

## **TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF WYOMING**

The Transportation Commission of Wyoming met in the Commission Room of the Transportation Headquarters building in Cheyenne on March 17, 2016. The business meeting was convened at 8:30 a.m. by Chairman Anderson. The following members were present constituting a quorum:

Clair Anderson, Chairman, Riverton  
K. John Dooley, Vice Chairman, Laramie  
Bruce McCormack, Commissioner, Cody  
Bob Ruwart, Commissioner, Wheatland  
Todd Seeton, Commissioner, Jackson  
Mike Larson, Commissioner, Lusk  
Rick Newton, Commissioner, Buffalo  
Bill Panos, Director  
Sandra J. Scott, Commission Secretary

Also present at and participating in the meeting were: Gregg Fredrick, Chief Engineer; Keith Fulton, Assistant Chief Engineer of Engineering & Planning; Ken Shultz, Assistant Chief Engineer of Operations; Tom Loftin, Support Services Administrator; Colonel Kebin Haller, Highway Patrol Administrator; Lieutenant Colonel Shannon Ratliff, Operations Commander; Dennis Byrne, Aeronautics Administrator; Mike Kahler, Senior Assistant Attorney General; Sam Voyles, Assistant Attorney General; Rodney Freier, Budget Officer; Doug McGee, Public Affairs Manager; and Joe Dailey, Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration.

Ms. Kristin Burkart, Internal Review Services Manager, was also present.

1. Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Anderson led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Changes to the Agenda: Secretary Scott informed the Commission of two items that needed to be added to the agenda. Under the Engineering and Planning report, Mr. Fulton planned to present information about the proposed sale of property for the Casper Streets, CY Avenue and Poplar intersection, project. Mr. Fulton also learned of a Commission Road Improvement Program (CRIP) project on March 16, 2016, and the Commission will need to discuss whether a special teleconference meeting is needed to consider that project.
3. Election of Officers: Chairman Anderson asked for nominations from the floor for the election of a new Commission chairman. Commissioner Newton nominated Vice Chairman Dooley as chairman. There were no other nominations. It was moved by Commissioner McCormack, seconded by Commissioner Ruwart, and unanimously carried to elect Vice Chairman Dooley as chairman.

Chairman Anderson asked for nominations from the floor for the election of a new vice chairman. Commissioner Ruwart nominated Commissioner Seeton as vice chairman. There were no other nominations. It was moved by Commissioner Newton, seconded by Commissioner Larson, and unanimously carried to elect Commissioner Seeton as vice chairman.

Chairman Dooley assumed the role as chairman and he led the rest of the meeting.

4. Approval of Minutes: It was recommended by Secretary Scott, moved by Commissioner McCormack, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, and carried to approve the minutes from the February 18, 2016, breakfast meeting, regular business meeting, executive session, and education session.

5. Director Panos presented the Director's report.

Legislative Budget and the 2016 Legislative Session: Director Panos offered his appreciation for the executive staff's attentiveness and hard work throughout the recent legislative session.

WYDOT was significantly affected by some of the legislation that passed. The legislature was focused primarily on the budget shortfall throughout the session. Governor Mead imposed a hiring freeze in the fall of 2015, and the Department has taken the necessary steps to hold back on its hiring, in accordance with the Governor's mandate. Now that the budget session is finished, the Department will be able to move forward with hiring for some key positions, such as within the Highway Patrol and some other areas of the state.

WYDOT's base budget was cut about \$10 million over the FY 2017-18 biennium. Director Panos believes that the cuts were minor compared to other agencies, and he plans to focus on recovering and possibly expanding the Department's base budget in future years. Some other funds were rearranged within the budget, and a penny reduction is being considered across all agencies, which will impact the Aeronautics Division.

