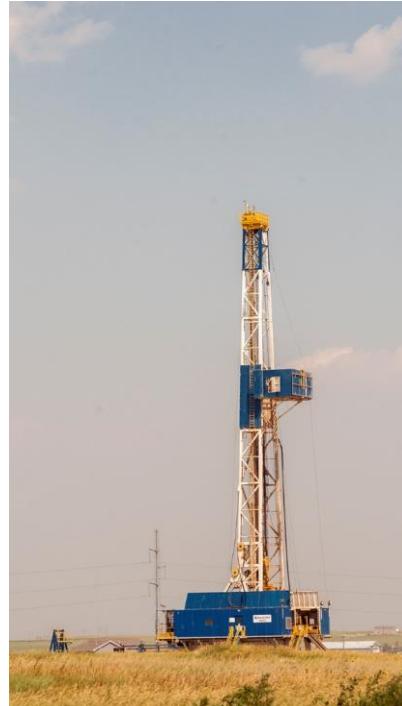


Williams County has maintained its oil rig numbers since last summer when this rig was photographed. Currently there are 11 rigs working in the county.



Member's Voice Williams County

Looking back, Williams County Commissioner Wayne Aberle said 2017 was a steady year in the county. At the end of the year, as prices began upward moves, oil activity and traffic was beginning to increase. "It seems like things are going pretty good," said Williams County Commissioner Wayne Aberle.



WILLIAMS COUNTY JAIL
(PHOTO CREDIT: WELLS PRECAST)

Melody Mileur, the Williams County Communications Director said "The biggest physical and monetary accomplishment of 2017 was we wrapped up the Law Enforcement and jail building. We are quickly moving to finish the Administration Building this spring."

The administration offices are moving in to the newly remodeled and expanded administration building. Mileur said the overall budget was set at \$54 million, "and we're confident we'll be under budget, feeling very good we'll be under budget."



The courthouse is now redesigned to be dedicated to only court activities. The new jail increased inmate housing from about 130 to 240 inmates.

Aberle said 2018 looks good for getting building projects done. He hopes to the county can keep its full staff of employees. A raise gave employees both a percentage increase and a merit increase. Employees who got the full merit increase plus the percentage increase got a 5% raise.

Aberle said as oil traffic picks up, the county will resume its work on maintaining rural roads. He said chip sealing paved roads is a priority in 2018. The county is also working on replacing a set of bridges with box culverts and expanding the right-of-way at those locations.