

**COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING
December 5, 2006**

The Niobrara County Commissioners Meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m. on December 5, 2006. Present were Commissioner Chairman Tom L. Wasserburger, Commissioners Richard A. Ladwig, Ronson B. Pfister, and County Clerk Becky L. Freeman.

Hospital District- Hospital District Board Chairman Mel ZumBrunnen and Hospital Administrator Robert Brummond met with the Commissioners to discuss the possibility of transferring the Hospital buildings owned by the county, to the District. After some discussion, it was decided to delay this request because the District will be participating in a strategic planning event. They will review the option of transferring the property later.

Road & Bridge- Foreman Fred Thomas met with the Commissioners and discussed roads, easements, pits and the gravel-crushing project. Thomas noted that he had been contacted by individuals concerned about the conditions of their roads due to extensive heavy truck traffic. Thomas informed the Commissioners that the roads are on the list for repairs. Thomas also discussed the gravel pit road and conversation he had with WYDOT regarding the condition of the road. WYDOT wanted the county to place a 24' top on the road but the road currently meets county road standards so no additional product will be added by the county. They also discussed culverts and Thomas said he could extend one culvert and add an 18" culvert in the road but no further improvements will be added at the county's expense.

County Attorney- County Attorney Doyle J. Davies met with the Commissioners and discussed county business. Davies discussed a letter he received from the Attorney General's Office regarding the termination of parental rights. The letter advised him that in order for the Office of the Attorney General to pursue the termination of parental rights, they must receive a written request from the County Attorney and be appointed as a Special Assistant County Attorney.

RESOLUTION 06-14- Ladwig moved, seconded by Pfister, to approve **RESOLUTION 06-14-Appointment of Dan S. Wilde, Senior Assistant Attorney General and Jill E. Kucera, of the Attorney General's Office as Special Assistant County Attorneys for the purpose of pursuing the termination of parental rights in Juvenile Action # J3-012 and Civil Action # 17-83 as requested by the Department of Family Services. MOTION CARRIED**

Minutes- Ladwig moved, seconded by Pfister, to approve the Minutes of the November 21, 2006 meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

County Treasurer-Keri Thompson met with the Commissioners to discuss issues that the auditors found during the annual county audit. There is an outstanding balance of approximately \$21,000 for the SLIB Hospital Grant. Keri has tracked every transaction with the grant and it appears that the Hospital District owes the county for invoices paid out by the county. She will discuss this matter with Hospital District Chairman Mel ZumBrunnen. There is also an outstanding balance of \$8500 from an economic development loan made to Lane Johnson by the County. To date, the county has not been able to collect on this loan. The auditors would like these balances either written off or reconciled with the entities and individuals as soon as possible.

The Commissioners acknowledged the following receipts for the month of November from the County Clerk- \$3,614.25 and from the Sheriff for \$15,128.16.

Homeland Security- Ladwig moved, seconded by Pfister, to approve the LEPC Grant for Niobrara County for \$1485.79 ending September 30, 2007. **MOTION CARRIED.**

RESOLUTION 06-15- Pfister moved, seconded by Ladwig, to approve **RESOLUTION 06-15 -A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE WYOMING DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE FY 2007 CONGESTION MITIGATION AIR QUALITY (CMAQ) PROJECT GRANT A/K/A DUST SUPPRESSION. MOTION CARRIED.**

Homeland Security Grant Administrator-Pete Pier submitted his resignation as Homeland Security Grant Administrator effective January 2, 2007 due to increased business responsibilities. Pier suggested John Eddy as his replacement. The Commissioners accepted his resignation and took his recommendation under advisement.

Steve Elledge with Wyoming Business Council met with the Commissioners and Mayor Pier to discuss economic development in Niobrara County. Elledge suggested that the city and county review their strategic plans and try to develop an economic use plan. He also suggested that NEWEDC be contacted to assist in the grant-writing process.

Ladwig left the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

Elected Officials and Department Heads- Rick Zerbe, Keri Thompson, Denise E. Smith, Linda Fosher and Becky Freeman met with the Commissioners to discuss county business.

Extension Office/University of Wyoming- Denise E. Smith and Tammy Jensen met with the Commissioners to request their approval to be a pilot county for a University of Wyoming car. The University would issue them a credit card for maintenance, gas, tires, etc. The extension office would submit a voucher to the University for .40/mile for gas used for county programs. They would be required to complete a UW defensive driving class. They will pick up the car after the first of the year. The car is a 2006 Ford Taurus with 20,000 miles. The Commissioners granted their approval.

