

Sioux County Board of Commissioners

Harrison, Nebraska

February 1, 2024

The Sioux County Board of Commissioners met at the Sioux County Courthouse meeting room February 1, 2024 at 9:35 a.m. with the following present: Commissioners J.W. Geiser, Hal Downer and Josh Skavdahl. Also present was County Clerk Michelle Zimmerman. The pledge of allegiance was recited. Josh Skavdahl opened the meeting in prayer. Reference was made to the Open Meeting Laws posted in the meeting room. Motion made by Downer, seconded by Geiser to approve the minutes of the January 2, 2024 meeting. On roll call vote Geiser, yes; Downer, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried. Motion made by Downer, seconded by Geiser to approve the agenda. On roll call vote, Geiser, yes; Downer, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried. The board met with elected and appointed officials.

The Board approved the following claims: GENERAL FUND: PAYROLL, 50,663.25; AFLAC, employee cafeteria plan, 288.42; Ameritas Life Insurance, employee optical insurance, 182.40; Ameritas Life Insurance, county share retirement, 3,118.23/employee share, 2,164.46; AT&T, phone system, 99.07; Blue Cross/Blue Shield, insurance, 17,358.37; Blue360 Media, LLC, manual, 93.75; Bob Ruwart Motors, decals-sheriff vehicle, 2,118.66; Bytes Computer Solutions, e-mail, IT services, 4,503.88; Centurylink, phone, 314.42; Crawford Clipper, publications, 163.56; DAS State Accounting, data processing, 516.00; Dawes County Extension Office, fuel, 128.63; Hal Downer, mileage, 759.80; Eakes Office Solutions, supplies, 494.72; First Concord Benefits Group, HR fees, 168.55/reimbursements/786.99; AT & T Mobility, phones, 305.60; J.W. Geiser, mileage, 457.19; Herren's, supplies, 6.53; Robert Jordan, mileage, room, 704.72; L-Tron Corporation, microphone scanner kit, 856.00; Lotton's Service, fuel, 23.50; Centurylink, phone, 237.14; Madison National Life ins., insurance, 56.77; MASA Global, insurance, 125.00; Chad McCumbers, reimbursement, 148.19; Midwest Connect, postage, 305.00; MIPS, Inc., data processing, 1,989.75; NE Assoc. of County Assessors, dues, 75.00; NE District Court Clerks Assoc., dues, 50.00; NE Dept. of Revenue, state tax, 1,263.75; NEA, electricity, 1,756.85; Panhandle County Assessors Association; dues, 125.00; Quill Corporation, supplies, 25.78; Irene Richey, yrs of service, 19.00; Pine Ridge Service, fuel, 487.36; Roanco Sprinklers, grounds, 441.90; Security First Bank, county share social security, 2,875.95/employee share social security, 2,875.95/county share medicare 672.59/employee share medicare 672.59/ withholding, 2,571.73; Sioux County Court, court costs, 49.00; Sioux Co. Insurance Trust Fund, employee cafeteria plan, 458.33; Skavdahl, Edmund & Stecher, office rent, 200.00/clerical, 150.00/ phone, 22.39/listing, 1.00; Smith, King & Simmons, PC, attorney fees, 195.00; Rustin Starkey, custodial contract, 650.00; TGS Manufacturing, targets, 172.00; Transfer to Library Fund, 4,000.00; Transfer to Noxious Weed Fund, 6,000.00; Transfer to Road & Bridge Fund, 150,000.00; Transunion Risk & Alternative, services, 120.00; U-Save Mart, fuel, 139.76; UNL Extension, fuel, 100.85; USDA, APHIS, Wildlife Services, predator control contract, 9,482.70; Village of Harrison, utilities, 371.50; Windbreak Cable, internet, 59.95; Michelle Zimmerman, mileage, 309.54.

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: PAYROLL: 42,668.81; AFLAC, employee cafeteria plan, 1,009.37; Ameritas Life Insurance, optical insurance, 216.52; Ameritas Life Insurance, county share retirement,

2,748.88/employee share retirement, 1,832.57; Blue Cross/Blue Shield, insurance, 18,429.33; Centurylink, internet, 82.87; City of Gering Landfill, disposal, 38.70; Floyd's Truck, repairs, 491.81; Frank Parts, parts, 118.99; Herren's, repairs, 225.21; Horse Creek Tire, repair, 14.00; Inland Truck Parts, parts, 3,893.61; Lotton's, repairs, 78.20; Madison National Life ins., life insurance, 61.85; MASA Global, insurance, 87.50; Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc., supplies, 70.38; Morrill Hardware, supplies, 26.73; Morrill Supply, supplies, 109.44; NE Dept. of Revenue, employee withholding, 1,050.11; Nebraska Machinery, repairs, 133,287.93; NEA, electricity, 124.31; ODP Business Solutions, supplies, 110.99; Panhandle Coop System, fuel, 1,343.47; James Phipps, supplies, 123.38; Pomp's Tire & Retreading, tires & repairs, 17,889.27; Pine Ridge Service Center, fuel, 3,879.79; Security First Bank, county share social security, 2,363.85 /employee share social security, 2,363.85/county share medicare, 552.83/employee share medicare, 552.83/withholding, 2,154.92; Skeeter's Napa, parts, 587.50; TDS Environmental Services, garbage, 35.00; U-Save Mart, fuel, 688.91; Village of Harrison, utilities, 110.90; Village of Morrill, electricity, 146.23, WPCI, drug testing, 68.00.

