Commissioner Lyman clarified with Mr. Byrne the amounts of the original requisitions, and questioned why the contract was extended instead of creating another requisition. Mr. Gronski explained that this is currently year two of the contract, and many contracts offer extensions up to three years. This contract is as needed for projects \$25,000.00 or less over the course of the next year, but there is no guarantee that this money will be spent. There is also no guarantee that the \$350,000.00 will be sufficient. The amount spent depends on how much damage to the guardrail occurs. Commissioner Crank requested more information regarding the original contract and change orders that have occurred.

The motion carried, with Commissioner Hughes, Lyman, and Crank voting no.

It was recommended by Mr. Byrne, moved by Commissioner Dolezal, and seconded by Commissioner Willox to award Requisition 0000070209 to NeoTreks of Castle Rock, Colorado, to furnish professional application development services for use by the Department for the sum of \$391,105.00.

Mr. Byrne explained that this application would allow the TMC to reduce time spent on receiving and transmitting road reports and would allow maintenance to make road conditions available to the public immediately.

The motion carried, with Commissioner Lyman voting no.

Mr. Byrne recommended including interested Commissioners on a requisition selection committee to give a better idea of the process.

13. Chief Engineer's Report: Mr. Gillett updated the Commission regarding the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), including recent Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs). The first NOFO available is the Safe Streets and Roads for All, which funds regional, local, and tribal initiatives through grants to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries. The second NOFO is called the Roadside Pollinator Program, which provides funding to state DOTs, Indian tribes, and federal land management agencies to carry out activities that would promote the protection of pollinator habitats on highway rights-of-way.

Mr. Gillett reminded the Commission that the U.S. Congress passed the Fiscal Year 2024 transportation appropriations bill on March 20<sup>th</sup>. President Biden has signed this bill, which terminates any need for continuing resolutions. As a result, WYDOT should soon know what funding will be for Fiscal Year 2024 and adjust the STIP accordingly.

WYO-AGC/WYDOT Co-op Meeting: Mr. Gillett and several members of WYDOT staff recently attended the WYO-AGC/WYDOT Co-op meeting, which is held every two years. At that meeting, Mr. Gillett presented last summer's smoothness awards to Croell, Inc. of Sundance, Wyoming and Riverside Contracting of Missoula, Montana.

Dispute Update: Mr. Gillett advised that he is currently working on three different dispute cases involving three different contractors. The first case is the Rock Springs I-80 MSE wall project, where an agreement was reached in the amount of \$481,250.00 to construct a single stage MSE wall. Constructing this wall would utilize non-metallic tie back strips, which would allow the re-use of the existing crusher run sub-base. Notification of the agreement was sent to Chair Holmes, Vice Chair Dolezal, and Commissioner Lyman on March 7<sup>th</sup> and the contract amendment was signed on March 11<sup>th</sup>. This action resolves this dispute, and the contractor is ordering materials in order to begin work as soon as weather permits.

The second dispute is regarding a project on US 14 bridge over the railroad at Ranchester. The contractor's is requesting to be being compensated for the reconstruction of the southeast approach slab sub-base. The reason the original slab failed is that the sub-base had been saturated with water. The railroad does not allow holes in bridges over the railroad to drain, and so all moisture must drain to the ends of the bridge. Due to excess snow and rain, large amounts of drainage came off this bridge and caused the damage. The contractor for this project accepted Mr. Gillett's settlement offer of \$183,817.00, which is half of the documented cost to reconstruct the approach slab. The contract amendment was written and signed and executed, and the dispute is now resolved.

The last dispute is regarding a project on US 189 at Dry Piney involving a wildlife crossing and fencing. The contractor claimed a differing site condition existed concerning the right-of-way deer fence post hole excavation. They believe they encountered more rock when digging the post holes than what was shown on the original plans. An additional \$631,845.00 has been requested by the

contractor. Mr. Gillett evaluated all information provided, and did not offer any compensation as he does not feel WYDOT has any fault. The contractor has 30 days to either accept this decision or file a lawsuit in court. March 21<sup>st</sup> is the 30<sup>th</sup> day, and no correspondence regarding a lawsuit has been received.

Commissioner Baker asked if the drainage issue on the railroad bridge near Ranchester has been solved. Mr. Gillett explained the measures that are being considered to prevent future failures, including possibly pouring a concrete drainage ditch.

Mr. Gillett reminded the Commission that there is an alternative contracting committee and research has begun on implementation as well as the drafting of policies and rules.

Nationally, there is an effort to reduce fatalities on roadways. An average of 43,000 fatalities a year occur on the nation’s highways. Mr. Gillett reiterated Director Westby’s earlier comments that US 287 is not an unsafe road, but WYDOT will do everything possible to make things safe on every project. Mr. Gillett also stated that upcoming vehicle technologies may also help to reduce fatalities.

