

## **TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF WYOMING**

The Transportation Commission of Wyoming met via Zoom and in person at 5300 Bishop Blvd., Cheyenne, WY on April 21, 2022. Chairman Schmidt convened the meeting at 8:32 a.m. The following members were present constituting a quorum:

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

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; Colonel Kebin Haller, Wyoming Highway Patrol (WHP) Administrator; Lieutenant Colonel Joshua Walther, Wyoming Highway Patrol Operations Commander; Brian Olsen, Aeronautics Administrator; Taylor Rossetti, Support Services Administrator; Troy Babbitt, Chief Technology Officer (CTO); Mike Kahler, Senior Assistant Attorney General; Monica Gourdine, Interim Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); Representative Mark Baker; and Senator John Kolb.

Other meeting attendees: Doug McGee, Public Affairs Manager; Jordan Achs, Public Affairs; Mark Horan, Public Affairs; John Davis, Management Services Program Manager; Doug Jensen, Contracts and Estimates Program Manager; Mark Ayen, District Two Engineer; Kacey Brown, Senior Policy Analyst; Chelsey Lindsay, Senior Budget Analyst; Pam Fredrick, Senior Budget Analyst; Rhonda Holt, Financial Services Program Manager; Mattie Bray, Financial Services Accounting Manager; Melissa DeFratis, Legislative Services Coordinator; Phillip Hearn, Engineering and Construction Program Manager-Aeronautics; Susan Elliott, Executive Assistant; Kimberly Chapman, Public Safety Communications Commission and Aeronautics Commission Secretary; Michael Haynes, Knife River; and Katie Legerski, Association of General Contractors-Wyoming.

1. Pledge of Allegiance: Chairman Schmidt led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Changes/Additions to Agenda: Chairman Schmidt requested that Agenda Item 5D be removed as it will be addressed at the June 2022 Education Session. Chairman Schmidt also advised that Agenda Item 14C has been added.
3. Approval of Minutes: It was recommended by Secretary Casner, moved by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner Hughes, and carried to approve the minutes from the March

17, 2022, business meeting and Executive Session. *Commissioner Espy abstained from voting as he did not attend the March 17, 2022 meeting.*

4. Correspondence: Director Reiner advised that he received the same letter from Joy Bannon at the Wyoming Wildlife Federation that the Commission did. He responded to the letter thanking her for kind words and reiterating WYDOT's commitment to wildlife crossings.

5. Old Business.

2022 Meeting Schedule: Chairman Schmidt presented the proposed 2022 Transportation Commission meeting schedule.

2022 Agenda Item Addition Schedule: Chairman Schmidt presented the proposed 2022 Agenda Item addition schedule.

Breakfast Meetings: Chairman Schmidt reminded the Commissioners that prior to March 2022, it was standard practice that Commissioners and staff would meet at a breakfast prior to the Commission meeting to discuss agenda items that might need further clarification. Commissioner Dolezal stated that he is in favor of returning to breakfast meetings. Commissioner Espy advised that he believes it is appropriate to keep all Commission discussions within the confines of the business meeting as this would allow maximum public participation and the proper attention to each agenda item. Commissioner Crank expressed frustration with what he views as communication obstacles between Commissioners due to advice from the Wyoming Attorney General's office. Commissioner Schmidt reminded that previous breakfast meetings were noticed in the same way a business meeting is, and minutes were taken and posted for the public. Commissioner Espy proposed that if breakfast meetings were to resume, changes to the logistics be made to make the meeting more accessible to the public. Commissioner Crank suggested instead of breakfast meetings, additional time is added to the business meeting to allow further discussion. Commissioner Crank also proposed having a work session which would be publicized, open to the public, and separated from the business meeting by a longer time period, but an agenda would not be required and minutes would not be taken. Commissioner Holmes agreed that a more informal setting would be beneficial to the Commission.

Mr. Kahler and Secretary Casner will discuss possible ways to address the work session suggestions and will add the topic to the May 2022 agenda.

It was moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Hughes, and carried to table the breakfast/pre-meeting discussion until further advisement is provided by Mr. Kahler.

