

(Approved)

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF WYOMING

The Transportation Commission of Wyoming met in the I-80 Room at the WYDOT-U Training Building in Cheyenne, WY on August 19, 2021. Chairman Schmidt convened the meeting at 8:02 a.m. The following members were present constituting a quorum:

Chairman Phil Schmidt, Casper
Vice Chairman Greg Venable, Worland *via Zoom*
Commissioner Jim Espy, Savery
Commissioner Jon Dolezal, Evanston
Commissioner Susan Holmes, Sheridan *via Zoom*
Commissioner Mark Hughes, Sundance
Director K. Luke Reiner
Commission Secretary Caitlin Casner
Interim Commission Secretary Kimberly Chapman

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

Other meeting attendees: Senator John Kolb and Representative Mark Baker, Legislative Liaisons to WYDOT; Erica Legerski, Senior Policy Advisor to Governor Mark Gordon; Doug McGee, Public Affairs Program Manager; Katie Legerski, Executive Director, Associated General Contractors (AGC) of Wyoming; Douglas Mikowski, FHWA; Jordan Achs, Public Affairs; Mark Ayen, District 2 Engineer; Aubrie Cotton, Buyer; Melissa DeFratis, Management Services; Phillip Hearn, Engineering and Construction Program Manager, Aeronautics; Richard Duran, FHWA; Sara Perez, FHWA; Scott Taylor, District 4 Engineer; Rich Bolkovatz, President, Reiman Corporation; and Representative Jerry Obermueller.

Commissioner Filer, of Cheyenne, was absent.

1. Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Schmidt led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Approval of Minutes: It was recommended by Interim Secretary Chapman, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Hughes, and carried to approve the minutes from the July 15, 2021, business meeting.

6. Director Reiner presented the Director's report.

New Addition to WYDOT Transportation Commission: Director Reiner and Kimberly Chapman, Interim Transportation Commission Secretary, introduced new Transportation Commission Secretary Caitlin Casner.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update: Cases continue to increase due to the new Delta variant. WYDOT experienced the death of its second employee due to COVID the week of August 15th in the Evanston area. The Director reminded all present to continue to take recommended precautions, including social distancing.

Federal Budget: Director Reiner advised the Federal Infrastructure bill would be discussed in more detail during FHWA Division Administrator Cawley's report, but did express the importance of continued formula funding for Wyoming. The Director advised that with the increase in available federal funding, there would be an increase in necessary matching funds from Wyoming. Director Reiner included this in his testimony to the Joint Transportation Committee (JTC) on August 17th and 18th.

State Budget: Director Reiner is scheduled to meet with Governor Gordon's office in the upcoming months to discuss WYDOT's budget and will meet with the Joint Appropriations Committee in December. WYDOT will be working with the Governor's office to synchronize requests for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. Director Reiner reminded the Commission that the Fiscal Year 2022 WYDOT operating budget will be discussed at the September Commission meeting.

Joint Transportation Committee Meeting: Director Reiner, along with several members of the Executive Staff, attended the JTC meeting in Rawlins on August 17-18, 2021. Director Reiner commended District Engineer Ralph Tarango for arranging a tour of the Rawlins shop and the Fort Steele construction site for the legislators and guests. Director Reiner informed the Commission that the I-80 project between Laramie and Rock Springs is almost complete.

Several upcoming bill topics were discussed including off-road vehicles and electric vehicles. Employee compensation issues were also discussed. Revenue generating bills were presented, the first of which is a five-cent increase in fuel taxes in each of the next three years. The second revenue generating bill presented involved repurposing severance tax and applying that money to road maintenance. These topics will be discussed again at the November 2021 JTC meeting. A potential bill increasing overweight and oversized fees was also discussed.

Director Travel: Director Reiner will be traveling to Lander, Thermopolis, Cody, and Sheridan in the upcoming weeks and will attend as many local events as his schedule will allow. Director Reiner will return to Cheyenne for Lieutenant Colonel Shannon Ratliff's retirement celebration on August 26, 2021.

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

Monthly Budget Report: Mr. Freier presented the monthly budget report. Overall, the budget report revealed that the Commission budget was 75 percent expended, and the Legislative budget was 68 percent expended in FY 2021.

Mr. Freier discussed rest area funding changes, including reporting expenditures by rest area. The Office of Travel and Tourism has not yet reimbursed WYDOT for rest area funding of rest areas as previously agreed upon, but Mr. Freier is working with that office to complete the reimbursement. Mr. Freier also advised that fuel tax collections are coming in above projections but below historical levels.

