

NIOBRARA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING
December 20, 2016

The Niobrara County Commissioners' meeting was called to order on this date at 9:00 a.m. with Chairman Richard A. Ladwig, Commissioners Greg B. Starck, Patrick H. Wade, and County Clerk Becky L. Freeman present. Commissioner-elect John Midkiff was also in attendance.

Road and Bridge- Corky Foshier, Fair board member, met with the Commissioners and Fred Thomas, Road and Bridge Foreman, to continue discussions on purchasing a new tractor. Fred had information on a 2005 John Deere 5325 for \$25,000.00 from Schmidt Sales. This tractor would be sufficient in horsepower and size to handle the arena grooming. Pat moved to trade the Ford Bi-Directional tractor for \$18,000.00 for the JD 5325 with the fair board paying the \$7,000.00 balance due. Greg seconded, motion carried.

Fred then discussed the 2016 Road Rehabilitation Project. He said that Hout Fencing has the Walker Road gravel done but needs to do some cleanup. Fred said he has notified EMS, NEA and other first responders about the Lance Creek Bridge being out. There is a temporary bridge set up at the 43 Ranch. He also said that the contractor wrote a letter stating he would do another mile of dirt work and graveling using rock from the Wasserburger Pit. They would gravel a mile on Redbird Road. Fred will forward this onto the engineers so a change order can be drawn up.

Fred discussed the Lance Creek Bridge Replacement project and said that the dirt contractor has been shut down, but the deck is being removed and the pilings will be driven.

They discussed the 6th penny tax and some potential projects that could be placed on the ballot. There were discussions about roads, but Greg thought that a blade might be a better idea.

Dan Pannett met with the Commissioners to address concerns he had regarding the boiler in the courthouse. He said that in the past, he has been flushing the boiler once a week and things were okay, but now he is having to do it three to four times a week and the water is not remaining clear. Valley Plumbing did some maintenance on the boiler but that has not corrected the problem of brine and mineral build up.

Dan said that he spoke with Bob from Valley Plumbing and they discussed treatment plans. The water softener is not working and that might be part of the problem with buildup and that a new one might help with the boiler problem.

Chris Smolik, Hospital Administrator, Jim Tangney, Facility Director and Mark Groh, Hospital Board Member, met with the Commissioners to discuss the Helipad issue. The hospital needs to relocate its helipad and wondered if the Road and Bridge Department could help with constructing a new parking area since the hospital doesn't have the ability to construct a parking lot. The helicopter will land on the west side of the hospital instead of the east side, because duplexes are being built on the east side.

County Attorney- Doyle J. Davies, Deputy County Attorney, met with the Commissioners and discussed county business. He said that there is a bit of things going on in the criminal side.

The group discussed building a senior housing complex using 6th penny funding.

Consent Agenda-Greg moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Pat seconded, motion carried. Items included on the consent agenda were the minutes of the December 6, 2016 meeting.

Resolution 16-12 - Greg moved to approve

RESOLUTION NO. 16-12