

NIOBRARA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING
December 6, 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.

Road and Bridge- Corky Fosher, Fair board member, met with the Commissioners and Fred Thomas, Road and Bridge Foreman, to continue discussions on replacing the tractor at the fairgrounds. Corky presented information on a Massey Ferguson 2706E Series tractor that would be suitable for maintaining the arena. The group will continue discussion at the next meeting.

Fred then updated the Commissioners on the pre-construction meeting he attended regarding the Lance Creek Bridge Replacement project. He also discussed the 2016 Road Rehabilitation Project and said that the contractor has moved in equipment and is ready to begin work.

The group talked about the road rehab project and Pat suggested tying on to Dave Thomson's pit and gravelling that road. The contractor has a crusher and could crush material from the Thomson pit.

Brian Wakefield, engineer with BenchMark of Torrington, met with the Commissioners and Fred and presented a Notice to Proceed for Richard to sign for the 2016 Road Rehabilitation Project.

The group also discussed the Lance Creek Bridge Replacement project and talked about the deck removal of the old bridge.

Fred updated the Commissioners on the blade transmission. He said the seals were bad so they have been replaced.

County Attorney- County Attorney Cally Lund met with the Commissioners and discussed county business. Greg asked Cally about the status on the update of the County's policy manual. She said she is still waiting on information from the sheriff's office.

Cally then discussed a situation which occurred at the fairgrounds involving a private business requesting a letter of reference from the fair board requesting their support for the startup of a charter school. Cally said that the fair board was advised to refrain from writing a letter of support at it is best practice for a government entity to remain uninvolved in supporting private enterprise.

Road & Bridge cont- Dave Hout of Hout Fencing, came in and signed paperwork for the 2016 Road Rehabilitation Project. The group then discussed gravel crushing. Fred went on to say that they still have five pipes to set, but once Hout gets started, they will lay them in.

Consent Agenda- Pat moved to approve the consent agenda. Greg seconded, motion carried. Items included on the consent agenda were the minutes of the November 15, 2016 meeting and the November 29, 2016 Special Meeting and receipts for the month of the November from the County Clerk for \$3,210.75, from the Sheriff for \$350.00, and from the Clerk of Court for the month of October for \$401.01 and for the month of November for \$360.00.

The group then discussed the audit and the conversation held with the County's auditors regarding grants. Clerk Freeman explained that per a conversation with Vikki Nunn, CPA PMCH, based on the program description, there wasn't a need to verify the costs charged to the grant since the projects in question under the FEMA Disaster Grant Award were considered "small" projects, under the \$120,000, threshold. Richard also discussed the CRF manual and said that the County Road Standards committee will discuss this at their WCCA Winter meeting.