

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF WYOMING

The Transportation Commission of Wyoming met in the conference room of the Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT) district office, 900 Bryan Stock Trail, in Casper, on December 8, 2017. Chairman Seeton convened the meeting at 8:30 a.m. The following members were present constituting a quorum:

Todd Seeton, Chairman, Jackson
Bob Ruwart, Vice Chairman, Wheatland
Mike Larson, Commissioner, Lusk
Rick Newton, Commissioner, Buffalo
Louie Pfrangle, Commissioner, Worland
Phil Schmidt, Commissioner, Casper
Jim Espy, Commissioner, Savery
William T. Panos, Director
Sandra J. Scott, Commission Secretary

Also present at and participating in the meeting were Dennis Byrne, Chief Financial Officer; Gregg Fredrick, Chief Engineer; Keith Fulton, Assistant Chief Engineer for Engineering and Planning; Mark Gillett, Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations; Major Josh Walther, Support Services Commander, Wyoming Highway Patrol (WHP); Amy Surdam, Aeronautics Administrator; Troy Babbitt, Telecommunications Program Manager; Mike Kahler, Supervising Attorney General; Rodney Freier, Budget Program Manager; and Bryan Cawley, Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Others present: Tom DeHoff, District Engineer, Laramie; Lowell Fleenor, District Engineer, Casper; Mark Williams, District Construction Engineer, Casper; Jeff Goetz, Public Relations Specialist, Casper; Keith Compton, District Engineer, Rock Springs; Stephanie Harsha, Public Relations Specialist, Rock Springs; Scott Taylor, District Engineer, Sheridan; Pete Hallsten, District Engineer, Sheridan; and Melissa Defratis, Government Affairs, Cheyenne.

Colonel Kebin Haller, WHP Administrator; and Messrs. Taylor Rossetti, Support Services Administrator, and Pat Lewis, Chief Technology Officer, were absent.

1. Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Seeton led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of Minutes: It was recommended by Secretary Scott, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Vice Chairman Ruwart, and carried to approve the minutes from the November 16, 2017, breakfast meeting and regular business meeting.
3. Old Business - Wyoming Women's Suffrage Pathway Resolution: At its November 16, 2017, business meeting, the Commission voted to sponsor a resolution demonstrating the Commission's support of naming Highway 28 as the Wyoming Women's Suffrage Pathway. Mr. Fredrick presented the following resolution for Commission consideration.

It was recommended by Mr. Fredrick, moved by Commissioner Schmidt, seconded by Commissioner Larson, and carried to approve the following resolution.

Wyoming Women's Suffrage Pathway Resolution

WHEREAS, Wyoming has a distinguished history in the annals of women's suffrage, both in the United States and internationally, including the following:

- At the end of their session in 1869, the Wyoming Territorial Legislature granted female suffrage, the first government in the world to do so under an unconditional and general franchise, this act then signed into law by Governor John Allen Campbell on December 10th;
- On September 6, 1870, the first vote was cast by a woman, Louisa Swain of Laramie, in a general election;
- In 1870, Ester Hobart Morris became the first woman to hold public office as Justice of the Peace in South Pass City;
- In 1890, Wyoming entered the Union as the 44th state with female suffrage intact; and
- On January 5, 1925, Nellie Tayloe Ross was sworn in as the first woman in the United States elected as governor.

WHEREAS, the sesquicentennial, or 150th, anniversary of the first two of these internationally renowned events will occur during 2019 and 2020; and

WHEREAS, on June 6, 2016, Governor Matthew H. Mead issued Executive Order 2016-4 to organize the Women's Suffrage Celebration to mark these Wyoming historic milestones with appropriate celebrations and commemorations; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Council created by this executive order, forwarding a letter of support from Governor Matthew Mead and Secretary of State Ed Murray, now requests that:

- To recognize and honor South Pass City, home of Ester Hobart Morris and William H. Bright, two significant figures in Wyoming's original suffrage movement, and
- To recognize and honor the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution granting female suffrage in the United States,

A 19-mile segment of Wyoming Highway 28 southwest of South Pass City be designated as the "Wyoming Women's Suffrage Pathway" to commemorate the historic events described in this resolution and their upcoming sesquicentennial anniversary;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Transportation Commission of Wyoming officially supports the designation of Wyoming Highway 28 from the Sublette County-Fremont County line northwest to the boundary of the Shoshone National Forest as the "Wyoming Women's Suffrage Pathway."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Transportation Commission of Wyoming will install appropriate signage, designed in consultation with the Governor’s Council and the Secretary of State, identifying the “Wyoming Women’s Suffrage Pathway.”