The Federal Transportation Bill, the FAST Act, includes a provision to replace the Abandoned Mine Lands (AML) funds that were stripped from state budgets in 2012. The legislature supplanted WYDOT's surface transportation funding with \$164 million in AML funds over the next biennium, which would free up federal mineral royalty funds for other state obligations. WYDOT continues to work through the complex connections to determine whether supplanting with AML funds is feasible and, if so, where those funds can be used.

Commissioner Newton asked, "When the AML funds run out, will WYDOT begin receiving Federal Mineral Royalty funds again?" Director Panos explained that the bill was written so that after two years, if the federal funds are not available when the AML funds run out, or at the end of the cycle, the Department will begin receiving federal mineral royalties again.

SF0072 - Seventy Miles Per Hour Speed Limit - State Highways: Governor Mead has signed SF0072 into law a bill that increases the maximum speed limit on state highways to 70 miles per hour, effective immediately. The Department is producing the necessary signage to be posted on state routes.

Joint Transportation, Highways & Military Affairs Committee (JTC) Interim Topics: The Department suggested the following interim topics for JTC consideration during the interim:

- Applicability of the move-over law to non-emergency vehicles, including WYDOT maintenance and testing vehicles

- Preservation of highway investments and revenue stability
- Motor vehicle registration fees and the cost of administering the program
- Sustaining Wyoming's rural air service
- Improving seat belt use in Wyoming

The JTC has not published a final list of interim topics, but Director Panos will keep the Commission informed of the outcome.

WYDOT Strategic Priorities: Director Panos has been working toward building on WYDOT's current successes, extending its reach, and how we do more with its available resources. Director Panos also indicated he would like to accentuate WYDOT's successes, determine areas where resources can be utilized for the best return, and to build on the value-based leadership that exists within WYDOT.

Four areas being reviewed for strategic improvement are:

- Digital WYDOT. WYDOT moves much information, and Mr. Panos would like to streamline the information for efficiency, to integrate the systems, and to maximize their effectiveness and cost savings.
- Family First. WYDOT is a "family" with a long legacy. Director Panos would like to further extend supporting WYDOT employees, professionally and personally, in an effort to make the employee "family" even stronger.
- Telling Our Story. Mr. Panos believes WYDOT has a great story to tell, but there are areas where we need to do more with the legislature and with social web sites and networking.
- WYDOT University. WYDOT employees learn and are engaged in their work and communities, but we are working with Wyoming colleges and universities toward developing programs that will develop employees for WYDOT's future.

6. Mr. Freier presented the Budget report, including the monthly budget report.

Snow Control Budget: Mr. Freier provided a handout depicting the status of the FY 2016 snow control budget. The Department has expended about \$19.2 million on snow maintenance through February 2016. About \$5.1 million remains in the snow control budget for FY 2016, which matches the amount expended February through September of 2015.

7. Mr. Fredrick presented the Chief Engineer's report.

Sandstone Ranches Letter: The Commission received a letter from Sandstone Ranches of Rawlins, Wyoming, in February 2016. Mr. Donald Stratton, President, indicated that Sandstone Ranches had purchased the grazing rights north of Rawlins and west of Wyoming Highway 287, and cattle have entered the city of Rawlins in the past. In his letter, Mr. Stratton proposed constructing a fence to alleviate the problem.

At the last Commission meeting, Mr. Fredrick advised that the matter was referred to the WYDOT district office and the Right-of-Way Program for action, and that an update would be provided at the March 17, 2016, Commission business meeting.

The district office contacted the landowner and granted permission on March 4, 2016, to proceed with building a fence. Stipulations to the agreement are that a gate must be installed for the road located at the crossing, a brace panel must be installed for future maintenance purposes, and the landowner must assume responsibility for future maintenance of the new fence. An agreement is expected to be finalized sometime next month. No further action is required by the Commission.

Purchase of New Snow Plow Trucks: WYDOT's Equipment Program has purchased all the equipment that was planned for in FY 2016, and the budget has under run by about \$600,000 overall. Mr. Fredrick proposed using the remaining funds to purchase four additional 8-yard plow trucks.

