

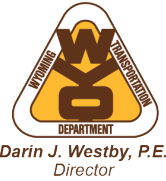


Mark Gordon
Governor

Wyoming Transportation Commission

5300 Bishop Boulevard
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82009-3340

Brandt Lyman, Chairman
(307) 777-4007



Darin J. Westby, P.E.
Director

MEETING MINUTES

The Transportation Commission of Wyoming met in the I-80 Room of the WYDOT University Training Building in Cheyenne and via Zoom on May 21, 2026. Chair Lyman called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. The following members were present, constituting a quorum.

Chair Brandt Lyman, Rock Springs
Vice Chair Jim Willox, Douglas
Commissioner Micheal Baker, Thermopolis *via Zoom*
Commissioner Pat Crank, Cheyenne
Commissioner Susan Holmes, Sheridan
Commissioner Marlowe Scherbel, Afton *via Zoom*
Director Darin Westby
Commission Secretary Kimberly Chapman

Others present and participating in the meeting: Taylor Rossetti, Deputy Director/Support Services Administrator; Dennis Byrne, Chief Financial Officer; Rodney Freier, Budget Manager; Keith Fulton, Chief Engineer; Brian Olsen, Assistant Chief Engineer, Engineering and Planning; Mark Ayen, Assistant Chief Engineer, Operations; Lieutenant Colonel Karl Germain; Mike Kahler, Supervising Attorney General; MacKenzie Sewell, Assistant Attorney General; Doug Jensen, Contracts and Estimates; Kevin Lebeda, Right of Way; Hank Doering, Highway Development; Jordan Young, Public Affairs; Nick Gronski, Procurement Services; Senator Stephan Pappas; Kelli Little, Government Affairs, AGC of Wyoming; and Susan Elliott, Executive Assistant.

1. Pledge of Allegiance: Chair Lyman led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Changes to Agenda: Chair Lyman noted there were no changes to the agenda.
3. April 16, 2026, Business Meeting Minutes and April 15, 2026, Education Session Minutes: It was recommended by Secretary Chapman, moved by Commissioner Holmes, and seconded by Vice Chair Willox to approve the April 16, 2026, Business Meeting Minutes and the April 15, 2026, Education Session Minutes. The motion carried unanimously.
5. Towing Review Committee Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law: Mr. Kahler and Ms. Sewell discussed the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order document, which upheld the Department's action—the 45-day suspension of Interstate Towing from the Highway Patrol's non-consensual rotation list. Mr. Kahler stated that Interstate Towing waived their right to a formal, contested case hearing before the Office of Administrative Hearings.

It was moved by Vice Chair Willox and seconded by Commissioner Holmes to accept the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order upholding Interstate Towing's 45-day suspension from the non-consensual rotation. The motion passed, with Commissioner Crank abstaining due to his absence from the April 16, 2026, hearing.

6. Director's Report: The Director's Report was provided in writing, as included in the May 2026 meeting materials.

Director Westby expressed appreciation to the WyoLink Office for providing a tour of their offices and a tower site during the Commissioners' education session. He commended the staff for their deep subject-matter expertise and dedication.

Director Westby provided an update on the search for a new Highway Patrol Administrator (Colonel). He noted the financial benefits of keeping the position vacant until the new budget year. The interim period will also allow him to gain a deeper operational understanding of the agency to better guide the incoming administrator. The Commissioners acknowledged Director Westby's increased workload and advised accelerating the hiring timeline if an ideal candidate is identified. Director Westby credited the executive staff and Lieutenant Colonel Germain for effectively managing day-to-day operations.

Director Westby announced an upcoming meeting with the Department of Administration and Information and the State Budget Department to discuss the Hay Method of Job Evaluation, which establishes the state's employee classification and pay tables. He intends to propose a pilot project at WYDOT to establish permanent, market-adjusted funding. The pilot will track key metrics, including recruitment and retention success, to demonstrate how sustained investment can resolve long-standing staffing and hiring challenges.

Director Westby recently met Sean McMaster, the administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA). Drawing on the Administrator McMaster's background in law enforcement, they discussed strategic management ideas for the Highway Patrol.

Director Westby reported that four troopers are scheduled to graduate from the Highway Patrol Academy on Friday, May 22.

- 7A. Monthly Budget Report: Mr. Freier presented the monthly budget report.