VISITOR PROMOTION FUND: Crawford Clipper, ads, 19.92; Sioux County Historical Society, tourism grant, 282.86; Western NE Tourism Coalition, dues, 125.00.

VISITOR IMPROVEMENT GRANT FUND: Sioux County Historical Society, tourism grant, 189.64.

REGISTER OF DEEDS PRESERVATION AND MODERNIZATION FUND: MIPS, data processing, 414.54.

LIBRARY FUND: PAYROLL: \$1,677.76; Ameritas Life Insurance, county share retirement, 113.25/employee share retirement, 75.50; Books-A-Million, books, 516.21; Centurylink, phone, 71.91; Herren's, supplies, 20.07; NE Dept. of Revenue, employee withholding, 75.56; NEA, electricity, 262.48; Roanco Sprinklers, maintenance, 150.00; Security First Bank, county share social security, 104.02/employee share social security 104.02/county share medicare, 24.33/employee share medicare 24.33/withholding, 100.00; Village of Harrison, water, 61.25; Windbreak Cable, internet, 59.95.

NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL FUND: PAYROLL: 3,602.87; Ameritas Life Insurance, employee optical insurance, 35.60; Ameritas Life Insurance, county share retirement, 243.19/employee share retirement, 162.13; Blue Cross Blue Shield, insurance, 2,459.51; Centurylink, internet, 86.88; Herren's, supplies, 18.99; MASA Global, insurance, 12.50; NE Dept. of Revenue, employee withholding, 58.37; ODP Business Solutions, LLC, supplies, 63.16; Security First Bank, county share social security, 190.67/employee share social security, 190.67/county share medicare, 44.59/employee share medicare, 44.59/ withholding, 175.00.

Michelle Zimmerman submitted monthly fee reports to the board.

Lacy Klein, County Treasurer submitted financial reports to the Board.

Justin Tollman, Beef State Agency met with the board to discuss the county's insurance coverage. Some adjustments will be made prior to the renewal.

Nick Sanderson discussed purchasing ice melt for around the courthouse and library. He may use the ATV to spray the sidewalks, etc. Replacement of windows in the weed shop was discussed. Sanderson asked

to hire Mike Sanderson to help him clean out the weed shop. The request was tabled and will be discussed with Jim Phipps.

Sheriff McCumbers provided a financial report, and update on recent activities.

Matt Silverman, Business Development Executive with Vistabeam gave an update on a grant that they have applied for. Silverman asked for a letter of support from the county. County Attorney Edmund will review the request.

Melissa Mracek updated the board on recent extension activities. The Annual Report of Sioux County Extension was submitted to the board. Mracek asked if the salary portion of the extension budget can go over, as long as the bottom line does not. The University is not doing cost shares for interns this summer. The board will discuss and get back to Melissa.

Jim Fox met with the board regarding Toadstool Road. Fox has visited with Tim Buskirk, and is still working on a railroad contact person.

An agreement with Region 23 for updates to the current Region 23 Multi-jurisdictional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan was discussed. Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to sign the agreement. On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.

A public hearing was opened at 11:30 to hear public comment on closure of a portion of Indian Creek Road. Those in attendance at the hearing were Tim Buskirk, Brad Thomsen, Kaylee Barner and Andy and Holly Federle. Road Superintendent Phipps provided a report to the board, with his recommendation to close the portion of the road indicated. Tim Buskirk, Forst Service District Ranger stated that he is against the closure due to the public utilizing the national grasslands. Recreators and tourists will be disappointed with it being closed. Brad Thomsen is in favor of the closure, stating that it has become a nuisance with the public use of the road. Thomsen said little cars are part of issue, and added that vehicles go off the road onto private land. Hunters have cut private fences to get back to the road. There is a safety issue, as tempers are heated, and the hunters are armed. Holly Federle stated that one problem and safety concern is bicyclists that use the road in the summer. County Attorney Edmund said that hunting is an issue from the county attorney's office standpoint. The public hearing was closed at 11:48, and the board reconvened into regular session.

Road Superintendent Jim Phipps discussed a lease/purchase agreement with DA Davidson to finance repairs on road equipment. The interest rate is 4.6% with an option to prepay with no penalty. Motion made by Downer, seconded by Geiser to approve the agreement. On roll call vote, Geiser, yes; Downer, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to send a letter terminating the contract with Zelle HR Solutions. On roll call vote, Geiser, yes; Downer, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.

The board adjourned for a lunch recess at 12:05.

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m. The Sioux County Board of Commissioners will meet March 1, 2024.

/s/Josh Skavdahl
Chairman of the Board

/s/Michelle J. Zimmerman
Sioux County Clerk