It was recommended by Mr. Fredrick, moved by Commissioner Ruwart, seconded by Commissioner McCormack, and carried to approve the purchase of four new 8-yard dump trucks, for use in Districts 2, 3, 4, and 5.

Etna North Project Update: The Etna North project involves reconstructing about 9 miles of highway between Thayne and Alpine. The road will be widened to five lanes. The environmental process is complete, and public comment has been received. The project was delayed until FY 2021, but is now recommended to be programmed in FY 2018. The finding of no significant impact (FONSI) is being considered by the FHWA. Although many comments have been received, there is support for the project moving forward. Most of the opposition stems from a fear of changing the view shed and rural character of the valley.

Mr. Fredrick asked the Commission for their input about whether the project should be moved from the FY 2021 to FY 2018 State Transportation Improvement Program. The consensus of the Commission was to move forward with the project in FY 2018.

Legislative Briefing: During the 2016 legislative session, the legislature contemplated taking \$24 million in AML funds for use in building the Garner Lake Road extension in Campbell County. Mr. Fredrick provided a map of the proposed WYO 59 relocation, which also includes a connection from WYO 59 to Garner Lake Road, both of which are necessary before the Eagle Butte Mine can expand its operations under the current WYO 59 location. The proposed highway relocation will be funded by Eagle Butte Coal Mine. The mining companies and Campbell County will pay \$10 million for the connector road and the upgrade to Garner Lake Road, and WYDOT will use \$24 million in highway funds for the project. Mr. Fredrick advised that two projects, the five-lane section in Wright and the passing lane extensions south of Gillette, will have to be delayed to fund the Garner Lake Road project. The future ownership and maintenance responsibility of Garner Lake Road may need to be addressed by the Commission in the future.

SF0072, Seventy Mile Per Hour Speed Limit-State Highways: During the 2015 legislative session, WYDOT was tasked with conducting a study to determine what state roads could be safely posted at 70 MPH. In 2016, the legislature changed the law, which now mandates that all state highways be posted at 70 MPH. Governor Mead signed the bill on March 14, and it is effective immediately.

Signs are being manufactured, and roads will be posted in accordance with the new law as soon as possible. Approximately 2,500 miles of state roads will be posted at the higher speed. Roads that are posted lower than 65 mph will not be increased. Several routes will be evaluated to ensure that the higher speeds that are posted is safe for the traveling public.

Press releases will be made to notify the public of the changes. Mr. Dailey offered to ask his federal counterparts about their participation in press releases.

District Budgets: District and program staffs are beginning their annual meetings to prepare their FY 2017 budgets. When preparing the budgets, Mr. Fredrick has asked the district engineers and program managers to cut budgets by one percent in light of the state's budget shortfall.

Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act Education Session: Messrs. Dailey and Fredrick will brief the Commission on some details of the FAST Act and its implementation and affect on the Department.

Mr. David Stearns, Financial Services Administrator, entered the meeting.

8. Mr. Fulton presented the Engineering and Planning report, beginning with the bid tabulations from the letting held March 3, 2016, in Casper.

**COMMISSION DISTRICT 1**  
**Bob Ruwart - Commissioner**

State projects SCP-TC-N853091 and ARSCT-N853A01 combined, involving chip sealing and miscellaneous work at various locations on US 85, between Meriden and Torrington, and at various locations in the town of LaGrange, in Goshen County. Completion date: August 31, 2016

Engineer's Estimate	\$ 915,820.00	
<b>Simon Contractors and its Subsidiaries, Cheyenne, WY</b>	<b>\$ 861,666.34</b>	<b>-5.9%</b>
Knife River, Cheyenne, WY	\$ 885,027.77	
Bituminous Paving, Inc., Ortonville, MN	\$ 881,729.00	
Plus 5% for Comparison	\$ 925,815.45	
Intermountain Slurry Seal, Inc., Watsonville, CA	\$ 892,314.00	
Plus 5% for Comparison	\$ 936,929.70	
Concrete Foundations, Inc., Douglas, WY	\$1,015,627.00	
Geneva Rock Products, Inc., Murray, UT	\$ 971,187.00	
Plus 5% for Comparison	\$1,019,746.35	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Ruwart, seconded by Commissioner Larson, and carried that **Simon Contractors and its Subsidiaries, Cheyenne, Wyoming**, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder. Mr. Fulton noted that the Town of LaGrange has concurred in the award.

