

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF WYOMING

The Transportation Commission of Wyoming met via telephone in the Commission Room at the Wyoming Department of Transportation (WYDOT), 5300 Bishop Boulevard, in Cheyenne on March 19, 2020. Chairman Larson convened the business meeting at 8:30 a.m. The following members were present constituting a quorum:

Mike Larson, Chairman, Lusk (via telephone)
Rick Newton, Vice Chairman, Buffalo (via telephone)
Phil Schmidt, Commissioner, Casper (via telephone)
Jim Espy, Commissioner, Savery (via telephone)
Jon Dolezal, Commissioner, Evanston (via telephone)
Lee Filer, Commissioner, Cheyenne (via telephone)
K. Luke Reiner, Director (via telephone)
Sandra J. Scott, Commission Secretary

Others present and participating in the meeting: Dennis Byrne, Chief Financial Officer; Shelby Carlson, Chief Engineer; Keith Fulton, Assistant Chief Engineer for Engineering and Planning (via telephone); Mark Gillett, Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations; Taylor Rossetti, Support Services Administrator; Brian Olsen, Aeronautics Administrator; Troy Babbitt, Chief Technology Officer; Colonel Kebin Haller, Wyoming Highway Patrol (WHP) Administrator; Mike Kahler, Senior Assistant Attorney General (via telephone); Ryan Thompson, Assistant Attorney General (via telephone); Chelsey Lindsay, Senior Budget Analyst; Pam Fredrick, Senior Budget Analyst; and Bryan Cawley, Division Administrator, and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) (via telephone).

Other meeting attendees: Erica Legerski, Senior Policy Analyst, Office of Governor Gordon (via telephone); Doug McGee, Public Affairs Program Manager (via telephone); John Davis, Management Services Program Manager; and Cindy Thompson, Deputy Division Administrator, FHWA (via telephone).

1. Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Larson led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Agenda Changes/Additions: Secretary Scott advised that the original agenda was revised on March 16, 2020, to reflect that the Commission would meet via the telephone rather than face-to-face. It was moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Dolezal, and carried to approve the revised agenda.
3. Election of Officers: It was moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Dolezal, and carried to nominate Vice Chairman Rick Newton as Commission chairman and Commissioner Phil Schmidt as vice chairman.

The newly elected Chairman Rick Newton led the rest of the meeting.

4. Approval of Minutes: It was recommended by Secretary Scott, moved by Commissioner Dolezal, seconded by Commissioner Larson, and carried to approve the minutes from the

February 20, 2020, breakfast meeting, business meeting, executive session, and education session and the March 6, 2020, special business meeting and executive session.

5. Old Business: Secretary Scott advised that the letters to WYDOT employees and Governor Gordon were finalized and that they will be sent soon.

6. Director Reiner presented the Director's report.

Director Reiner congratulated Chairman Rick Newton as the newly elected Commission chairman, and he thanked former Chairman Mike Larson for his leadership and service during the past year.

Legislative Session Briefing: Many WYDOT-related bills passed through the legislature that will ultimately benefit the Department and the state. Three bills addressing wildlife mitigation passed and will generate some funding to implement more wildlife crossings. Most statutory update bills applicable to WYDOT also passed.

Director Reiner shared Section 310 of SF0001, General Government Appropriations, with the Commission. It states, "Any salary increase for an executive branch state position funded with non-general funds, including those of the . . . department of transportation . . . during the 2021-2022 biennium for which the compensation increase has not been approved by the legislature, shall be reviewed and approved by the governor . . ."

The Department's requests for Revenue Information System (RIS) and WyoLink maintenance and operations funding, the Revenue Committee's bill proposing a \$0.03 per gallon fuel tax, and the bill that proposed granting authority to toll I-80 did not pass. The bill to reimburse state employee moving expenses also failed. WYDOT will reintroduce many of these subjects as interim topics in preparation for the 2021 legislative session.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Briefing: WYDOT is decisively engaged in managing the COVID-19 environment. Director Reiner advised that the first priority is to take care of Department employees while still accomplishing WYDOT's mission. Governor Gordon recently shared some telework and leave policies with all state employees, and some individuals will soon be working from home. Older employees and those with underlying health conditions will be the first to begin working remotely.

