

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS  
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING  
April 18, 2000

The Niobrara County Commissioners reconvened their regular meeting on Tuesday, April 18, 2000 at 9:00 AM in the Commissioners' Room at the Niobrara County Courthouse. Present were Chairman Donna I. Ruffing, Commissioners Richard L. James and Richard A. Ladwig and Secretary Billie Backhaus.

Minutes of April 4, 2000 were approved as presented.

Receipts for the month of March from Justice Court (\$1,001) and Clerk of Court (\$277.50) were acknowledged.

The following business was addressed:

Juvenile Justice - Ruffing reported that the grant application for funds for a Juvenile Justice Holding Facility must be submitted by May 1, 2000; however, the federal representative is not available to come to Lusk until June. In light of that fact and that attempts are being made to find a way to re-open the nursing home, the matter was tabled indefinitely.

Fire Safety Inspection - A letter to the State Fire Marshal's Office regarding steps taken to satisfy requirements was reviewed. Replacement of the door from the basement of the Courthouse to the Jail has been put out for bids to be opened May 2.

BLM - Bill Hill, Manager of the Newcastle Area BLM, updated the Commissioners on applications for permits to remove moss rock from BLM land, plans for university students to conduct a paleo dig this summer on BLM land, plans to apply for grants to address the Leafy Spurge problem along the Cheyenne River and DM&E Railroad.

VOCA - Michelle Burt, Coordinator of Victims of Crime Assistance for Niobrara County gave a presentation on how goals for VOCA are being met and reviewed with the Commissioners her mid-year report to the State. Deputy County Attorney Lowell Fitch reported on the effectiveness of the program from his perspective.

Change of Zoning - Neil and Kelli Holmes' application to change the zoning from Commercial to Single Family Residential on approximately 3 acres was addressed. Holmes met with Niobrara County Planning and Zoning Commission on April 11, 2000 and their recommendation to the Commissioners was that the Public Hearing be waived and Change of Zoning granted since the Holmes are simply moving the location of their residence. Pursuant to the completed application and Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendation, the Change of Zoning was granted.

Tax Cancellation - After discussion with Assessor Elaine Griffith, Cancellation Order #0646 to Glenn Edward Diaz for erroneous taxes in the amount of \$2,019.80 was approved and signed.

Extension Service - A letter to Glen Whipple, Director of Cooperative Extension Service, University of Wyoming regarding the Commissioners objections to the proposed Strategic Plan was approved and signed.

Sheriff's Department - Due to the over-payment issue, an attorney has been hired by the employees. The Commissioners will meet with the attorney and employees at a later date.

Other - \*Insurance coverage will be reviewed for the next meeting. \*KN Energy gas selection for the upcoming year was referred to Ladwig. \*Spring WCCA meeting in Buffalo was discussed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

NIOBRARA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

*Donna I. Ruffing*  
Donna I. Ruffing, Chairman

ATTEST:

*Suzanne R. Sturman*  
Suzanne R. Sturman, Clerk