

Approved Minutes
Board of Commissioners of Converse County
February 16, 2021

The regular meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. on February 16, 2021. Present were Chairman Jim Willox; Vice-Chair Rick Grant; Commissioners Robert Short, Tony Lehner, and Mike Colling; and County Clerk, Karen Rimmer.

Mr. Jason Wilkinson, Road and Bridge Supervisor, provided updates on various construction and road projects. Mr. Dave Shaw provided updates on the High-Risk Rural Roads Grants including delineator, mile marker post, and chevron purchases and installation timelines.

Mr. Grant moved to approve the Janitorial Agreement between the County and Leslie Weidenhamer for janitorial services in the amount of \$5,160 per month; Mr. Colling seconded; following discussion, motion carried.

The Commissioners authorized Ms. Dixie Huxtable, County Assessor, to fill an upcoming vacant position within her office.

The minutes of the February 2 and 3, 2021 regular meeting and the February 10, 2021 special meeting were approved and ordered filed.

Mr. Short moved to approve a one-year Memorandum of Understanding between University of Wyoming Extension, Converse County Fair Board, and the Board of Converse County Commissioners for the annual operating plan of the Converse County Fair; Mr. Grant seconded; following discussion and additional minor revisions, motion carried.

The Commissioners acknowledged a letter received from the Converse County Airport Board declining continued participation in the County Employee Group Health Insurance Plan as of April 1, 2021.

The meeting recessed at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened at 1:10 p.m.

Departmental updates were provided by Ms. Darcey Cowardin, Public Health Nurse Manager, including staffing; COVID case and vaccination numbers; and other public health updates.

Ms. Dru Palmer, Dru Consulting, provided updates on various energy, environmental, and federal projects, including the Converse County Oil and Gas EIS and use of FNRPA funds for implementation of the project; Thunder Basin Grasslands; Wyoming Pipeline Corridor Initiative; regulations governing take of migratory birds; BLM Sage Grouse EIS litigation; Converse County Natural Resource Plan revisions; Ungulate Migration Policy review; the Raptor Symposium virtual meeting to be held February 18, 2021; and other updates and action items.

Mr. Tim Schenk, GSG Architecture, and Mr. Bob Brashears, Reilly Johnson Architecture, provided cost estimates for the Converse County Joint Justice Center, Phase 2, Courts Expansion; estimated total cost has trended downward in the last 9 months. Timing, policy decisions, and economic concerns were discussed at length. The Commission recessed

into a Work Session at 3:30 p.m. to review received Requests for Qualifications for the CCJJC Phase 2 Project, and reconvened the regular meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Mr. Short moved to approve monthly reports: Public Health \$4,334.71 and Sheriff \$1,576.19; Mr. Lehner seconded; motion carried.

Following discussion, Mr. Lehner moved to approve remaining Community Charitable Relief Grant funds to qualifying charitable organizations as follows: ABATE \$3,600; Converse Hope Center \$10,550, Glenrock Food Pantry \$5,400, Community Service Block Grant \$25,000; King's Portion Food Bank \$11,000; Noel's Christmas Giving \$3,300; Trinity Baptist Church Food Bank \$2,042; and Solutions for Life \$16,944.61, for a total distribution of \$294,436.61, which includes distributions made in December 2020; Mr. Colling seconded; motion carried.

The regular meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

James H. Willox, Chairman

ATTEST:

Karen Rimmer, County Clerk
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