Google Hangouts Meet and the telephone are being used for virtually all meetings.

Ms. Carlson met with the Associated General Contractors of Wyoming representatives on March 18, 2020, to discuss the impacts of COVID-19 on the upcoming construction season and to manage bid lettings. WYDOT plans to work closer than ever with the AGC of Wyoming and contractors to ensure a successful construction season.

COVID-19 Task Forces: Governor Gordon recently established five task forces for COVID-19 management, which will be led by Wyoming's five state-elected officials. State Treasurer Curt

Meier will lead the COVID-19 Transportation and Infrastructure Task Force. The task force's focus is construction and airports.

The federal government is considering a stimulus package to spur the economy. WYDOT is evaluating how much funding it could potentially obligate and what projects would be constructed if supplemental funding were approved.

Wyoming Secretary of State Ed Buchanan will lead the COVID-19 State Operations and Critical Government Services Task Force. This task force will give WYDOT the ability to synchronize all 23 counties and various levels of government to deal with governmental operations across Wyoming.

Chairman Newton offered his appreciation for Director Reiner's leadership through the extraordinary circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 situation. Director Reiner passed the credit to the executive staff members for their work through this unprecedented event.

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

FY 2019 External Audit Update: Mr. Wayne Herr, a partner with McGee Hearne & Paiz (MHP), briefed the Commission about the status of WYDOT's FY 2019 external audit.

The Commission typically receives annual audit results at its March meeting. WYDOT gathers its cash and allocation of investment earnings information used in the audit from the Wyoming State Treasurer's Office (STO). The STO has been unable to provide that information, for various reasons, which has significantly affected the FY 2019 audit progression.

MHP has worked with WYDOT's Financial Services office to gather all other items needed for the audit. Mr. Herr indicated the federal compliance portion of the audit is complete, and there were no findings in that review.

In the interest of time, Financial Services has moved forward using information currently available. MHP is currently reviewing it, but some of that review will have to be reconsidered when the STO does provide the updated cash and allocation of investment earnings information.

Ms. Rhonda Holt, Financial Services Program Manager, indicated that she received word from the STO last evening that they are making progress on gathering the information needed for the final audit entries. Ms. Holt is somewhat confident the audit report can be finalized in time for the May Commission meeting, barring no further complications.

8. Monthly Budget Report: Mr. Byrne introduced Chelsey Lindsay, senior budget analyst, who filled in for Rodney Freier, the budget officer. Ms. Lindsay presented the monthly budget report. The February 2020 budget report revealed that the Commission budget is 43 percent expended, and the Legislative budget is 40 percent expended, both of which are within budget tolerances.

The snow control line item is overrunning by \$1.4 million so far this fiscal year. The overall maintenance budget is currently 5 percent above normal expenditures used to date. The budget office will continue to monitor those costs.

9. Improper Payments Presentation: Mr. Byrne introduced Pam Fredrick, senior budget analyst, to clearly define and explain what “improper vendor payments” means. The Commission discussed this topic during the last two Commission meetings.

The FHWA focuses on the following areas on federally funded projects.

- Inactive projects
 - Projects for which no expenditures have been charged against the federal funds for the past 12 months.
- Project agreement end dates
 - Final date for WYDOT or local entities to incur costs on a federal project.
- Improper payments
 - Any payment that should not have been made or a payment that was made for an incorrect amount, such as an overpayment or a duplicate payment.

More specifically, an improper payment is a payment that:

- Was made in error (including underpayments and overpayments),
- Was for an incorrect amount or incorrect federal share,
- Was made after the project agreement end dates,
- Deviated from contractual or statutory requirements, or
- Lacked documentation to support the disbursement of funds.

Examples of improper payments include payments that were:

- Made to an ineligible recipient;
- Duplicate payments;
- Charged to an incorrect project, program code, improvement type or activity; or
- Made for goods or services not received.

