

## Nathan Todd Continues to Helm County Commission



*Nathan Todd (left) of Upton was once again elected Chairman of the Weston County Commission, unanimously. Ed Wagner (right) was again voted in as Vice-Chair.*

### By Assistant Publisher/Editor Nick Trandahl

By unanimous vote among his fellow Weston County Commissioners, Upton's Nathan Todd will continue on as Chairman of the Board of Weston County Commissioners for another calendar year. The nomination and vote for chairmanship of the County Commission was the first of a handful of items which took place on Tuesday, January 6th, the first Commission meeting of 2026.

Chairman Todd's nomination to continue as Chairman was made by Vice Chairman Ed Wagoner, and after Commissioner Marty Ertman closed the call for other nominations all Commissioners voted in favor of Todd retaining the chairmanship.

As for Vice Chair of the Weston County Commissioners, Commissioner Garrett Borton nominated Vice Chairman Wagoner to retain the vice chairmanship for the next calendar year. Again, Commissioner Ertman closed the call for further nominations, and the vote was unanimously in Vice Chairman Wagoner's favor.

With Chairman Todd and Vice Chairman Wagoner re-elected to their Commission leadership positions, the next business for the Commission's consideration were board appointments to a couple Weston County boards. Over the last several months, County boards have seen a steady surge of applicants wanting to volunteer to serve, and on Tuesday, letters of interest were received for the Weston County Solid Waste District and the Weston County Fair Board.

For the Weston County Solid Waste District Board, Craig Bruch submitted a letter of interest. Commissioner Ertman moved to appoint Bruch to the Board, and Commissioner Borton seconded. Vice Chairman Wagoner abstained due to conflict of interest because of his own position on the Weston County Solid Waste District Board. The Vice Chairman informed the rest of the Commission that Bruch's appointment was for an unexpired term on the Weston County Solid Waste District Board, which fills all the Board positions.

For the Weston County Fair Board, a letter of interest was submitted to the Commissioners by Joseph Tedder. "I'd like to invite Mr. Tedder for a conversation prior to the appointment," stated Commissioner Ertman.

Vice Chairman Wagoner agreed, and Commissioner Borton explained he'd also agree as long as the wait didn't inconvenience the Fair Board.

The final order of business to kick off a fresh County calendar year was the designation of the official newspaper of Weston County. Bids were received from both Weston County newspapers, the *Weston County Gazette* and the *News Letter Journal*. Chairman Todd opened both bids and explained that the sample legal submitted to both papers came in at \$369 for the *Weston County Gazette* and \$1,260 (after factoring in a 15% discount for local governments) for the *News Letter Journal*. The *Gazette* has given the County a 20% discount for many years.

The *News Letter Journal* didn't include their Statement of Ownership in their sealed bid, but the Commissioners allowed them to hand a copy over after the bid opening. The Commission also accepted items last year from the NLJ to be added to a closed bid.

"Both papers do a great job. We're lucky to have these papers. They serve their communities, and that's the issue. There's not a lot of crossover," remarked Commissioner Vera Huber. "It would be nice if we could switch between them every other year."

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