The Budget Program recently completed a closeout review with FHWA. FHWA will use WYDOT procedures as best practice and will share with other states for training purposes.

4B. It was recommended by Mr. Byrne, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Hughes, and carried to move Bid Numbers 21-131AC, 21-161AC, 21-162AC, 21-164AC, and 21-169AC to a consent list. Commissioner Espy requested more discussion on 21-141RE.

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

- Bid No. 21-131AC to furnish 32,100 tons of maintenance stockpiled material (salt mixed) for use by District 2. The bid was awarded to 71 Construction, of Casper, Wyoming, for the sum of \$32,370.00.
- Bid No. 21-161AC to furnish 48,500 tons of maintenance stockpiled material (salt mixed) for use by District 4. The bid was awarded to Mullinax, Inc., of Sheridan, Wyoming, for the sum of \$794,820.00.
- Bid No. 21-162AC to furnish 368,000 gallons of liquid organic accelerator for use at WYDOT locations statewide. The bid was awarded to Smith Fertilizer and Grain, of Knoxville, Iowa, for the sum of \$585,120.00.
- Bid No. 21-164AC to furnish 16,265 tons of bulk sodium chloride for use at WYDOT locations statewide. The bid was awarded to Broken Arrow, Inc., of Tooele, Utah, for the sum of \$283,500.00.
- Bid No. 21-169AC to furnish 9,000 tons of ½ inch Type A maintenance gravel for use at the Walcott Junction Hot Plant Site. The bid was awarded to Knife River, of Casper, Wyoming, for the sum of \$253,800.00.

Commissioner Espy questioned if the procurement process specifically excluded certain vehicle makes as this is the second year he has seen a vehicle bid without including Ram vehicles. Ms. Cotton advised that no makers are being specifically excluded and explained the process dealers

go through to submit a bid to WYDOT.

It was moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Hughes, and carried to approve Bid 21-141RE.

- Bid 21-141RE to furnish eight each, new and current model 25 series four door, four wheel drive cab and chassis for body for WYDOT locations statewide. The bid was awarded to Spradley Barr Motors, of Cheyenne, Wyoming, for the sum of \$249,304.00.

Mr. Byrne explained the bidding process for 21-163AC and the requirement to submit a bid by district and category and that all sites in the district must be included in the bid. The low bidder, Dustbusters Enterprises, Inc., did not bid all sites in a district, which created an irregularity and rendered their bid ineligible. In this instance, the next eligible bidder with the lowest bid amount should be considered.

It was recommended by Mr. Byrne, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Dolezal, and carried to approve 21-163AC.

- Bid 21-163AC to furnish 186,000 gallons and 12,020 tons of liquid and solid anti-icers/deicers for WYDOT locations statewide. The bid for District 1, Categories 1 and 2, District 2, Category 2, District 3, Categories 1 and 2, and District 5, Category 2 was awarded to Desert Mountain Corp., of Evanston, Wyoming, for the sum of \$1,303,565.35. The bid for District 4, Category 2, was awarded to Dustbusters Enterprises, Inc., of Evanston, WY, for the sum of \$115,308.15.

5. Mr. Gillett presented the Chief Engineer's report.

Material Shortage: Mr. Gillett reported that the majority of contractors are able to move forward with current projects. Concrete and some steel products are difficult to obtain, but Mr. Gillett applauded contractors for their solutions. E-Chem, a supplier of resin and other materials, advised of product shortages and an inability to guarantee product prices in a letter dated April 5, 2021. Mr. Gillett informed the Commission that the task force formed to address material shortages will meet again on September 1, 2021. Mr. Gillett also stated that the FHWA would not participate in any cost escalation for current projects unless there is a clause currently in place in the contract.

Mr. Gillett has requested his division extend contract dates, make partial payments for materials on-hand, accommodate intermediate estimates, and allow material substitutions when appropriate to assist construction partners in completing projects.

C-130 Aircraft Exercise: The exercise will take place on September 13, 2021, at 7:00 a.m. Mr. Gillett advised that the aircraft will land on Highway 287 between mile posts 17 and 20, back up, and take off all within 12 minutes. WYDOT maintenance will close Highway 287 at 6:00 a.m. After the exercise is complete, WYDOT and Air Force crews will examine the highway for any

signs of damage and will re-open Highway 287 by 8:00 a.m. barring any issues. Mr. Gillett signed the Memorandum of Understanding on August 18, 2021, to allow this event to occur. Director Reiner invited Commission members to attend this event. Mr. Gillett stated that Commission staff should assist Commission members in RSVP'ing for the event.