**COMMISSION DISTRICT 2  
K. John Dooley - Vice Chairman**

Federal project STPU-GR-B143009, involving grading, draining, removal of surfacing and concrete pavement, placing crushed base and bituminous pavement surfacing, plant mix wearing course, sidewalk, curb and gutter, and miscellaneous work on 1.11 miles at various locations in the town of Green River, in Sweetwater County. Completion date: June 30, 2017

Engineer's Estimate	\$2,259,541.80
<b>Lewis &amp; Lewis, Inc., Rock Springs, WY</b>	<b>\$2,698,852.16 +19.4%</b>
JWright Companies, Inc., Evanston, WY	\$2,769,900.00

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Ruwart, and carried that **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. The Town of Green River has also concurred in the award.

**COMMISSION DISTRICTS 4 and 6  
Rick Newton - Commissioner  
Mike Larson - Commissioner**

Federal projects NHPP-BR-B164017 and STP-BR-B164018 combined, involving grading, milling plant mix, placing crushed base and bituminous pavement surfacing, bridge rehabilitation, and miscellaneous work at various locations in Transportation District 4, including Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Sheridan, and Weston counties. Completion date: October 31, 2017

Engineer's Estimate	\$3,405,102.00
<b>S &amp; S Builders, LLC, Gillette, WY</b>	<b>\$3,876,733.18 +13.9%</b>
Reiman Corp. and Subsidiary, Cheyenne, WY	\$5,046,893.70

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Newton, seconded by Commissioner McCormack, and carried that **S & S Builders, LLC, Gillette, 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 projects STP-PM-B164013 and ARSCT-B164A01 combined, involving chip sealing and miscellaneous work at various locations in Transportation District 4, including Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Sheridan, and Weston counties. Completion date: September 15, 2016

Engineer's Estimate	\$2,511,600.00
<b>Bituminous Paving, Inc., Ortonville, MN</b>	<b>\$1,948,849.00 -22.4%</b>
Simon Contractors and its Subsidiaries, Cheyenne, WY	\$1,995,425.20
Riverside Contracting, Inc., Missoula, MT	\$1,998,947.00
Geneva Rock Products, Inc., Murray, UT	\$2,172,322.00
Knife River, Cheyenne, WY	\$2,195,044.77
Intermountain Slurry Seal, Inc., Watsonville, CA	\$2,277,040.00

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Newton, seconded by Commissioner Larson, and carried that **Bituminous Paving, Inc., 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 Federal Highway Administration concurred with this decision. Johnson County has also concurred in the award.

**COMMISSION DISTRICT 5**  
**Bruce McCormack - Commissioner**

State project SCP-TC-0900014, involving grading, milling plant mix, placing crushed base and bituminous pavement surfacing, chip sealing, and miscellaneous work on 5.67 miles of WYO 170, beginning at reference marker (RM) 9.74, just west of Thermopolis, in Hot Springs County. Completion date: October 31, 2016

Engineer's Estimate	\$1,744,751.50	
<b>Mountain Construction Company, Lovell, WY</b>	<b>\$1,584,713.07</b>	<b>-9.2%</b>
H-K Contractors, Inc., Idaho Falls, ID	\$1,549,777.00	
Plus 5% for Comparison	\$1,627,265.85	
McGarvin-Moberly Construction Company, Worland, WY	\$1,637,409.08	
Century Companies, Inc. and Affiliates, Lewistown, MT	\$1,712,951.60	
Plus 5% for Comparison	\$1,798,599.18	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner McCormack, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, and carried that **Mountain Construction Company, Lovell, Wyoming**, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder.