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Transportation Commission of Wyoming respectfully requests the Wyoming Legislature introduce, consider, and pass legislation to designate this portion of Wyoming Highway 28 as the “Wyoming Women’s Suffrage Pathway.”

4. Director Panos presented the Director’s report.

2017 Transportation Summit: WYDOT held its 2017 Transportation Summit the afternoon of December 7, 2017, at the Ramkota Hotel & Conference Center in Casper. The Summit featured speakers from various transportation industries, and Wyoming State Treasurer Mark Gordon was the keynote speaker at the Summit dinner. Discussion topics covered the direction of transportation in the future. Attendees included members of the Transportation Commission, the Aeronautics Commission, and the Public Safety Communications Commission, city and county officials, state elected officials, and other dignitaries. The Summit was the first of its kind of WYDOT. Director Panos indicated he would like to make it an annual event.

Director Panos thanked Nicole Alonzo and the Summit planning team for their efforts in organizing the event.

Joint Transportation, Highways & Military Affairs Committee (JTC) Meeting: The JTC met in Thermopolis, November 27-28, 2017. Agenda topics included the Revenue Information System (RIS), a proposed move-over law, the Yellowstone license plate, rebuttable presumption of vehicle registration fees, and the I-80 Master Plan.

The JTC considered a draft bill that, if passed, would have directed WYDOT to use existing revenue to replace the RIS at a cost of about \$40-\$50 million over three years. Director Panos testified that doing so would have a significant, long-term impact of WYDOT’s operations. The JTC tabled the RIS topic indefinitely.

Wyoming Statutes currently mandate that drivers move over when emergency and tow vehicles are parked on the side of the road with their lights on. The proposed move-over legislation expands that requirement to include WYDOT workers. The JTC passed the draft bill and it will move on to the full legislature for its consideration.

A draft bill to create a Yellowstone license plate was also considered and passed by the committee.

A bill to address rebuttable presumption for vehicle registration fees was passed by the JTC, and it will now go before the legislature for its consideration. The bill addresses situations where individuals purchase and register their vehicles out of state to avoid paying Wyoming sales tax and registration fees. The bill also provides a better enforcement strategy for law enforcement officials.

The JTC also received information about the I-80 Master Plan. The plan was a compilation of past plans that was modernized to meet today's needs. The committee took no action.

Joint Appropriations Committee (JAC) Budget Hearing: The JAC began FY 2019-2020 biennium agency budget hearings earlier this week. WYDOT is scheduled to present its budget on January 12, 2018.

5. Mr. Freier presented the monthly Budget report.

Monthly Budget Report: The November 2017 budget report revealed that the Commission and Legislative budgets are each 17 percent expended, which is within the target budget tolerances.

Mr. Freier noted that the Budget team is working on closing out FY 2017 transactions. The FY 2018 first quarter addendum will be brought to the Commission for consideration next month. Items that are anticipated in the first quarter addendum include the FY 2017 purchase order rollovers, which are encumbrances that were made last year that were not fully spent or paid out. Budget authority rollovers, obligations made in FY 2017 that were not met or spent, will also be included in the budget modification coming next month. Budget authority rollovers require executive staff approval and Commission approval.

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

Mr. Byrne explained the equipment buy-back program for the benefit of the new commissioners.

It was recommended by Mr. Byrne, moved by Commissioner Newton, seconded by Commissioner Pfrangle, and carried to include bid numbers 18-021, 18-025, 18-026, and 18-027 on a consent list.