August Re-Distribution: Mr. Gillett stated that at this time he has not been advised of the August Re-distribution amount. Mr. Gillett has been in contact with the FHWA Division Administrator and was advised that the amount has not been determined yet but will most likely be less than the 2020 re-distribution amount. Mr. Gillett advised that there are several projects that can be tailored to fit the amount given.

Shirley Samuelson Memorial: Mr. Gillett reminded the Commission that roughly one year ago, Jackson maintenance worker Shirley Samuelson passed away while on duty. On August 3, 2021, a ceremony was held at Headquarters in Cheyenne to unveil the addition of Ms. Samuelson's name to the employee memorial in front of the building. The Highway Patrol Honor Guard presented the colors to an audience that included the family of Ms. Samuelson and approximately 90 WYDOT employees.

Operating Policy 2-1: Commission Road Improvement Program: The Commission Road Improvement Program makes federal funds available to counties annually and is awarded at the Commission's discretion. Mr. Gillett recommended the Commission approve the updates to the policy. Following a request from Commissioner Espy, Mr. Gillett provided more detail on the updates and changes made to the policy. The fund amount has been changed from \$5,000,000 to \$3,000,000, based on a request by Chairman Schmidt. The funding match percentage has been changed to align with current federal formula funding. Eligibility has also been updated to allow cities to act as project partners for projects involving a road with split jurisdiction between a city and county. Mr. Gillett clarified that this program is funded solely by federal funds, which is why other programs that utilize state funds may not be funded and operational. Commissioner Hughes asked if program approval could be delayed until the September Commission meeting during the operating budget discussion. Director Reiner advised that it was possible, but it was his preference that the policy be voted on at the current time because of the changes in fund matching levels and project approval processes.

It was recommended by Mr. Gillett, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Dolezal, and carried to approve Operating Policy 2-1: Commission Road Improvement Program.

Commissioner Dolezal left the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

8B. Mr. Cawley presented an update on FHWA topics.

National Update: The FHWA is delivering the Continuing Resolution of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation or FAST Act, the current highway funding bill. This authorization is set to expire on September 30, 2021.

The Senate recently passed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which provides \$1.2 trillion for infrastructure improvements over a five-year period. The legislation includes approximately \$550 billion in new federal investment in America's roads, bridges, water infrastructure, resilience, broadband internet, and more. The bill will distribute approximately 90 percent of the funding by formula. The bill establishes new highway programs and draws from both the Highway Trust Fund and the General Fund. Mr. Cawley advised that to keep the Highway Trust Fund solvent over this period, the bill transfers \$118 billion from the General Fund into the Highway Trust Fund, including \$90 billion into the Highway Account.

Commissioner Dolezal returned to the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

Mr. Cawley stated that based on formula funding alone, Wyoming would expect to receive \$1.8 billion for federal-aid highway apportioned programs and \$225 million for bridge replacement and repairs over five years (about a 29 percent increase in contract authority). In response to a question from Chairman Schmidt, Mr. Byrne advised that \$274 million is the average funding Wyoming receives. Wyoming can also compete for the \$12.5 billion Bridge Investment Program for economically significant bridges. Nearly \$16 billion of national funding in the bill is dedicated for major projects that will deliver substantial economic benefits to communities. Mr. Cawley reported that there will be several discretionary grant opportunities associated with the proposed Infrastructure bill also.

Wyoming would expect to receive \$27 million over five years to support the expansion of an electric vehicle (EV) charging network in the state. Mr. Cawley advised that Wyoming will also have the opportunity to apply for the \$2.5 billion in grant funding dedicated to EV charging.

Mr. Cawley also stated that Wyoming could expect to receive a minimum allocation of \$100 million to help provide broadband coverage across the state.

Mr. Cawley reminded the Commission that the Infrastructure bill is now pending House review and approval.

Highway Trust Fund: Mr. Cawley reported discussions are occurring regarding solvency of the Highway Trust Fund, as expenditures are occurring at a higher rate than investments. Mr. Cawley advised that the Highway Trust Fund is not able to deficit spend.

