

**COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING
October 3, 2006**

The Niobrara County Commissioners met for their regularly scheduled meeting on October 3, 2006 in the Commissioners' Room of the Niobrara County Courthouse. Present were Commissioners Richard A. Ladwig, Ronson B. Pfister and County Clerk Becky L. Freeman. Commissioner Wasserburger was absent.

Road & Bridge- The Commissioners met with Road & Bridge Foreman Fred Thomas and discussed the conditions of streets in Niobrara Park Addition, the Rock Crushing Project, and crushing costs for rock from the Ruffing Pit. Thomas also discussed the road projects slated for 2007.

Helpmate and Crime Victim Assistance Program- Help-Mate Executive Director Marcie Bruegger met with the Commissioners to invite them to participate in a silent witness ceremony during the intermission of Big Bucks Bingo, which honors the memory of victims of domestic violence. Bruegger stated that nationally, October is Domestic Violence Awareness month and added that Niobrara County has not suffered a loss due to domestic violence.

Minutes- Pfister moved, seconded by Ladwig, to approve the Minutes of the September 18, 2006 Regular Meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.** The minutes of the September 25, 2006 Special Meeting were tabled until the October 17, 2006 meeting as only one Commissioner was in attendance who attended the special meeting.

County Attorney- The Commissioners met with County Attorney Doyle J. Davies and discussed the settlement agreement from Qwest Corp. Davies presented a Quit Claim Deed from the Niobrara County Board of County Commissioners to Robert E. Stringham and Clara E. Stringham, conveying any interest Niobrara County might have in the following property: North 22' of the South 66' of Lots 13, 14, and 15, Block 45, Town of Manville, Niobrara County, Wyoming. This is the result of the erroneous filing of a tax deed against the property in 1951.

Ladwig moved, seconded by Pfister, to approve the Quit Claim deed transferring any interest the County may have in the above-mentioned property. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The Commissioners acknowledged receipts for the month of September from the Clerk of Court for \$832.20, from the Sheriff's Department for \$27,862.11, and from the County Clerk for \$5,805.50.

Homeland Security Grant Awards- The Commissioners acknowledged a Homeland Security Grant award to Niobrara County in the amount of \$78,970.55 with a term of July 1, 2006-March 31, 2008; a Homeland Security Grant Award for the Citizen Corp project for \$3,562.29; and a Homeland Security Grant award to the Niobrara County Sheriff for \$14,880.00 all with the same term dates.

Cancellation of Taxes- The Commissioners acknowledged a cancellation of Taxes for Pfister Brothers, LLC. for \$859.88, #718, Pfister abstained from signing the cancellation; a cancellation for Ruey Rose W. Eaton for \$20.34, # 719; and a cancellation for IKON Office Solution D/B/A/IFS for \$118.11, # 270.

Official Bond & Oath- The Commissioners acknowledged an official bond & oath for Keri Thompson as Treasurer of Niobrara County.

Dept. of Revenue- The Commissioners acknowledged Notice of Valuation Changes for Interline Resources for \$762.95 and for Jim's Water Service for (\$25.14), (a cancellation order was issued for Jim's water service on Sept. 18, 2006.)

Hospital Equipment Grant- The Commissioners received notice from the State Land and Investment Board that there were unexpended funds in the Hospital Equipment Grant and action needs to be taken by October 26, 2006 on whether or not the money is going to be spent. Commissioner Pfister will research this matter.

Valuations Northwest, Inc. - The Commissioners received correspondence from this company regarding insurance appraisals for property and GASB 34.

The Commissioners noted the U.S. Marshal's report on courtroom and courthouse security.

Elected Officials & Dept. Heads-The Elected Officials met with the Commissioners to discuss office operations and county business.

Elaine Griffith presented information regarding the proposed purchase of an additional copier for the courthouse. An additional copier is necessary due to increased land records research activity.

Clerk of District Court- Clerk of Court Linda Fosher met with the Commissioners and asked them to reconsider her original request for an office remodel. One reason for this request is that access to the judge's chamber needs to be controlled and with her original proposal, this could be accomplished. The Commissioners would like to have someone come in; review the office to see what changes could be made without losing the architectural style of the courthouse. She also addressed the requirement of a Digital Audio Recording System that needs to be installed in her office and the in the courtroom. The county does not have to pay for the equipment, but we do need to pay for the wiring and this project needs to be completed by December 31, 2006.

Dan Hanson met with the Commissioners and presented a resolution pertaining to prairie dogs that was passed at a Farm Bureau meeting. Hanson asked the Commissioners for support on this matter and they stated they would discuss this matter further with the County Attorney at their next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting recessed until October 17, 2006 at 9:00 a.m.

Payroll & the following vouchers were approved for payment:

NIOBARRA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Richard A. Ladwig

Richard A. Ladwig, Vice-Chairman

Attest:

Becky L. Freeman

Becky L. Freeman, Clerk

