

**COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING
March 1, 2005**

The Niobrara County Commissioners met for their regularly scheduled meeting on March 1, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room of the Niobrara County Courthouse. Present were Chairman Tom L. Wasserburger, Commissioners Richard A. Ladwig, Ronson B. Pfister and County Clerk Becky L. Freeman.

The Commissioners acknowledged the following receipts for the month of February from the County Clerk for \$2,610.25 and from the Sheriff for \$10,072.73.

Pfister moved, seconded by Ladwig, to approve the minutes of the February 15, 2005 meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The following business was conducted:

Road & Bridge- Met with Road and Bridge Foreman Fred Thomas, WYDOT Resident Engineer Terry Craig, WYDOT District Engineer Jack Bell & WYDOT District Construction Engineer Lowell Fleenor to discuss the possibility of the county opening the Ruffing Pit early & issues on 28 Road and Ridge Road and the intersection of Hiway 270.

28 Road- The original opening date of the Ruffing Pit was 2004 however, due to budget restraints, the State has had to delay opening of the pit until 2006-2007. The county wanted to open the pit now so they could obtain gravel to begin work on 28 Road. It appears however, that it would be a significant cost to the county to obtain required permits and prepare roads before the crushing even begins. There was discussion about obtaining gravel from the Manville Quarry and hauling it long distance. The Commissioners tabled this issue until WYDOT confirms their funding availability which is anticipated to occur in April.

28 Road, Ridge Road & HWY 270 Approach- There was discussion about sharing the cost with WYDOT to realign the approach of 28 Road and Ridge Road with HWY 270. WYDOT has hired a consultant to begin design work on the project. His estimates for the project were \$180,000. WYDOT engineer Terry Craig estimated \$140,000 to complete the project. The cost breakdown would be \$70,000 for the County and \$70,000 for the State.

Ladwig moved, seconded by Pfister, to agree to work with WYDOT to realign the intersection of 28 Road & Ridge Road with HWY 270 and pay up to 50% of the cost. **MOTION CARRIED.**

County Attorney- The Commissioners and County Attorney reviewed a letter, copy of a resolution, and corresponding statute from Platte County Attorney Eric Alden requesting the Commissioners of Niobrara, Goshen and Converse Counties adopt a resolution to create an office of District Attorney in the Eight Judicial District. This office would handle criminal prosecutions in all four counties at the state's expense. The Commissioners tabled this item until further notice.

North Lance Creek Easement- There was continued discussion as to the status of the easement for North Lance Creek Road. Upon review of a letter submitted by the