In response to commissioner inquiries, Mr. Freier clarified that the program's current metrics reflect total spending for the two-year budget. He explained the timing of budget expenditures and the impact of winter months on overhead costs, and assured Commissioners that the percentages will naturally decrease as operations shift to the summer construction season. All programs remain within budget, though transportation spending was higher than usual due to the final purchase orders for the new Revenue Information System (RIS).

- 7B. Award of Procurement Services Bids

It was recommended by Mr. Byrne, moved by Commissioner Crank, and seconded by Commissioner Holmes to award bid numbers 26-140NG to Powder River Heating and Air Conditioning, Inc., of Gillette, Wyoming HVAC replacement in Gillette. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Chief Engineer's Report: The Chief Engineer's Report was provided in writing, as included in the May 2026 meeting materials.

Mr. Fulton reported that the U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee released its first draft of the new five-year federal highway bill, the BUILD America 250 Act. Funding under the bill is projected to remain stable, with minor annual increases of roughly one percent. The draft preserves state formula funding and significantly boosts dedicated bridge funding, potentially raising Wyoming's annual allocation from \$45 million to between \$75 million and \$92 million. He noted that at least 25 percent of the bridge funds must support local government projects.

Mr. Fulton discussed the quarterly statewide project cost update, noting high budgetary accuracy as finalized projects closed out at just 0.01 percent over their initial estimates. Across \$256 million in total projects, final spending was over budget by only \$27,000. Mr. Fulton credited this accuracy to strong initial designs and diligent project administration in the districts.

In response to commissioner inquiries regarding the timeline for the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) draft Request for Proposals (RFP), Mr. Fulton noted that the staff member handling the review was recently promoted. The Department is currently determining if the staff member will retain oversight of the RFP in their new role.

The commission discussed a provision in the new federal bill proposing a nationwide trust fund fee for hybrid and electric vehicles, similar to traditional fuel taxes. The federal initiative is projected to generate \$9.5 billion for the Highway Trust Fund over the life of the bill, mirroring registration-based funding models already implemented at the state level in Wyoming.

- 8Ai. Mr. Olsen presented the Engineering and Planning Report, beginning with the bid tabulations from the May 14, 2026, letting.

Federal Projects NHPPI-I801192 and ARSCT-I801A01 combined for truck parking areas and off road vehicle trail on I-80 beginning at RM 6.68 east of Evanston in Uinta County. Completion Date: October 31, 2028.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$53,023,369.00
Whitaker Construction Co., Inc., Brigham City, UT	\$39,986,488.90 -24.6%
W.W. Clyde & Co., Orem, UT	\$42,503,018.00
Harper Brothers Construction LLC, Houston, TX	\$45,049,882.69
Oftedal Construction, Inc., Casper, WY	\$45,832,496.10
Ames Construction, Inc., Burnsville, MN	\$49,089,100.00
Concrete Works of Colorado, Inc., Lafayette, CO	\$54,718,506.75

It was recommended by Mr. Olsenn, moved by Commissioner Holmes, and seconded by Commissioner Baker that Whitaker Construction Co., Inc., of Brigham City, Utah, having prequalified

in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder. The motion carried unanimously.

Federal Project STP-CR-CN03049 for road reconstruction, full depth reclamation, widening and overlay on County Road 139 (East Ridge Road) beginning on RM 0.88 for approx. 2.13 miles in Sheridan. Completion Date: October 31, 2026.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$2,992,646.50
Simon Contractors, Cheyenne, WY	\$2,320,939.80 -22.4 %
Croell, Inc., Sundance, WY	\$2,357,194.35
Mountain View Building, Inc., Sheridan, WY	\$2,581,850.60
Riverside Contracting, Inc., Missoula, MT	\$2,684,509.85

It was recommended by Mr. Olsen, moved by Commissioner Holmes, and seconded by Vice Chairman Willox that Simon Contractors, of Cheyenne, Wyoming, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, awarded the contract as low bidder. The motion carried unanimously.

Federal Project RHC-N342055 for railroad crossing system and approaches on US 20/26 beginning at RM 99.64 just east of Shoshoni at the Bighorn Divide and Wyoming Railroad Crossing in Fremont County. Completion Date: October 31, 2026.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$1,783,401.00
Barnum, Inc., Buffalo, WY	\$1,818,475.00 2.0%
71 Construction, Casper, WY	\$2,182,440.00

It was recommended by Mr. Olsen, moved by Commissioner Baker, and seconded by Vice Chair Willox that Barnum, Inc., of Buffalo, Wyoming, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder. The motion carried unanimously.

