

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF
NIOBRARA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Tuesday, November 18, 2025
Commissioners' Office - Niobrara County Courthouse
424 S. Elm Street, Lusk, WY

The Niobrara Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. Those present were Chairman Patrick Wade, Vice-Chair Elaine Griffith, Commissioner Jeb Hanson, and County Clerk Becky L. Freeman.

Chairman Wade led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Road and Bridge- Foreman Fred Thomas met with the Commissioners and provided a departmental report.

He discussed the letter from the Office of State Lands and Investments (OSLI) regarding county roads which are on state or school trust lands for which there is no pre-existing grant of easement from OSLI. He said BenchMark of Torrington will assist the county with the estimated costs for preparing "as-built" surveys for the aforementioned county roads. This will assist the Office of State Lands and Investments comply with HEA 59, which was passed by the legislature in 2024. The letter also states that any "as-built" surveys needed will be developed at no cost to counties.

County Attorney- Attorney Anne Wasserburger joined the meeting and the group discussed the Manville Spur and bid packets for asbestos removal at the old jail.

She told the Commissioners that after further investigation, minutes should be taken during planning and zoning work sessions.

Old Jail- Leslie Stewart and Old Jail Steering Committee member Greg Starck met with the Commissioners and discussed bid documents for asbestos removal at the old jail. Commissioner Hanson mentioned a conversation he had with DEQ regarding the Brownsfield program. He was told there is a grant through the program that would pay for asbestos removal and possible lead remediation. The Commissioners will meet with DEQ representatives at their next meeting to gather more information.

Snow Removal- Vice-Chair Griffith discussed snow removal and is waiting to hear from a potential applicant.

Vice-Chair Griffith moved to send a letter to the Town of Lusk regarding the request for additional funding for dispatch operations. Commissioner Hanson seconded, and the motion carried.

Sheriff Randy Starkey met with the Commissioners to discuss the Power DMA program, which is a policy management software program that provides updates to current policies due to changing laws. He asked the Commissioners to consider this program and advocated for selecting the three-year plan with the first-year costing \$3,800.00, the second year \$5,347.00, and the third year \$5,910.00.

Commissioner Hanson moved to adopt the three-year plan for Power DMS. Vice-Chair Griffith seconded, and the motion carried.

Vice-Chair Griffith moved to approve the quote from Copier Connection for the Extension Office Copier to lease a copier for \$169.50 per month. Commissioner Hanson seconded, and the motion carried.

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Consent Agenda- Commissioner Hanson moved to approve the consent agenda. Vice-Chair Griffith seconded, and the motion carried. Items included on the consent agenda were the minutes of the November 4, 2025, meeting, receipts from the Sheriff for \$395.00, and a Petition of Affidavit for Reduction in Taxes for 1876 Resources, LLC. with a total tax reduction of \$1,096.96.


The Commissioners reviewed the proposal from Apex Energy Services, LLC., for the removal and replacement of the fairgrounds roof for the southeast portion of the auditorium. The Commissioners asked fair board member Ron Nelson to visit with Travis Miller and ask him to adjust his proposal to include the modification of the roof line.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

NIOBRARA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Patrick Wade, Chairman



Becky L. Freeman, County Clerk