

Merry Christmas hope the Holidays find everyone Healthy and Happy. It looks and feels like winter has arrived. With the snow and the wind comes more early mornings for the Road and Bridge department. We need to give these guys room to work when you see them out and about as well as our thanks. They do a much needed job often with very little appreciation from the public.

We have a few things going on that may be of interest to some of you. In November the Road and Bridge crew made some much needed improvements on Fish Creek Road. Chip sealing for the season is done. If your road wasn't repaired and needs it, don't panic our Road and Bridge philosophy is to work in one area to minimize the cost of travel, do it right while they are there so they don't have to go back, and then move on to the other areas of need. So please be patient they will be with you in time.

With the down turn in the economy we hear rumors of other counties running short of money. One of the benefits of a poor county is we don't have extra money to run short of. So it looks at this point we should not be affected too much by the shortage of funds.

Lots of questions lately about the wind industry, I believe it will be here in the very near future. Real progress on transmission, and the fact that southeast Wyoming does not have sage grouse, seems to be the key factors in the push to get turbines up and running in the near future.

Always something going on in planning and zoning, we are plugging along in a one person office. This seems to be doing fine for the time being. When we do hire a new planner, first on the priority list will be the reworking of the planning and zoning regulations. Everybody is in agreement that we need to look at the requirement for a special use permit to build a second home in an agricultural district. An example would be a house for hired hands, or a new house for the boss and use the old one for guests. We would like a way to simplify this process. There will also be more changes, hopefully, to make the regulations easier and less complicated. As always your input is welcome.

Until Next Time,

Tim Millikin

Platte County Commissioner