**COMMISSION DISTRICT 6**  
**Mike Larson - Commissioner**

Federal project STP-0601052, involving grading, stream re-alignment, plant mix leveling, and miscellaneous work, beginning at RM 21.10 on WYO 24, between Hulett and Alva, in Crook County. Completion Date: October 31, 2016

Engineer's Estimate	\$1,262,200.50	
<b>Earth Work Solutions, Gillette, WY</b>	<b>\$ 854,439.10</b>	<b>-32.3%</b>
Dan Hart Patrol Service, LLC, Upton, WY	\$ 931,498.10	
DRM, Inc., Gillette, WY	\$1,054,332.00	
EKE, Inc. dba Johner & Sons, Spearfish, SD	\$1,082,556.40	
Oftedal Construction, Inc., Casper, WY	\$1,105,417.47	
Timberline Services, Inc., Sundance, WY	\$1,119,288.74	
Knife River, Billings, MT	\$1,293,899.30	
Caylor & Genz Earthmovers, Inc., Torrington, WY	\$1,386,319.70	
Dietzler Construction Corporation, Yoder, WY	\$1,425,002.00	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Larson, and carried that **Earth Work Solutions, Gillette, 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-TC-N442076, involving microsurfacing and miscellaneous work on 6.92 miles of US 16, beginning at RM 226.39, between Upton and Newcastle, in Weston County. Completion date: September 30, 2016

Engineer's Estimate	\$541,290.00	
<b>Intermountain Slurry Seal, Inc., Watsonville, CA</b>	<b>\$584,850.00</b>	<b>+8.0%</b>
Asphalt Surface Technologies Corporation, St. Cloud, MN	\$594,389.50	
Riverside Contracting, Inc., Missoula, MT	\$661,547.00	
Geneva Rock Products, Inc., Murray, UT	\$694,330.00	
Martin Resource Management Corp. and subsidiaries, Omaha, NE	\$792,761.00	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Newton, seconded by Commissioner Ruwart, and carried that **Intermountain Slurry Seal, Inc., Watsonville, California**, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder.

9. It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner McCormack, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, and carried to approve the following project authorizations:

**COMMISSION DISTRICT 3**

Rural Interstate

NHPPI 47.43 I801186; Uinta County; Lyman to Granger, eastbound lane, Structure Number ANY; reference marker (RM) 47.43; bridge repair; FY 2016; request federal preliminary engineering funds of \$10,000; request federal construction engineering and construction funds of \$1,765,105

Rural Minor Arterial

HSIP 4.06 2000057; Teton County; Jackson to Wilson; RM 4.06; signal upgrade, dilemma zone protection; FY 2016; request federal preliminary engineering funds of \$18,000; request federal construction engineering and construction funds of \$198,000

**COMMISSION DISTRICT 4**

Rural Interstate

DR 126.39 DR42477; Campbell County; I-90 and WYO 59, eastbound lane, structure; RM 126.39; repair bridge damage; FY 2016; request preliminary engineering funds of \$38,865; request construction engineering and construction funds of \$420,145

10. Right-of-Way Matter: Chairman Dooley asked to recuse himself because of a conflict of interest in the right-of-way matter to be discussed. Vice Chairman Seeton led the meeting.

The Transportation Commission purchased a gas station located at 911 CY Avenue in Casper for the construction of Project P212096. The road project deemed the property no longer economically viable as a gas station. The adjoining lot directly south was also purchased as an

early acquisition in 2004. The road construction project is now complete. The district determined that neither property is needed for transportation purposes, so they can be sold. Environmental clearance has been received for disposal, and approval has been granted by the FHWA.