6. Director Reiner presented the Director's Report.

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA): The Governor's office has assembled task forces to address the incoming funding to Wyoming from the IIJA. WYDOT regularly interacts with these task forces, and Ali Ragan is the WYDOT point of contact for any allocated grants.

Director Reiner reminded the Commission that the second staff call of each month is to ensure WYDOT divisions and other agencies are in coordination for grant opportunities.

State Budget: The \$75 million match fund was specifically set up to assist with projects addressed by the IJA, and WYDOT and the Governor's office are working together to prioritize projects and funding.

The \$35 million ARPA funding allocation for WyoLink has begun, and \$4.5 million was allocated to local projects. The ARPA monies will be distributed according to the Wyoming Legislature's guidance, and Director Reiner is comfortable that all local governments will be included fairly and communicated with clearly.

The most recent State of Wyoming Economic Analysis was released April 20<sup>th</sup> and will be distributed to all Commissioners. The Analysis highlighted the fact that Teton County housing and cost of living is at 230%. This negatively affects current and future employees, and both Director Reiner and Mr. Rossetti are working with the Human Resources Department (HRD) of the State of Wyoming Administration and Information (A&I) agency to address all issues including housing.

Zero Emissions Vehicle Information Tour: Director Reiner and several staff members recently traveled to nine different sites around the state to discuss the implementation of funding allocated for zero emissions vehicles and solicit public comment regarding the funding implementations. Director Reiner reminded the Commission that the State of Wyoming and WYDOT will not install, own, or operate any charging stations and that WYDOT must continue to provide the infrastructure needed for individually chosen methods of transportation.

A key issue that remains is the requirement that there will be no more than 50 miles between each charging station, which is not economical in Wyoming. WYDOT is planning to submit a request for exemption from this regulation.

Crew Leader Meeting: The crew leader meeting began April 19<sup>th</sup> in Casper and ends on April 21<sup>st</sup>. This is a chance to train and coordinate information across WYDOT.

Intertribal Transportation Committee: WYDOT recently met with leaders from the Wind River Reservation to coordinate efforts. The relationship between WYDOT and transportation leaders from the Reservation remains strong and productive.

Wildlife Crossing Funding Allocation: Governor Gordon requested and the Legislature granted \$10 million to assist in wildlife crossings across the state. A director level committee, including Director Reiner, Brian Nesvik (Director-Wyoming Game and Fish Department) and Bob Budd, (Executive Director-Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust) has been assembled to work together to address wildlife funding, prioritize projects and effectively communicate those priorities to the state.

Plowing to Cooke City, Montana: WYDOT has received requests to plow Highway 212 from Junction 212 to Cooke City, Montana and discussions are occurring with the Governor's office and the Superintendent of Yellowstone.

Rail Project Funding: A large amount of federal funding was recently allocated for rail funding. WYDOT is currently in talks with Colorado for a Front Range light rail project and Amtrak for the possible reactivation of routes.

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

Second Quarter Budget Revision: Mr. Freier presented the second quarter budget revision.

Monthly Budget Report: Mr. Freier presented the monthly budget report. Overall, the budget report revealed that the Commission budget was 46 percent expended, and the legislative budget was 47 percent expended in Fiscal Year (FY) 2022.

Expenditures and Billing: Mr. Freier presented information pulled from the 2019 and 2020 lettings regarding expenditures and billing.

7B. It was recommended by Mr. Byrne, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Dolezal, and carried to move Bid Numbers 22-102RE and 22-105RE to a consent list.

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

- Bid 22-102RE to furnish one (1) all-wheel drive articulated motor grader with wing and front v-plow for the department located in Casper. The bid was awarded to Wyoming Machinery Co. of Casper, Wyoming, for the sum of \$382,720.00.
- Bid 22-105RE to furnish 12 intermediate all-wheel/four-wheel drive SUVs for departments located statewide. The bid was awarded to Ken Garff of Cheyenne, Wyoming, for the sum of \$358,560.00.

