

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF WYOMING

The Transportation Commission of Wyoming met via video conference on January 21, 2021. Vice Chairman Schmidt convened the business meeting at 1:30 p.m. The following members were present constituting a quorum:

Vice Chairman Phil Schmidt, Casper
Commissioner Jim Espy, Savery
Commissioner Mike Larson, Lusk
Commissioner Jon Dolezal, Evanston
Commissioner Greg Venable, Worland
Director K. Luke Reiner
Commission Secretary Sandra Scott

Others present and participating in the meeting: Dennis Byrne, Chief Financial Officer; Mark Gillett, Chief Engineer; Keith Fulton, Assistant Chief Engineer for Engineering and Planning; Tom DeHoff, Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations; Taylor Rossetti, Support Services Administrator; Shawn Burke, Air Service Development Program Manager; Troy Babbitt, Chief Technology Officer; Colonel Kebin Haller, Wyoming Highway Patrol (WHP) Administrator; Mike Kahler, Senior Assistant Attorney General; Ryan Thompson, Assistant Attorney General; and Bryan Cawley, Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Other meeting attendees: Brian Olsen, Aeronautics Administrator; Doug McGee, Public Affairs Program Manager; John Davis, Management Services Program Manager; Doug Jensen, State Contracts & Estimates Engineer; Rhonda Holt, Controller; and Devon Brubaker, Manager, Rock Springs Airport.

Chairman Rick Newton of Buffalo, Commissioner Lee Filer of Cheyenne, and Rodney Freier, Budget Program Manager, were absent.

1. Pledge of Allegiance: Vice Chairman Schmidt led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Award Presentations: The Commission and Director Reiner presented a G. Clyde Larson Memorial Award to Trooper Nicholas Haller of Elk Mountain for saving the life of a 22-year-old driver after crashing into a semi-tractor trailer on August 2, 2020, on I-80 in Albany County.

Director Reiner led the service award presentations for two WYDOT employees with 25 and 30 years of service.

Director Reiner recognized Mr. Vince Garcia, Geographic Information Systems (GIS)/Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Program Manager and his team for their work to organize and host a successful Committee on Transportation System Operations (CTSO) Conference in Jackson, August 25-29, 2019.

3. Approval of Minutes: It was recommended by Secretary Scott, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Dolezal, and carried to approve the minutes from the December 17, 2020, business meeting.

4. Director Reiner presented the Director's report.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: COVID-19 cases are decreasing at WYDOT. Director Reiner believes employees' attention to COVID standards is the reason for fewer cases, and he encourages employees to continue their good work.

WHP troopers are receiving vaccinations for COVID. Vaccination Phase 1B, which includes non-medical essential workers, will soon be underway.

Budget Update: WYDOT will soon receive about \$63 million of federal funding. The Department will carefully review its needs to determine the best and most efficient way to appropriate those funds. Mr. Cawley will provide more details about the funding under the FHWA report.

Director Reiner is getting legislative pressure to reopen the 10 rest areas WYDOT closed last spring. Director Reiner does not anticipate being able to reopen those facilities until WYDOT receives more sustainable revenue.

Legislative Update: WYDOT executive staff members have attended and/or testified before 11 different legislative committees or task forces over the past interim. Those committees considered many bills, of which WYDOT saw 12 as key to agency operations and many more that may affect the Department to some degree.

Three revenue related bills will potentially be heard this session, including a fuel tax increase, the road usage charge, and Revenue Information System funding.

The legislature is also considering a primary seatbelt bill and a child restraint bill this session. Automated identification and ticketing and driving under the influence (DUI) statutory updates are also being considered.

A bill to reimburse state employees for moving expenses will also be considered this legislative session. Other high-profile bills involve autonomous vehicles, general statutory updates, and a visual acuity modification.

The legislative session began virtually January 12, 2021, with about 40 members present at the State Capitol Building. Governor Gordon provided opening comments before the legislature.