Mr. Gillett reported that there is a project to extend the existing five lanes out further south of Laramie. This project has been in development for a long period of time, and will be constructed in Fiscal Year 2026.

Mr. Gillett thanked Senator Pappas for introducing the high profile/light weight bill to the Senate during the legislative session. This regulation has been highly effective in Mr. Gillett’s opinion.

13Ai. Mr. Fulton presented the Engineering and Planning Report, beginning with the bid tabulations from the March 14, 2024 letting.

Federal Project STP-N212123 to mill and overlay with areas of curb and gutter and sidewalk replacement, including an isolated area of reconstruction (100 feet) on approximately 0.21 miles on WYO 220 (CY Avenue) and on 0.32 miles on WYO 258 (Wyoming Boulevard) in the City of Casper. Completion Date: July 31, 2025.

<i>Engineer’s Estimate</i>	\$2,669,235.00	
71 Construction, Casper, WY	\$2,667,710.00	-0.1%
JTL Group, Inc. DBA Knife River, Cheyenne, WY	\$2,871,547.83	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Hughes that 71 Construction, of Casper, Wyoming, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as the responsive low bidder. The motion carried unanimously. FHWA concurred with this decision.

Federal Project STP-0302094 to mill and overlay approximately 6.00 miles on US 14 between Sheridan and Ucross. Completion Date: October 31, 2024.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$2,625,970.00	
Simon Contractors, Cheyenne, WY	\$2,449,484.50	-6.7%

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Willox and seconded by Commissioner Dolezal 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.

Federal Project CM-B214021 to clean 60 culverts, complete erosion control repairs at 48 culvert locations, and install new lining on 10 culverts in various locations in Transportation District 4. Completion Date: October 31, 2024.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$1,095,878.00	
Wilson Bros. Construction, Inc., Cowley, WY	\$1,108,523.00	1.2%
Subsurface, Inc., Fargo, ND	\$1,154,465.00	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Dolezal and seconded by Commissioner Lyman that Wilson Bros. Construction, Inc., of Cowley, 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 HSIP-I252175 for an acceleration lane extension on approximately 0.30 miles on I-25 southbound beginning at RM 92.17 between Wheatland and Dwyer Junction. Completion Date: October 31, 2024.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$905,240.00	
Croell, Inc., Sundance, WY	\$690,386.10	-23.7%
JTL Group, Inc., DBA Knife River, Cheyenne, WY	\$698,391.50	
71 Construction, Casper, WY	\$1,076,518.90	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Baker that Croell, Inc., of Sundance, 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-N303063 for traffic signal replacement on US 26 at RM 132.65 and RM 132.86 (at the intersection of Main and 5<sup>th</sup> and Main and 8<sup>th</sup>) in the City of Riverton. Completion Date: June 30, 2025.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$873,155.00	
Advanced Electrical Contracting, Inc., Sheridan, WY	\$888,332.00	1.7%
DELTA WYE, INC., Gillette, WY	\$906,625.61	
Casper Electric, Inc., Casper, WY	\$984,984.84	
Morton Electric, Inc., Pueblo, CO	\$1,191,800.00	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Dolezal and seconded by Commissioner Lyman 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 Project STP-N854075 to scrub seal approximately 9.50 miles on US 85 beginning at RM 175.31 between Lusk and Mule Creek Junction. Completion Date: October 31, 2024.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$856,325.00	
Bituminous Paving, Inc., Ortonville, MN	\$776,225.00	-9.4%
Intermountain Slurry Seal, Inc., Salt Lake City, UT	\$800,600.00	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Willox and seconded by Commissioner Lyman that Bituminous Paving, Inc., of 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 motion carried unanimously. FHWA concurred with this decision.

Federal Project HSIP-I251169 for road lighting and closure gate replacement on I-25 northbound RM 21 (near County Road 220/Ridley Road Interchange) in Laramie County north of the City of Cheyenne. Completion Date: October 31, 2024.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$567,713.00	
Modern Electric Co., Casper, WY	\$502,500.00	-11.5%
DELTA WYE, INC., Gillette, WY	\$515,159.00	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Hughes and seconded by Commissioner Dolezal that Modern Electric Co., 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-B244009 for guardrail upgrade (replacement) on approximately 1.70 miles at various locations on US 85 beginning at RM 234.99 in Weston County. Completion Date: October 31, 2024.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$564,907.00	
K's Construction, Inc., Afton, WY	\$460,555.00	-18.5%

S&L Industrial, Cowley, WY

\$533,544.00

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Baker that K's Construction, Inc., of Afton, 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-I180029 for epoxy pavement and crosswalk markings on approximately 1.10 miles on US 85 (South Greeley Highway) beginning at RM 7.30 in the City of Cheyenne. Completion Date: August 31, 2024.