The FHWA monitors improper payments in accordance with the following:

- Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Improvement Act (IPERIA) testing
 - FHWA uses a third party contractor to conduct annual independent testing
- Current bill credits
 - FHWA uses a monthly listing of all credits that appear on the current bill
 - The current bill is a mechanism used by WYDOT to bill the federal government for imbursement on federal projects
 - WYDOT provides justification to the FHWA for all credits on projects that appear on the current bill

- Reasons for WYDOT improper payments include:
 - Human error,
 - The federal participation rate changed based on project changes,
 - Project expenditures are charged to an incorrect project number,
 - Project end date issues (this was a new requirement as of December 26, 2014), or
 - An incorrect ICAP rate on a project, which is essentially an overhead rate.

WYDOT takes action when an improper payment is discovered, and a credit is applied to the project and sent through the next current bill. No federal funds are lost. The Department issues a letter to the FHWA referencing the project number, the reason for the improper payment, and what corrective action is being taken to mitigate the issue.

The following corrective action has now been implemented.

- WYDOT has made it a practice to extend its estimate of when end dates should occur.
- Continue to monitor the end date report provided by FHWA
 - Work with district staff to determine whether dates need to be changed and, if needed:
 - Reduce the availability to charge labor to the project, or
 - Reduce the project budget to zero.
- For pro-rata share issues, use the lower rate on projects with “various locations” in the design phase, and adjust as needed when construction begins. This will result in the state expending more state funds on federal projects, which can be problematic since state funds are limited (but will prevent overpayment).
- Human errors are likely to continue to occur.
 - WYDOT will continue to tweak processes and procedures to minimize the potential for improper payments.

10. It was recommended by Mr. Byrne, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Larson, and carried to move Bid Numbers 20-075, 20-077, 20-094, and Requisition 0000056922 to a consent list.

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

- Bid No. 20-075 to furnish 10 patrol pursuit all-wheel-drive sport-utility vehicles. Fremont Motors Casper, of Casper, Wyoming, was awarded the bid for the sum of \$313,080.00.
- Bid No. 20-077 to furnish 3,945 carbide-tipped snowplow blades, for use at various locations statewide. Chemung Supply Corp., of Elmira, New York, was awarded the bid for the sum of \$570,570.00.
- Bid No. 20-094 to furnish guardrail repair and associated work at various locations in District 3. Generation X, Inc., of Sheridan, Wyoming, was awarded the bid for the sum of \$287,349.40.
- Requisition No. 0000056922 to furnish Gazex[®] replacement equipment at Glory Bowl on Teton Pass, in Teton County. MND America Corporation, of Draper, Utah, was awarded the contract for the sum of \$314,431.46.

11. Ms. Carlson presented the Chief Engineer's report.

WYDOT Unfunded Needs Study: Ms. Carlson provided the following list of prioritization criteria the Department will use for determining which projects to prioritize into the revisions of the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) improvement projects will be delayed, such as passing lanes, reconstruction, widening of shoulders, and new infrastructure. Most of the delayed projects are federally funded, and the funds will be spent on highway and bridge preservation projects. Ms. Carlson noted that this change is essential to keep up with Wyoming's deteriorating surface transportation system. The priorities are:

1. Critical life safety projects, such as site locations with high crash rates.
2. System preservation, such as pavement preservation and bridge rehabilitation/replacement.
3. Capacity increase projects that are warranted through traffic count studies.
4. Urban projects on the State Highway System.
5. Highway improvement projects, such as passing lanes, reconstruction, shoulder widening, and new infrastructure.
6. Funding not required by federal law that WYDOT gives to other local agencies or governments for off-system roadways.

The Commission concurred with this approach to prioritizing WYDOT's reallocation of resources.

Ms. Carlson provided the Commission with a list of large projects that could be delayed and large projects that are considered as preservation to hold.

State-funded activities will be the next area reviewed for the unfunded needs study.