WYDOT staff have been actively engaged in legislative committee meetings January 19-21, 2021. Director Reiner briefed the Commission about various pending bills from those hearings that could potentially affect the agency.

U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Secretary Nomination: President Biden has nominated Pete Buttigieg to serve as the new USDOT Secretary. If confirmed, Mr. Buttigieg will replace former USDOT Secretary Elaine Chao. USDOT appointments have been made that do not require Senate confirmation.

Director Reiner noted that the past two weeks have been rather tumultuous for Wyoming and for America. The Wyoming Highway Patrol led the effort to secure and protect Wyoming's State Capitol Building on January 17, 2021, from threats made on all 50 state capitols and the U.S. Capitol, and during President Biden's January 20, 2021, inauguration. Director Reiner thanked Colonel Haller and all Highway Patrol members for their support and extraordinary work through these trying times.

Trails in Wyoming Rights-of-Way: WYDOT is developing rules and regulations to permit trails along Wyoming highways. The first proposed trail will be near Evanston.

5. Mr. Byrne presented the Chief Financial Officer's report.

FY 2021 First Quarter Budget Revision: Mr. Byrne explained various adjustments made to the FY 2021 Operating Budget.

It was recommended by Mr. Byrne, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Dolezal, and carried to approve the first quarter budget revision.

Mr. Olsen left the meeting.

6. Monthly Budget Report: Mr. Byrne presented the monthly budget report. Overall, the budget report revealed that the Commission budget was 20 percent expended, and the Legislative budget was 25 percent expended in FY 2021.

WYDOT recently received a significant portion of its FY 2021 Federal Mineral Royalty distribution. The remainder of the FY 2021 distribution should arrive in early spring.

7. It was recommended by Mr. Byrne, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Larson, and carried to move Bid Numbers 21-019AC, 21-027RE, 21-039RE, and 21-040CS, to a consent list.

It was moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Dolezal, and carried to approve, by consent, the following bids:

- Bid No. 21-019AC to furnish 5,053.5 feet and 11,914 each pieces of bridge rail/guardrail and related components, for delivery at various statewide locations. The bid was awarded to S&L Industrial of Cowley, Wyoming, for the sum of \$495,245.50.
- Bid No. 21-027RE to furnish 24 each, Class 8, tandem axle, conventional cab and chassis dump bodies, for delivery in Cheyenne. The bid was awarded to Floyd's Truck Center – WY, of Gillette, Wyoming, for the sum of \$2,159,976.00.

- Bid No. 21-039RE to furnish 11,310 each Shur-Flex 54-inch delineator kits; and 2,703 each delineator mounts, bases, joints, snow poles, and 60-inch kits, for delivery at various statewide locations. The bid was awarded to Geotec Industrial Supply, of Mills, Wyoming, for the sum of \$390,483.83.
- Bid No. 21-040CS to furnish 4,405 each carbide tipped snowplow blades, for delivery at various statewide locations. The bid was awarded to Nordik Blades, of Asbestos, Quebec, Canada, for the sum of \$667,168.90.

8. In Mr. Gillett's absence, Mr. DeHoff will include the chief engineer's report topics under the Operations report.

9. Mr. Cawley presented an update on FHWA topics.

President Biden unveiled a \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief package. The plan is the first phase of a two-part strategy, with a broader program coming next month focused on longer-term goals, such as infrastructure and climate change. The plan includes \$350 billion for state and local governments.

Mr. Peter Buttigieg has been nominated to serve as Transportation Secretary. His nomination is advancing through U.S. Senate hearings.

Ms. Stephanie Pollack has been appointed as FHWA Deputy Administrator, effective January 25, 2021.

The FY 2021 Omnibus appropriations bill was signed into law on December 27, 2021. The bill provides a one-year obligation limitation of \$46.4 billion for the Federal-Aid Highway Program, which is consistent with the FY 2020 Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act funding. Another \$2 billion in General Funds is included for highway infrastructure programs, and it includes a \$10 billion appropriation for COVID-19 relief for highway infrastructure programs.

