

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING
March 7, 2006

The Niobrara County Commissioners met for their regularly scheduled meeting on March 7, 2006 at 9:06 a.m. in the Commissioners' Room of the Niobrara County Courthouse. Present were Commissioners Tom L. Wasserburger, 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, equipment, and the crushing project. He updated the Commissioners on the condition of S-Bar Road. Thomas needs to rent a dozer to rework the road as there are currently portions of the road fenced off due to erosion.

Thomas presented information regarding the purchase of an extended warranty for the loader. The cost for a three year, 5,000 hour warranty is \$2,560. The cost for coverage on the power train for 3 years and 5,000 hours is \$1,920. Ladwig moved, seconded by Pfister, to approve the purchase of the three year, 5,000 hour extended warranty for the new loader for \$2,560. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Rock Crushing Pit- Thomas informed the board that he had a conference call with Benchmark of Torrington to discuss the rock-crushing project and the approaching deadline for completion. Benchmark suggested a meeting with the Commissioners to address concerns they have regarding the penalty phase of the contract and the specifications on the gravel. Commissioner Wasserburger called a Special Meeting for March 10, 2006 at 11:00 in the Commissioners Room of the Courthouse.

Bridge Work- Thomas discussed information he received from the state regarding bridges that need work and or cleanup around them. Thomas will try to get assistance from the Honor Farm in Newcastle to help move logs and clean up debris. He also stated that there were local individuals with skid steer loaders that had offered use of their equipment to move dirt and gravel.

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

Official Bond & Oath- Ladwig moved, seconded by Wasserburger, to approve the bond and oath for Rod Pfister as Treasurer of the Niobrara Conservation District. **MOTION CARRIED.** Commissioner Ron Pfister abstained from voting.

The Commissioners acknowledged the following receipts for the month of February from the County Clerk for \$2,842.50, the Clerk of Court for \$1,556.98, and the Sheriff for \$1,140.71.

Proposed Jail Expansion- County Sheriff Rick Zerbe met with the Commissioners and presented information he gathered regarding costs to expand the jail. This jail expansion proposal originated from a joint meeting between the Town of Lusk, the County Commissioners, and Steve Elledge of the Wyoming Business Council. Elledge informed the boards that because the jail is an income generator, it would qualify for funds from the Business Council. Wasserburger stated he would contact Elledge and discuss this proposal.

The meeting adjourned at 11:49 a.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

Elected Officials and Department Heads- Elaine Griffith, Keri Thompson, Rick Zerbe, Becky Freeman and Town of Lusk Mayor Pete Pier met with the Commissioners and discussed county business. Thompson reported they were busy with auto and commercial vehicle registrations. Griffith updated the board on training she and her staff is attending. She also stated

she was working on oil and gas equipment assessments. Zerbe stated the jail is full and they are keeping busy. Freeman updated the Commissioners on elections.

Mayor Pier addressed Homeland Security grants and noted there would most likely be a meeting in April to discuss disbursement of these funds to entities. Pier also advised the Commissioners that there would be a slight increase of two to four percent, in the funding the Town provides to the County to assist in the operation of dispatch. Pier also addressed the increasing costs of funerals and burials and noted that he could no longer absorb these costs when it came to indigent burials. The Commissioners requested more information on this issue.

Claude Smith met with the Commissioners to discuss easements on the Cheyenne River Road. He was requesting information regarding the county's corner on Cheyenne River Road. Smith stated that it would be difficult for the State to grant any easement to him if the county's corner couldn't be located. The Commissioners stated they did not know where the corner was located and could not afford to hire a professional surveyor to find the corner. Smith was provided copies of documents on work done on Alkali Creek that might provide more information to him.

Thunder Basin Grasslands Prairie Ecosystem Association (TBGPEA) - TBGPEA representatives Jon Haufler, Jewell Reed, Betty Pellatz, and US Forest Service Representative Misty Hays met with the Commissioners to provide information regarding their association. The membership consists of a collaborative group of landowners that was formed in 1999 over concerns of listing of certain species on the endangered species list and how this would affect agricultural land and oil & gas development. Their objective is to take the lead in a responsible, common sense, science-based approach to long-term management of their lands. Some benefits of this program are the limited needs for regulatory use of the Endangered Species Act through voluntary actions that document existing conditions and then develop appropriate management plans. They noted that there is not a lot of Thunder Basin Grasslands in Niobrara County, but they wanted to keep the Commissioners informed of their plans.

