

NIOBRARA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
NIOBRARA COUNTY, WYOMING
August 1, 2017

The County Commissioners' meeting was called to order on this date at 9:00 a.m. with Chairman Richard A. Ladwig, Commissioners Patrick H. Wade, John Midkiff and County Clerk Becky L. Freeman, present.

Road & Bridge- Fred Thomas, Road and Bridge Foreman reported on roads, pits and equipment.

Fred said that the letter is ready regarding the County paying the bond to expand the pit at Lee Brown's and includes terms for reclamation. Fred said that there is additional paperwork that will need to be completed before the permit is switched.

He also talked to Wyoming Machinery and told them that it would be around October before we could commit to purchasing the new blade.

Pat mentioned that a landowner had asked him if the Commissioners would consider closing the lesser traveled county roads during the eclipse and Pat said he didn't think it could happen. Richard had concerns about valid reasons to close a county road as far as the eclipse is concerned.

Justin Rodgers, Field Representative for Senator Enzi met with the Commissioners to introduce himself and find out what issues are of concern to Niobrara County.

The Commissioners said they are trying to prepare for the unknown possibilities of the eclipse and that their biggest concern is that there won't be enough law enforcement in this area for traffic control.

The group also discussed Century Link's request for deregulation and how that will affect Niobrara County as far as service and pricing. The group thought there should be other ways to get phone/cell service to the areas in need.

Doug Jorgensen stopped in to inquire about instituting a fire ban in the county during the eclipse. Pat said he felt that a fire ban can create undue restrictions on residents out in the county and Richard explained the process for implementing a fire ban and that the fire warden has to recommend to the Commissioners for the implementation of a fire ban.

The Commissioners held a phone conference with Todd Bishop of Kaiser Financial Wealth Management to discuss the resolution for a new 1% tax question.

Resolution 17-10- Pat moved to approve **RESOLUTION 17-10, A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PROPOSITION FOR IMPOSITION OF A 1% SPECIFIC PURPOSE SALES AND USE EXCISE TAX IN NIOBRARA COUNTY, STATE OF WYOMING, FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING A SPECIFIC PROJECT FOR THE NIOBRARA COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT, SAID PROPOSITIONS TO BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT AT THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN NIOBRARA COUNTY ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2017.** John seconded, motion carried. A complete copy of the Resolutions is on file in the County Clerk's office.

2017 Mill Levies- Pat moved to set the 2017 Mill Levies as presented, John seconded, motion carried.

County Attorney-Cally Lund, County Attorney, met with the Commissioners and discussed county business. She discussed a whistle blower policy that Becky had sent to her for review. Because the county receives federal grants, it is a good idea to have this policy/resolution in place.

The group also discussed Century Link's attempt at deregulation and steps required to implement a fire ban.

Elected Officials & Dept. Heads- James Santistevan, Emergency Management Coordinator reported on eclipse preparations. He said that the Weston County Emergency Manager has offered assistance during the eclipse if needed.

James talked about assisting EMS with major incidents if needed, to help ease the burden of logistical issues, etc. He wanted to know if the Commissioners had any concern with him doing that and Pat said he should use his discretion.

He said he had tested sirens and the Manville siren went down during the last testing. There will also be no noon whistle from August 18 through August 22.

Dell Atkinson, Long Term Recovery Manager, reported on the vacant buildings downtown and said he will try to work with the owners to see what and if there is anything we can do with those buildings.

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He also discussed the fiber optic study that was done with Converse County, CANDO and Niobrara County.

Teri Stephens, Assessor, said that she and Carmen had been out reviewing property and that the tax roll is almost ready to go.

Keri Thompson, Treasurer, discussed the tax sale, auditors and preparations for rolling over the new tax year.

The group also discussed closing the courthouse from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the day of the eclipse.

Pat moved to close the courthouse the morning of the eclipse and open at 1:00 p.m. John seconded, motion carried.

Because the Sheriff's Office, Detention, Dispatch and Road and Bridge staff are required to work on the day of the eclipse, the sheriff's department will receive five hours of holiday hours to bank and the Road and Bridge operators will receive five hours of straight time compensation.

James remained and discussed concerns he has over cell phone reception during the eclipse.

Consent Agenda- John moved to approve the consent agenda. Pat seconded, motion carried. Items on the consent agenda were the minutes of the July 18, 2017 meeting and receipts for the month of July from the County Clerk for \$5,592.00; from the Sheriff for \$2,135.00 and from the Public Health Nurse for \$115.00.