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

- Bid No. 18-021 to furnish 13 each, new, current model, Class 8, 8-yard cab and chassis for dump bodies, for delivery in Cheyenne. The bid was awarded to Jack's Truck & Equipment, of Gillette, Wyoming, for the sum of \$1,240,798.00.
- Bid No. 18-025 to furnish three each, new, current model, all-wheel-drive, articulated motor graders, for delivery in Gillette and Rawlins. The bid was awarded, including the buy-back option, to Wyoming Machinery Co., of Cheyenne, Wyoming, for the sum of \$799,077.00.
- Bid No. 18-026 to furnish 11 each, new, current model, all-wheel-drive, 3-yard articulated wheel loaders, for delivery in Afton, Buffalo, Cheyenne, Cody, Evanston, Rawlins, Rock Springs, and Wheatland. The bid was awarded, including the buy-back option, to Honnen Equipment, of Mills, Wyoming, for the sum of \$1,366,750.00.
- Bid No. 18-027 to furnish one each, new, current model, track tractor with a variable pitch angle-tilt dozer, for delivery in Casper. The bid was awarded, including the buy-

back option, to Wyoming Machinery Co., of Cheyenne, Wyoming, for the sum of \$295,817.00.

Joint Appropriations (JAC) Meeting: Mr. Byrne explained that WYDOT's FY 2019-2020 biennium budget will be presented to the JAC on January 12, 2018. The Department's only exception requests for this year are related to computer purchases.

A strategy will be presented for temporary funding for WyoLink maintenance and operations expenditures. A request will also be made for the legislature to cover any shortfall in revenue guarantees beyond that which is collected from WyoLink system users.

With the inception of the Real ID Act came federal funding to cover the costs associated with establishing and carrying out the program. Federal funding for the Real ID program is almost depleted, which has forced the Department to use highway funds to cover the operating costs of that program. Mr. Byrne plans to ask the JAC to change the source of those funds from federal funds to highway funds.

Joint Revenue Committee (JRC) Meeting: At its December 4, 2017, meeting, the JRC asked WYDOT to consider how much of its Federal Mineral Royalty funding could potentially be traded for increased user fees so that an equal amount could be applied to the state school funding shortage. The Department later shared with the JRC that about \$23 million could be relinquished, with the implementation of additional user fees, without having a negative impact on the Department's operations. The JRC concluded that with the recent passage of increased user fees, this idea was not a viable option.

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

I-80 Master Plan Study: A draft I-80 Master Plan Study was presented to the Commission on October 19, 2017. Mr. Fredrick advised that the same presentation was given to the Joint Transportation, Highways & Military Affairs Committee meeting, held in Thermopolis on November 27-28, 2017. Mr. Fredrick offered to answer any questions from the Commission. The Commission offered no questions.

Meeting About Domestic Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV): Mr. Fredrick will participate in a national panel next week in Washington, D.C., to discuss transportation agencies' use of domestic unmanned aerial vehicles. About eight states will be represented on the panel. Members will address, from a national perspective, how UAVs are being used, the challenges with their use, and the benefits of using UAVs. The panel will develop a report to be provided to the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) to establish how UAVs can be used in ways that relate to transportation in the future.

Wyoming Alternative Fuel Corridors: The FHWA and the U.S. Department of Transportation have requested nominations for alternative fuel corridors in Wyoming. The goal of the project is to expand the availability of alternative fuels and vehicle charging stations nationwide.

WYDOT nominated I-80, I-25, and I-90 as “signage ready” corridors for propane, as the required propane fueling stations exist along those routes and they meet the criteria of the proposal. I-80, I-25, and I-90 were also nominated as “signage pending” corridors for electronic vehicle supply equipment. I-80 was nominated as a “signage pending” corridor for compressed natural gas. Signage pending nominations do not meet the minimum criteria of fueling stations along the corridor.

Governor Matt Mead has expressed strong support of these measures, and he has signed a memorandum of understanding encouraging improved availability of regional electronic fueling stations statewide and finding collaborative funding opportunities for the effort. The Department is working with the FHWA to install electronic charging stations in the future. WYDOT is also working with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to acquire funding from a court settlement with an auto manufacturer, which disbursed the settlement funds to states for environmental improvements. Mr. Fredrick believes the DEQ funds should be sufficient to cover the capital outlay needed to establish electronic vehicle supply charging stations along Wyoming's interstate highways.

