

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS  
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING  
March 3, 2009

The Niobrara County Commissioners' Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on March 3, 2009 in the Commissioners' Room of the Niobrara County Courthouse. Those in attendance were Chairman Richard A. Ladwig, Commissioners Arlene Zerbst Rapp, Greg Starck, and County Clerk Becky L. Freeman.

Road & Bridge- Foreman Fred Thomas met with the Commissioners and discussed roads, equipment, and the Wasserburger Bridge repairs.

Consensus Block Funding- Town of Lusk Council persons Dave Hamaker, Jon Mellott, and Pat Smith met with the Commissioners to discuss projects for the next round of consensus block funding. The Town of Manville submitted a request of \$165,000 for monitoring wells around two landfills, the Town of Lusk submitted a request of \$30,000 to construct a storage building at the cemetery and Niobrara County submitted a request of \$60,000 for expenses related to the library repairs. After much discussion, Starck moved, seconded by Zerbst Rapp, to submit an application to the Office of State Lands and Investments for \$60,000 in consensus block funding for the emergency repairs to the library to reimburse the county for funds already expended. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Starck moved, seconded by Zerbst Rapp, to approve the Town of Lusk's request for \$30,000 in consensus block funding to construct a storage building at the cemetery. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The Manville Project was tabled until the March 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

County Attorney-County Attorney Doyle J. Davies met with the Commissioners and discussed oil wells owned by the county. He stated that the wells aren't costing the county money to operate because we are making profits overall. Davies also discussed involuntary commitments and costs associated with them.

Elected Officials & Dept. Heads-Keri Thompson, Elaine Griffith, Denise Smith, Rick Zerbe and Becky L. Freeman met with the Commissioners and discussed office operations. Thompson discussed her new software and office operations. Griffith discussed personal property returns and noted that assessment notices will be sent out around the 1<sup>st</sup> of April. Denise discussed the roofing of the cow and sheep barns and stated it is looking nice. She also noted that 4-H is in full swing.

Rick noted that he and Cary are staying busy because Dustin and Brian are both at the Academy. He also discussed the availability of another fast cops grant. This grant would be 100% funded for the first three (3) years and then the county would be obligated to employ the individual for an additional year. Rick also discussed the E911 and WyoLink projects.

Niobrara Conservation District- Kevin Gaukel, Chairman of the Niobrara Conservation District, met with the Commissioners and discussed conservation issues. Gaukel noted that NCD recently changed boundaries from the Northeast RC&D and joined the Southeastern Wyoming Resource Conservation and Development Council. Gaukel invited the Commissioners to join the council. He said that in addition to wind energy, the council would assist with watershed and/or conservation issues.

Starck moved, seconded by Zerbst Rapp, to join the Southeastern Wyoming Resource Conservation and Development Council. **MOTION CARRIED.**