WYDOT received its remaining FY 2021 obligation limitation, approximately \$235 million.

Wyoming also received a FY 2021 General Fund allocation of \$36,092,927, which is available for obligation until September 30, 2024. Funding distributions are as follows:

- Any area: \$1,863,630
- Population 5,000 to 200,000: \$1,403,699
- Population under 5,000: \$874,072
- Bridge replacement and rehabilitation: \$31,951,526

WYDOT received \$63,546,203 in COVID-19 relief supplemental appropriations. These funds are available for obligation through September 30, 2024, and they offer a share payable up to 100 percent at the state's discretion.

The COVID-19 relief funding, in addition to surface transportation block grant eligibilities, can be used for preventive maintenance, routine maintenance, operations, employee or contractor salaries, debt service payments, availability payments, and other COVID-related revenue losses. States may also transfer funds to certain public tolling agencies. The FHWA will provide further guidance in the next couple of weeks for the COVID relief funding.

FHWA has completed its review of 23 different metrics within WYDOT’s National Bridge Inspection Standards (NBIS). WYDOT was found compliant in 16 metrics, zero conditionally compliant, 5 substantially compliant and 2 non-compliant metrics. The non-compliant metrics were for its underwater inspection procedure and scour evaluations.

FHWA has completed its review of 15 different metrics within the WYDOT National Tunnel Inspection Standards (NTIS). WYDOT was found compliant in 10 metrics, zero conditionally compliant, 2 substantially compliant, and 3 non-compliant. The non-compliant metrics include the tunnel inspection organization/manual, damage/in-depth and special inspections, and quality control/quality assurance provisions.

Mr. Cawley complimented WYDOT for advancing the NBIS and NTIS programs and for working with the FHWA to improve its standards.

FHWA has completed its review of WYDOT’s updated 2021 Design Guide. Design Guide revisions were based on the recent adoption of the American Association of State Highway & Transportation Officials’ (AASHTO) *A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets, 7th Edition*.

The FHWA has also provided \$17,495 to support Wyoming’s Technology Transfer efforts. The funding is to upgrade highway safety analysis software, pedestrian, and Americans with Disability Act training, and 2D hydraulic modeling training.

10. Mr. Fulton presented the Engineering and Planning report, beginning with the bid tabulations from the letting held January 14, 2021, in Laramie.

Federal project STP-BR-B201005, involving grading, removal and replacement of concrete pavement, bridge deck repair, bridge rehabilitation, MGS guardrail, and miscellaneous work at various locations in Transportation District 1, including in Laramie County. Completion date: November 30, 2021

Engineer’s Estimate	\$2,515,431.00	
Reiman Corp., Cheyenne, WY	\$2,111,132.20	-16.1%
S & S Builders, LLC, Gillette, WY	\$2,577,249.60	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Dolezal, and carried that Reiman Corp., 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 Federal Highway Administration concurred with this decision.

Federal project NHPP-N345110, involving milling and profile milling plant mix, bituminous pavement surfacing, chip seal, and miscellaneous work on approximately 6.20 miles of US 310, beginning at reference marker (RM) 243.23, between Cowley and Deaver, in Big Horn County. Completion date: October 31, 2021

Engineer's Estimate	\$2,078,375.00	
McGarvin-Moberly Construction Co., Worland, WY	\$1,638,850.94	-21.1%
Riverside Contracting, Inc., Missoula, MT	\$1,706,355.00	
Mountain Construction Company, Lovell, WY	\$1,780,868.79	
Croell, Inc., Sundance, WY	\$1,949,855.65	
Century Companies, Inc., Lewistown, MT	\$2,094,248.25	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Venable, seconded by Commissioner Larson, and carried that McGarvin-Moberly Construction Co., Worland, 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 project STP-BR-B211010, involving grading, concrete slab replacement, bridge rehabilitations, and miscellaneous work at various locations in Transportation District 1, including Laramie County. Completion date: November 30, 2021