Local Update: The Wyoming State Transportation Innovation Council (STIC) has provided \$50,000 STIC incentive funding to each of the following innovations to assist in accelerated deployment:

- **Improving Parametric Estimation Process:** Mr. Cawley reported that WYDOT's current process and software has reached the end of its life. The funding provided will be used to assist in new software implementation and processes to

develop more accurate planning-based estimates for Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) development.

- **Develop an Electronic Contract Prequalification, Bidding Request, and Performance System:** Mr. Cawley advised that WYDOT’s current process is paper based and requires duplicate efforts by the contracting industry and department personnel. The new system will provide an opportunity for contractors to submit and update prequalification information electronically. This system enhancement will simplify the prequalifying and bid request process to expand equality to all contractors.

FHWA has received and is reviewing WYDOT’s Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) goal setting methodology for a race neutral goal of 5.29 percent. If approved, this new DBE race neutral goal will take effect on October 1, 2021, and be in effect for three years. Mr. Cawley advised that the current DBE is 4.78 percent.

Chairman Schmidt asked if discussion of the prior proposal to potentially re-route I-80 would be continued because of this potential new funding. Director Reiner advised that discussion on this topic has ceased.

8C. Mr. Fulton presented the Engineering and Planning report, beginning with the bid tabulations from the August 12, 2021, letting in Laramie.

Federal Projects HIP-N372041 and NHPP-N372053 combined involving grading, draining, placing bases, bituminous pavement surfacing, structure replacement, Static Load Test, and miscellaneous work on approximately 0.90 mile on US 14 beginning at Sta. 29+61 between Ranchester and Interstate 90 in Sheridan County. Completion Date: October 31, 2022.

<i>Engineer’s Estimate</i>	<i>\$11,463,940.00</i>	
Reiman & High Country Construction JV Limited Partnership, Cheyenne, WY	\$12,490,670.75	9.0%
S & S Builders, LLC, Gillette, WY	\$13,885,355.50	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Dolezal, and carried unanimously that Reiman & High Country Construction JV Limited Partnership, of 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 FHWA concurred with this decision.

Federal Project COVID-0607036 involving grading, milling plant mix, bituminous pavement surfacing, chip seal (overshoot), electrical, fencing, and miscellaneous work on approximately 11.10 miles on US 14 beginning at RM 185.90 between Devils Tower Junction and Sundance in Crook County. Completion Date: October 31, 2022.

<i>Engineer’s Estimate</i>	<i>\$5,638,528.00</i>
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Croell, Inc., Sundance, WY	\$5,153,746.58	-8.6%
Northern Improvement Company, Fargo, ND	\$5,190,549.50	
McGarvin-Moberly Construction Co., Worland, WY	\$5,279,604.82	
Simon Contractors, Cheyenne, WY	\$5,592,873.00	
Riverside Contracting, Inc., Missoula, MT	\$5,887,262.25	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Espy, and carried unanimously that Croell, Inc., of 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 FHWA concurred with this decision.

Federal Project STP-P351030 involving grading, milling plant mix, bituminous pavement surfacing, and miscellaneous work on approximately 9.70 miles on US 14A beginning at RM 70.72 between Lovell and Burgess Junction in Big Horn County. Completion Date: September 30, 2022.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$3,553,665.00	
Century Companies, Inc., Lewistown, MT	\$3,658,141.15	2.9%
Riverside Contracting, Inc., Missoula, MT	\$4,093,278.75	
Mountain Construction Company, Lovell, WY	\$4,140,515.36	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Dolezal, seconded by Commissioner Espy, and carried unanimously that Century Companies, Inc., of Lewistown, Montana, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder. The FHWA concurred with this decision.

Federal Project NHPP-N312015 involving grading, milling plant mix, bituminous pavement surfacing, chip seal, and miscellaneous work on approximately 7.30 miles on US 14/16/20 beginning at RM 93.45 between Emblem and Greybull in Big Horn County. Completion Date: September 30, 2022.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$2,301,767.00	
McGarvin-Moberly Construction Co., Worland, WY	\$2,152,406.47	-6.5%
Mountain Construction Company, Lovell, WY	\$2,211,805.74	
Century Companies, Inc., Lewistown, MT	\$2,301,276.60	
Riverside Contracting, Inc., Missoula, MT	\$2,596,079.00	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Dolezal, and carried unanimously that McGarvin-Moberly Construction Co., of 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 FHWA concurred with this decision.

