

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
May 20, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was brought to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Bill McDowell. Those in attendance were Commissioners Terry Wingerter, Rob Hendry, and Matt Keating; County Attorney Bill Knight, County Clerk Renea Vitto and Commissioners' Assistant Michelle Maines. Commissioner Forrest Chadwick was absent attending the WIR/NACo Conference.

Commissioner Wingerter moved to approve the Minutes of Proceedings for May 6, 2014. Commissioner Hendry seconded the motion.

Commissioner Hendry moved to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$1,529,696.82. Commissioner Wingerter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Contracts, Agreements, Resolutions:

A. Grant Agreement between the Wyoming Business Council (WBC) and Natrona County Mountain West Technology Networks Managed Data Center Cost Reduction Project-\$905,249.00

Attorney Knight reported this is the actual grant agreement; numerous public hearings regarding application process have been held; grant will be administered by CAEDA; purpose of grant is to reduce the utility cost of data center over a period of years. Agreement has been reviewed and approved as to form by the County Attorney's office.

Commissioner Wingerter moved for approval of the Agreement. Commissioner Hendry seconded the motion. Motion carried.

B. Resolution 19-14 Prohibiting the Board of County Commissioners of NC, WY from Awarding Bids, Contracts, or Engaging In Business with Immediate Family Members

Chairman McDowell reported this is a Resolution of the BOCC drafted by the County Attorney's office which is fairly specific when dealing with financial involvement of the County Commissioners.

Commissioner Hendry moved for approval of the Resolution. Commissioner Wingerter seconded the motion.

Chairman McDowell reported he thought long and hard about this and believes members of this community have been distressed with what has occurred in the City. After discussion with fellow Commissioners we all decided that they would like to not have this happen at the county and the way to accomplish that was to not only to eliminate the opportunity for Commissioners to do business with the county, but to also eliminate any family members. It is not as if there are not enough people in the county that could serve and not run into conflict of interest by being a County Commissioner.

Commissioner Wingerter agreed with Chairman McDowell comments; this Resolution only has to do with the County Commissioners as the other Elected Officials run their own departments.

Commissioner Hendry supports the Resolution; just the evidence of someone maybe trying to get something out of being Commissioner is overwhelming. Sometimes I think we need these policies to clarify.

Commissioner Keating reported he was really struggling with this Resolution because there was a need for a squad when he was on the County Fire Protection District and he asked the County Commission to support buying a piece of emergency equipment for NC Fire Protection District out of one cent. This was a need for the community; now was this a real or perceived conflict of interest? I think it may have been a perceived conflict of interest. NC is a little bit more than a small town; we know each other really well; short distance to find somebody you're related to. We need good business men on this commission; we are shackling ourselves by not being able to accept the lowest and best bid or best service provided even though he/she is a County Commissioner. We need to elect good honest people to sit on the Commission and trust these people will excuse themselves when there is a real conflict of interest, not anything perceived. Commissioner Keating gave an example of reimbursements for travel. Commissioners do not sign off on their own reimbursements.

Commissioner Hendry moved for approval of the Resolution. Commissioner Wingerter seconded the motion. Commissioner Keating was opposed. Motion carried.

C. MOU between the Dept. of Revenue (DOR) and NC Assessor & NC – Administration of the Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal (CAMA) software

Attorney Knight reported similar to current software; reviewed by all twenty-three (23) counties in the state to be used in the future. MOU has been reviewed and approved as to form by the County Attorney's office.

Commissioner Hendry moved for approval of the MOU. Commissioner Wingerter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

D. Underground Right-Of-Way-Easement (Project Name: City of Casper Welcome Sign; WO# 5858433) (Legal Description: A portion of Lot 13, Block 1, Salt Creek Heights Addition, Lot 2, Section 5, Township 33 North, Range 79 West, Sixth Principal Meridian, NC)

Attorney Knight reported easement has been granted to the Rocky Mountain Power (RMP) for the installation of an underground power supply; sixty-one (61) feet; across from the NCDC & NCRJDC running along the highway.

Commissioner Hendry moved for approval of the Easement. Commissioner Wingerter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda:

Commissioner Hendry moved for approval of the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Wingerter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Comments:

Chairman McDowell opened the floor to Public Comments.

Hearing no comments the floor was closed.

Commissioner Comments:

Chairman McDowell opened the floor to Commissioner Comments.

Hearing no comments the floor was closed.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners, Chairman McDowell adjourned the meeting at 5:43 p.m.

BOARD OF NATRONA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Bill McDowell, Chairman

ATTEST:

NATRONA COUNTY CLERK

Renea Vitto