

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING
November 16, 2004

The Niobrara County Commissioners reconvened their regularly scheduled meeting on November 16, 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 2, 2004 meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Noted the following receipts for the month of October from the Clerk of District Court for \$275.72.

The following business was conducted:

Road & Bridge- Met with Road and Bridge Foreman Fred Thomas, Assessor Elaine Griffith, and Road Indexer Cheryl Lund to discuss the revision of some rural mailing addresses. It appears that some residents have an address on one road when they actually reside on another road. The purpose of the meeting was to inform the commissioners of their concern and correct the problem.

Lowell Spackman with the Dept. of Environmental Quality, Land Quality Division, contacted Thomas regarding the Silver Springs Road reseeding project. Spackman noted an area that was not reseeded, however that area falls in Goshen County's permit and they should be contacted regarding this issue.

Thomas also discussed roads, equipment breakdowns, and vehicles to be advertised for sale.

County Attorney- County Attorney Doyle J. Davies met with the Commissioners and reviewed old business including the Manville Spur and a Red Cross Provider Agreement. Davies also discussed the vacancy in the deputy county attorney position due to the passing of Lowell Fitch and options available to fill this vacancy.

Divide Road- Kevin & Ken Gaukel met with the Commissioners to discuss the maintenance of Divide Road. The Gaukels were concerned about the maintenance of the road in the winter and controlling the weeds and deer problems. In the past, the Gaukels have hayed the shoulders to alleviate the deer problem and have disked the edges to control the weed problem and bladed the road in the winter when needed. Since a letter was sent by the commissioners to the Gaukels asking that they refrain from any sort of maintenance, i.e. haying, disking, etc. on the road, the Gaukels are concerned about these problems.

BLM Field Manager- Met with Bob Ross the newly appointed field manager for the BLM and Leslie Collins, public relations officer for the BLM. Ross gave a short synopsis to the commissioners of his background, views, and concerns.

Museum Cement- Contractor Roger Peterson discussed the museum cement and agreed that it is cracking. Peterson suggested waiting until spring to begin any repairs, and that the work will be under warranty. The commissioners recommended that the acknowledgement be submitted in writing.

County Sheriff- Sheriff Rick L. Zerbe met with the commissioners to discuss the Red Cross Agreement. There are individuals that currently instruct CPR classes. Zerbe and Ruffing felt it would not be beneficial to the county to join into this contract since we already have the service provided to us at a reasonable cost. The contract will be returned with a brief explanation as to why it was not signed. Zerbe also discussed new quotes he received on installing a 35kw generator. There was also discussion regarding repairing the 90 kw generator the county currently owns and selling it. Zerbe was advised to get the old generator repaired, load tested, and paperwork

completed in order to sell it. Zerbe also addressed the inmate commissary account. Currently there is a non-selling overstock of inventory for the commissary. Zerbe would like to use Swanson Services, a company that provides a commissary program, to prevent future overstock problems. The program would be paid for by income generated from commissary sales by the inmates. Zerbe was authorized to purchase the commissary program.

Nine One One Inc Contract- There was discussion as to the benefit of this contract based on how much Nine One One Inc. is actually called to assist dispatch with any equipment problems. Ladwig thought it would be a good idea to have this contract in place since there will be new equipment installed in dispatch. Ladwig moved, Ruffing seconded, to renew the contract with Nine One One, Inc. **MOTION CARRIED**

Detention Contract - Reviewed a contract for Natalie Clark to attend the Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy. Wasserburger moved, seconded by Ladwig, to approve the contract with the Sheriffs Office for Natalie Clark to attend the Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The Commissioners entered into executive session at 2:19 p.m. to discuss personnel issues and reconvened the regular session at 2:25 p.m.

TANF Grant- Lynn Carlson, TANF Grant administrator, presented information on the TANF Grant the county received. Carlson was also asked to be a part time coordinator for the after school program. Carlson asked the commissioners for administrative fees for \$7,200.00. Ruffing suggested the fees be split 70/30 between Carlson and Niobrara County. Ruffing moved, seconded by Wasserburger, that the TANF administrative funds be divided as 70 % to grant coordinator and 30% to the county. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Cancellation of Tax - The commissioners noted and approved a cancellation of tax for Summit Funding Group, Inc. cancellation number 694 for \$29.55.

Wyoming Community Gas- Ladwig moved, seconded by Wasserburger to sign the natural gas management agreement with Wyoming Community Gas for the 2005-2006 year. **MOTION CARRIED.**

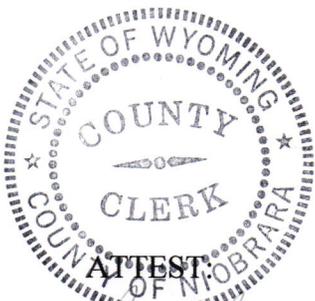
Board of Equalization- The commissioners noted an Order of Dismissal from the Board of Equalization for VAW, LLC. due to the parties resolution of the dispute of the appeal.

Ratify Liquor Permit for the Pub, LLC. - Wasserburger moved, seconded by Ladwig to ratify a liquor permit for the Pub, LLC. to serve alcoholic beverages for the NRA banquet which was held on November 13, 2004 at the fairgrounds. **MOTION CARRIED.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be held December 7, 2004 in the Commissioners room of the Niobrara County Courthouse.

NIOBRARA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Donna I. Ruffing
Donna I. Ruffing, Chairman



ATTEST:
Becky L. Freeman
Becky L. Freeman, Clerk