*Engineer's Estimate*

\$179,396.00

S&L Industrial, Cowley, WY

\$165,030.50 -8.0%

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Baker and seconded by Commissioner Willox that S&L Industrial, of Cowley, 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. *Commissioner Crank declared a conflict and abstained from voting.* FHWA concurred with this decision.

13Aii. March FY 2024 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Addendum: Mr. Fulton presented the March FY 2024 STIP Addendum.

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Lyman and seconded by Commissioner Dolezal to approve the March FY 2024 STIP addendum. The motion carried unanimously.

13Aiii. Commission Highway Design Projects Updates: Mr. Fulton provided status updates regarding projects I804276 Rawlins-Creston Junction/County Line East Eastbound Lanes and WL32304 Kemmerer South Crossing.

Mr. Fulton also presented the two white papers included in the March 2024 meeting packet, one of which covered the bridge formula program and funding as well as bridge ratings and the costs for the next five fiscal years. Also discussed was how to attract contractors to projects in Wyoming in order to be the most efficient with Wyoming dollars. Commissioner Lyman requested more information on a specific bridge close to the Colorado border in Sweetwater County.

The second white paper Mr. Fulton presented is an overview of the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) plan for Wyoming, including federal standards and requirements, the development of the WYDOT NEVI plan, and current program status.

*Commission recessed to break at 11:44 a.m.*

*Commission returned to public session at 12:05 p.m.*

13B. Mr. DeHoff presented the Operations Report.

Mr. DeHoff introduced Mark Ayen, District 2 Engineer. Mr. Ayen presented to the Commission regarding District 2, including road miles, vacancies, current projects, recruitment efforts, an internal CDL program, and workplace culture and development. Mr. Ayen also thanked the Commission for allocating money for housing in Muddy Gap and Shirley Rim, and discussed what type of housing will be brought in and what facilities are currently there.

Operations: There are currently 41 vacancies in maintenance, which is the same as last month and 18 less than the same time last year.

There are currently 17 active construction projects across the state, which is slightly more than last month. Some of the projects involve the U.S. 30 project east of Cheyenne, the I-25 marginal project in District 2, the Snake River project in District 3, and high mast towers across the state.

Mr. DeHoff advised that each district is assembling their STIPs with budget numbers and will be meeting with all those within their district to gather public opinion.

Mr. DeHoff thanked Kent Ketterling and his staff for assisting with the recent AGC-WYO co-op meeting.

In traffic, crews are completing projects as weather permits.

Equipment is being delivered in a timely manner, and several bids are still out to secure new WYDOT vehicles. The rigging shop is busy with the new vehicles as well.

The Sundance rest area is currently closed due to a water line issue, and an emergency contract has been drafted and should be signed soon.

On April 8<sup>th</sup>, a solar eclipse will occur; however, it will mostly be seen in the eastern part of the U.S. Mr. DeHoff doesn't expect that Wyoming will see any effect from this event. Several other DOTs have contacted Wyoming for advice on handling the event and influx of visitors.

14. April 2024 Commission Meeting: Secretary Casner advised that the April 2024 meeting will be held in Cheyenne. The education session topic is to be determined, and there will be a Service Award luncheon.

15A. Legislator Comments: Representative O'Hearn reminded the Commission to reach out with any issues that arise that may need to be looked at by the Legislative. Senator Pappas reminded the Commission of upcoming meetings, including the choosing of interim topics. Pappas anticipates that tax issues and many of the issues that were discussed this session will be brought forward again next year.

15B. Commissioner Comments: Commissioner Dolezal thanked Commissioner Willox for hosting the Commission. Commissioner Lyman agreed, and stated that he enjoys working with the Commission. Commissioner Willox discussed points of interest Commissioners may want to see when leaving Douglas. Willox also discussed upcoming projects in his district, including a solar farm and uranium mining. Commissioner Hughes thanked Rep. O’Hearn and Sen. Pappas for attending Commission meetings and being involved with WYDOT. Commissioner Crank thanked all for their work and dedication. Commissioner Baker reminded the Commission of previous fatalities on US 287 and stated the need for collaboration between Wyoming and Colorado on this road. Chair Holmes thanked the Commission and staff for their hard work and dedication.

17. It was moved by Commissioner Crank and seconded by Commissioner Willox to adjourn the meeting at 12:25 p.m. on Thursday, March 21, 2024. The motion carried unanimously.