Director Panos noted that rest areas will be used as sites for new charging stations, but airports should also be considered since state and federal funds are also used to maintain those sites.

8. Mr. Fulton presented the Engineering and Planning report, which consisted of only the following bid tabulations from the letting held December 6, 2017, in Casper.

COMMISSION DISTRICT 1
Bob Ruwart - Vice Chairman

Federal projects NHPPI-I252158 and NHPPI-I252159 combined, involving grading, draining, milling plant mix, placing base, bituminous pavement surfacing, plant mix wearing course, bridge rehabilitations, and miscellaneous work on approximately 3.00 miles of the northbound and southbound lanes of I-25, beginning at reference marker (RM) 100.86, between Dwyer Junction and Glendo, in Platte County.

Engineer’s Estimate	\$11,003,293.50	
Oftedal Construction, Inc., Casper, WY	\$11,294,876.95	+2.6%
Riverside Contracting, Inc., Missoula, MT	\$13,667,076.75	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Vice Chairman Ruwart, seconded by Commissioner Larson, and carried that Oftedal Construction, Inc., 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 Federal Highway Administration concurred with this decision.

COMMISSION DISTRICT 2
Jim Espy - Commissioner

Federal project NHPPI-I804261, involving grading, milling plant mix, placing base, hot plant mix (recycled), plant mix wearing course, reclaimed asphalt pavement, bridge rehabilitation, and miscellaneous work, with lane rental, on approximately 7.00 miles of the eastbound and westbound lanes of I-80, beginning at RM 275.37, between Elk Mountain and Laramie, in Albany and Carbon counties.

Engineer's Estimate	\$7,429,802.50	
Croell, Inc., Sundance, WY	\$7,622,944.45	+2.6%
Knife River, Cheyenne, WY	\$7,739,450.48	
Simon Contractors and its subsidiaries, Cheyenne, WY	\$9,298,596.50	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Pfrangle, and carried that Croell, Inc., 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 Federal Highway Administration concurred with this decision.

Federal project NHPPI-BR-B181011, involving grading, milling plant mix, placing crushed base and bituminous pavement surfacing, concrete slab replacement, bridge rehabilitations, and miscellaneous work at various locations in Transportation District 1, in Carbon County.

Engineer's Estimate	\$4,152,783.25	
Reiman Corp., Cheyenne, WY	\$4,534,868.65	+9.2%
S & S Builders, LLC, Gillette, WY	\$5,101,311.67	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Schmidt, seconded by Commissioner Larson, 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.

COMMISSION DISTRICT 4
Rick Newton - Commissioner

Federal project NHPPI-I902123, involving grading, milling plant mix, hot plant mix (recycled), plant mix wearing course, bridge rehabilitation, and miscellaneous work, with lane rental, on approximately 11.00 miles of the eastbound and westbound lanes of I-90, beginning at RM 58.73, between Buffalo and Gillette, in Johnson County.

Engineer's Estimate	\$ 8,574,094.00	
Croell, Inc., Sundance, WY	\$ 7,614,211.20	-11.2%
Northern Improvement Company and Sub, Fargo, ND	\$ 7,921,752.50	
Riverside Contracting, Inc., Missoula, MT	\$ 8,198,822.00	
Nelcon, Inc., Kalispell, MT	\$ 8,630,327.70	
Mountain Construction Company, Lovell, WY	\$ 8,723,183.95	
Border States Paving, Inc., Fargo, ND	\$ 9,881,012.60	
Simon Contractors and its subsidiaries, Cheyenne, WY	\$10,667,474.10	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Newton, seconded by Commissioner Pfrangle, and carried that Croell, Inc., 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 Federal Highway Administration concurred with this decision.

COMMISSION DISTRICT 6
Mike Larson - Commissioner

Federal project HSIP-B184030, involving the installation of traffic signal systems and miscellaneous work at various locations in Transportation District 4, in Crook County.