The City of Casper, Natrona County, and the adjacent landowner have no interest in purchasing the property. WYDOT Right-of-Way Program is requesting approval from the Commission to sell the property via sealed bid process, as that will bring the highest value with the least cost of sale.

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner McCormack, seconded by Commissioner Ruwart, and carried to approve the sale of the property located at 911 CY Avenue in Casper, to be offered through a sealed bid process.

Chairman Dooley resumed his role as chairman and led the meeting.

11. CRIP Project: Mr. Fulton advised that WYDOT has a cooperative agreement with Sheridan County to reconstruct a portion of Holloway Avenue, from 13th to 15th Street, in the city of Sheridan. Mr. Fulton received a potential request from Sheridan County for the Transportation Commission to concur in the award, but he did not have enough information to present a formal request at the meeting. Mr. Fulton indicated he will gather more information and keep the Commission informed of the outcome. Sheridan County prefers to award its projects within 30 days of their bid openings, so a special teleconference meeting may be necessary if concurrence is needed from the Transportation Commission before the April 21, 2016, meeting.

12. Colonel Haller presented the Highway Patrol report.

The Fatal Crash Summary through February 29, 2016, includes 3<sup>1</sup> fatal crashes involving 3<sup>1</sup> deaths. The fatalities include 2 rollover crashes, and 1 fixed object. Of the 3 fatal crashes that occurred so far this year, 1<sup>2</sup> involved a commercial vehicle.

There has been 1<sup>3</sup> fatal crash to date deemed drug or alcohol related, resulting in 1<sup>3</sup> death. The fatality was a rollover, and the fatality was attributed to not using occupant restraints.

Of the 3 deaths that have occurred to date this year, 2 can be attributed to not using occupant restraints. Both fatalities were rollover crashes, and they were both Wyoming residents.

There have been 9 fatal crashes as of March 4, 2016. Of those crashes, 5 of them occurred on primary/secondary highways, and 4 occurred on interstate highways.

As of February 29, 2016, inclement weather or road conditions contributed to 2 vehicle crashes, which resulted in 2 deaths. Speed was considered a factor in the majority of the vehicle crashes and deaths.

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<sup>1</sup>Number at the time of reporting; final numbers may change.

<sup>2</sup>Number not included in total deaths (sub-crash data).

<sup>3</sup>Not all chemical test results were available at the time of reporting.

The days of the week for fatal crashes so far in 2016 are as follows:

Sunday	3 crashes
Monday	4 crashes
Tuesday	0 crashes
Wednesday	1 crashes
Thursday	1 crashes
Friday	0 crashes
Saturday	0 crashes

The times of day for fatal crashes so far in 2016 are as follows:

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

The following 2016 crash statistics were also shared with the Commission:

- All who died in rollover crashes were unrestrained.
- Of the 9 total fatalities this year, 7 (78 percent) were not wearing seat belts.
- Of the 7 individuals who were unrestrained, 5 (71%) were Wyoming residents, and 2 (29%) were non-residents.
- Five out of 6 resident fatalities were unbuckled (with the sixth fatality, seat belt use is unknown).
- Sixty-six percent of the 3 non-resident fatalities were unbuckled.
- Sixty-six percent of the fatalities under age 21 were not properly restrained.
- Alcohol and/or drug impairment were factors in 33 percent of the fatalities and 33 percent of the fatal crashes.

Patrol-Investigated Crash Summary: The Patrol-Investigated Crash Summary depicts 990<sup>4</sup> crashes statewide, of which 710 involved non-commercial vehicles, and 280 involved commercial vehicles.

Workplace Safety Training Update: The Wyoming Office of Homeland Security will begin Workplace Violence and Emergency Action Plan Training on April 8, 2016. The training will be offered at various venues statewide, and will be open to state employees, local government law enforcement entities, public school officials and teachers, and the general public.

New Troopers Commissioned: The Wyoming Highway Patrol recently commissioned 9 new troopers. The troopers will be stationed at Rock River, Laramie, Rock Springs, Riverton, Thermopolis, Douglas, and Basin.

