

COMMISSIONER EXPRESSES DIFFICULTY IN GETTING BUSINESS ON MEETING AGENDA

By Assistant Publisher/Editor
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Following a prior discussion in which Weston County Commissioner Vera Huber raised an issue with being denied adding things to the agenda for County Commission meetings, Commissioner Don Taylor expressed the same concern on Tuesday, September 5th, during the most recent County Commissioners meeting.

Commissioner Taylor began the discussion by explaining he was contacted by an interested party out of Sheridan with a sales pitch for the County, and Commissioner Taylor informed the party that he'd need to come the County Commission meeting to present, since Commissioner Taylor couldn't make decisions without the whole governing body. Three weeks prior to the September 5th meeting, Commissioner Taylor requested that County Clerk Becky Hadlock add the discussion to the agenda for the upcoming meeting because Weston County Road & Bridge Foreman Jim Hansen was attending the meeting and the sales pitch concerned roadwork, but he explained was told "no" by the County Clerk.

Commissioner Taylor forwarded his email dialogue with the County Clerk to his fellow Commissioners, and he also sent it to Jeremiah Rieman, Executive Director of the Wyoming County Commissioners Association, and an individual out of Teton County who recently facilitated board trainings for the Commissions and other Weston County board members for their input on

County Clerk not allowing some Commissioners to add items to agendas for upcoming meetings.

According to Commissioner Taylor, Executive Director Rieman informed him that Clerk Hadlock could've given Commissioner Taylor more information on why the item couldn't be added to the agenda. "It's not the Clerk's or the Chair's position to deny adding things to the agenda," Commissioner Taylor stated.

Commissioner Huber explained, "The Chair is responsible for the agenda, how we use our time and what we talk about. The Clerk shouldn't be telling us we can't have something on the agenda." She continued, "It's just a concern we have. We'd like to hear from [Chairman Ed Wagoner]."

Chairman Wagoner thought the salesman should talk to Weston County Road & Bridge Foreman Jim Hansen prior to talking the County Commission, since it concerned roadwork.

"That's what I was trying to do," replied Commissioner Taylor, since Hansen was attending the September 5th meeting.

Vice Chairman Todd stated that he'd read the email chain between Commissioner Taylor and Clerk Hadlock. "I think there's some bad blood behind this. I see a poor path of communication, but nobody's really right or wrong." He continued, "You know, I don't recall this ever happening in the past with this board. I don't know if anyone's guilty in this, just that feathers got ruffled."

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