

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING
February 1, 2000

The Niobrara County Commissioners met for their regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, February 1, 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 January 18 and January 27, 2000 were approved.

Receipts for the month of December 1999 from the Clerk of Court (\$160) and for the month of January from the Clerk (\$2,739.75) and Sheriff (\$2,246) were acknowledged.

The following business was addressed:

County Attorney - Interim County Attorney Doyle Davies and Deputy County Attorney Lowell Fitch discussed with the Commissioners preparations for an office in the Courthouse, privacy issues and possible schedules.

BLM - Newcastle Area Manager Bill Hill presented an information packet and updated the Commissioners on pits, paleontological issues, the Resource Management Plan, DM&E Railroad, Thunder Basin National Grasslands and PILT payments. He advised that Karen Scruby has retired from the NNL and that her recommendation to Washington was that they "de-list" the Lance Creek NNL. He also reported that there will be no change to the \$1.35 AUM permits and no evaluation of grazing permits in Niobrara County this year; however, past evaluations will be monitored.

Unauthorized removal of surface rocks from private and BLM land south of Lance Creek was discussed.

Board of Equalization - Assessor Elaine Griffith presented for review a draft of rules and procedures for Niobrara County Board of Equalization. A special meeting of the Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, March 28, 2000 at 2:00 PM for the purpose of a Public Hearing to solicit comments and adopt the procedures. A copy of the proposed rules may be obtained from the County Clerk, County Assessor or Commissioners.

Emergency Management - Payment to Kester Akers of funds received from FEMA for Emergency Management volunteer hours during the October 1998 disaster was approved.

Weed and Pest - Ladwig moved, seconded by James to retract appointments to the Weed and Pest Board made on January 18, 2000. A misunderstanding of when the terms expired led to the error. Neil Holmes was appointed to fulfill Ron Pfister's term (to December 31, 2000) for Area I.

Department of Revenue - The following changes of valuation were acknowledged: Walter F. Kant (+61,621), Ensign Operating (+32,505), Central Resources (+21,469) and Boggy Creek Production (+70,605).

Sheriff's Dept. - Scheduling, vacation pay and sick pay were discussed. The Fast Cop program and funds received on the grant were reviewed

Forest Service - In response to Campbell County's request for a resolution regarding the Forest Service Resource Management Plan, Ruffing will write a letter of support.

Election Districts – The following Districts and Precincts for primary and general elections were approved:

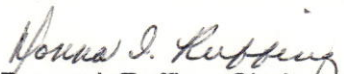
- 1-2 Warren – Rennard Building
- 3-2 Hat Creek – Hat Creek Club House
- 4-1 Lance Creek – Lance Creek School
- 6-1 North Lusk – First Baptist Church
- 6-2 South Lusk – Episcopal Church
- 7-1 Manville – Town Hall

Other - *Approval was granted for the county to pay for Assessor Elaine Griffith's Notary renewal. Any fees collected will go to the General Fund. *A letter from a concerned Niobrara County resident regarding sewage contamination near the rest area was acknowledged. *A letter requesting more information regarding the Pit Permit Report filed in November 1999 was reviewed. *Lusk State Bank and Community First Bank were approved as Depository Designations. *A Liquor Catering Permit for the Silver Dollar Bar for the Sportsman's Club Fun Night on February 4, 2000 at the fairgrounds was approved. *Information received from WCCA regarding SC CFM Fund distribution and the legislative session was reviewed. *Information on delinquent taxes and a report from Treasurer Teresa Poage were reviewed.


Payroll and the following vouchers for the month of January were approved:

There being no further business, the meeting recessed to reconvene on Tuesday, February 15, 2000.

NIOBRARA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Donna I. Ruffing, Chairman

ATTEST:


Suzanne R. Sturman, Clerk