

Terry Stevenson, Commissioner

County commissioners hold regular meetings twice a month. They are on the first and third Tuesdays. At each one of these meetings there is a multitude of reading material to be absorbed as well as other documents to look over. Some of the material is just informational, some of it needs to be understood in order to vote properly on an issue before the board. It takes some time and dedication to give these things their deserved attention.

Besides the regular meetings, the commissioners sometimes hold special meetings or workshops. Workshops are information meetings where no votes are taken. They are typical when the annual budget is being developed, although they can occur at other times also. Special meetings can take place when there is a need to consider an item for a vote between regular meetings. These meetings are not very common, they are usually very short, and they only cover one or two topics.

In additions to these duties the commissioners are also members of other boards or committees throughout the county or state. Some of these additional responsibilities are divided up between the three of us. For example, Dan has taken on membership on the High Plains Economic Development board, a group that addresses common concerns among Platte, Goshen and Laramie counties. Tim is a member of the Joint powers board that deals with issues relating to Platte County along with the five incorporated towns in the county. I represent the county on the Platte County Economic Development board.

We are also likely to attend meetings of the Planning and Zoning Commission. We have a standing invitation to attend Hospital District Board meetings. We also receive invitations to attend other public functions representing the county.

There are also seminars on wind energy, economic development, and other concerns that are sometimes held locally or somewhere else around the state. These can be valuable sources of information and sometimes one or another of us can attend.

Three or four times a year, there are also meetings held by the Wyoming County Commissioners Association. Dan serves on the executive board as vice president of the organization. These meetings are held at various places around the state and usually last two or three days.

There have also been times one or another of us have been asked to meet with state legislators to discuss potential legislation, attend a presentation to the governor, or to do some other brief duty on behalf of the county.

There are so many opportunities that we can't cover them all, even when we split up the responsibilities. We do our best because it is important to us. Then there are the impromptu meetings with the citizens of Platte County. Many people we meet have concerns that fall under our job description. That's important too. In the end, I guess the point is that this job entails a little more than just two meetings a month.