

**COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING
July 6, 2006**

The Niobrara County Commissioners met for their regularly scheduled meeting on July 6, 2006 in the Commissioners' Room of the Niobrara County Courthouse. Present were Commissioners Tom L. Wassserburger, Richard A. Ladwig, Ronson B. Pfister and County Clerk Becky L. Freeman.

Road & Bridge- Road & Bridge Foreman Fred Thomas met with the Commissioners and discussed roads, pits, and the gravel-crushing project.

Thomas informed the Commissioners that S-Bar road is open, work to widen the road on the Thompson road is complete, paperwork for the Thompson Pit is in the works, and Platte County will begin work on the fairgrounds parking lot.

County Attorney Doyle J. Davies joined the meeting and discussed the gravel-crushing contract, the Qwest phone line damage issue, and the vacation of streets and alleys in Node.

Vacation of Streets & Alleys in Node- Ladwig moved, seconded by Pfister, to vacate all of 1st Street between 2nd Avenue and 3rd Avenue and the north 50' of alley in block 2, between 1st Street and 2nd Street in the Original Town Site, Node, Wyoming. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Kathy Heine met with the Commissioners and submitted a letter requesting a road/address designation. She and Royce Heine requested that an additional sign be added at a point on the road approximately seven (7) miles north of Keeline, Wyoming. In addition to several personal reasons for the change, the letter states that they need a physical address in order to purchase a firearm among other issues. Upon checking with the assessor's office, it was noted that there is a physical address on record for them. After much discussion, the Commissioners chose not to honor this request as it not currently their policy to rename roads or portions of roads because of time and cost restraints.

The Commissioners acknowledged receipts for the month of June from the County Clerk for \$4,943.00, from the Sheriff \$911.76 and from the Clerk of Court for \$386.98

Catering Permit- Ladwig moved, seconded by Pfister, to approve the catering permit for Arlene Zerbst Rapp D/B/A/ Paleo Park to cater alcoholic beverages for the Rapp Wedding Reception, which is being held at the Fairgrounds on July 22, 2006. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Drought Declaration- Ladwig moved to pass a resolution declaring a drought in Niobrara County. The motion was amended to read that the Niobrara County Commissioners request a drought disaster declaration for Niobrara County from the Governor's Office. Pfister seconded. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Elected Officials- Rick Zerbe, Elaine Griffith, Linda Fosher, Denise E. Smith, Keri Thompson, and Becky Freeman met with the Commissioners and discussed county operations. Zerbe informed the group that representatives from the US Marshall's office would be here on July 12, 2006 to perform an audit and security analysis for the courthouse and courtrooms. Thompson said she was busy advertising delinquent taxes, Smith is gearing up for the Legend of Rawhide pageant, and Fosher is trying to obtain bids for a public access window in her office. Griffith noted the county's valuation is 56,977,967. This is an increase of 10,870,000 from last year. Freeman discussed elections and noted she had completed some public demonstrations of the new equipment.

Wyoming Nat'l Guard Youth Challenge Program- Ladwig informed the group that he had made contact with the director of this program and we are to let them know if there are any community service projects that the youth could undertake.

US Marshall's Contract- Sheriff Zerbe discussed the contract he is working on and asked for feedback on some of the questions. He is completing a new contract in an attempt to obtain more funding per inmate than the county currently receives.

Minutes- Ladwig moved, seconded by Pfister, to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2006 meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

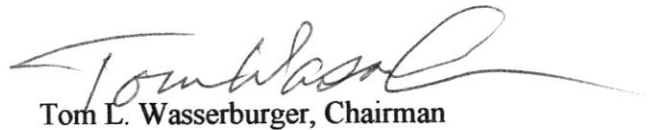
State of Wyoming, Department of Family Services (DFS)/Clerk of District Court (CDC) Cooperative Agreement- Pfister moved, seconded by Ladwig, to sign the agreement between the State of Wyoming, Dept. of Family Services (DFS), and the Clerk of District Court. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Commissioner Scholarship Renewal Applications-The Commissioners received three renewal applications. The Commissioners voted unanimously to appoint Sarah Greer as the recipient of the renewal scholarship, Kitson Brown as first alternate and Kaylee Reed as the second alternate.

Payroll and the following vouchers were approved for payment:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned until 9:00 a.m. on July 18, 2006.

NIOBRARA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Tom L. Wasserburger, Chairman

ATTEST:



Becky L. Freeman, Clerk



**PUBLIC HEARING
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING
July 17, 2006**

Niobrara Commissioner Chairman Tom Wasserburger called a Public Hearing to order at 4:03 p.m. on July 17, 2006 in the Commissioners' Room of the Niobrara County Courthouse. Present were Commissioner Richard A. Ladwig, and County Clerk Becky L. Freeman. Commissioner Pfister was absent. Members of the audience included, Librarian Debbie Sturman, Library Board member, Pat Bruch, Extension Agent Denise E. Smith, Sheriff Rick L. Zerbe, Treasurer Keri Thompson, and Assessor Elaine Griffith.

Wasserburger asked if there were any comments on the budget. Wasserburger noted this budget process was easier because of excess money. He noted that although there is money, there are still needs everywhere and much to be done. Ladwig echoed these sentiments and thanked the elected officials and department heads for their frugality when preparing their budgets.

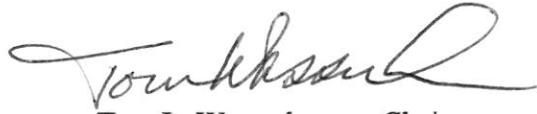
Denise Smith asked if the Commissioners were going to raise the mileage reimbursement rate. Wasserburger stated it was likely they would increase it to the current federal level, which fluctuates, so the county's mileage rate could fluctuate as well. She also inquired if department budgets should be adjusted to reflect this change and Wasserburger said it would be dealt with at the end of next year if necessary.

Elaine Griffith noted one project for the capital improvement funds. The courthouse currently has no sign designating it as such and wants to see something done.

Rick Zerbe noted that in order to fulfill the U.S. Marshall's contract requirements the detention office would require a phone line designation in their budget. He suggested transferring \$1500 from his budget to the detention budget.


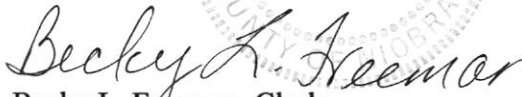
Wasserburger asked for further comments and there being none, the meeting adjourned at 4:32 p.m.

NIOBRARA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Tom L. Wasserburger, Chairman

ATTEST:



Becky L. Freeman, Clerk