Engineer's Estimate	\$1,522,932.00	
S & S Builders, LLC, Gillette, WY	\$1,609,843.40	+5.7%
Reiman Corp., Cheyenne, WY	\$1,819,242.95	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Dolezal, seconded by Commissioner Venable, 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 project STP-PM-B215028, involving chip sealing and miscellaneous work at various locations in Transportation District 5, including Big Horn, Hot Springs, Park, and Washakie counties. Completion date: September 30, 2021

Engineer's Estimate	\$1,157,249.00	
Mountain Construction Company, Lovell, WY	\$1,439,404.51	+24.4%
Riverside Contracting, Inc., Missoula, MT	\$1,620,995.00	
Bituminous Paving, Inc., Ortonville, MN	\$1,626,675.00	
H-K Contractors, Inc., Idaho Falls, ID	\$1,769,669.00	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Espy, 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. The Federal Highway Administration concurred with this decision.

Federal project STP-PM-B194021, involving chip sealing and miscellaneous work at various locations in Transportation District 4, including Crook, Niobrara, and Weston counties. Completion date: August 31, 2021

Engineer’s Estimate	\$1,051,200.00	
Bituminous Paving, Inc., Ortonville, MN	\$1,063,258.00	+1.1%
Simon Contractors, Cheyenne, WY	\$1,157,555.00	
Riverside Contracting, Inc., Missoula, MT	\$1,158,782.00	
Northern Improvement Company, Fargo, ND	\$1,242,660.00	
Croell, Inc., Sundance, WY	\$1,289,635.00	
JTL Group, Inc. DBA Knife River, Cheyenne, WY	\$1,378,311.45	
Hardrives Construction, Inc., Billings, MT	\$1,453,300.00	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Dolezal, 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.

Federal project NHPP-N301028, involving bituminous pavement surfacing and miscellaneous work at various locations on US 26, beginning at RM 3.45, between Moran Junction and Dubois, in Teton County. Completion date: October 31, 2021

Engineer’s Estimate	\$ 917,885.00	
Avail Valley Construction-ID, LLC, Victor, ID	\$ 755,600.00	-17.7%
H-K Contractors, Inc., Idaho Falls, ID	\$ 836,969.00	
Mountain Construction Company, Lovell, WY	\$ 838,498.53	
Knife River Corporation - Mountain West, Boise, ID	\$1,071,184.05	
Sunroc Corporation, Orem, UT	\$1,462,445.02	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Dolezal, and carried that Avail Valley Construction-ID, LLC, Victor, Idaho, 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.

11. Mr. Fulton presented the January 2021 addendum to the FY 2021 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Venable, seconded by Commissioner Espy, and carried to approve the January 2021 STIP addendum.

12. HollyFrontier Additional Trackage, Campstool Road, City of Cheyenne: Mr. Fulton presented a proposal for additional trackage at an at-grade crossing located on Campstool Road in Cheyenne. The additional track is necessary for an economically vital repurposing of the HollyFrontier facility to accommodate renewable diesel production.

The existing crossing has two sets of tracks. The west trackage will likely be removed under the proposal, resulting in no change to the total trackage. The proposed new track will be installed close enough to the existing tracks that the crossing can still be considered one at-grade crossing. Flashing lights and gates will be installed or relocated by the Union Pacific Railroad Company (UPRR), in accordance with *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)* standards, to accommodate the new track.

WYDOT requires diagnostic review and comments from the affected road authority for crossing modifications. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, all parties field reviewed the proposal separately, provided comments, and then met virtually on January 8, 2021. The team agreed on the revised safest crossing alternative. Mr. Fulton provided a map depicting the crossing location. The safety concerns identified have been addressed, and the UPRR, WYDOT, the City of Cheyenne, and HollyFrontier Corporation have no further concerns or objections to the latest proposed highway alignment.

