

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING
February 4, 2003

The Niobrara County Commissioners met for their regularly scheduled meeting on February 4, 2003, at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room at the Niobrara County Courthouse. Present were Chairman Donna I. Ruffing, Commissioners Richard A. Ladwig, Tom L. Wasserburger and Becky Freeman, County Clerk.

Minutes of the January 21, 2003 meeting were approved as presented.

Receipts for the month of January from County Clerk (\$3,372.75) and County Sheriff (\$1,514.75) were acknowledged.

The following business was conducted:

Road & Bridge - Met with Brett Dockery regarding progress on the S-Bar Road and equipment.

Gravel Pit- Commissioner Ruffing stepped down as Chairman and addressed the commissioners as a landowner to discuss the progress of opening a gravel pit, which will be located on her property. After some discussion, Ruffing resumed her position as Chairman, and the meeting continued as scheduled.

Silver Springs Road- Met with Bob Taylor and Thomas Cobb of Benchmark of Torrington to review 2nd set of plans for Silver Springs road. Also in attendance were landowners and interested parties: Denise E. Smith, Andy Barnette, Harold Stroh, Larry & Don Bone, Royce Heine and Lee Denny. Issues addressed were placement of culverts, constructing and improving approaches and replacement of fences.

County Coroner- Wasserburger moved, seconded by Ladwig, to accept the resignation of Cary Gill as deputy county coroner effective January 31, 2003. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Hazard Mitigation Plan – Wasserburger moved, seconded by Ladwig to approve Resolution 03-05, The County's Hazard Mitigation Plan. **MOTION CARRIED**

County Attorney- Commissioners requested a review of the Nine One One, Inc. contract and the 911-surcharge fee.

Mid-Term Commissioner's Salary- At issue is whether or not the mid-term commissioner is allowed the January 1, 2002 salary rate. According to County Attorney Davies legal opinion, based on information contained in Wyoming State Statute 18-3-107 (d) and Article 3, Section 32 of the Wyoming State Constitution, that commissioner is not entitled. In view of this information, Ruffing requested the Commissioners make a motion regarding her salary, which had been budgeted. Wasserburger moved, seconded by Ladwig, to pay the mid-term Commissioner according to Wyoming Statute and Attorney Davies' opinion. Ruffing abstained from voting. **MOTION CARRIED.** Ruffing is voluntarily repaying the salary increase of \$511.67 reflected in her January check.

Elected Officials- Met with elected officials and discussed operations and upcoming events affecting their offices.

Holidays- The elected officials had requested 10.5 Holidays for calendar year 2003. This request is .5 days more than had been allowed in past years. Wasserburger moved, seconded by Ladwig to keep the holidays at ten. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Commissioners entered into executive session at 2:10 p.m. and reconvened at 2:15 p.m.