

**COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING
APRIL 18, 2006**

The Niobrara County Commissioners reconvened for their regularly scheduled meeting on April 18, 2006 at 9:05 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.

Road & Bridge- The Commissioners discussed the gravel crushing project and equipment. The Commissioners received information from WYDOT on the off-system Bridge Inspection. They will discuss this further with the Road & Bridge Foreman at the next meeting. The Commissioners also discussed the public hearing that was held April 17, 2006 pertaining to the proposed relocation of the port of entry. Pfister will draft a letter to WYDOT asking them to meet with the Commissioners to keep them informed of the status of the project.

Minutes- Ladwig moved, seconded by Pfister, to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2006 meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Clerk of Court- Linda Foshier met with the Commissioners to request that money budgeted for construction of a public access window in the FY 05-06 budget be carried over into the next budget cycle because the contractor won't be able to begin construction until June. The Commissioners stated they should be able to reallocate the money in the FY 06-07 budget.

Wasserburger left the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Rebate of Taxes- The Commissioners acknowledged a Petition of Affidavit for Rebate of Taxes for JP Oil Company, Inc. for \$70.83 from the 2004 tax rolls, order number 278.

Cancellation of Tax Order- The Commissioners acknowledged a Petition of Affidavit for Cancellation of Taxes for JP Oil Company, Inc. for \$144.19 from the 2005 tax rolls, order number 713.

Wasserburger rejoined the meeting at 10:17 a.m.

Maintenance Contract- The Commissioners discussed the existing maintenance contract. The contract is to be reviewed every two years for either renewal or submitted for bid. They asked that each building that is covered under this contract submit the top two issues that need addressed and the Commissioners will discuss them at the next meeting with the elected officials and department heads.

County Assessor- Elaine Griffith met with the Commissioners to discuss her budget. Griffith noted that the Dept. of Revenue had received a one-time appropriation of \$600,000 to help defray costs from the implementation of the CAMA system. Each county will receive \$10,000 after July 1, 2006 with the balance of the funds being distributed based on need and justification of those needs. In Niobrara County, a portion of this funding will be applied to salaries for temporary part time help with the balance to assist with training and equipment expenses. With this in mind, Griffith asked if she could hire two temporary part time employees for May and June of this year to assist in field inspections and updates of property. The Commissioners authorized Griffith to hire additional help for the months of May and June of 2006.

Niobrara Conservation District Cooperative Agreement- Pfister moved, seconded by Ladwig, to ratify the Niobrara Conservation District Cooperative Agreement between the Niobrara Conservation District (NCD), the Niobrara County Commissioners (NCC), and the Niobrara County Library Board of Trustees (NCL) for the implementation of Community

Enhancement Program Grants. **MOTION CARRIED.** The NCD will provide the NCL with up to \$1,000 towards enhancements for the North side of the Library.

Office of Homeland Security- The Commissioners reviewed the notice of rule filing of Wyoming Emergency Response Rules and the notice of intent to adopt new rules for the Wyoming Emergency Response Equipment Fee Rules.

Commissioners' Scholarships- The Commissioners received eleven (11) scholarship applications for the Commissioners' Scholarship. After much review, the following students were selected as recipients by unanimous vote: Lindsey Serres, Andrew Smyth, and Jeff Lang. The first alternate was Jonna Langston and the second alternate was Tessa Huizenga. Due to the implementation of the Hathaway Scholarship program, this scholarship now provides \$500 per semester (\$1,000 for the academic year) whereas previously it provided mandatory fees and tuition at any Wyoming institution of higher learning.

The Commissioners wanted to note that these were excellent applicants and it made choosing just three a difficult decision.

County Attorney- Doyle J. Davies met with the Commissioners and had ongoing discussions about Qwest and the gravel-crushing project. Davies and the Commissioners reviewed a letter from Benchmark of Torrington pertaining to the crushing project. Action on this letter was tabled until the next meeting.

Indigent Burial- There was continued discussion on what kind of policy the county will establish concerning indigent burials. Pfister gathered some information from other counties and Freeman will contact additional clerks about their policies and funding allotments.

November Commissioner Meeting- Pfister moved, seconded by Ladwig, to move the November 7, 2006 meeting to November 2, 2006 due to the General Election. **MOTION CARRIED.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting will be May 2, 2006 in the Commissioners' Room.

NIOBRARA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Tom L. Wasserburger, Chairman

Attest:



Becky L. Freeman, County Clerk