

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING
April 4, 2003

The Niobrara County Commissioners reconvened on April 4, 2003 to resume the meeting held April 1, 2003 in the Commissioners' Room at the Niobrara County Courthouse. Present were Chairman Donna I. Ruffing, Commissioners Richard A. Ladwig, Tom L. Wasserburger and County Clerk Becky L. Freeman.

The following business was conducted:

DEQ- A conference call was held with the Dept. of Environmental Quality and Cheyenne River property owners and other concerned individuals regarding Philips Petroleum and coal bed methane. Niobrara County is encouraging the DEQ to not issue a permit until additional information is received, and to take into consideration the current information and recommendations from the Niobrara Conservation District.

Benchmark- Met with Bob Taylor with Benchmark of Torrington by phone and discussed issues concerning the Silver Springs Road project. Those in attendance were landowners Andy Barnette and Harold Stroh. Road user Lee Denny and Road and Bridge foreman Brett Dockery were also present. Culverts and approaches were reviewed. Discussed were the need for an estimate on bidding, construction and administration and engineering costs.

County Museum- Wasserburger moved, seconded by Ladwig, to accept the deed from the Niobrara Historical Society for the museum property. **MOTION CARRIED.** Val Peterson, Delores Vollmer and Harold Stroh, all with the Niobrara Historical Society, and County Attorney Doyle Davies met with the commissioners to present this deed of transfer on the Stage Coach Museum property. The original deed was incorrectly transferred because it named the museum itself as grantee. The Historical Society transferred the property to the Board of County Commissioners so a Community Development Block Grant may be utilized for ADA compliance construction costs. The County will lease the property back to the historical society. Davies will work with the NHS and draw up a lease agreement with the county for the property.

County Empowerment- Kevin Baars gave a presentation on the Farm Bureau South East District meeting to be held in Torrington on April 24, 2003. The presentation will assist local county governmental entities to know what actions can be taken when dealing with federal agencies.

Planning and Zoning- Lee Campbell, Dean Nelson, and Tom Hamilton with Planning and Zoning and realtors Kerry Powers and Lee Denny were in attendance to discuss subdivisions and the need for accurate and complete plats when recording land transactions.

Necrology- Ladwig moved, seconded by Wasserburger, to contribute \$100.00 to the Samuel C. Reed Scholarship Memorial Fund. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Dispatch- Met with Under sheriff Rick L. Zerbe and dispatch supervisor Bonnie Tousley to discuss issues and concerns regarding the possible loss of two emergency phone lines currently dedicated to the Lusk Police Department. The Town of Lusk is proposing removal of these lines. Further information is needed on this matter.

Entered into executive session at 5:00 p.m. to discuss personnel issues. Reconvened the regularly scheduled meeting at 5:30 p.m.