Dept. of Family Services Contract- John moved to accept the Cooperative Agreement between the Wyoming Department of Family Services, Child Support Enforcement and Niobrara County Clerk of District Court. Pat seconded, motion carried.

Payroll and the following vouchers were approved for payment:

Vendor	Amount	Description
Absolute Solutions	\$175.89	New Equipment
Absolute Solutions	\$1,870.10	Radio Repair & Expense
Absolute Solutions	\$441.10	Equipment Repairs
Allbright's True Value Hardware	\$15.98	Supplies
Allbright's True Value Hardware	\$3.00	Supplies
Allbright's True Value Hardware	\$254.85	Fairground Supplies
Allbright's True Value Hardware	\$25.96	Supplies
Allbright's True Value Hardware	\$20.84	Parts
Alsco	\$335.76	Parts
Benchmark Of Torrington P.C.	\$910.90	2016 Road Rehab Project
Benzel Pest Control, Inc.	\$97.00	Fairground Maintenance
Big Sky Ford	\$88.21	Parts
Birch Communications	\$134.52	Telephone
Birch Communications	\$130.33	Telephone
Birch Communications	\$64.46	Telephone
Birch Communications	\$256.98	Telephone
Birch Communications	\$64.60	Telephone
Birch Communications	\$132.88	Telephone
Black Hills Energy	\$17.07	Courthouse Utilities
Black Hills Energy	\$104.41	Justice Center Utilities
Black Hills Energy	\$13.93	Shop Utilities
Body Builders Body Shop	\$872.00	Vehicle Repairs
Brown Family Property Trust	\$45.00	Dues
Cally Lund	\$500.00	Office Rent
Canon Financial Services, Inc.	\$380.00	Copier Service Agreement
Center For Education & Employment Law	\$159.00	Publications
Century Link	\$303.66	Telephone
Century Link	\$369.84	Telephone
Century Link	\$662.64	Phones

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Century Link Business Services	\$9.83	Telephone
Century Link Business Services	\$23.26	Telephone
Century Link Business Services	\$4.10	Telephone
Century Link Business Services	\$14.45	Telephone
Century Link Business Services	\$10.85	Telephone
Century Link Business Services	\$11.77	Phones
Chantry Filener	\$240.00	I T Expense
Connecting Point Computer Centers	\$164.00	Copier Service Agreement
Connecting Point Computer Centers	\$136.00	Copier Service Agreement
Decker's Foods	\$20.25	Supplies
Decker's Foods	\$3.59	Inmate Meals
Dell Atkinson	\$6,300.00	Contractual
Dennis C. Meier	\$1,000.00	Office Rent
Dept. Of Health	\$3,625.28	Reimburse State For P.H.N. Sal.
Frank Parts Company	\$409.10	New Equipment
Frank Parts Company	\$21.98	Vehicle Repairs
Frank Parts Company	\$101.45	Parts
Geographic Innovations	\$1,000.00	Professional Mapping
Geographic Innovations	\$300.00	Professional Mapping
Great Western Tire Company	\$1,603.62	Parts
GreatAmerica Financial Svcs.	\$156.50	Canon Copier Service Agreement
GreatAmerica Financial Svcs.	\$251.00	Canon Copier Service Agreement
Hiway Brake & Alignment	\$413.75	Vehicle Repairs
Hiway Brake & Alignment	\$1,264.37	Equipment Repairs
Hiway Super Service	\$418.00	Parts
J & J Lawn Service	\$75.00	Parts
Johnson Controls	\$2,366.40	Justice Center Maintenance
Jordan Towing	\$127.00	Abandoned Vehicles
Keri Thompson	\$30.13	Supplies
Local Government Liability Pool	\$14,499.00	Bonds & Insurance
Lusk Herald	\$22.00	Publications
Lusk Herald	\$2,132.80	Publications
Mailfinance	\$1,197.00	Postage Meter
Monika D. Davies	\$500.00	Office Rent
Motorola Solutions	\$35,733.14	E911 Mntc Agreement
Natrona County Sheriff's Office	\$7,020.00	Juvenile Housing
Niobrara County Attorney	\$164.96	Supplies
Niobrara County Hospital District	\$13,468.13	1% Option Tax
Niobrara County Library	\$1,725.00	Library Deferred Comp.
Niobrara County Sheriff's Office	\$4.22	Postage
Niobrara County Sheriff's Office	\$32.99	Uniforms
Niobrara Electric Association	\$20.53	Radio Tower
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Office Depot	\$58.17	Supplies
Office Depot	\$236.11	Supplies
Peter W. Pier	\$333.04	Travel Expense
Peterbilt of Wyoming	\$51.51	Parts
Peterson Construction	\$3,740.70	Road & Bridge Improvements
Plainsman Printing & Supply	\$86.71	Supplies
Pre Resources Rockies, L.P.	\$159.70	O & M Oil
Proper Care, LLC..	\$6,800.00	Fairgrounds Contract
Rancher's Feed & Supply, Inc.	\$462.50	Supplies