Federal Project NHPP-N291066 involving grading, profile milling plant mix, bituminous pavement surfacing, plant mix wearing course, guardrail, and miscellaneous work on approximately 1.90 miles on US 14A beginning at RM 5.59 between Cody and Ralston in Park County. Completion Date: September 30, 2022.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$1,471,449.00	
Century Companies, Inc., Lewistown, MT	\$1,469,770.50	-0.1%
Mountain Construction Company, Lovell, WY	\$1,471,694.81	
McGarvin-Moberly Construction Co., Worland, WY	\$1,529,518.03	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Dolezal, seconded by Commissioner Espy, and carried unanimously that Century Companies, Inc., of Lewistown, Montana, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder. The FHWA concurred with this decision.

Federal Project HSIP-B219026 involving electrical and miscellaneous work at various locations in transportation districts 3 and 4 in Sheridan, Sweetwater, Teton, and Uinta counties. Completion Date: October 31, 2022.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$1,153,794.00	
Advanced Electrical Contracting, Inc., Sheridan, WY	\$1,190,300.75	3.2%
Casper Electric, Inc., Casper, WY	\$1,248,484.84	
Cache Valley Electric Company, Salt Lake City, UT	\$1,367,881.09	
Modern Electric Co., Casper, WY	\$1,464,237.00	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Hughes, and carried unanimously that Advanced Electrical Contracting, Inc., of Sheridan, Wyoming, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder. The FHWA concurred with this decision.

Federal Project NHPP-N431038 involving grading, placing crushed base and bituminous pavement surfacing, and miscellaneous work on approximately 0.7 mile at various locations on WYO 59 between Douglas and Gillette in Converse County. Completion Date: July 31, 2022.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$848,235.00	
Croell, Inc., Sundance, WY	\$909,274.80	7.2%
JTL Group, Inc. DBA Knife River, Cheyenne, WY	\$945,552.61	
71 Construction, Casper, WY	\$1,210,092.71	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Espy, and carried unanimously that Croell, Inc., of 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 FHWA concurred with this decision.

Federal Project STP-W211021 involving grading, timber bend cap replacement, and miscellaneous work on WYO 211 on the structure at RM 20.46 between Cheyenne and Horse Creek in Laramie County. Completion Date: October 31, 2021.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$153,700.00
Reiman Corp., Cheyenne, WY	\$96,950.00 -36.9%

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Hughes, and carried unanimously that Reiman Corp., of 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 FHWA concurred with this decision.

8Cii. Mr. Fulton presented the August 2021 addendum to the FY 2021 STIP.

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

8D. Mr. DeHoff presented the Operations report.

Annual STIP Meetings: All WYDOT districts are finishing STIP meetings with local governments and the public. Commissioner Espy reminded the Commission that Sweetwater County will be hosting a “re-do” STIP meeting on September 2, 2021, at 4:30 p.m. at the WYDOT offices in Rock Springs.

District Maintenance: Crews around the state are wrapping up chip sealing and patching operations. Fencing, road cleanup, and ditch mowing and clean up are occurring as well. Repair work has begun on the slide that occurred in District 5 along Highway 26 and is expected to be completed before winter. Mr. DeHoff reported that there are no other slides at this time.

Traffic Striping: Mr. DeHoff stated that traffic striping is continuing, and paint to complete projects should be arriving soon. Mr. DeHoff advised that he expects 80 percent of the projects to be completed, and all projects that will not be completed have been checked for safety. Commissioner Espy stated that he has observed several school crosswalks that have been painted in past years have not been painted this year. Mr. DeHoff advised that urban striping crews are currently working on these projects, and they should be completed by the beginning of school.

Traffic Signs: Sign crews are currently replacing traffic signs. New signs have been installed at the Brian Gross Memorial Bridge along Yellowstone Road in Douglas. The dedication ceremony for the memorial bridge was held on July 31, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. at Riverside Park in Douglas. Mr. DeHoff thanked District 2 Engineer Mark Ayen and his staff for coordinating the event with event sponsors.

Traffic Signals: Electrical crews are testing signals for functionality and installing upgrades as needed. Mr. DeHoff reminded the Commission that temporary signals were installed in Crook

County during Sturgis and that no fatalities were recorded during the rally. Director Reiner commended Mr. DeHoff and local partners on procedures developed to ease backups in the Devils Tower area during Sturgis.