Eleven more trooper candidates are going through the Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy and are expected to graduate in May 2016.

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<sup>4</sup>Does not contain all crashes worked; some reports are still pending.

Highway Patrol Firearm Trade-ins: The Wyoming Highway Patrol is planning to trade all of its .223 caliber rifles that are assigned to troopers. The rifles have had a 10 to 12 percent failure rate, which is unacceptable in law enforcement situations. Replacement rifles that have a minimal failure rate are being sought. The additional cost for the new weapons, after trade-ins, will be paid for with funds from an abandoned property and drug forfeiture account that is intended to be used specifically for law enforcement activities.

Wyoming Highway Patrol Retirement: Captain Carl Clements, of District 4, will retire April 8, 2016, with 33 years of dedicated service to the Highway Patrol. Colonel Haller advised that the vacant position will be filled from within the agency.

13. Mr. Byrne presented the Aeronautics report, including the February 2016 Aeronautics Flight Operations Passenger Summary report.

Worland Essential Air Service (EAS) Update: On February 4, 2016, the Worland Airport received notice from the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) that it must show cause for why the department should not pull Worland's eligibility for EAS funding. Worland had 20 days to respond.

Mr. Byrne believes the unreliable air service and the recent developments with the pilot shortage are to blame for the action. If Worland loses its air service, Riverton will likely feel the negative effects of the loss.

WYDOT is coordinating a letter-writing campaign to show why the eligibility should not be dropped, and that Worland be allowed an opportunity to select another carrier to improve air service reliability. Wyoming's Congressional delegations, Worland and Riverton community leaders, and the Governor were asked to assist any way they can. A final decision has not been received from the USDOT, but Mr. Byrne advised that it is very unlikely that Worland will be able to continue receiving EAS funding.

Worland's loss of EAS funding will have an even bigger impact on Riverton, as Great Lakes Aviation cannot continue to fulfill the air service needs in those communities because of the ongoing pilot shortage. In a stopgap measure, Aeronautics Division staff met with Sheridan Airport officials to ask their concurrence in tagging a flight with Riverton. Sheridan and Riverton are conceptually on board with the idea. A subsequent meeting was held with WYDOT, Sheridan, Riverton, and Key Lime Air representatives last week, with very good results. Some challenges still exist, such as no interline baggage agreements with other airlines at Denver International Airport (DIA). Passengers will be required to pick up their own bags at DIA and re-check their bags for a connecting flight, and they will be required to go through DIA security before boarding their next flight.

General Fund Budget Cuts to Aeronautics Division: As a result of the budget cuts that were realized during the 2016 legislative session, the Air Service Enhancement Grant Program experienced an approximate \$40,000 cut, and the Airport Improvement Grant Program experienced a \$153,000 cut for the FY 2017-18 biennium. Although these programs will experience some hardship from these reductions, Mr. Byrne is optimistic that the programs will be able to weather the storm with proper management and planning.

14. Mr. Loftin presented the Support Services report.

Legislative Update: Mr. Loftin briefed the Commission about the outcome of many legislative bills that will impact the Department. Some of the high profile bills were tribal license plates, enhanced speeding fine amendments, concealed weapons for military applicants, retired firefighter license plates, bicycle pedestrian pathways, railroad quiet zones, vehicle registration for shell businesses, off-road recreational vehicles, and the 70 mile per hour speed limit. Some of these bills will require changes to the WYDOT rules and regulations.