*Commission adjourned to break at 10:09 a.m.*

*Commission returned to public session at 10:20 a.m.*

8. Mr. Gillett presented the Chief Engineer's Report.

Supply Chain: Issues with the supply chain continue to occur, and prices of materials are rising. Asphalt binder rose 70% from \$800-\$900 a ton to approximately \$1,500 a ton in one month. Steel prices remain high as well. WYDOT is working with contractors to extend completion dates, approve appropriate material substitutions, pay partial payments for materials, and other

reasonable solutions. WYDOT continues to partner with the Association of General Contractors-Wyoming (AGC-Wyo) to address issues created by the supply chain as well as drill shafts.

Dry Piney Wildlife Project: Construction will begin in May, with a groundbreaking ceremony scheduled for May 10<sup>th</sup>.

BIL Update: WYDOT is continuing to see Notices of Information regarding various topics, and the FHWA is working to distribute information as efficiently as possible. There is a large amount of discretionary money, and local government is a focal point of a portion of the funding.

Bridge project requests continue to come in to WYDOT from counties across Wyoming for the Bridge Formula Program. In most cases, the bridge requests are addressing projects previously identified by WYDOT, and agreements are being drafted to proceed.

WYDOT has received a record number of applications from local governments for transportation alternative projects. Funding has increased from last year, including the amount allotted for each project.

Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grants: WYDOT recently submitted an application for a RAISE grant to complete the design of the I-80/I-25 interchange.

Crew Leader Meeting: Mr. Gillett was encouraged by the attendance of many crew leaders at the recent meeting in Casper and expressed thanks to Marc Anderson and his staff for organizing the meeting. There were approximately 18 vendors in attendance at this meeting.

Retirement: Calvin Goddard, District Maintenance Engineer for District 2, retired on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Goddard spent most of his career as the District Maintenance Engineer and was well respected for his knowledge and leadership. Mr. Goddard will be missed as a WYDOT employee.

8A. Monica Gourdine advised that the Biden administration released its Rural Playbook in April, and as a result, several high ranking USDOT officials are visiting state DOTs. Deputy General Counsel John Putnam will be meeting with the Governor the afternoon of April 21<sup>st</sup>.

The FWHA recently released program guidance for the carbon reduction program, which is to reduce transportation emissions and enable states to fund related projects.

8Bi. Mr. Fulton presented the Engineering and Planning Report, beginning with the bid tabulations from the April 14, 2022, letting in Sheridan.

Federal Projects STP-2202021 and STP-2202024 combined involving structure, grading, bituminous surfacing, traffic control, surfacing, fencing and miscellaneous work on approximately 1.40 mile on WYO 433 beginning at RM 4.14 between Worland and Manderson in Washakie County. Completion Date: June 30, 2024.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$8,671,521.00	
Reiman Corp., Cheyenne, WY	\$10,244,646.09	18.1%
S&S Builders, LLC, Gillette, WY	\$11,195,459.95	
Mountain Construction Company, Lovell, WY	\$11,555,311.33	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Espy, 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. FHWA concurred with this decision.

Federal Projects STP-1906025 and STP-2100023 combined involving hot in-place recycling, bituminous surfacing, bridge rehabilitation, traffic control, chip seal, grading, signing, guardrail and miscellaneous work on approximately 19.90 miles on WYO 150 beginning at RM .46 and on WYO 372 beginning at RM 17.00 at the WYO 28 Junction South in Sweetwater and Uinta Counties. Completion Date: July 31, 2023.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$5,334,839.00	
Avail Valley Construction-WY, LLC, Afton, WY	\$6,367,118.38	19.3%
Kilgore Companies, LLC dba Lewis & Lewis, Inc., Rock Springs, WY	\$6,545,680.00	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Dolezal, and carried unanimously that Avail Valley Construction-WY, LLC, of Afton, Wyoming, having prequalified in accordance with rules and regulations adopted by the Transportation Commission of Wyoming, be awarded the contract as low bidder. FHWA concurred with this decision.

Federal Project NHF-N341117 involving bituminous surfacing, traffic control, surfacing, chip seal and miscellaneous work on approximately 10.40 miles on US 20/26 beginning at RM 51.57 between Waltman and Shoshoni in Fremont and Natrona counties. Completion Date: June 30, 2023.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$3,734,313.00	
JTL Group, Inc. DBA Knife River, Cheyenne, WY	\$4,641,222.02	24.3%

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Holmes and carried unanimously that JTL Group, Inc. DBA Knife River, 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. FHWA concurred with this decision.

