

NIOBRARA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING
October 4, 2016

The Niobrara County Commissioners' meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on October 4, 2016. Those in attendance were Chairman Richard A. Ladwig, Commissioners Greg B. Starck, Patrick H. Wade and County Clerk Becky L. Freeman. Also in attendance were County Commissioner candidates Dustin Cushman and John Midkiff.

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

He said that the skylights on the Quonset had been damaged by hail. He also said that BenchMark of Torrington should have everything ready for the Walker, Wilson and Pipe Roads project so that the Commissioners can open bids by the first meeting in December.

Fred said he hasn't purchased radios yet, but after visiting with Rick, it would be best to go with Motorola.

The group then discussed dust control on Kirtley Road.

County Attorney-Cally Lund, County Attorney, met with the Commissioners and discussed county business. They discussed the LT101 nursing contract and Cally stated she would draft a letter to the independent contractor currently conducting the long term care assessments, that the position will be terminated due to the hiring of a public health nurse who can do the assessments as part of the Public Health Nursing position.

The group discussed the coroner situation.

Executive Session-Pat moved to enter into Executive Session with the county attorney to discuss personnel issues. Greg seconded, motion carried.

Greg moved to reconvene the regular session. Pat seconded, motion carried. No action was taken.

Chris Smolik, Niobrara Health and Life CEO, met briefly with the Commissioners to inquire about the status of the public health nurse position. Richard informed him that Sally Myer was hired. Chris then discussed the proposed lease between the county and hospital for the use of the old clinic as the new public health nurse building. He said that water and electricity will be built into the lease and will be considered an in kind contribution.

Emergency Management- James Santistevan, Emergency Management Coordinator, met with the Commissioners and updated them on the 2017 eclipse event planning and safety measures, the LEPC plan Homeland Security paperwork and plans.

He also talked about weather and the siren tones and what they signify.

Elected Officials and Department Heads - Denise E. Smith, Extension educator and Kayla Courtright, Clerk of District Court met with the Commissioners and discussed county business and office operations.

Kayla said her office has been busy. She said that the clerks of court were able to view the new jury management system during the WACO conference. She also talked about new systems that will replace the full court enterprise system within the next two (2) years.

Denise asked if the Mennonites were going to collect their materials from the buildings so that Legend of Rawhide could house their wagons. Pat said he would talk to Ron about that, but he and Greg weren't sure if all the material is from the Mennonite projects or original repairs that began after the flood.

The group discussed replacing the ceiling tiles in the auditorium and the Commissioners said that they would leave it to the fair board to handle since they had budgeted funds for the project.