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Rawhide Drug Company	\$7.08	Supplies
Rawhide Drug Company	\$2.49	Supplies
Respond First Aid	\$98.31	Supplies
Rocky Mountain Information Network	\$25.00	Dues
Sally Myer	\$5.35	Travel Expense
Sally Myer	\$3.21	Travel Expense
Schindler Elevator Corporation	\$2,656.70	Bldg/Equip Maintenance
State Of Wyoming	\$527.49	Supplies
Team Laboratory Chemical Corp.	\$4,146.46	Fairground Maintenance
Teri Stephens	\$169.60	Travel Expense
The Master's Touch, Llc.	\$1,400.00	Mailing Service
Torrington Office Supply	\$48.92	Supplies
Torrington Office Supply	\$0.74	Supplies
Torrington Office Supply	\$59.24	Supplies
Torrington Office Supply	\$46.42	Supplies
Torrington Office Supply	\$29.66	Supplies
Town House Motel, Llc.	\$4,800.00	Courthouse Contract
Town Of Lusk	\$1,963.11	TOL Courthouse Utilities
Town Of Lusk	\$104.10	TOL Justice Center Utilities
Town Of Lusk	\$12.74	TOL Old Jail Utilities
Town Of Lusk	\$36.60	TOL Sheriff Garage Utilities
Town Of Lusk	\$127.89	TOL Shop Utilities
Trugreen	\$127.00	Bldg/Equip Maintenance
Tyler Technologies	\$82.69	Computer Expense
Ultramax Ammunition	\$452.00	Ammunition
Verizon Wireless	\$301.64	Telephone
Verizon Wireless	\$47.16	Telephone
Verizon Wireless	\$45.72	Telephone
Visa	\$539.67	Computer Expense
Visa	\$485.34	Travel Expense
Visa	\$12.71	Supplies
Visa	\$98.15	Mileage Lister
Visa	\$7.70	Supplies
Visa	\$855.92	New Equipment
Visa	\$292.72	New Equipment
Visa	\$612.37	Computer Expense
Visa	\$115.96	Travel Expense
Visa	\$209.37	Supplies
Visa	\$291.51	Mch
Visa	\$72.92	Supplies
Visionary Communications, Inc.	\$427.29	I T Expense
W.A.R.M. Property Insurance Pool	\$28,739.40	Bonds & Insurance
Walt's Lathe & Machine	\$19.06	Equipment Repairs
Walt's Lathe & Machine	\$44.08	Parts
Westco	\$1,346.94	Gas & Oil
Whitaker Oil D/B/A Outpost Truck Stop	\$137.59	Mileage Lister
Whitaker Oil D/B/A Outpost Truck Stop	\$1,427.17	Gas
Whitaker Oil D/B/A Outpost Truck Stop	\$1,509.64	Gas & Oil
Whitaker Oil D/B/A Outpost Truck Stop	\$45.00	Travel Expense
Whitaker Oil D/B/A Outpost Truck Stop	\$75.40	Travel Expense
Whitaker Oil D/B/A Outpost Truck Stop	\$74.18	Vehicle Repairs
WY Enterprise Technology Services	\$3.65	Computer Expense

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WY Enterprise Technology Services	\$8.78	Computer Expense
Wyoming County Commissioners Assoc.	\$5,119.00	Dues
Wyoming Dept. Of Transportation	\$6,566.96	Lance Creek Bros Cn14063
Wyoming Dept. Of Workforce Services	\$4,203.78	Unemployment Compensation
Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy	\$870.00	Schools
Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy	\$1,347.50	Academy
Wyoming Lawn Sprinklers	\$86.12	Bldg/Equip Maintenance
Wyoming Machinery Company	\$939.23	Parts
Wyoming Network, Inc.	\$230.00	I T Expense
Wyoming Women's Center	\$1,305.40	Inmate Meals
Xerox Corporation	\$132.55	Xerox Copier Service Agreement
TOTAL	\$192,601.71	

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

NIOBRARA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Richard A. Ladwig, Chairman



Attest:


Becky L. Freeman