Dept. of Corrections- Department of Corrections Correctional Education Program Manager and State Industries Manager Bill Carter, WWC Assistant Warden Martha Buchanan and Randy Basden met with the Commissioners to discuss rehabilitation programs they have in mind for inmates reentering the workforce. One aspect they would like to try is to train inmates in the use of heavy equipment. The program does not have funding to purchase equipment to use in training so they would like to coordinate with the County and other entities to try to implement this program. The Commissioners in attendance were not opposed to this program but suggested contacting Road and Bridge Foreman Fred Thomas to gather his input and coordinate the project with him. There are still logistics to work out before the plan can be implemented.

Library - Pat Bruch, Leslie Hammond, and Debbie Sturman met with the Commissioners to discuss upcoming Legislative issues for 2007, in particular they are asking for the Commissioner's support of an endowment bill to come before the legislature. This bill would change the structure of matches from the state. Niobrara County would fall under a 3 to 1 tier meaning for every dollar the library raises, the state would match \$3. The board presented a resolution they would like the Commissioners to adopt.

Resolution 06-16- Pfister moved, seconded by Wasserburger, to approve **Resolution 06-16 WYOMING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION'S LIBRARY ENDOWMENT BILL. MOTION CARRIED.** They also submitted a letter that they would like the Commissioners to sign and forward on to WCCA expressing the Commissioners support of the endowment challenge match.

Insurance Claim Reports- County Clerk Freeman presented reports she received from McClarens Young International, underwriters for the county's property insurance provider. The

reports suggested that there was some damage to the courthouse roof, but most damage resulted from lack of maintenance. Wasserburger disagreed with the reports submitted and felt the insurance should pay more. Pfister stated he would investigate further.

Payroll and the following vouchers were approved for payment: November 2006 Payroll- 60892.99; Lusk State Bank- Employer's tax- 16163.71; Aflac- Employee Pd. Ins.- 356.34; Allbright's True Value- Supplies, repairs, maintenance- 638.72; Avaya Communication- Phones- 70.04; Bob Barker Co.- supplies- 587.16; Body Builders Body Shop- New equipment & vehicle repairs- 2671.16; Dept. of A & I- Computer expense- 254.82; Decker's Foods- Supplies, inmate meals & med- 465.94; Deluxe Business Checks- Supplies- 591.80; Fresh Start Convenience- Fuel- 2896.47; Gall's Inc.- Supplies, new equip.- 1274.53; Hiway Brake & Alignment- Vehicle repairs- 723.64; Herren Bros.- Materials- 1407.77; Hiway Super Service- Tire - 1425.00; Jordan Automotive- Vehicle repairs- 3741.11; Kinder Morgan, Inc.- Utilities- 1857.93; Matthew Bender & Co.- Law library- 44.90; Lichen Research Center- Computer expense- 250.00; Loyal American Life- Employee pd. Ins.-40.76; Lusk Herald- Publications- 485.10; Niobrara County Sheriff's Office- Postage, supplies- 83.21; Niobrara Electric Association- radio tower, maintenance-248.26; Office Depot- New equipment, supplies- 1805.28; Orchard Trust- Deferred Comp.- 11350.00; Plainsman Printing- Supplies- 378.65; Qwest- Phones- 2190.55; Sperry Drug- Supplies- 117.00; Torrington Office Supply- Supplies- 406.51; Town of Lusk- Utilities- 1809.95; USP Communications- phones- 224.18; Valley Motor Supply- Parts- 483.54; Verizon Wireless- Cell phones- 237.51; Visa- Supplies, uniforms, equipment, travel, postage- 1261.75; Walt's Lathe & Machine- repairs, parts, oxygen tanks- 1145.56; Whitaker Oil, Inc.- Inmate meals- 14.32; FedEx- Postage- 24.85; Pro-Ware- Software upgrade- 275.00; Becky Freeman- Mileage, new equipment- 150.39; Niobrara County Clerk- Postage, easement recording fees- 84.39; Niobrara County Treasurer- Supplies, Postage- 188.38; Elaine Griffith- Travel expense- 180.67; Andy Martin- Travel expense- 24.71; Citicorp Vendor Finance- Copier- 122.00; Connecting Point Computer- Copiers- 295.83; Fremont County Seminars- Schools- 85.00; Kinsco, LLC.- Uniforms- 54.87; Lusk Mini Storage- Storage unit- 45.00; Public Agency Training Co.- Schools- 990.00; Doyle J. Davies- Office expenses- 830.00; Niobrara County Hospital District- 1 % option tax- 14967.96; Regional West Medical Center- Autopsy- 776.15; Tammie Jensen- Travel expense- 158.42; Denise E. Smith- Travel expense- 547.35; Diane Tadewald- Mileage- 71.20; Niobrara Clerk of District Court- Postage - 62.62; Herbert Doby- Court appointed attorney- 56.25; Jerry Smith- Court appointed attorney- 221.25; Dennis C. Meier- Oct & Nov office expense- 1200.00; Black Hills Chemical Co.- Supplies- 1078.85; K-D Maintenance Service- Maintenance contract & reimburse for supplies- 9,934.99; Schindler Elevator Corp.- Maintenance- 760.20; Team Laboratory Chemical- Supplies- 1087.88; Valley Plumbing & Heating- Maintenance- 1012.78; Robert L. Zerbe- Maintenance- 607.50; AlSCO- Shop towels & coveralls- 167.64; Bartow Oil Co.- Diesel- 5890.85; Concrete Construction Inc.- Auto gate blocks- 2800.00; Fraiser's Welding- Auto gates- 13000.00; Gene's Equipment- Parts- 851.00; Lawson Products, Inc.- Parts- 132.31; Mobile Concrete, Inc.- Gravel & crushing project- 101279.31; Peterbilt of Wyoming- Parts- 3728.90; Roscoe Steel & Culvert Co.- Culverts- 5933.25; Wyoming Machinery Equipment payment & parts- 78525.29; Kester Akers- ½ internet & phone- 39.49; Mickrotek Solutions- 644.00; Denise Baars- Election judge- 77.89; Connie Baker- Election judge- 80.81; Carmen Boussu- Canvass board- 7.73; Jackie Bredthauer- Election judge- 80.81; Marci Bruegger- Counting board- 25.64; Michelle Burt- Counting Board- 21.89; Linda Cummings- Election judge- 82.10; Vivian Fahy- Election judge- 72.10; Jacqueline Frye-