15. Mr. Shultz presented the Operations report.

It was recommended by Mr. Shultz, moved by Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Larson, and carried to approve, by consent, the following bids:

- Bid number PEB 1936 to renovate the Sundance office building. The bid was awarded to S & S Builders, LLC, of Gillette, Wyoming, for the sum of \$1,695,665.00.
- Bid number 16-105 to furnish 15,000 tons of aggregate gravel, ½-inch, Type A maintenance gravel, for delivery at the WYDOT plant site in Guernsey. The bid was awarded to McMurry Ready Mix Co., of Casper, Wyoming, for the sum of \$251,250.00.
- Bid number 16-106 to furnish 750 tons of performance grade 64-22 hot oil mix, ½-inch bituminous pavement material, for use in the Cheyenne, Laramie, and Rawlins areas. The bid was awarded to Knife River, of Cheyenne, Wyoming, for the sum of \$786,187.50, and 71 Construction, of Rawlins, Wyoming, for the sum of \$66,750.00, for a total sum of \$852,937.50.
- Bid number 16-108 to furnish 24,102 tons of performance grade asphalt binder hot plant mix bituminous pavement material, for use in the Gillette and Sundance areas. The bid was awarded to Simon Contractors, of Gillette, Wyoming, for the sum of \$1,488,796.50.
- Bid number 16-109 to furnish 15,931 tons of performance grade asphalt binder, warm plant mix, ¾-inch bituminous pavement material, commercial cold mix, and tack oil, for use in the Riverton and Cody areas. The bid was awarded to Mountain Construction Company, of Lovell, Wyoming, for the sum of \$691,059.64, and 71 Construction, of Riverton, Wyoming, for the sum of \$385,650.00, for a total sum of \$1,076,709.64.
- Bid number 16-119 to furnish 2,440 tons of performance grade asphalt binder, for use in Districts 1, 2, and 4. The bid was awarded to Sinclair Oil Corporation, of Salt Lake City, Utah, for the sum of \$503,542.10, and Western States Asphalt, LLC, of Cheyenne, Wyoming for the sum of \$344,410.00, for a total sum of \$847,952.10.
- Bid number 16-120 to furnish 3,875 tons of emulsified asphalt, for delivery in Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. The bid was awarded to Western Emulsions, Inc., of Billings, Montana, for the sum of \$1,368,115.05, and Peak Asphalt, LLC, of Rawlins, Wyoming, for the sum of \$129,440.00, for a total sum of \$1,497,555.05.

It was recommended by Mr. Shultz, moved by Commissioner Newton, seconded by Commissioner Ruwart, and carried to approve purchase for bid number 16-088 to furnish service point upgrades for electronic devices at the WYDOT facilities in Sweetwater and Uinta counties. The bid was awarded to Casper Electric, Inc., of Casper Wyoming, for the sum of \$99,459.40.

It was recommended by Mr. Shultz, moved by Commissioner McCormack, seconded by Commissioner Larson, and carried to approve purchase for bid number 16-107 to furnish 20,000 tons of performance grade asphalt binder hot plant mix bituminous pavement material, for delivery in Casper, and to reject the purchase of 1,700 tons of performance grade asphalt binder hot plant mix bituminous pavement material, for delivery in Douglas. The bid for only the Casper location was awarded to Knife River-Intermountain Region, of Casper, Wyoming, for the sum of \$978,125.00.

It was recommended by Mr. Shultz, moved by Commissioner Ruwart, seconded by Commissioner McCormack, and carried to approve purchase for bid number 16-115 to furnish a 24' x 100' building addition at the WYDOT shop in Ten Sleep. The bid was awarded to Synergy Construction, LLC, of Lovell, Wyoming, for the sum of \$498,000.00.

16. Secretary Scott advised that SF0037, Boards and Commissions-Party Affiliation, was signed by Governor Mead on March 15, 2016. The bill requires that not more than 75 percent (five) of the Transportation Commission members be from the same political party. This change does not affect the current Commission, but it will apply to any new appointments made after July 1, 2016.

17. It was moved by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Ruwart, and carried to accept the 2015 A-133 Audit report, as presented by McGee, Hearne & Paiz, LLC, Certified Public Accounts, on March 16, 2016.

18. It was moved by Commissioner Newton, seconded by Commissioner McCormack, and carried to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Dooley adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m., on Thursday, March 17, 2016.