Federal Projects STP-PM-B221017 involving bituminous surfacing, chip seal, traffic control and miscellaneous work at various locations in Transportation District 1 in Albany, Carbon, and Laramie counties. Completion Date: August 31, 2022.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$2,847,600.00	
Intermountain Slurry Seal, Inc., Watsonville, CA	\$3,334,000.00	17.1%

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

Federal Project HSIP-N232069 and ARSCT-N232A02 combined involving electrical, bituminous surfacing, sidewalk, curb and gutter, traffic control, drainage, grading, striping, and miscellaneous work on approximately 0.10 mile on US 30/US 287 beginning at RM 328.02 in the town of Laramie in Albany County. Completion Date: April 30, 2023.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$839,865.00	
Advanced Electrical Contracting, Inc., Sheridan, WY	\$824,377.73	-1.8%
Modern Electric Co., Casper, WY	\$878,327.00	
Casper Electric, Inc., Casper, WY	\$913,884.84	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner Dolezal, 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. FHWA concurred with this decision.

Federal Project HSIP-N151028 involving grading, traffic control, fencing, signing, drainage, surfacing, seeding/erosion control and miscellaneous work on approximately 3.50 miles on US 287 beginning at RM 2.1 between Lander and Fort Washakie in Fremont County. Completion Date: June 30, 2023.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$837,025.00	
High Country Construction, Inc., Lander, WY	\$821,078.89	-1.9%
Avail Valley Construction-WY, LLC, Afton, WY	\$962,232.09	

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Espy, seconded by Commissioner Hughes, and carried unanimously that High Country Construction, Inc., of Lander, 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 HSIP-1108008 involving electrical, traffic control, striping and miscellaneous work at the intersection of WYO 212 at RM 13.57 and on WYO 219 at RM 1.99 in the city of Cheyenne in Laramie County. Completion Date: April 30, 2023.

<i>Engineer's Estimate</i>	\$392,861.00	
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Advanced Electrical Contracting, Inc., Sheridan, WY	\$359,266.70	-8.6%
Casper Electric, Inc., Casper, WY	\$366,084.84	
Modern Electric Co., Casper, WY	\$391,670.00	

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

8Bii. Addendum to the FY 2022 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP): Mr. Fulton presented the April addendum to the FY 2022 STIP.

It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Dolezal, seconded by Commissioner Hughes, and carried unanimously to approve the April addendum to the FY 2022 STIP.

8Biii. Right of Way Relinquishment: It was recommended by Mr. Fulton, moved by Commissioner Holmes, seconded by Commissioner Espy, and carried unanimously that the following Resolution for Relinquishment be approved.

### **RESOLUTION FOR RELINQUISHMENT**

**WHEREAS**, under the provisions and authority of W.S. 24-3-126, the Transportation Commission of Wyoming may abandon or relinquish any portion of a state highway upon reconstruction or relocation of an existing state highway; and

**WHEREAS**, a portion of Wyoming Department of Transportation's right-of-way for Interstate Highway No. 25, Natrona County, Wyoming, established under Wyoming State Highway Project No. I-25-4(19)204 is no longer needed for state highway or public use purposes. Said portion being described as follows:

#### **Parcel No. 4**

All that portion of certain tracts of land described in Warranty Deed in Book 196 at Page 31, Right-of-Way Easement in Book 19 at Page 469, State Grant of Easement in Book 110 at Page 145, Warranty Deed in Book 195 at Page 618, Warranty Deed in Book 195 at Page 263 and Natrona County Resolution approved August 8, 1946, located in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 9, W $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 16 and E $\frac{1}{2}$ E $\frac{1}{2}$  of Section 17, T. 34N., R. 79W., 6th P.M., Natrona County, Wyoming, being described by metes and bounds as follows and shown on attached Exhibit "B":