Etna North Project Update: The April 15 and 16, 2020, condemnation hearing for the Etna North project has been postponed because of the COVID-19 situation. The project is scheduled for a September 2020 bid letting, but the hearing delay may jeopardize the current project schedule. Ms. Carlson will meet this afternoon with WYDOT personnel to discuss options for moving the project forward this year.

12. Mr. Cawley did not have an FHWA report for the Commission this month, but he offered to assist WYDOT and the transportation community in any way possible as we work through the COVID-19 national emergency.

13. Mr. Fulton presented the Engineering and Planning report, beginning with the bid tabulations from the letting held March 12, 2020, in Cheyenne.

Federal project NHPP-N302054, involving bituminous pavement surfacing, chip seal, fencing, and miscellaneous work on approximately 10.90 miles of US 26, beginning at reference marker

(RM) 56.40, between Dubois and Diversion Dam, in Fremont County. Completion date: June 30, 2021

Engineer's Estimate	\$4,743,683.00	
McGarvin-Moberly Construction Co., Worland, WY	\$4,425,555.70	-6.7%
H-K Contractors, Inc., Idaho Falls, ID	\$4,956,777.00	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Dolezal, seconded by Vice Chairman Schmidt, 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.

State projects SCP-TC-N362037 and ARSCT-N362A05 combined, involving grading, milling plant mix, bituminous pavement surfacing (recycle), chip seal, fencing, and miscellaneous work on approximately 19.43 miles of US 16, beginning at RM 43.92, between Ten Sleep and Buffalo, in Big Horn, Johnson, and Washakie counties. Completion date: June 30, 2021

Engineer's Estimate	\$4,554,803.50	
McGarvin-Moberly Construction Co., Worland, WY	\$4,135,922.36	-9.2%

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Vice Chairman Schmidt, 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. Johnson County concurred in the award.

Federal project NHPP-N202072, involving grading, milling plant mix, bituminous pavement surfacing, chip seal, and miscellaneous work on approximately 7.23 miles of WYO 789, beginning at RM 54.43, between Muddy Gap and Lander, in Fremont County. Completion date: June 30, 2021

Engineer's Estimate	\$3,332,900.00	
McGarvin-Moberly Construction Co., Worland, WY	\$3,186,671.00	-4.4%
JTL Group, Inc. DBA Knife River, Cheyenne, WY	\$3,224,327.80	
H-K Contractors, Inc., Idaho Falls, ID	\$3,359,777.00	
Kilgore Companies, LLC dba Lewis and Lewis, Inc., Rock Springs, WY	\$3,429,066.10	
Mountain Construction Company, Lovell, WY	\$3,817,143.72	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Vice Chairman Schmidt, 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.

State project SCP-TC-N312014, involving grading, bituminous pavement surfacing, chip seal, and miscellaneous work on approximately 5.60 miles of US 14/16/20, beginning at RM 87.79, between Cody and Greybull, in Big Horn County. Completion date: June 30, 2021

Engineer's Estimate	\$2,535,546.00	
McGarvin-Moberly Construction Co., Worland, WY	\$2,366,582.12	-6.7%
Mountain Construction Company, Lovell, WY	\$2,562,389.95	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Vice Chairman Schmidt, seconded by Commissioner Dolezal, 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.

Federal project STP-BR-B205014, involving grading, bituminous pavement surfacing, bridge rehabilitations, guardrail work, and miscellaneous work at various locations in Transportation District 5, including Big Horn, Fremont, Hot Springs, and Washakie counties. Completion date: October 31, 2020

Engineer's Estimate	\$2,155,889.00	
Coldwater Group, Inc., Pleasant View, UT	\$1,857,087.00	-13.9%
Reiman Corp., Cheyenne, WY	\$2,380,673.15	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Filer, and carried that Coldwater Group, Inc., Pleasant View, Utah, 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 HSIP-GM-B205031, involving grading, placing crushed base, bridge railing modification, removal and replacement of guardrail, and miscellaneous work at various locations in Transportation District 5, in Fremont County. Completion date: October 31, 2020

Engineer's Estimate	\$1,406,882.00	
S & L Industrial, Cowley, WY	\$1,399,695.00	-0.5%

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Vice Chairman Schmidt, seconded by Commissioner Larson, and carried that S & L Industrial, Cowley, 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-RF-B215001, involving removal and replacement of fence and miscellaneous work at various locations in Transportation District 5, including Fremont County. Completion date: November 30, 2020

WYDOT received no bids on this project, so it will be let again later.