Engineer's Estimate	\$306,053.00	
Casper Electric, Inc., Casper, WY	\$278,290.20	-9.1%
Modern Electric Co., Casper, WY	\$316,761.00	
Advanced Electrical Contracting, Inc., Sheridan, WY	\$335,725.50	
Cache Valley Electric Company, Salt Lake City, UT	\$367,617.71	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Newton, and carried that Casper Electric, Inc., 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 Federal Highway Administration concurred with this decision.

9. Mr. Cawley presented information about the Federal Highway Administration.

Wyoming has received an additional allocation of \$19,201,722 dollars in emergency relief funding from the FHWA. This fully funds all emergency repair funding requests from the 2015 Niobrara County flooding, the 2015 Winder River Canyon flooding, the 2016 and 2017 flooding statewide. Mr. Cawley indicated he looks forward to working with WYDOT to advance the obligation of these funds and to restore operations of the transportation system.

10. Mr. Gillett presented the Operations report.

Mr. Gillett introduced the district engineers that attended the meeting. Each district engineer provided a brief explanation of the areas their districts encompass.

Construction Update: Virtually all construction projects have been suspended for the winter. A few construction crews continue to work on damage repair projects, as needed. Some WYDOT contractors will continue to crush aggregate for next year's construction projects.

Maintenance Update: Maintenance crews are involved in snow removal operations. Because of unseasonably warm and dry weather, the Department's budget is currently about 2 percent under the statewide five-year average for snow maintenance. A couple of areas have received significant snowfall, with Teton Pass currently at 190 percent of water-equivalent snow pack.

WYDOT continues to experience difficulty in hiring experienced snow plow drivers, particularly in areas where the energy industry is flourishing.

Two snow plows were involved in crashes during recent snow storms, one of which was hit in District 3 on I-80 at about reference marker 99 near Rock Springs. No injuries were reported in the accident and the plow was not taken out of service. A snowplow truck tipped over in District 2 near Lusk. No injuries were reported, and there was minor damage to the truck.

On November 20, 2017, Wyoming experienced a significant wind event that caused 18 tractor-trailer combinations to overturn in southeast Wyoming. The roads were closed to light and high-profile vehicles at the time of the blow-over incidents. The Transportation Management Center and the Traffic Program are evaluating the standard messages being used on WYDOT's dynamic message signs to ensure the most effective verbiage is conveyed during these types of storm events. On November 20, WYDOT began posting the number of trucks that had already blown over during the wind storm to stress the magnitude of the dangerous winds.

On November 28, 2017, Districts 1 and 3 crews held a joint maintenance operations meeting in Rawlins. I-80 maintenance foremen, WHP representatives, district engineers, and district maintenance engineers attended the meeting. The meeting was held to enhance communications and to establish better maintenance operations during I-80 storm events.

US 14A between Sheridan and Lovell, and WYO 130 between Laramie and Saratoga, are now closed for the winter. WYO 70 between Encampment and Baggs remains open to traffic.

Mr. Gillett shared two photos of the snow levels and a rotary plow working to open US 14A in the Big Horn Mountains last spring. The snow-cut depth was about 18 to 20 feet on that mountain pass.

On November 18, 2017, District 1 maintenance forces assisted in guiding the Fresno State football team from Cheyenne to Laramie for a scheduled game with the University of Wyoming. I-80 was closed because of severe winter conditions and a truck was blocking both westbound lanes, which forced the football team to find an alternate route to Laramie.

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Traffic Update: The traffic striping crews have suspended striping operations for the winter. Traffic crews are working to clean and repair striping equipment for use in the spring, and crew members will assist with snow maintenance operations throughout the winter. Traffic striping operations will resume in early spring.

Mechanic Shop Update: Mechanic shops have experienced a slight increase in their workloads because of the recent increase in snow plow use. Crews are doing well to keep up with the necessary repairs.

Facilities Update: The Fort Steele Rest Area, east of Rawlins on I-80, has been reopened. The rest area had been closed because of turbidity in the water supply.

Wind River Canyon Rock Blasting: Mr. Gillett provided a short video of recent rock blasting in the Wind River Canyon. Spring flooding caused instability in the rock wall. The road was closed for about a half-day for the blasting and cleanup work.

Ms. Stephanie Harsha, and Messrs. Scott Taylor and Pete Hallsten left the meeting.