Commencing at the southwest corner of said Section 9, being monumented by a 2.5 inch 1934 GLO Brass Cap, from which the west 1/16 corner between said Section 9 and Section 16, being monumented by a stone, bears N. 89° 14' 15.4" E. a distance of 1,350.68 feet as shown on Record of Survey recorded 10/8/2015, Document No. 1000990 of the Natrona County records;



thence along the southerly boundary of said Section 9 N. 89° 14' 15.4" E., a distance of 133.85 feet to a point on the existing westerly right-of-way boundary of Interstate Highway 25, also being the **TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING**;

thence along said existing westerly right-of-way boundary, N. 06° 03' 19.6" E., a distance of 0.45 feet; thence continuing along said westerly right-of-way boundary, N. 06° 03' 09.0" E., a distance of 1,006.01 feet to the point of curvature of a non-tangent circular curve concave westerly, the radius of which is 1,235.00 feet, also being a point on the proposed westerly right-of-way line of Interstate Highway 25, and a line tangent to said curve bears S. 15° 48' 55.2" E.;

thence along said proposed westerly right-of-way line southerly along said curve through a central angle of 21° 33' 43.0", an arc distance of 464.76 feet, chord bearing of S. 05° 02' 03.6" E. and a chord distance of 462.03 feet to a jog in said proposed westerly right-of-way line;

thence along said jog, S. 84° 15' 12.0" E., a distance of 11.18 feet;

thence continuing along said proposed westerly right of way line, S. 06° 03' 19.6" W., a distance of 5,149.95 feet to an extended line of the existing easterly right-of-way boundary of Salt Creek Highway;

thence along said extended line and existing easterly right-of-way boundary of Salt Creek Highway, S. 14° 30' 44.5" W., a distance of 881.52 feet;

thence along a line perpendicular to the westerly right-of-way boundary of said Salt Creek Highway, N. 75° 29' 45.3" W., a distance of 80.13 feet, more or less, to the intersection of the southwesterly right-of way boundary of Antelope Road and the westerly right-of-way boundary of said Salt Creek Highway;

thence along said westerly right-of-way boundary of Salt Creek Highway, N. 14° 30' 14.7" E., a distance of 741.18 feet to the existing westerly right-of-way boundary of Interstate Highway 25;

thence along said existing westerly right-of-way boundary of Interstate Highway 25, N. 06° 03' 19.6" E., a distance of 4,723.84 feet, more or less, to the Point of Beginning.

The above described Parcel of land contains 14.08 acres (613, 272 sq. ft.), more or less.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Transportation Commission of Wyoming hereby relinquishes the above-described land to Town of Bar Nunn as provided for under provisions and authority of W.S. 24-3-126.

9C. Mr. DeHoff presented the Operations Report.

Winter Operations: Winter operations continue, and crews are preparing equipment to assist in opening seasonally closed roads.

Maintenance: Crews are transitioning to summer projects, including litter control, fence work, and repairs.

District 3 Avalanche Hazard Mitigations: Hazard mitigation missions were recently completed over Teton Pass and the Hoback River Canyon.

Snow Plow Damage: No snow plows were damaged in the last month. However, there have been 18 total plow hits this year.

Construction: The construction season will begin in the near future, and there are several active projects already underway. There are a total of 41 active projects across the state.

Traffic: Crews are finishing maintenance on the winter striping units, and depending on weather conditions, some crews have started their summer striping programs.

Maintenance Shops: Supply chain issues are causing delays in repairs and staff is completing repairs when parts are received.

Rigging Shops: 17 of the 25 plow trucks have been rigged and are ready for distribution to the districts.

Facilities: All rest areas are open at this time. The Independence Rock rest area continues to operate with port-a-johns while repairs are made.

WYDOT and AGC-Wyo: WYDOT and the AGC-Wyo recently partnered to complete a flagger certification program, and testing can now be completed online.

9. Lieutenant Colonel Walther presented the Highway Patrol Report.

The Fatal Crash Summary through March 31, 2022, includes 16 fatal crashes involving 18 deaths. The fatalities include 6 rollover crashes, 8 multi-car crashes, 1 fixed-object crash, 0 motorcycle crashes, 0 all-terrain vehicle crashes, and 3 pedestrian crashes. Of the 16 fatal crashes that have occurred in 2022, 6 involved commercial vehicles.