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Larson, and carried to approve the Campstool Road at-grade rail crossing modification, including one additional rail track to DOT 810289C, in Cheyenne.

WYDOT Letting Changes: Pursuant to the Commission's request at its last meeting, Mr. Fulton shared that WYDOT has added a help desk contact number and cell phone number to its website, the bid advertisement, legal notice, and the invitation to bid. Additionally, at the letting site, WYDOT shares its staff members' room number and cell phone number with the Associated General Contractors (AGC) of Wyoming representative, and the AGC representative passes that information on to its members. The WYDOT staff member remains on call overnight before the letting. The staff member can troubleshoot software issues and is set up to assist with bid printing, if needed.

13. Mr. DeHoff presented the Operations report.

WYDOT crews have been working hard on snow control activities. A few weather-related road closures have occurred on I-80 and other highways.

Southeast and eastern Wyoming experienced a severe wind event January 12-13, 2021, which resulted in about 15 vehicle blow-overs. The southeast corner of the state recorded gusts between 80 mph and 105 mph. Wind gusts averaged between 60 mph and 70 mph statewide. WYDOT implemented sorting on I-25 south of Cheyenne due to strong winds.

Another wind event occurred January 20, 2021, also in southeast and eastern Wyoming. That event resulted in several more blow-overs along I-25 and I-80. WYDOT implemented sorting again on I-25 south of Cheyenne during that event.

During the January 20 wind event, a high mast tower light fell into the median near the Roundtop Interchange along I-80. The incident did not cause any accidents. Maintenance crews responded quickly, disconnected the electrical components, and pulled the tower away from the roadway. Mr. Mike Menghini, State Bridge Engineer, deployed the structure inspection team and inspected approximately 50 towers in the Cheyenne area. Inspectors found two other towers with fatigue cracking that will be removed as soon as possible.

WYDOT districts are reporting fewer COVID-19 cases, but the Department is still experiencing issues related to the virus. Districts continue to educate employees about the importance of staying safe and healthy.

Most construction projects are suspended for the winter, except for a few cold-weather projects that involve cold weather concrete, crack sealing, crushing aggregates, and minor work.

Bridge work is underway on the District 1 I-80 Winter Freight Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Project at Cooper Cove and Halleck Ridge. The Snake River bridge project in District 3 is carrying traffic and crews are now working on the second half of the structure.

Maintenance Update: Maintenance crews continue snow removal operations and support activities, such as replenishing sand stockpiles and anti-icing liquid chemicals. Snowpack is below average across most of the state.

WYDOT has spent \$7.5 million in snow control so far in FY 2021 compared to the five-year average of \$17.5 million. Two snowplows were involved in crashes since the December 17, 2020, Commission meeting. There were no reported injuries in the two recent snowplow crashes. This brings the statewide total snowplow crashes to five this year, with one in District 1, two in District 2, one in District 3, zero in District 4, and one in District 5.

Traffic Update: Striping crews have ceased operations for the winter, but they continue to assist maintenance personnel with snow removal and work on striper trucks. Traffic sign crews are replacing damaged signs as weather permits and assisting with snow control operations. Electrical crews are maintaining signals and roadway lighting.

Equipment Update: Mechanics are staying busy repairing snowplow trucks and other snow removal equipment. The Rigging Shop is rigging new snowplow trucks for winter. So far, 15 of the 26 new tandem-axle snowplow trucks are complete, and the trucks have been sent to the districts.

WYDOT has advertised for bids for front snowplows, wing plows, and dump boxes to assist in winter maintenance efforts.

WYDOT has requested approval to fill several field office vacancies. Crews continue to accomplish the Department's mission despite some areas experiencing personnel shortages.

The Wyoming welcome sign was recently stolen near Van Tassell. The sign crew is fabricating another sign to replace it. The Sign Shop is also fabricating about 4,780 square feet of new signs for installation statewide.