County Attorney- County Attorney Doyle J. Davies met with the Commissioners and discussed the rock crushing project and the approaching deadline for completion. They also discussed the status of SF 64 County Attorney Reimbursement Formula. As it is written now, this bill only applies to full time county attorneys.

Wyoming Community Gas Service Agreement- The Commissioners received and reviewed the gas management service agreement. They would like to meet with the representative of this company to gather more information before they sign the agreement.

Homeland Security Grant- The Commissioners received an Emergency Management Planning Grant from Homeland Security for \$13,638 with a match of \$13,638 required. This was tabled until more information could be presented.

Hat Creek Bridge- WYDOT submitted preliminary information for structure work on the Hat Creek Bridge. WYDOT is proposing the installation of box culverts to replace the existing structure. The Commissioners took this information into consideration.

Wyoming Office of Homeland Security Soft Match Authorization Certification- Ladwig moved, seconded by Pfister, to sign the authorization for soft match certification. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Wyoming Child & Family Development, Inc.- Pfister moved, seconded by Ladwig, to approve the request for a property tax waiver from Wyoming Child & Family Development on property located at 801 S. Maple. **MOTION CARRIED.** The Commissioners also received a

funding request for FY 2006-2007 for \$500 in addition to the property tax waiver from Wyoming Child and Family Development. The Commissioners did not approve the request for additional funding.

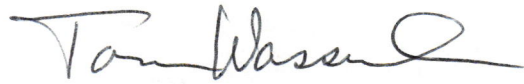
Payroll and the following vouchers were approved for payment:

February 2006 Payroll-59029.13; Lusk State Bank- Employer Taxes- 15602.85; Aflac- Employee pd. ins.- 356.34; Allbright's True Value- Supplies, maintenance- 133.13; Avaya Communications- Phone maintenance agreement- 70.04; Bob Barker Co., Inc.- Supplies, inmate meals- 607.09; Communicomm Services- Internet & Network- 141.95; Decker's Foods- Supplies, inmate meds & inmate meals- 796.95; Dept. of Transportation- Stage Road BROS project- 2241.84; Fire Nebula Web Design- Computer repair- 110.00; Fresh Start Convenience- Fuel- 4786.61; General Security Systems Corp.- Ankle monitoring- 116.00; Hiway Super Service- supplies- 32.00; Birch Telecom- Phones- 34.74; Jordan Automotive- Vehicle repairs- 563.85; Kinder Morgan, Inc.- Utilities- 2748.85; Lichen Research Center- Computer expenses- 250.00; Loyal American Life- Employee pd. ins.- 32.61; Lusk Herald- Publications – 76.74; Niobrara Electric Association- Radio tower & maintenance – 341.47; Office Depot- Supplies, new equipment – 731.54; Orchard Trust- Deferred Comp.- 11175.00; Qwest- Phones- 1529.56; Sperry Drug- Supplies, inmate meds- 487.82; Torrington Office Supplies- Supplies- 164.34; Town of Lusk- Utilities– 1795.42; USP Communications- Long distance phone service- 206.54; Valley Motor Supply- Parts- 619.60; Verizon Wireless- Cell Phones- 285.45; Visa- Supplies, travel expense, postage- 1782.35; Walt's Lathe & Machine- Repairs- 4.60; Western Plains- Supplies- 25.69; Becky L. Freeman- Mileage- 75.04; Niobrara County Treasurer- Postage-60.70; ESRI- GIS Final payment- 914.95; Niobrara County Assessor- Postage- 47.19; Dawn Otten- New equipment- 67.96; Black Hills Shooters Supply- Ammunition & supplies- 901.45; Citicorp Vendor Finance- Copier Payment- 97.00; Connecting Point- Copier service contracts & color copy overages – 189.03 ; Lusk Mini Storage- Storage- 45.00; Public Safety Warehouse- Uniforms- 29.95; Scotsdown- Schools- 195.00; Wyoming Search & Rescue- Schools- 280.00; Ed Buchanan- Deputy Co. Attorney fees- 3600.00; Niobrara County Hospital District- 1% option- 10519.56; Brice's Refrigeration- Maintenance- 195.96; Tammie Jensen- Travel expense- 222.16; Tri-State Livestock News- Subscription- 49.00; UW Communications- Supplies- 36.72; UW/WIN- Registration fee- 25.00; Wells Fargo Financial- Copier lease- 236.00; H. Rick Hollon- Court Appointed attorney & guardian ad litem- 1481.64; Dennis C. Meier- Office rent- 600.00; Black Hills Chemical Co.- Supplies, maintenance- 801.88; H & H Enterprises- Supplies- 67.32; KD's Maintenance Service- Maintenance contract- 7,500.00; NE Fire & Safety- Fire alarm inspection- 225.00; Schindler Elevator Corp.- Quarterly maintenance- 711.96; Alsco- Shop towels & coveralls- 159.84; Anderson Highway Signs- Sandbag for signs- 23.45; B & B Auto Electric- Parts- 74.20; Bartow Oil- Diesel & parts- 4588.23; Concrete Construction- Auto gate blocks- 1400.00; Central Truck – Repairs- 2986.40; Charles B. Darrah & Assoc.- Garnishment- 522.31; Floyd's Sales & Service- repairs- 139.71; Dale Gunn- supplies- 248.00; Honnen Equipment- parts- 1.00; Howard Supply Company- parts- 122.00; Lawson Products, Inc.- Parts- 199.23; M & M Shop- Auto gates- 8680.00; Platte County School Dist. #1- Random drug testing fees- 156.25; Safety-kleen- Oil recycling- 218.39; Wyoming Machinery- Payment on loader- 50000.00; W.W. Grainger- Parts- 45.10; Kester Akers- ½ internet & phone- 28.75; Dell Government Leasing- Computer payment- 48.41; Judy Hanzlik- Reimburse for supplies- 136.47; Gary Hoopes- Translator- 20.00; Letter Publications, Inc.- Subscription- 269.00; Wyoming Women's Center- Inmate meals- 3059.28; Jeane Stratton- Ancillary Support- 50.00; Townsend Co., Inc.- Joint owner billing- 238.39; Xerox Corp.- Copier payment- 272.81;

Benchmark of Torrington- Engineering fees- 3854.38; L. Brown Trucking- Trucking fees- 7120.00; Lucky Gate Inc.- Trucking fees- 18520.00; Barry Matney- Trucking fees- 6000.00; 54 Trucking- Trucking fees- 7080.00; Mobile Concrete- Rock crushing payment- 160830.00; Otten Trucking- Trucking fees- 4240.00; Patterson Trucking- Trucking fees- 5400.00; Reed Trucking- Trucking fees- 6080.00; Wright Bros. Contracting- Trucking fees- 20080.00; Lynn Carlson- Reimburse for supplies- 85.40; Eastern Wyoming College- Tuition fees and partial background check- 300.00; Hiway Super Service- fuel for CNA students TANF/CPI Grant- 198.02; Carolyn Pflughoeft- CNA expenses- 276.00; Rawhide Creek Coffee- Spark program meals- 100.03; Niobrara County Clerk- Easement recording fees- 67.00; James A. Eddington- Guardian Ad Litem- 734.36; Absolute Solutions- Radios & amplifier- 1039.00; Regional Juvenile Detention Center- Juvenile housing- 496.00.

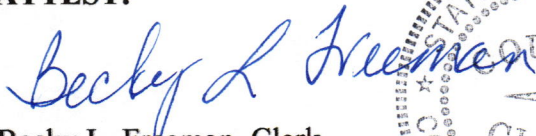
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

NIOBARRA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Tom L. Wasserburger, Chairman

ATTEST:



Becky L. Freeman, Clerk

