

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING
May 2, 2000

The Niobrara County Commissioners met for their regular scheduled meeting on Tuesday, May 2, 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 18, 2000 were approved as presented.

Receipts for the month of April from the County Clerk (\$2,033.25) and Sheriff (\$1,294) were acknowledged.

The following business was addressed:

Disaster Declaration - Resolution 00-04, Disaster Declaration, dated April 27, 2000, relating to the power outage which resulted from the April 18 - 19 storm, was ratified.

Insurance - Coverage required and the list of equipment and facilities covered were reviewed. The insurance agent will be contacted with changes and corrections.

Road & Bridge - One (1) new full-time employee has been hired and the possibility of hiring an additional part-time employee was discussed.

The annual WY DOT bridge inspection report and resulting requirements were reviewed.

Complaints received regarding roads and requests for gravel were discussed.

A request for Road & Bridge employees to build corrals for the fairgrounds was denied and hauling sand to the arena was discussed.

Ed Cook advised the Commissioners that a volunteer has offered to keep the Mother Feather Legs monument area, which is located on a county road, cleaned up for the summer months.

CSBG Grant - Ruffing reported that, due to new federal requirements, Wyoming Child and Family Development will no longer be eligible to receive Niobrara County's Community Services Block Grant. In past years, the grant funds have been used by WCFD to help fund staff at the Head Start Program.

UPRR - Brad Holmes, contracted by UPRR to obtain railroad right-of-ways, presented the Commissioners with an option to purchase land owned by the county. The proposed purchase is for 4,568 square feet of land. Consensus was that an option to purchase allowing access and the right to make changes to the property is not acceptable to the County. Vacation of a platted street may also be required. These and other issues will be referred to County Attorney Doyle Davies for his recommendations.

Door Bid - One (1) bid was received from Peterson Construction. The bid was accepted and completion of the work will be requested prior to August 1.

Scholarships - Of the five (5) qualified applications received, three (3) were selected as recipients of the 2000-2001 County Commissioners Scholarships. First and second alternates were also chosen.

Delinquent Oil Taxes - The Commissioners approved an agreement with Cortney Rogers to operate two (2) wells in exchange for his paying the back taxes owed on oil well equipment and bringing his tax liability current.

Other - *Resignation of the Commissioners' Secretary, effective June 1, 2000, was accepted. *Ratified the selection of KN Energy's Market Capped Commercial Rate. *The following were noted - Notice of WY DOT's plans to conduct a county-by-county review of the State Highway System; resignation of two employees of the Sheriff's Department; Governor's list of vacancies on Boards and Commissions; Sublette County's resolution in

support of withdrawing the Thunder Basin EIS; and, Lincoln County's objections to Cooperative Extension Service's Strategic Plan.

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

There being no further business, the meeting recessed to reconvene on Tuesday, May 16, 2000.

NIOBRARA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Donna I. Ruffing
Donna I. Ruffing, Chairman

ATTEST:

Suzanne R. Sturman
Suzanne R. Sturman, Clerk