

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
NIORRARA COUNTY, WYOMING
December 7, 2004

The Niobrara County Commissioners met for their regularly scheduled meeting on December 7, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room of the Niobrara County Courthouse. Present were Chairman Donna I. Ruffing, Commissioners Richard A. Ladwig, Tom L. Wasserburger and County Clerk Becky L. Freeman.

Wasserburger moved, seconded by Ladwig, to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2004 meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Noted the following receipts for the month of November from the County Clerk for \$3,214.74 and from the Sheriff for \$29,361.92.

The following business was conducted:

Road & Bridge- Road and Bridge Foreman Fred Thomas met with the commissioners to discuss roads and equipment needs. Thomas submitted a quote on two belly dumps he received from Wyoming Machinery and the trade in value we would receive for the two belly dumps we currently own. After further discussion with John Stearns of Wyoming Machinery, it was agreed that the county would purchase two 2003 Load King belly dumps for \$17,000.00 each, take possession of them in January 2005 and pay for them in July of 2005.

Thomson Pit- Ruffing noted that the paperwork for Thomson gravel pit had been submitted to the Dept. of Environmental Equality but has not yet received any response.

Eagle Creek Pit- There was discussion on the DEQ's review of the reclamation of the Eagle Creek Pit. There was some concern that the areas in question belonged to Niobrara County. Ruffing will write a letter to Lowell Spackman with DEQ to discuss this issue. It was noted that Goshen County needed to be contacted about this matter as well.

SLIB Easements on North Lance Creek- The commissioners received a letter from SLIB stating that, to date, the easement process had not been completed. Ruffing will submit a letter stating that we are unable to obtain the required engineer certification due to the cost of having the survey done by a licensed engineer.

County Attorney- County Attorney Doyle J. Davies and Torrington attorney Ed Buchanan met with the commissioners to discuss the deputy county attorney position that was left vacant due to the passing of Lowell Fitch. Davies offered Buchanan the position beginning at \$3600.00 per month and Buchanan accepted the offer. He will begin in December 2004.

TruGreen ChemLawn- The commissioners decided not to sign the contract with TrueGreen ChemLawn for the upcoming year. It was noted that lawn maintenance and fertilizing is included in the maintenance contract with KD's Maintenance.

Dept. of Revenue Notice of Valuation Changes- Noted the following notice of valuation changes for Rendevous Resources Corp for \$1,732.98 and Merit Energy Co. \$94.80.

Liquor Permit- Wasserburger moved, seconded by Ladwig, to approve the liquor permit for the Gary Scott wedding reception being held at the Fairgrounds on December 11, 2004. The permit will be issued for toasting with champagne only as long as he purchases a liquor permit, and provides a copy of his homeowners insurance. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The commissioners adjourned the regular meeting at 11:00 a.m. for a Public Hearing on the Pronghorn Bar Retail Liquor License Renewal. The regular meeting reconvened at 11:08 a.m.

Liquor License Renewal- Ladwig moved, Wasserburger seconded, to approve the renewal application for a retail liquor license for Rex Groves, DBA Pronghorn Bar. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Cancellation of Tax - The commissioners noted and approved a cancellation of tax for Verizon Wireless, cancellation numbers 00695 for \$1,009.74 tax roll 2001, # 696 for \$1,443.61 tax roll 2002,

#00697 for \$2,160.09 tax roll 2003, and \$9,215.28 # 00698 tax roll 2004. Also noted and approved cancellation of taxes for Marilyn Lou Schuman Wertheimer cancellation # 00699 for \$39.94 and Jack Crosby Schuman et al cancellation # 00700 for \$39.94.

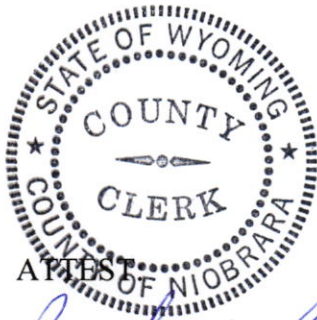
Contract for Sheriff's Office. - Reviewed a contract for Randy Starkey to attend the Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy in January 2005. Ladwig moved, seconded by Wasserburger, to approve the contract with the Sheriff's Office and Randy Starkey. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Elected Officials & Dept. Heads- Met with elected officials and department heads to discuss various county issues. The commissioners reviewed and approved the proposed holidays for 2005.

County Sheriff- County Sheriff Rick L. Zerbe met with the commissioners and discussed the vehicle that was damaged back in May. There are still some mechanical issues Zerbe feels that need to be addressed before he releases it for use. Zerbe also discussed door board problems in detention and submitted an estimate to repair the control panels. Ruffing suggested that Zerbe accept the bid and use money from unfilled employee positions to cover the cost. Ruffing also gave Zerbe a draft Memorandum of Understanding for law enforcement with the city for his review.

Payroll and the following vouchers were approved for payment:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be held December 21 2004 in the Commissioners room of the Niobrara County Courthouse.



NIORARA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Donna I. Ruffing

Donna I. Ruffing, Chairman

Becky L. Freeman
Becky L. Freeman, Clerk