There were 3 fatal crashes deemed drug or alcohol related, resulting in 4 deaths in March 2022.

Of the 18 deaths this year, 10 were attributed to not using occupant restraints, with 4 involving rollover crashes, 5 involving multi-car collisions, and 1 involving fixed objects. Seven of those who died from the non-use of occupant restraints were Wyoming residents. Seven perished that were under 21 years old.

Of the 16 fatal crashes so far this year, 10 of those drivers had no distractions. In 6 of those crashes, it was unknown whether a distraction caused the incident.

Of the 16 fatal crashes that have occurred this year, 7 occurred on primary/secondary highways, 7 occurred on interstate highways, and 2 occurred on city/county roads.

There was 1 multiple-fatality crash in March 2022.

In locations where rumble strips/stripes were present, there were 7 crashes. There were 8 crashes where rumble strips/stripes were not present.

Inclement weather or road conditions contributed to 1 vehicle crashes in March 2022, which resulted in 1 death.

The days of the week for fatal crashes in March 2022 were as follows:

Sunday	2 crashes
Monday	5 crashes
Tuesday	2 crashes
Wednesday	3 crashes
Thursday	1 crashes
Friday	2 crashes
Saturday	1 crashes

The times of day for fatal crashes in March 2022 were as follows:

12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.	1 crash
6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	9 crashes
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	2 crashes
6:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.	4 crashes

The Commission also heard the following statistics:

- 67 percent of those who died in rollover crashes were unbelted.
- 63 percent of those who died in multi-vehicle crashes were unbelted.
- 100 percent of those who died in fixed-object crashes were unbelted.
- 67 percent of the fatalities in 2022 were drivers.
- 17 percent of the fatalities in 2022 were passengers.
- 78 percent of the resident fatalities were unrestrained.
- 29 percent of non-resident fatalities were unrestrained.
- 28 percent of fatalities involved alcohol and/or drug impairment.

Retirement: Colonel Kebin Haller announced his retirement after 31 years of law enforcement, with his last official day being June 3, 2022. Colonel Haller expressed his appreciation to the Commission for their support throughout his tenure with the Highway Patrol. A formal retirement celebration will be held in May. The Commission thanked him for his years of service.

Staffing Levels: WHP leadership is optimistic that the recent increases in compensation will assist with recruitment levels. Currently, there are several vacancies in patrol, ports of entry, and dispatch.

10. Mr. Olsen presented the Aeronautics Report, beginning with the March 2022 Aeronautics Flight Operations Passenger Summary Report.

BIL Funding: WYDOT continues to work with the FAA and airports to add projects in to the Capital Improvement Plan, which would utilize formula funding from the BIL. The Aeronautics Commission approved several projects at their recent Commission meeting.

FY 2023 Budget: The Biden Administration recently released their proposed FY 2023 budget with regard to aviation. Mr. Olsen does not expect any significant changes from previous years.

Airport Updates: The weather station in Laramie was recently down, causing several commercial flights to be cancelled. However, all issues were fixed and commercial flights have resumed.

Construction bids have started to be received, and project costs are higher than in previous years but in line with engineer estimates. Two small projects did not receive any bids, and so Aeronautics will be working to remedy this.

The Jackson Hole airport will be closed until June 28<sup>th</sup> due to runway re-construction. The Evanston airport will be closed until September 8<sup>th</sup> for construction as well.

Air Service: Staffing continues to be an issue for airlines at all levels. Flight schedules are being restructured in particular due to the lack of pilots. Fuel price averages have almost doubled since 2021, also causing air service issues.

Quarterly earnings reports will be announced in the coming days, so overall cost effects on airlines will be able to be seen.

11. Mr. Rossetti presented the Support Services Report.

Employment Summary: WYDOT employed 1,807 personnel as of April 11, 2022, compared to 1,820 a month ago and 1,912 one year ago.

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

ETS: WYDOT and ETS are working together to monitor cybersecurity procedures and monitor potential malicious activity.

First Quarter WYDOT and ETS RIS/TIS Report: Mr. Babbitt presented the first quarter WYDOT and ETS RIS/TIS report, which was submitted to the Joint Appropriations Committee and Joint Transportation Committee.

