

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING
April 4, 2000

The Niobrara County Commissioners met for their regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, April 4, 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 March 21 and March 28, 2000 were approved as presented.

Receipts for the month of February from the Clerk of Court (\$265) and for the month of March from the Clerk (\$2,016) and Sheriff (\$480) were acknowledged.

The following business was addressed:

Fire Safety Inspection - Lusk Fire Chief Ed Rapp and Kevin Dobson reviewed with the Commissioners requirements stemming from a fire safety inspection performed by the State Fire Marshal's Office. Most of the requirements have been met, some are in the planning stage, and clarification will be requested on others. Replacement of the door from the basement of the Courthouse to the Jail with a one hour rated fire door will be put out for bid.

Railroad - Brad Holmes, contracted by UPRR to work on easements, requested that the County amend a permanent easement granted in 1983. The railroad is requesting an additional half acre. Holmes reported that a survey has been completed but an accurate legal description is not yet available. Research will be conducted to identify the parcels in the 1983 Easement and Quit Claim Deed.

Road Crossing - County resident Neil Holmes presented the Commissioners with a petition to cross McMaster Road with a telephone line to go from his current residence to the site of his future residence near the salt plant. The petition was granted with the stipulation that the crossing is to be under the autogate rather than trenched across the road.

Road & Bridge - Complaints on various county roads were discussed. James reported that the County will begin getting roto-milled material from a construction project on Highway 85 on April 15. The Town of Van Tassell has requested the County's assistance in building up streets. County equipment and manpower will be used.

Juvenile Justice - Ruffing and James presented possible plans to convert a portion of the old nursing home into a juvenile holding facility to representatives from Platte, Goshen, Converse and Weston counties. Ruffing reported that Platte, Goshen and Converse representatives were enthusiastic and supportive. Weston representatives were in agreement that such a facility is needed but were concerned about cost.

911 - It was reported that the Town of Lusk approved \$50,000 for 2000-2001 for 911 and dispatch services. This represents a total reduction of \$20,000 over the past two years.

Public Health - A contract between Niobrara County and Wyoming Department of Health Division on Aging was approved and signed. The contract is for performing evaluations on medical eligibility for long-term care residents.

EXECUTIVE SESSION with County Attorney Doyle Davies and Deputy Clerk Becky Freeman - 2:35 - 3:45 PM.

Sheriff's Office - Sheriff Reed, Undersheriff Rick Zerbe, Dispatch Supervisor Bonnie Tousley, Detention Supervisor Lori Brillhart, Deputy Clerk Becky Freeman and County Attorney Doyle Davies met with the Commissioners regarding over-payment of salaries to employees in the various departments of the Sheriff's Office. Due to the difference in how hours and pay are computed for law enforcement employees, over-payment was received by several employees over the past eight (8) months.

James moved, seconded by Ladwig, that the County collect over-payments made to employees of the Sheriff's Department. Motion carried.

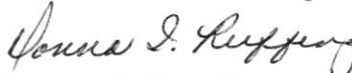
The Commissioners will meet with each affected employee individually to explain how the over-payment occurred and how repayment will be collected.

Other - *Property tax exemption for Wyoming Child and Family Development authorized by Assessor Elaine Griffith was noted. *Applications for three one-year scholarships to be given by the County Commissioners will be accepted through April 28.


Payroll and the following vouchers for the month of March 2000 were approved:

There being no further business, the meeting recessed to reconvene at 9:00 AM on April 18, 2000.

NIOBRARA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Donna I. Ruffing, Chairman

ATTEST:


Suzanne R. Sturman, Clerk