

NIOBRARA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING

January 5, 2016

The Niobrara County Commissioners' meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on January 5, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. Those in attendance were Chairman Richard A. Ladwig, Vice-Chair Greg B. Starck, Commissioner Patrick H. Wade and County Clerk Becky L. Freeman.

Ron Pfister, Co-Chair of the Long Term Recovery Group, met with the Commissioners and discussed concerns he had regarding the vacant Hospitality House downtown. He was afraid that it could become an eyesore based on what might or might not happen with funding. He feels that with the upcoming budget concerns, the state might just forget about the building and asked the Commissioners to do what they could to keep it in the forefront of everyone's minds. He also discussed senior housing.

Richard said that Tom McCool said that an action plan would be coming soon regarding economic development and housing. He said that a town hall meeting would be held to gather comments from the public.

Road & Bridge – Foreman Fred Thomas met with the Commissioners and discussed road and bridge business.

He said they have the temporary bridge installed at the Lance Creek crossing and they are busy working on equipment at the shop. He noted that they had plowed Kirtley, S Bar and N. Van Tassell Roads.

Richard asked how S Bar was holding up and Fred said it has sloughed off a little bit on the top.

Pat inquired about the status of the hydrology report and how the corrections were coming along. Fred said he has visited with BenchMark to get everything corrected.

Auditorium Floor- Greg updated the group on the status of the auditorium floor project. He said that once Midwest Grinding began grinding the floor, they found mud and dirt pockets popping up. They said the floor will need to be removed instead of ground down. Because they cannot progress any farther on the project, they asked if they could receive payment for the mobilization of equipment and crew and to finish grinding the outer edges down.

Greg moved to amend the grinding contract to \$3,289.00 for mobilization and \$1,969.00 to finish grinding edges. Pat seconded, motion carried.

County Attorney- County Attorney Cally Lund met with the Commissioners to discuss county business.

Executive Session- Pat moved to enter into Executive Session with Attorney Lund at 10:20 a.m. to discuss personnel matters. Greg seconded, motion carried.

Greg moved to reconvene the regular session at 10:25 a.m. Pat seconded, motion carried. No action was taken.

The group talked about the auditorium floor and the fact that the contract needs to be amended because the original contract work can't be completed due to the condition of the floor.

Cally also discussed the letter from Lone Crow Cattle Company's attorney regarding the easement within our easement for Cinco Oil. There were a few areas that need clarification and she will visit about with the landowner's attorney regarding them.

Pat discussed the fuel tank removal. The DEQ wants to have the county to remove the heating tank and go through the voluntary remediation program. He asked Cally if we should remove it or what. It will be difficult to remove, but if we can obtain core samples and they come back uncontaminated, then the county could just fill it in with slurry instead of trying to remove it,

They also discussed Memorandums of Understanding and title 25 involuntary commitments.

Emergency Management- Emergency Management Coordinator James Santistevan met with the Commissioners to discuss the Emergency Operating Plan. He also discussed the upcoming tabletop