RIS Replacement Update: Mr. Babbitt and Mr. Rossetti continue to work with Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) through the replacement process. A pre-solicitation virtual meeting was held April 5<sup>th</sup> to allow all vendors to ask questions regarding the project, and approximately 12 vendors attended.

WyoLink Update: Mr. Babbitt reported that there is ARPA funding in the amount of \$35 million for WyoLink updates. Priority of distribution is currently being discussed and it is anticipated that there may be a delay in fulfillment of orders due to supply chain issues.

Quantar to GTR Update: Eight of 18 locations have been upgraded at the present time. The remaining towers are expected to be completed as the weather improves.

911: The annual report to the Legislature is due June 30<sup>th</sup>, and Mr. Babbitt's office is currently working with local governments to gather all necessary information. Information gathered includes amount of calls and personnel as well as available technology.

Retirement: Mr. Babbitt announced that he will be retiring from the State of Wyoming, effective July 29<sup>th</sup>. The Commission thanked him for his years of service.

*Commission adjourned to lunch at 11:31 a.m.*

*Commission returned to public session at 1:33 p.m.*

*Commissioners Espy and Venable did not return to the meeting after the lunch break.*

13. May 2022 Commission Meeting: Secretary Casner advised that the May 2022 is currently scheduled to be held in person in Casper, in conjunction with the Wyoming Trucking Association annual meeting. A project tour will occur on May 11<sup>th</sup>, led by District 2 Engineer Mark Ayen, and the Commission meeting will be held on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

14A. Legislator Comments: State Representative Mark Baker and State Senator John Kolb shared remarks regarding the upcoming Joint Transportation Committee meetings, the June 2022 Transportation Commission meeting, open meetings, and the essential air service program funding shortfalls.

14B. Commissioner Comments: Commissioners Holmes and Hughes thanked Secretary Casner for arranging the Capitol tour. Commissioner Hughes asked Director Reiner for clarification on the plowing up to Cook City and its effect on tourism and snowmobile traffic. Commissioner Dolezal thanked Colonel Haller and Mr. Babbitt for their years of service.

14C. Wildlife Support Funding: Director Reiner presented to the Commission funding proposals that were presented Governor with input from the Game and Fish Commission. It has been the practice of WYDOT for several years to spend approximately \$2.5 million on wildlife efforts. Director Reiner proposed adding an additional \$12.5 million over five years to the amount expended in concert with other state agencies. Director Reiner detailed the funding allocations from each involved agency as well as discretionary grant applications. Director Reiner also explained that future projects will include wildlife crossing considerations before completion.

Commissioner Crank questioned if WYDOT has the ability to waive ICAP fees when working with other state and local agencies. Mr. Byrne advised that this is not possible due to an agreement WYDOT has with FHWA regarding fees.

Director Reiner also explained funding allocations from H03 for the Dry Piney project as well as the publishing of rules for expenditures from H03.

Commissioner Holmes addressed interagency Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) and expressed concern over the fact that engineering costs may not be shared with other agencies, which would be a deviation from other MOUs. Mr. Byrne advised that it is WYDOT's general practice to bill every portion of the project to the correct agencies.

Director Reiner advised that rules will begin to be drafted regarding expenditures from H03, including restrictions on using money for only construction as well as Commission approval processes for expenditures. Commissioner Crank expressed concern regarding the expenditure of monies from H03 for maintenance of wildlife crossings. Director Reiner stated that adding additional projects that will require maintenance in the future may negatively impact the budget and force reallocations of funding.

Chairman Schmidt referenced a previous presentation on migration patterns and wildlife structures by former Chief Engineer Shelby Carlson, and requested a similar presentation at a future meeting.

Commissioner Crank reminded the Commission of the \$10 million allocated by the Legislature for wildlife crossings, and inquired on grant application due dates. Director Reiner advised that the Governor's office and WYDOT are monitoring the application processes so that the final due date is not missed.

16. It was moved by Commissioner Crank, seconded by Commissioner Holmes, and carried to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Schmidt adjourned the meeting at 2:44 p.m., on Thursday, April 21, 2022.