

**COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING
February 7, 2006**

The Niobrara County Commissioners met for their regularly scheduled meeting on February 7, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room of the Niobrara County Courthouse. Present were Commissioners Tom L. Wasserburger, Richard A. Ladwig, and County Clerk Becky L. Freeman. Commissioner Pfister was unable to attend.

Sandy Richardson met with the Commissioners to discuss purchasing the old shower in the basement. The shower was originally located in the old jail. She would make it functional and place it in one of their buildings at Node. The Commissioners decided to keep it at the courthouse or donate it to the museum.

Road & Bridge- Met with Road & Bridge Foreman Fred Thomas and discussed equipment, repairs, roads, and the crushing project. Thomas informed the board that loader had arrived and there will be a trainer to instruct everyone on the use of the machine. Thomas advised the board that mobile radios were needed for the blades and two trucks.

Thomas also advised the board that a towrope had been stolen from the blade located out at N. Jireh Rd. Thomas has filed a report with the Sheriff's Office

Mobile Concrete- Art Boatright met with the Commissioners to update them on the status of the rock-crushing project. Boatright noted that they would not have enough room at the quarry to stockpile the county's gravel so Mobile needs to look for alternate locations. He also wanted to request a contract extension for the rock-crushing project. At this point, due to unforeseen circumstances that delayed the start of the project, Boatright stated that he would not be able to meet the March 15, 2006 deadline to have all of the rock crushed. He would like to stay at the quarry for the rest of the year with their equipment. He suggested trading work, such as assisting the county in blading roads, in lieu of paying penalty fees. After some discussion, Wasserburger thought that the contract should remain as is, the penalties assessed, and any work Mobile Concrete does for the County should be billed out.

County Attorney- The Commissioners met with County Attorney Doyle J. Davies and discussed County business. Davies discussed executive session minutes and how they are taken.

Davies also discussed the countywide no smoking ban proposal presented by Commissioner Wasserburger at the last meeting. Davies informed the board that the county does not have any enforcement authority regarding this issue. The county is governed by state statutes to enforce laws.

Minutes- Ladwig moved, seconded by Wasserburger, to approve the Minutes of the January 17, 2006 meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Receipts- Acknowledged the following receipts for the month of January from the County Clerk for \$4,099.75, the Sheriff for \$25,356.26, and the Clerk of District Court- \$275.98.

WCCA Legislative Meeting- The Wyoming County Commissioners Association will be meeting in Cheyenne, WY on Feb. 22-23, 2006 to discuss Legislative issues.

Dept. of Revenue-Acknowledged receipt of a letter from the Dept. of Revenue indicating that the five special districts in Niobrara County comply with state statutes requirements.

Board of Equalization- The Commissioners acknowledged receipt of a letter regarding a Hearing Order in the matter of the appeal of DNR Oil & Gas. The hearing date commences May 16, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. at the Herschler building in Cheyenne, WY and continues as necessary through May 17, 2006.

Wyoming Community Development Association (WCDA)-The Commissioners acknowledged a memorandum from the WCDA announcing its availability of funds under the 2006 Community Development Block Grant Program. (CDBG), the 2005-2006 Community Pride and Revitalization Program (CPR), the 2006 HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), and the Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program (LIHTC).

Xerox Copier Lease- County Clerk Becky Freeman presented a quote from the Xerox Corp. to lease a new Xerox copier. The County's current copier lease expires in May and the lease price is lower if the county enters into a new lease before February 15, 2006. The Commissioners authorized Freeman to proceed as necessary to procure a new copier.

Bond & Oath- Ladwig moved, second by Wasserburger, to approve the Official Bond & Oath for Mike Carlson as Treasurer of the Niobrara County Hospital District.

MOTION CARRIED.

Dept. of Revenue- Acknowledged a Notice of Valuation change for Asher Association Inc. for production year 2003 for \$1,685.58.

Board of Equalization- Acknowledged a revised calendar of budgeting, assessment and taxation events.

Elected Officials & Dept. Heads- Keri Thompson, Elaine Griffith, Rick Zerbe and Becky Freeman met with the Commissioners to discuss ongoing county business and office operations.

Zerbe stated that the Sheriff's Office is going to need a new server of its own due to security issues. Griffith discussed training she attended in Ft. Collins for the CAMA system. Freeman discussed elections and training she will be attending regarding this matter. The Commissioners discussed the rock-crushing project and the joint meeting they had with the Town of Lusk regarding economic development.

Payroll and the following vouchers were approved for payment: January 2006 Payroll-58306.63; Lusk State Bank- Employer Taxes- 15234.54; Aflac- Employee pd. ins.- 356.34; Allbright's True Value- Supplies, maintenance- 725.54; Avaya Communications- Phone maintenance agreement- 138.21; Bob Barker Co., Inc.- Supplies, new equipment- 602.96; Communicomm Services- Internet & Network- 141.95; Communication Technologies- Maintenance- 360.00; Dept. of A & I- State mainframe access- 55.00; Decker's Foods- Supplies, inmate meds & inmate meals- 475.35; Dept. of Transportation- Stage Road BROS project- 159.44; Fire Nebula Web