counting board- 28.33; Julieann Greenough- Election judge- 82.10; Tinnette Hales- Election judge- 92.10; Sheri Hester- Election Judge- 93.23; Linda Kane- Election judge, mileage- 133.93; Carol Kilmer- Counting board-19.31; Jennifer Kottwitz- Election judge, mileage- 113.02; Larree Ann Kraft- Election judge, mileage- 101.00; Shirlee Lambert- Election judge- 80.81; Joe Ellen Landkamer- Election judge, mileage- 113.06; Kathy Larson- Election judge- 70.81; Beverly Miller- Election judge- 90.81; Dawn Otten- Counting board- 15.45; Vivian Rennard- General election use- 25.00; Vickie Scott- Election judge- 82.10; Carmen Shane- Election judge, mileage- 88.33; Janette Starck- Counting board- 16.74; Kristen Stauffer- Election judge- 82.10; Frances Tschacher- Election judge- 72.10; Sean Wasserburger- Election judge- 80.81; 3 Sister's Truck Stop- Election judges meals- 19.05; Congregational Church- Primary & general election- 200.00; First Baptist Church- Primary & general election- 100.00; Hat Creek Community Club- Primary & general election- 100.00; Niobrara Senior Center- Rent- 450.00; Jeane Stratton- Ancillary Support- 56.96; Wyoming Dept. of Health- Co share of P.H. nurse salary 1st qtr- 2678.60; Xerox Corp.- Copier- 303.94; Benchmark of Torrington- Engineering fees- 182.50; Buck's Café- Election judge & spark program meals- 106.88; Cheyenne Recreation Division- Spark program- 270.00; Decker's foods- spark program- 15.96; Eastern Wyoming College Bookstore- CNA Books- 46.28; Alisha Frye- reimburse for spark program supplies- 6.67; James A. Eddington, P.C.- Guardian ad Litem- 602.66; H. Rick Hollon- Guardian ad Litem- 3357.70; Cabela's Mktg & Brand mgmt- Citizen Corp supplies- 1120.42; Niobrara County Search & Rescue- Reimburse for supplies- 360.00; A T & T- phones- 23.54; Dan Hart Patrol Service- Balance of retainage- 32658.26

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

NIOBRARA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Tom L. Wasserburger, Chairman

Attest:



Becky L. Freeman, Clerk