State Project SCP-TC-P114043 for constructing wildlife turnout, grading, signs and fencing on US 189 beginning at RM 86.00 between LaBarge and Big Piney in Sublette County. Completion Date: September 30, 2026.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$1,479,714.00
Oftedal Construction, Inc., Casper, WY	\$1,367,715.86 -7.6%
R & D Sweeping & Asphalt Maint., LLC, Rock Springs, WY	\$1,523,195.11
King Enterprises, Mills, WY	\$1,647,465.45
Avail Valley Construction-WY, LLC, Afton, WY	\$1,775,000.00

H-K Contractors, Inc., Idaho Falls, ID	\$2,135,495.25
<i>Plus 5% for Comparison</i>	<i>\$2,242,270.01</i>

It was recommended by Mr. Olsen, moved by Vice Chairman Willox, and seconded by Commissioner Scherbel that Oftedal Construction, Inc., of 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 motion carried unanimously.

Federal Project HSIP-1002019 for guardrail and slope flattening on WYO 192 beginning at RM 33.0 between Sussex and Linch in Johnson County. Completion Date: June 30, 2027.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	<i>\$1,337,985.00</i>
Barnum, Inc., Buffalo, WY	\$1,081,044.00 -19.2%
Oftedal Construction, Inc., Casper, WY	\$1,327,845.60
Riverside Contracting, Inc., Missoula, MT	\$1,383,268.30

It was recommended by Mr. Olsen, moved by Commissioner Holmes, and seconded by Commissioner Scherbel that Barnum, Inc., of Buffalo, Wyoming, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder. The motion carried unanimously.

Federal Project HSIP-B253028 for guardrail work at various locations in Transportation District 3 in Sublette County. Completion Date: October 31, 2026.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	<i>\$1,075,919.00</i>
S&L Industrial LLC, Cowley, WY	\$1,134,691.00 5.5%

It was recommended by Mr. Olsen, moved by Commissioner Holmes, and seconded by Commissioner Scherbel that S&L Industrial LLC, of 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 motion carried unanimously.

State Projects DR-DR19309, DR-DR19004, and DR-DR19622 combined for bridge repair (3 structures) on I-80 at RM 211.75 at the Spruce Street Interchange Bridge in Rawlins in Carbon County and at RM 362.65 at the Bridge over Morrie Avenue in Cheyenne in Laramie County. Completion Date: October 31, 2026.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	<i>\$715,510.00</i>
S & S Builders, LLC, Gillette, WY	\$409,808.00 -42.7%
Reiman Corp., Cheyenne, WY	\$506,498.25

It was recommended by Mr. Olsen, moved by Vice Chair Willox, and seconded by Commissioner Scherbel that S & S Builders, LLC, of Gillette, Wyoming, having prequalified in accordance with

rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder. The motion carried unanimously.

Federal Project HSIP-B263018 for pavement markings on I-80 at various locations in Transportation District 3 in Sweetwater and Uinta Counties. Completion Date: November 30, 2026.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$549,650.00
Interstate Companies, LLC, Layton, UT	\$399,975.25 -27.2%
S&L Industrial LLC, Cowley, WY	\$486,126.00

It was recommended by Mr. Olsen, moved by Commissioner Holmes, and seconded by Commissioner Baker that Interstate Companies, LLC, of Layton, Utah, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder. The motion carried unanimously.

Federal Project HSIP-B269015 for sign upgrades at various locations in Natrona and Niobrara Counties. Completion Date: October 31, 2026.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$421,545.00
Traffic Safety Services, Inc., Cheyenne, WY	\$308,337.00 -26.9%
S&L Industrial LLC, Cowley, WY	\$336,078.00
Superior Sign & Supply, LLC, Casper, WY	\$399,025.00

It was recommended by Mr. Olsen, moved by Commissioner Crank, and seconded by Commissioner Scherbel that Traffic Safety Services, Inc., 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 motion carried unanimously.

Federal Project HSIP-N432064 for electrical work on intersection lighting at the intersection on WYO 59 and WYO 450 between Wright and Bill in Campbell County. Completion Date: November 30, 2026.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$169,460.00
Modern Electric Co., Casper, WY	\$129,062.00 -23.8%
Casper Electric, Inc., Casper, WY	\$150,284.00
Advanced Electrical Contracting, Inc., Sheridan, WY	\$161,602.24
Wescom Inc., Gillette, WY	\$174,939.74

It was recommended by Mr. Olsen, moved by Commissioner Holmes, and seconded by Vice Chair Willox that Modern Electric Co., of 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 motion carried unanimously.