Equipment: Crews are currently repairing and conducting annual maintenance equipment inspections. Crews are also assessing snow removal equipment. Mr. DeHoff advised that the first round of eight yard trucks have arrived for FY 2021, and shops are currently rigging the vehicles for future use.

Snow Rotaries: Mr. DeHoff stated that the request for proposals for snow rotaries is available, and proposals are due by September 15, 2021.

Facilities: Mr. DeHoff advised that all facilities including rest areas are open at this time and will remain open. Contracts are currently being procured for the caretaking of rest areas. Mr. DeHoff also stated that WYDOT is currently in the consulting selection process for the Worland shop design.

COVID-19: Cases are continuing to increase in the field. Employees are encouraged to social distance, practice proper handwashing, sanitize equipment before and after use, and remain home if they are ill.

Employee Recruitment/Retention: Mr. DeHoff reported that employee recruitment and retention is an ongoing challenge with pay continuing as a leading cause for the lack of interest in WYDOT maintenance and mechanic field positions.

Association of General Contractors: WYDOT and the Wyoming AGC held a highway committee meeting on July 22, 2021, in Casper. The meeting was well attended by general contractors and WYDOT employees. Training for traffic control flagging, traffic control supervising, and material certifications were discussed during the meeting. Mr. DeHoff and Mr. Gillett will be attending the AGC Quad-State meeting with the Wyoming AGC this month.

Joint Transportation Committee Meeting: WYDOT and the Wyoming AGC hosted the Joint Transportation Committee meeting in Rawlins on August 17th and 18th. Mr. DeHoff thanked District 1 staff and construction partners for their assistance during the meeting.

Commissioner Espy stated that he had received a call from a constituent regarding a fatality at the bridge and forest service access road near the Elkhorn Trading Post in Sublette County. Commissioner Espy questioned if there is a current traffic study in this area, and if so, the information be sent to the Sublette county commissioners. Mr. DeHoff advised that this occurred in June 2021.

9. Colonel Haller presented the Highway Patrol report.

The Fatal Crash Summary through July 31, 2021 includes 52 fatal crashes involving 58 deaths. The fatalities include 21 rollover crashes, 16 multi-car crashes, 5 fixed objects, 10 motorcycles,

1 all-terrain vehicle, and 5 pedestrians. Of the 52 fatal crashes that have occurred in 2021, 7 involved commercial vehicles.

There were 0 fatal crashes deemed drug or alcohol related, resulting in 0 deaths in July 2021.

Of the 58 deaths this year, 25 were attributed to not using occupant restraints, with 14 involving rollover crashes, 8 involving multi-car collisions, and 3 involving fixed objects. Twenty-two of those who died from the non-use of occupant restraints were Wyoming residents. Five of those who perished were under 21 years old, and 2 of those fatalities were attributed to the failure to use proper occupant restraints.

Of the 52 fatal crashes so far this year, 13 of those drivers had no distractions. In 26 of those crashes, it was unknown whether a distraction caused the incident.

Of the 52 fatal crashes that have occurred this year, 27 occurred on primary/secondary highways, 13 occurred on interstate highways, and 12 occurred on city/county roads.

Of the multiple-fatality crashes in 2021, 2 were rollovers, 2 involved multiple vehicles, 0 involved commercial vehicles, and 4 were drug and/or alcohol related.

In locations where rumble strips/strips were present, there were 20 crashes. There were 18 crashes where rumble strips/strips were not present.

Inclement weather or road conditions contributed to 4 vehicle crashes in 2021, which resulted in 4 deaths. Speed was considered a factor in 13 of the vehicle crashes, causing 16 deaths.

The days of the week for fatal crashes in 2021 were as follows:

Sunday	8 crashes
Monday	4 crashes
Tuesday	5 crashes
Wednesday	8 crashes
Thursday	7 crashes
Friday	12 crashes
Saturday	8 crashes

The times of day for fatal crashes in 2021 were as follows:

12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.	4 crashes
6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	11 crashes
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	26 crashes
6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.	11 crashes

The Commission also heard the following statistics:

- 67 percent of those who died in rollover crashes were unbelted.
- 50 percent of those who died in multi-vehicle crashes were unbelted.
- 60 percent of those who died in fixed-object crashes were unbelted.
- 76 percent of the fatalities in 2021 were drivers.
- 17 percent of the fatalities in 2021 were passengers.
- 85 percent of the resident fatalities were unrestrained.
- 23 percent of non-resident fatalities were unrestrained.
- 33 percent of fatalities involved alcohol and/or drug impairment.