11. Major Walther presented the Highway Patrol report in Colonel Haller's absence.

The Fatal Crash Summary through November 30, 2017, includes 100 fatal crashes involving 118 deaths. The fatalities include 44 rollover crashes, 45 multi-car crashes, 4 fixed objects, 15 motorcycles, 5 ATV/snowmobiles, and 5 pedestrians. Of the 100 fatal crashes that occurred so far this year, 15 involved commercial vehicles.

Of the 118 deaths that have occurred to date this year, 55 can be attributed to the non-use of occupant restraints, with 35 involving rollover crashes, 18 involving multi-car collisions, and 2 involving fixed objects. Thirty-eight of those who died from non-use of occupant restraints were Wyoming residents. Thirteen of those who perished were under 21 years of age, and 3 of those fatalities were attributed to the failure to use proper occupant restraints.

There have been 36 fatal crashes to date deemed drug or alcohol related, resulting in 42 deaths. Of those deaths, 29 were attributed to not using occupant restraints. Twenty were rollover crashes, 15 were multi-car crashes, 1 involved a fixed object, 3 involved motorcycles, and 3 involved pedestrians. Of the 36 drug or alcohol-related crashes, 2 involved commercial vehicles.

Of the 100 fatal crashes that have occurred to date this year, 45 of them occurred on primary/secondary highways, 28 occurred on interstate highways, and 27 occurred on city/county roads.

Ten multiple-fatality crashes have occurred on Wyoming highways so far this year, of which 5 involved multiple vehicles, 1 involved a commercial vehicle, and 3 were alcohol related.

In locations where rumble strips/stripes were present, there were 36 crashes, 14 crashes where rumble strips/stripes were applicable, and 51 crashes where rumble strips/stripes were not present.

Inclement weather or road conditions contributed to 9 vehicle crashes so far this year, which resulted in 10 deaths. Speed was considered a factor in 14 of the vehicle crashes that caused 18 deaths.

The days of the week for fatal crashes in 2017 are as follows:

Sunday	13 crashes
Monday	17 crashes
Tuesday	12 crashes
Wednesday	13 crashes
Thursday	13 crashes
Friday	17 crashes
Saturday	15 crashes

The times of day for fatal crashes in 2017 are as follows:

12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.	15 crashes
6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	15 crashes
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	37 crashes
6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.	33 crashes

The following statistics were also provided to the Commission:

- 80 percent of those who died in rollover crashes were unbelted.
- 40 percent of all those who died in multi-vehicle crashes were unbelted.
- 71 percent of the fatalities so far this year have been drivers.
- 51 percent of Wyoming residents who died were not wearing seat belts.
- 39 percent of the non-resident fatalities were unrestrained.
- Alcohol and/or drug impairment was a factor in 36 percent of the fatalities.

Patrol-Investigated Crash Summary: The Patrol-Investigated Crash Summary depicts 5,881 crashes statewide, of which 4,767 involved non-commercial vehicles, and 1,114 involved commercial vehicles.

Major Walther briefed the Commission about the outcome of a drug money seizure case involving a trooper. The Commission asked Secretary Scott to work with the WHP to draft a letter recognizing the trooper for his exemplary actions in the case.

Trooper Vacancies: There are currently 28 trooper vacancies with the WHP. A recruitment team is working to fill those positions. Six candidates are currently attending the Wyoming Law

Enforcement Academy. The Highway Patrol currently has 146 applications that are in the review process. Successful applicants will move into the testing phase, which begins in January 2018.

12. Ms. Surdam presented the Aeronautics report, beginning with the November 2017 Aeronautics Flight Operations Passenger Summary Report.

Ms. Surdam also presented the Wyoming Aircraft Accidents Monthly Report, which included one aircraft accident that occurred on November 15, 2017. The plane experienced a total loss of engine power and impacted terrain during a forced landing about two miles from the Rock Springs-Sweetwater County Airport. The pilot and one passenger sustained serious injuries, but there were no reported fatalities. Commissioner Espy noted that one of his relatives was a passenger on that flight, and he expressed his sincere appreciation of the emergency responder rescue efforts following the accident. Commissioner Espy asked Ms. Surdam to extend his appreciation on behalf of his family to the emergency responders.