Federal project STP-PM-B203033, involving concrete pavement and miscellaneous work on approximately 47.50 miles of roads at various locations in Transportation District 3, including Lincoln and Sweetwater counties. Completion date: October 31, 2020

Engineer's Estimate	\$973,790.00	
DeBernardi Construction Company, Inc., Rock Springs, WY	\$975,000.00	+0.1%

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Dolezal, and carried that DeBernardi Construction Company, 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.

State project SSP-TO-B183033, involving electrical systems and miscellaneous work at various locations along I-80 and US 89, in Transportation District 3, including Lincoln and Uinta counties. Completion date: November 30, 2020

Engineer's Estimate	\$302,297.50	
Casper Electric, Inc., Casper, WY	\$355,555.84	+17.6%

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

14. It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Filer, and carried to approve the following project authorizations:

ROADWAY PROJECT

Sublette County

STP P114039; Big Piney to Daniel; Marbleton North; RM 107.49-113.07; wetland restoration; FY 2020; request federal preliminary engineering funds of \$32,000; request federal construction engineering and construction funds of 352,000; request federal right-of-way funds of \$50,000

HIGH RISK RURAL ROAD PROJECT

Fremont County

HR21501; Wind River Indian Reservation, various locations; centerline rumble strips; FY 2021; request federal preliminary engineering funds of \$6,800; request federal construction engineering and construction funds of \$74,800

DATA COLLECTION PROJECT

Various Counties

CM B209090; statewide; pavement data collection; FY 2020; request federal funds of \$929,500

15. Changes to WYDOT Bid Lettings: Pursuant to recent discussions with the Associated General Contractors of Wyoming regarding the COVID-19 situation, WYDOT's April 9 and May 7, 2020, bid lettings will be at 11:00 a.m. in Cheyenne. In accordance with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's social distancing guidelines for COVID-19, bid lettings will be via teleconference, with in-person attendance limited to 10 people.

16. Mr. Gillett presented the Operations report.

Construction Update: Contractors continue to work on projects conducive to winter labor, such as bridges, cold-weather concrete, sign installations, and crushing. There are currently 35 active construction projects statewide compared to 22 last month.

Maintenance Update: Maintenance forces continue to fight ice and wind in their snow control activities. Mr. Gillett offered his appreciation and pride for the work the maintenance crews have accomplished so far through this long, tough winter season.

The Commission received a spreadsheet depicting "Total Statewide Monthly Snow Control Costs by Fiscal Year With 5-Year Average." The graph on the handout showed that FY 2020 snow control costs have been significantly higher than the five-year average.

On March 2, 2020, several multiple-vehicle crashes occurred on I-80 near Wamsutter. One crash involving about 55 vehicles occurred in the westbound lane at Milepost 184, and another crash involving about 40 vehicles occurred in the eastbound lane at Milepost 181. The crashes happened almost simultaneously, resulting in three confirmed fatalities. Driving too fast for conditions was deemed the cause of the crashes. I-80 closed from March 1 through March 5 to investigate and clean up the crash. Dozens of companies and private entities came to offer assistance with investigation, medical treatment, and debris removal from the roadway.

Mr. Gillett offered his appreciation of the Wyoming Highway Patrol for their tireless investigation efforts, particularly during the severe winter conditions.

Since October 1, 2019, 23 WYDOT snowplows have been struck, compared to 19 last year at this time. Two of the strikes occurred in the last 30 days.

Teton County has experienced 23 natural avalanches where the snow reached the highway so far this winter. WYDOT has induced 48 controlled avalanches this winter, with 14 of them reaching the highway. Two vehicles were caught in avalanches, but no injuries were reported.