14. Colonel Haller presented the Highway Patrol report.

The Fatal Crash Summary through December 31, 2020, includes 113 fatal crashes involving 128 deaths. The fatalities include 42 rollover crashes, 47 multi-car crashes, 8 fixed objects, 19 motorcycles, 3 all-terrain vehicle, 8 pedestrians, and one bicyclist. Of the 113 fatal crashes that have occurred in 2020, a total of 21 involved commercial vehicles.

There were 31 fatal crashes deemed drug or alcohol related, resulting in 37 deaths, of which 20 were attributed to not using occupant restraints. Nineteen of those deaths were rollover crashes, six were multi-car crashes, nine involved motorcycles, two involved all-terrain vehicles, and one involved a pedestrian. Of the 37 drug- or alcohol-related fatalities, two involved commercial vehicles.

Of the 128 deaths this year, 53 can be attributed to the non-use of occupant restraints, with 35 involving rollover crashes, 15 involving multi-car collisions, and 3 involving fixed objects. Thirty-eight of those who died from the non-use of occupant restraints were Wyoming residents. Ten of those who perished were under 21 years old, and five of those fatalities were attributed to the failure to use proper occupant restraints.

Of the 113 fatal crashes so far this year, 24 drivers had no distractions, 2 had a distraction from outside the vehicle, and an object from inside the vehicle distracted 8 drivers. In 67 of the 113 fatal crashes, it was unknown whether a distraction caused the incident. Colonel Haller believes distractions are under-reported, but it is often impossible to determine exactly what occurred during the moments before the crash.

Of the fatal crashes that have occurred this year, 58 occurred on primary/secondary highways, 25 occurred on interstate highways, and 30 occurred on city/county roads.

Of the multiple-fatality crashes in 2020, 3 were rollovers, 10 involved multiple vehicles, 2 involved commercial vehicles, and 5 were drug and/or alcohol related.

In locations where rumble strips/stripes were present, 34 crashes occurred. There were 62 crashes where rumble strips/stripes were not present.

Inclement weather or road conditions contributed to 14 vehicle crashes in 2020, resulting in 15 deaths. Speed was considered a factor in 21 of the vehicle crashes, causing 22 deaths.

The days of the week for fatal crashes in 2020 were as follows:

Sunday	14 crashes
Monday	12 crashes
Tuesday	15 crashes
Wednesday	14 crashes
Thursday	16 crashes
Friday	21 crashes
Saturday	20 crashes

The times of day for fatal crashes in 2020 were as follows:

12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.	14 crashes
6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	25 crashes
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	46 crashes
6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.	28 crashes

The Commission also heard the following statistics:

- 83 percent of those who died in rollover crashes were unbelted.
- 32 percent of those who died in multi-vehicle crashes were unbelted.
- 38 percent of those who died in fixed-object crashes were unbelted.
- 71 percent of the fatalities in 2020 were drivers.
- 21 percent of the fatalities in 2020 have been passengers.
- 61 percent of the resident fatalities were unrestrained.
- 18 percent of non-resident fatalities were unrestrained.
- 29 percent of fatalities involved alcohol and/or drug impairment.

Patrol-Investigated Crash Summary: The Patrol-Investigated Crash Summary depicts 6,167 crashes statewide, of which 1,584 involved commercial vehicles.

WHP Staffing Update: Fifteen new troopers graduated from WHP peace officer certification training on January 20, 2021. The new troopers will be stationed at WHP divisions statewide.

A new WHP basic certification class begins Monday, January 25, 2021. Five pre-certified peace officers are enrolled in the class.

Thirteen vacancies remain within WHP's sworn ranks.

Protests at Wyoming's State Capitol: Wyoming has not been exempt from the nation's current civil unrest. Numerous protests have occurred at Wyoming's state capitol in recent months. A

January 4, 2021, protest required a lockdown of the State Capitol Building. The crowd ultimately disbursed peacefully without a riot or damage to the facility.