Unmanned Aircraft Vehicles (UAV): A bill was passed by the 2017 legislature that grants authority to the Wyoming Aeronautics Commission to initiate rules pertaining to UAVs that exceed 50 pounds. The Aeronautics Division has worked with the Governor's staff to clarify the statutory language during the upcoming 2018 legislative session.

The U.S. Department of Transportation, under the direction of President Trump, has initiated a grant program that is seeking five states to partner in some test areas for UAVs. Governor Mead has asked WYDOT to apply to be one of the five test states for UAVs, and the Department has submitted a letter of intent for the project. If Wyoming is selected to participate, WYDOT will work with private sector entities, including the Wind River Tribal Council, to get the best results possible from the UAV trial.

Air Service Enhancement (ASE) Funding: The Economically Needed Diversity Options for Wyoming (ENDOW) Committee's FY 2019-2020 biennium budget request includes \$15 million to shore up Wyoming's commercial air service. The ENDOW Committee will meet in Laramie on December 11, 2017, to discuss commercial air service. Ms. Surdam invited commissioners to attend the meeting.

The Wyoming Aeronautics Commission met December 7, 2017. At that meeting, the Aeronautics Commission instructed Ms. Surdam to prepare a resolution or a letter of support regarding future commercial air service in Wyoming. The Aeronautics Commission will consider the resolution or a letter of support for future commercial air service in Wyoming at its January 23 teleconference meeting. Ms. Surdam asked the Transportation Commission if they would like to join the Aeronautics Commission by signing a resolution to support commercial air service.

It was recommended by Ms. Surdam, moved by Commissioner Pfrangle, seconded by Commissioner Schmidt, and carried to draft a resolution showing the Transportation Commission's support of commercial air service, to be funded to the extent necessary for the continuance of air service at Wyoming's existing commercial airports.

Performance of Wyoming Airports: Handouts were provided depicting performance measures of Wyoming's commercial airports. Ms. Surdam offered to answer questions about the handouts, or to meet individually with the commissioners to explain the data.

Air Service Enhancement Grant Applications: The Aeronautics Commission will consider ASE grant applications from Riverton, Sheridan, Rock Springs, and Cheyenne at its January 23, 2018, teleconference meeting. Ms. Surdam anticipates there will be enough ASE funds to cover all of the FY 2018 and 2019 requests, at which time funding will be depleted.

13. Director Panos presented the Support Services report in Mr. Taylor Rossetti's absence.

Employment Summary: WYDOT employed 1,905 personnel as of November 30, 2017, compared to 1,888 a month ago. There are currently 68 WYDOT vacancies posted, and 51 of those positions are for locations outside of Cheyenne.

Director Panos shared information with the Commission about some wage inequities within the organization. The executive staff is working with the Human Resources Program to remedy those inequities.

Commissioner Larson left the meeting.

14. Mr. Babbitt presented the Chief Technology Officer's report in the absence of Mr. Pat Lewis.

WyoLink Update: WYDOT is hosting weekly meetings with Motorola Corporation regarding the design and building of the remaining 16-towers to complete the WyoLink infrastructure. With federal funds being used for the project, certain measures must be taken to ensure that all of the necessary rules and regulations are followed throughout the course of the project. In the meantime, Mr. Babbitt continues to work with WyoLink users to convey the message that the system is expanding and that it will benefit all of Wyoming when it is finalized.

WYDOT Telecommunications is working with the State of Wyoming Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) to expand and improve secure broadband connections and how they connect to WyoLink dispatch centers. The transition will result in a significant savings to WYDOT. Mr. Babbitt indicated the Department will keep the Commission informed of the progress of this project.

WYDOT "511" Application Update: WYDOT recently upgraded its "511" app. The app now allows individuals to submit images of road conditions to benefit other travelers. This option will allow even more information for the public to consider when deciding whether road conditions are favorable for travel.

15. It was moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Pfrangle, and carried to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Seeton adjourned the meeting at 11:31 a.m., on Friday, December 8, 2017.