

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING  
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING  
MAY 3, 2011

The Niobrara County Commissioners' meeting was called to order on May 3, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. Those in attendance were Chairman Richard A. Ladwig, Commissioners Arlene Zerbst Rapp, Greg B. Starck, and County Clerk Becky L. Freeman.

Public Hearing- Chairman Ladwig called a Public Hearing to order at 9:01 a.m. The purpose of said meeting was to receive public comment on change of zoning applications from Fred & Clara Wilsons & Robert & Janet Christensen from agricultural to industrial for pit run gravel. In addition to the Commissioners and Road and Bridge Foreman Fred Thomas being present, members of the public included landowners Mr. and Mrs. Harris Greene. Chairman Ladwig asked Thomas to state the reason for the changes of zoning and he stated that the county was opening these pits to obtain pit run gravel to place on county roads. Mr. Greene inquired if any of this gravel would be applied to roads in his area and Thomas confirmed that pit run gravel would be placed on the Thompson road as well as other roads in the areas. That being said, Mr. and Mrs. Greene had no objections to the change of zonings.

Commissioner Starck stated his appreciation of the offer from the landowners.

Chairman Ladwig reconvened the regular meeting at 9:04 a.m.

Change of Zoning Applications- Commissioner Zerbst Rapp moved, seconded by Commissioner Starck, to approve the change of zoning applications for the above pits. MOTION CARRIED.

Road & Bridge- Foreman Fred Thomas reported on the 1990 Kobelco impact crusher that Sublette County is offering to Niobrara County.

Thomas went on to discuss the poor conditions of some county roads as a result of recent rains and heavy truck traffic.

County Attorney- County Attorney Doyle J. Davies met with the Commissioners and Foreman Thomas and discussed a letter that needs to be composed stating that WYDOT can have some loads of roto mill from the stockpile located at the fairgrounds, but not all of it.

The Commissioners received a bill from Pier Funeral Home regarding an indigent burial, and directed County Attorney Davies to review the bill and statutes pertaining to indigent burials. Payment of this bill is tabled until further information is obtained.

Benefit Health Advisor Account Executive Brian Hillier, Niobrara Health and Life Administrator Bob Brummond and Chief Financial Officer Sandi Lehman met with the Commissioners to discuss health insurance and the benefits and savings that Benefit Health Advisors could save the county as broker/agents for a self funded insurance pool.

Elected Officials & Dept. Heads- Denise E. Smith, Linda Fosher, Keri Thompson, Elaine Griffith, Linda Lingelbach, Rick Zerbe and Becky L. Freeman met with the Commissioners and discussed office operations and building maintenance concerns.

County Coroner Resignation- Linda Lingelbach met with the Commissioners and submitted her resignation as Niobrara County Coroner effective immediately. She has accepted a new job out of town. Sheriff Rick Zerbe and UW Extension Agent Denise E. Smith were also present. The Commissioners accepted her resignation and will contact the chairman of the Republican Central Committee to move forward.

Executive Session- Commissioner Starck moved, seconded by Commissioner Zerbst Rapp, to enter into Executive Session with Denise E. Smith at 2:35 p.m. to discuss personnel issues. MOTION CARRIED.

Commissioner Starck moved, seconded by Commissioner Zerbst Rapp, to reconvene the regular session at 2:43 p.m. MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes- Commissioner Zerbst Rapp moved, seconded by Commissioner Starck to approve the Minutes of the April 19, 2011 meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

The Commissioners acknowledge receipts for the month of April from the County Clerk for \$4,840.75, from the County Sheriff for \$974.41 and from the Clerk of Court for \$841.

The Commissioners acknowledged receipt of the Assessor's abstract showing the assessed value of taxable property within the county. No state assessed property values have been received as of yet.

Commissioners' Scholarships- The Commissioners received six (6) applications for the scholarships and awarded three (3). The recipients of the 2011-2012 Commissioners' Scholarships are Jayde Swenson, Kaitlyn Rae Pfister and Taylor Kinchen.

Catering Permit- Commissioner Starck moved, seconded by Chairman Ladwig, to approve a catering permit for PaleoPark to serve alcoholic beverages at the Wurdeman Wedding Reception to be held at the Niobrara County Fairgrounds on May 14, 2011. MOTION CARRIED. Zerbst Rapp abstained from voting.

Payroll and the following vouchers were approved for payment:



Becky L. Freeman, County Clerk

NIOBRARA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

*Richard A. Ladwig*  
Richard A. Ladwig, Chairman