On January 6, 2021, Wyoming's Capitol experienced another protest. Attendees followed on with the actions that occurred at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., and protesters were armed. That event resulted in another lockdown. Ultimately, protestors departed peacefully.

On January 17, 2021, a "refuse to be silenced" protest was advertised to take place at state capitols in all 50 states. Fortunately, no protest occurred at Wyoming's Capitol.

The WHP anticipated another protest on January 20, 2021, presidential inauguration day, but only three individuals attended that event.

FY 2020 WHP Performance Report: Colonel Haller presented the FY 2020 WHP Performance Report. The report summarizes the successes and statistics of WHP Dispatch, ports of entry, commercial carrier, safety and training, records managed by the division, equipment and technology updates, information technology advances, trooper activities and tasks, crash team and K9 team accomplishments, and contraband and evidence seizures by the WHP.

15. Mr. Shawn Burke, Air Service Development Program Manager, presented the Aeronautics report in Mr. Olsen's absence.

Mr. Burke provided a fiscal-year-to-date Aeronautics Flight Operations Passenger Summary Report. No flights occurred on the state's aircraft in December 2020.

Federal Funding Update: On December 29, 2020, President Trump approved an omnibus COVID-19 relief bill that includes \$2 billion for airports and concessionaires. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is still working on a plan to distribute those funds.

The USDOT omnibus spending bill includes FY 2021 FAA funding. WYDOT's Aeronautics Division is beginning to issue airport grants from those funds. The bill also includes Airport Coronavirus Response Grant Program (ACRGP) funding, which provides additional airport relief funding. The ACRGP allows the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) FY 2022 and 2023 apportionments to be based on higher passenger enplanements in calendar years 2018 and 2019, whichever is higher.

Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) Executive Order (EO): On January 18, 2021, President Trump issued an EO asking heads of federal executive departments and agencies to review their UAS fleets and any contracts for UAS services. The EO requires entities to identify any UAS manufactured or that uses critical components from adversarial countries and submit a report to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) explaining how they will mitigate use of those systems.

The EO also requires the FAA to develop UAS restrictions on or over critical infrastructure, including some transportation systems.

WYDOT has already implemented a policy restricting the use of UAS manufactured in adversarial countries.

Wyoming Air Traffic Update: Nationally, passenger enplanements in calendar year 2020 were 60.5 percent less than the previous year. Wyoming's passenger enplanements were 42 percent less than in 2019, which was the smallest decline of any state in the country. The Sheridan and Riverton airports were the only facilities that increased passenger enplanements in 2020.

In 2021, nationally, air traffic is expected to be about 40 percent lower than last year. In Wyoming, air travel is expected to be about 10 to 15 percent lower than 2020.

16. Mr. Rossetti presented the Support Services report.

Employment Summary: WYDOT employed 1,931 personnel as of January 12, 2021, compared to 1,926 a month ago and 1,948 one year ago.

Wyoming Specialty License Plate Process: Ms. Debbie Lopez, Motor Vehicle Services Program Manager, provided a booklet describing the processes and statutory requirements for the approved Wyoming specialty license plates.

17. It was moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Dolezal, and carried to recess the business meeting and move into an executive session to receive information about a personnel matter, pending litigation, and information classified as confidential by law, in accordance with Wyoming Statute 16-4-405(a)(ii), (iii), and (ix).

Vice Chairman Schmidt, Commissioners Larson, Espy, Dolezal, and Venable, Director Reiner, Messrs. DeHoff, Rossetti, Kahler and Thompson, and Secretary Scott left the open meeting for an executive session. The Commission went into executive session via telephone at 4:10 p.m., on Thursday, January 21, 2021.

18. It was moved by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Dolezal, and carried to come out of executive session. The Commission came out of executive session at 4:35 p.m. No action was taken during that meeting.

19. It was moved by Commissioner Dolezal, seconded by Commissioner Venable, and carried to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Schmidt adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m., on Thursday, January 21, 2021.