8Aii. May 2026 STIP Addendum Approval: Mr. Olsen presented the May 2026 STIP addendum.

Mr. Olsen detailed the five projects in the STIP Addendum, which included a railroad-highway crossing project and an authorization to render services for reviewing Highway 22 underpass design plans. Additionally, the addendum modified two projects: it split a Carbon County I-80 project into two separate projects and increased preliminary engineering funding for the I-25/I-80 interchange in Laramie County. The May addendum also included a statewide pavement data collection project for the current fiscal year.

During discussion on the I-25/I-80 interchange design phase, Mr. Olsen noted that the project has been advanced to FY 2026 using federal August Redistribution funds. He noted an \$11 million contract amendment for Jacobs Engineering Group to bring the single-phase design to 100 percent completion. Accelerating the timeline positions the state to aggressively pursue future federal grants and undergo internal WYDOT reviews, which is projected to save \$100M–\$150M in construction costs and mitigate traffic impacts by five to seven years.

In response to a question from Vice Chair Willox, Mr. Olsen confirmed that pavement testing occurs annually for interstates and every other year for non-interstate roads. Staff are working to integrate recurring data collection cycle costs directly into the STIP.

It was recommended by Mr. Olsen, moved by Commissioner Holmes, and seconded by Vice Chairman Willox to approve the May 2026 STIP addendum. The motion carried unanimously.

8Aiii. Resolutions for Relinquishment

Mr. Olsen recommend approval of a resolution to relinquish 1.5 acres of excess right-of-way, consisting of a portion of Walnut Street, to the Town of Pine Bluffs for local control and maintenance. The parcel was originally acquired by WYDOT in 1969 for the Pine Bluffs Shop District but was deemed no longer necessary for the state highway system. Commissioners clarified that the relinquished property is an active street that will transition from state to city jurisdiction. It was noted that a previous land swap secured alternative access for WYDOT, making retention of this specific right-of-way unnecessary.

It was recommended by Mr. Olsen, moved by Commissioner Crank, and seconded by Vice Chair Willox to approve the resolution of relinquishment to the Town of Pine Bluffs. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Olsen recommend approval of a resolution to relinquish 13.56 acres of excess right-of-way along Fifth Street within city limits to the City of Sheridan. Relinquishment would fulfill a prior maintenance agreement in which WYDOT agreed to install a necessary traffic signal at a central intersection, and the city agreed to assume ownership and long-term maintenance of the street. The parcels were originally acquired across various highway projects between 1920 and 2020.

During the discussion, commissioners raised questions regarding the highway's technical designation. Mr. Olsen confirmed that while the city is taking over maintenance, WYDOT staff will follow up to ensure the change does not cause any confusion with state highway mapping or regional route names.

It was recommend by Mr. Olsen, moved by Commissioner Holmes, and seconded by Commissioner Baker to approve the resolution of relinquishment to the City of Sheridan. The motion carried unanimously.

8B. The Operations Report was provided in writing, as included in the May 2026 meeting materials.

In addition to the written report, Mr. Ayen confirmed that all mountain passes are open for summer traffic. He reported that a WYDOT snowplow was recently struck by a commercial vehicle near the Wagonhound Rest Area after freeing the vehicle from the snow. The incident brings the seasonal total to seven plow hits, a notable decrease from the 16 hits recorded the previous year. Director Westby requested safety performance data on the struck plows to see if they were equipped with the new high-visibility green lighting packages.

Mr. Ayen announced that Billy Roberts has been promoted within the traffic program and will retain oversight of his existing responsibilities.

Responding to Commission concerns about third-party fiber optic lines deviating from approved designs, Mr. Ayen stated that WYDOT continues to optimize right-of-way permitting and staffing. He confirmed that obtaining accurate "as-built" drawings remains a priority, and maintenance staff will require utilities to relocate improperly placed lines to protect state infrastructure.

Director Westby recognized and thanked the Sinclair Refinery for providing fuel to WYDOT snowplows and emergency crews during a 36-hour power outage in Carbon County, ensuring that operations could continue despite the conditions. He noted that the incident highlights the need for the Department to establish backup agreements across the state to maintain continuity of operations during future crises.