Traffic Operations Update: Traffic crews are starting to receive their traffic paint and bead shipments for spring striping operations, weather permitting.

Sign crews are working to replace damaged signs and receiving sign inventory in preparation for next summer.

Electrical crews are performing routine maintenance on signals, lighting, and repairing road closure gates. Damage to road closure gates is higher than usual this year, which is indicative of the harsh winter.

Mechanics Update: Mechanics remain busy keeping up with winter equipment repairs. Eight of WYDOT's 18 rotary snowplows are currently out of commission because of breakdowns.

WYDOT Facilities Update: Meriden Rest Area on US 85 between Cheyenne and Torrington remains closed because of water supply issues. All other rest area facilities remain open.

Pursuant to a request made at the February 2020 Commission meeting, Mr. Gillett shared that the state of Wyoming trades its light duty fleet at 150,000 miles, compared to WYDOT's 160,000-mile standard.

17. Colonel Haller presented the Highway Patrol report.

The Fatal Crash Summary through February 29, 2020, includes seven¹ fatal crashes involving seven¹ deaths. The fatalities include two rollover crashes, four multi-vehicle crashes, and one fixed object. Of the seven fatal crashes in 2020, three² involved commercial vehicles.

No fatal crashes so far this year have been deemed drug or alcohol related.³

Of the seven deaths that have occurred this year, four can be attributed to the non-use of occupant restraints, with one involving a rollover crash, two involving multi-vehicle collisions, and one involving a fixed object. Two of those who died from the non-use of occupant restraints were Wyoming residents. One person who died was under 21 years old, and that individual was not properly restrained.

In one of the fatal crashes this year, distractions were not the cause of the crash. It is unknown whether distractions were the cause in three of the seven fatal crashes.

Four of this year's fatal crashes occurred on primary/secondary highways, two occurred on interstate highways, and one occurred on a city/county road.

No multiple-fatality crashes have occurred on Wyoming highways this year.

In locations where rumble strips/stripes were present, there were three⁴ fatal crashes. One⁴ crash occurred where rumble strips/stripes were not present.

¹ Numbers at the time of reporting; final numbers may change.

² Number not included in total deaths (sub-crash data).

³ Not all chemical tests were available at the time of reporting.

⁴ Numbers at the time of reporting from submitted crash reports.

Inclement weather or road conditions contributed to three vehicle crashes in 2020, resulting in three deaths. Speed was a factor in three of the vehicle crashes, resulting three deaths.

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

Sunday	2 crashes
Monday	1 crash
Tuesday	0 crashes
Wednesday	1 crash
Thursday	0 crashes
Friday	2 crashes
Saturday	1 crash

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

12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.	0 crashes
6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	4 crashes
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	3 crashes
6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.	0 crashes

The Commission also heard the following statistics:

- 50 percent of those who died in rollover crashes were unbelted.
- 50 percent of those who died in multi-vehicle crashes were unbelted.
- 100 percent of those who died in fixed-object crashes were unbelted.
- 57 percent of fatalities in 2020 were drivers.
- 43 percent of fatalities this year have been passengers.
- 67 percent of resident fatalities were unrestrained.
- 50 percent of the non-resident fatalities were unbuckled.
- None of the fatalities so far this year were caused by alcohol and/or drug impairment.

Patrol-Investigated Crash Summary: The Patrol-Investigated Crash Summary depicts 1,141⁵ crashes investigated, of which 408⁵ & ⁶ involved commercial vehicles.

The Commission also received a pin map depicting the locations of the 2020 fatal crashes, and a graph depicting annual crash history from 1934 through 2019.

March I-80 Pile-Up Briefing: Colonel Haller reported that the March 2, 2020, pile-ups were a series of six separate crashes that occurred within a three-mile stretch on the eastbound and westbound lanes of I-80. The full investigation will take some time to finalize because of the vast number of vehicles and the amount of information gathered at the scene, ongoing interviews, and crash reports that are still coming in. Colonel Haller anticipates citations will be issued for

⁵ Does not contain all crashes worked to date; some reports are still pending.