Patrol-Investigated Crash Summary: The Patrol-Investigated Crash Summary depicts 3,338 crashes statewide, of which 850 involved commercial vehicles.

WHP Recruiting Efforts: There are currently 6 cadets in the WHP Academy Training and 29 trooper vacancies.

Drivewyze: Colonel Haller updated the Commission on the addition of DriveWyze, a vendor that assists with weigh station bypasses. Wyoming currently uses PrePass for the same service. Both vendors have provided WYDOT with the necessary equipment and training to use their services. Colonel Haller advised the Commission that WYDOT still has the ability to pull drivers from the road through random selection and safety scores. Locations on I-25 near Cheyenne have already begun using this technology, and it will be in use in the near future on I-80 near Evanston.

Wyoming Peace Officers Association: Colonel Haller reported that the Wyoming Peace Officers Association held a banquet on August 12, 2021. Several awards were presented, including the Valor Award, which was presented to Trooper Adam Powell from WHP Division A for a pursuit and shooting that occurred in 2019.

C-130 Aircraft Exercise: Colonel Haller advised that several local law enforcement divisions and emergency services have been apprised of the details of the C-130 landing on September 13, 2021. WHP will be posting road closure details on signs near the area.

Lieutenant Colonel Shannon Ratliff Retirement: Colonel Haller stated that at the August 19, 2021, Service Award Luncheon, Lieutenant Colonel Shannon Ratliff will be recognized for 30 years of service to the State of Wyoming. Lieutenant Colonel Ratliff's retirement celebration will take place on August 26, 2021, at the WYDOT Auditorium. Colonel Haller informed the Commission that Major Josh Walther will replace Lieutenant Colonel Ratliff, effective September 1, 2021.

10. Mr. Olsen presented the Aeronautics report beginning with the July 2021 Aeronautics Flight Operations Passenger Summary Report.

Federal Legislation: Mr. Olsen reported that as a result of the Infrastructure bill, aviation will be allotted approximately \$25 billion dollars over five years, which would come out of the general fund. \$15 billion of the total amount would go to airport infrastructure and would be distributed using formula-based funding. \$5 billion of the available funding would be distributed for airport

terminals by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) on a competitive basis and \$5 billion would be allotted for FAA facilities and equipment. Mr. Olsen anticipates that match requirements for these funds would remain similar to those in the past.

Supply Issues: Jet Afuel is still in short supply. Governor Gordon signed an Executive Order on July 21, 2021 suspending driving hour restrictions for commercial drivers delivering fuel. Mr. Olsen reported that this action by Governor Gordon has helped alleviate the shortage and that he is not currently aware of any airports that are out of fuel. Mr. Olsen informed the Commission that aviation is also being affected by the construction material shortage. The Cheyenne airport runway project has been significantly delayed by a shortage of low-alkali cement and slag. Cement for this project has been brought in from Colorado. Air service from Cheyenne will most likely resume by the end of October 2021.

Air Service: Effects of the COVID-19 Delta variant have started to be seen over the last two weeks. Mr. Olsen stated that it is normal to see a decline in air travel in the fall after school begins, but the current decline is larger than normal. Mr. Olsen reported that all airlines had reported a return to a profit position in the second quarter, but all now expect to return to a loss position in the third quarter. Mr. Olsen also advised that commercial booking and business travel is trending downwards.

Commissioner Espy questioned if Wyoming airports are experiencing an increase in traffic. Mr. Olsen stated that the Jackson airport has seen large increases in traffic, but most Wyoming airports have also seen increased traffic compared to 2019 numbers.

Commissioner Espy thanked Mr. Olsen and the Aeronautics Commission for allowing Kimberly Chapman to assist in Transportation Commission business during the time the Transportation Commission Secretary position was vacant.

11. Mr. Rossetti presented the Support Services report.

Employment Summary: WYDOT employed 1,846 personnel as of August 4, 2021, compared to 1,871 a month ago and 1,932 one year ago. Excluding temporary positions, WYDOT's overall vacancy rate is 11.3 percent. There are currently 97 WYDOT positions posted, 78 of which are in the field.

Employee Recruitment and Retention: WYDOT will participate in in-person recruiting events barring any cancellations due to COVID-19. Mr. Rossetti said that WYDOT is scheduled to attend recruitment events at the South Dakota and Colorado Schools of Mines and the University of Wyoming in September.