9. Highway Patrol Report: Lt. Col. Germain presented the Fatal Crash Summary through April 30, 2026, which includes 31 fatal crashes involving 35 deaths. The fatalities resulted from rollover crashes, multi-vehicle crashes, a fixed object crash, a motorcycle crash, commercial crashes, and a collision with a pedestrian.

There have been 14 fatal crashes deemed drug or alcohol related, resulting in 17 deaths through April 2026.

Of the 35 deaths this year, 15 were attributed to not using occupant restraints. There were six fatalities involving individuals under the age of 21 in 2026 crashes.

Of the 31 fatal crashes so far this year, it is unknown whether 15 of those drivers had no distractions. Two drivers were distracted, and 14 were not.

Of the 31 fatal crashes that have occurred this year, seven occurred on city/county roads, 12 occurred on primary/secondary highways, and 12 occurred on interstate highways.

The days of the week for fatal crashes in 2026 are as follows:

Sunday	10 crashes
Monday	4 crashes
Tuesday	4 crashes
Wednesday	5 crashes
Thursday	4 crashes
Friday	2 crashes
Saturday	2 crashes

The times of day for fatal crashes in 2026 are as follows:

12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.	6 crashes
6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	7 crashes
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	8 crashes
6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.	10 crashes

There were 1,165 Patrol investigated crashes to date in 2026.

10. Aeronautics Report: The Aeronautics Report was provided in writing, as included in the May 2026 meeting materials.
11. Support Services Report: The Support Services Report was provided in writing, as included in the May 2026 meeting materials.
12. Chief Technology Officer's Report: The Chief Technology Officer's Report was provided in writing, as included in the May 2026 meeting materials.

Pursuant to Senate File 32, WYDOT is negotiating with a consultant for a \$750,000 comprehensive 911 systems study. The Department is also administering a new \$3 million grant program to cover local Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) operating deficits. Director Westby and Mr. Rossetti emphasized that WYDOT is acting strictly in an administrative capacity, with the intention that local funding mechanisms will be established in the future.

Vice Chair Willox questioned the allocation of 911 funds to dispatch centers and the specifics of the grant application process. Mr. Rossetti clarified that the grant program will award funds based on identified local deficits rather than as a lump sum per county. The Commission discussed specific application requirements, such as detailed project descriptions and the potential for competitive grants.

13. June 2026 Commission Meeting: Secretary Chapman announced that the June 2026 Commission meeting will be held in Thermopolis. The education session will be held on Wednesday, June 17 and the business meeting will be held on Thursday, June 18.

- 14A. Legislator Comments: Senator Pappas reported on the recent Joint Transportation, Highways, and Military Affairs Committee meeting in Casper, highlighting the formation of a four-member legislative working group that will focus on transportation funding streams. The working group will hold its first meeting via Zoom prior to the next JTC meeting, which is tentatively planned as a one-day session in Evanston on Friday, August 21. Because the military agenda is minimal, the Evanston meeting will primarily focus on WYDOT operations, work zone safety, and preliminary working group reports to ensure any necessary bill drafts are requested from the LSO in a timely manner.

Senator Pappas expressed appreciation for the WyoLink tour, highlighting the program's continued success and state-wide utility.

- 14B. Commissioner Comments: Commissioner Crank commented on the productivity of the Commission and its meetings, expressing appreciation to the staff for their efforts in organizing them. Commissioners Scherbel and Baker expressed regrets for being unable to attend in person, with Commissioner Baker noting his anticipation of hosting the Commission's next session in Thermopolis. Commissioner Holmes expressed her appreciation for the WyoLink tour and the surrounding discussion regarding the program's role within the organization.

Vice Chairman Willox shared insights from National Infrastructure Week in Washington, D.C., noting that Wyoming received a "D" grade for its readiness to handle public-private partnerships. He stressed the need to improve this standing, noting that a better approach could unlock alternative funding for major projects like the I-25/I-80 interchange. Additionally, in his role as NACO Transportation Committee Chair, he emphasized the importance of balancing federal formula dollars with local road needs, advocating for closer cooperation between AASHTO and local governments. Chair Lyman thanked the WyoLink team for hosting a tour during the education session and praised their extensive knowledge. He also thanked Commissioner Holmes for dedicating extra travel time to represent the STIP subcommittee at the WYDOT Highway Development Meeting.

16. Commissioner Crank moved to adjourn the meeting. It was adjourned by Chair Lyman at 10:38 a.m. on Thursday, May 21, 2026.