⁶ Total number of commercial vehicles involved. Some crashes may contain multiple commercial vehicles.

driving too fast for conditions and other potential violations. The WHP is working with the Sweetwater County Attorney's office on the case.

Chairman Newton thanked the WHP and WYDOT maintenance crews for their extraordinary work to mitigate the March 2, 2020, crash scene.

Trooper Vacancies Update: Nine trooper candidates will graduate from WHP Academy Class 98 on March 26, 2020. With those 9 new recruits, the WHP still has 16 trooper vacancies. There are also six vacancies in the ports of entry and five in the Dispatch Communications Center.

Background checks are ongoing from the last round of trooper recruit testing.

18. Mr. Olsen presented the Aeronautics report beginning with the February 2020 Aeronautics Flight Operations Passenger Summary Report.

National Association of State Aviation Officials (NASAO) Meeting: Mr. Olsen attended the NASAO meeting in Washington, D.C., February 26-28, 2020, where he had the opportunity to meet with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) airports administrator, the individual responsible for airport development nationwide. One discussion topic at the meeting pertained to the FAA's continued efforts toward America's rural airports, which will bode well for Wyoming if the plan succeeds.

General aviation safety across the country had a bumpy year in 2019, with increased small aircraft crashes. Consequently, aviation organizations nationwide may offer increased safety education and training for that segment of the industry.

NASAO is also working hard on the COVID-19 situation. The federal government is preparing a stimulus package that, if passed, will interject significant funding into airports and air service enhancement.

COVID-19 Impacts on the Airline Industry: The airline industry has been significantly affected by COVID-19. Over the last 10 days, close-in bookings, where airlines generate the majority of their income, have virtually stopped, and international capacity has dropped 85 percent. The effects of the virus on bookings are far worse than what occurred during the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Domestically, U.S. airlines are significantly curtailing their flights to match demand. Most major air carriers are reducing their flights by 60 to 70 percent over the next six months. Mr. Olsen advised that these changes would affect Wyoming's air service and airport operations. SkyWest Airlines plans to suspend its flights from Cheyenne beginning April 6, 2020.

Many Wyoming airports depend on landing fees and fuel flowage fees for their operations. WYDOT will do all it can to assist airports through the COVID-19 event in the coming months.

19. Mr. Rossetti presented the Support Services report.

Employment Summary: WYDOT employed 1,976 personnel as of March 9, 2020, compared to 1,946 a month ago and 1,920 one year ago.

Over the past month, significant progress was made in filling ports-of-entry and operations positions, primarily in Highway Safety and the Traffic Program.

20. Mr. Babbitt presented the Chief Technology Officer's report.

COVID-19 Update: Mr. Babbitt is working closely with the Department of Administration and Information's Enterprise Technology Services Division to iron out procedures and logistics, gather equipment, and upload software for employees to work from home because of the COVID-19 situation. Many employees are already set up to work remotely, but some are not. WYDOT is also gathering contact information to stay in close communication with employees throughout the COVID-19 event.

Most meetings are being conducted by phone or through Google "Hangouts Meet."

WyoLink Update: WyoLink continues to work well during high-volume events. A recent storm caused a power outage, disabling some of WYDOT's roadside devices, but the Department maintained WyoLink communications.

WyoLink transmitted about 30,000 calls in one day during the March 2-5, 2020, I-80 pile-up crashes, investigation, and cleanup. No reported problems with WyoLink communications were reported during that event.

The Buffalo WyoLink tower has been activated, and with a little more testing, it will be operational.

21. General Matters: Chairman Newton thanked WYDOT's executive staff members for their significant efforts and coordination of the recent changes made because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Chairman Newton also thanked Commissioner Larson for his leadership and good work as the chairman during the past year.

22. It was moved by Vice Chairman Schmidt, seconded by Commissioner Espy, and carried to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Newton adjourned the meeting at 10:32 a.m., on Thursday, March 19, 2020.