Drivers Services Organizational Change: Mr. Rossetti reported that the Thayne and Jackson Drivers Services offices are typically staffed by a traveling crew, which only allows the Thayne office to be open three days a week. However, because of a full time position being shifted from Cheyenne to Thayne, both the Thayne and Jackson offices will be able to be open five days a

week beginning in January 2022. During this transition, the Jackson office will need to be closed on Thursdays and Fridays.

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

Legislative Update: The Wyoming County Commissioners Association has formed a working group to address WyoLink funding. Funding options were presented to the Joint Transportation Committee at the August 17th and 18th meeting.

WyoLink Update: Mr. Babbitt reported that eight towers of the 16 tower buildout project are currently operational. Two towers in Rock Springs should be operational in September, and the remaining six sites are progressing. Mr. Babbitt also stated that the project to upgrade to GTRs from QUANTAR™ Base Station radios and replace the DC power plants continues to progress but has experienced some supply chain disruptions.

Enterprise Technology Services Director Update: Mr. Babbitt informed the Commission that Timothy Sheehan was appointed the current Interim Director and Chief Information Officer for ETS. WYDOT works closely with ETS on several projects and has a positive working relationship. Interviews for the Director/CIO position will begin soon. Mr. Babbitt stated that WYDOT continues to work with ETS regarding telework needs.

Information Technology Update: Mr. Babbitt reported that the Internal Technology Advisory Group, comprised of eight WYDOT employees, has been created to analyze WYDOT technologies and priorities.

Arrestor: Technicians and Century Link recently worked on the Buffalo Highway 16 Arrestor to address a communication issue. Mr. Babbitt explained that when contact is made with the first arrestor net, emergency services should be autodialed. However, due to a lightning strike, this feature was not being triggered. Mr. Babbitt advised that this issue has been resolved.

Revenue Information System Replacement Update: Mr. Babbitt and Mr. Rossetti continue to work with ETS, University of Wyoming, and Mathtech to complete the RFP for the system replacement. Mr. Babbitt advised that the RFP should be available within the next two to three weeks.

Seasonal Employment Opportunities: Seasonal positions in the Transportation Management Center will be posted soon.

Next Gen 911 Update: There was a stakeholder meeting the week of August 8th that included 43 participants from several sites. New system requirements and capabilities were discussed. Mr. Babbitt advised that WYDOT will work with ETS on the Next Gen 911 project as there is a geographic information system component.

Infrastructure Bill: Mr. Babbitt reported that there is not a 911 funding component listed in the current Infrastructure bill as currently written. 911 funding may be included in the Leading

Infrastructure for Tomorrow's America Act, which was introduced in March 2021, but will most likely require a state funding match.

13. Ms. Chapman advised that commissioners will arrive in Cheyenne on Wednesday, September 15, 2021, and attend the Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budget presentation. There will be a business meeting on Thursday, September 16, 2021, at the WYDOT-U training facility as well as a service award luncheon at the Cheyenne Country Club. Ms. Chapman also stated that there will be an education session for the Commission in the afternoon of September 16th regarding the results of the WYDOT Employee Satisfaction Survey. Ms. Chapman reminded the Commissioners to advise her or Ms. Casner of any plans to attend the C-130 landing on September 13th.

14A. Legislator Comments: State Senator John Kolb and State Representative Mark Baker shared remarks regarding the August 17th and 18th Joint Transportation Committee meeting, possible legislation of fuel tax increases and the severance tax, employee compensation and retention, and changes to the Infrastructure bill. Representative Baker also recanted his prior assertion of trespassing by WYDOT on private land.

14B. Commissioner Comments: Commissioner Hughes thanked Ms. Chapman for her assistance in the last months while a new Transportation Commission Secretary was found. Commissioner Holmes thanked the Commission members for allowing her to participate via Zoom. Chairman Schmidt passed out a Transportation Needs Survey to Commissioners Dolezal, Hughes, and Espy and requested staff provide a copy of the survey to Commissioners Venable and Holmes. Chairman Schmidt advised that if approved, the survey will be conducted in conjunction with the University of Wyoming and will seek responses from roughly 2,000 residents.

16. It was moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Hughes, and carried to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Schmidt adjourned the meeting at 11:36 a.m., on Thursday, August 19, 2021.