

WEBSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Webster County Board of Commissioners met at 8:30am on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, for their regular Business Meeting at the Courthouse in Red Cloud, Nebraska. The following Board Members were present for roll call: Dan Shipman (District 1), Trevor Karr (District Two), TJ Vance, (District Three) Tim Gilbert (District Four), and Gary Ratzlaff (District Five). The Board stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman, TJ Vance gave notice of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act Laws. Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Gilbert to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2024 meeting. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, and Karr. Abstaining: Shipman. Voting nay, or absent: None. Motion was made by Karr, seconded by Gilbert to pay claims and payroll for the May 21, 2024 meeting. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None.

At 8:35am, Road Superintendent, Paul Stoner met with the board. Paul said he is still taking applications for the road department. He also discussed projects they need to get started on, but trying to work around the weather.

Discussion was had on mowing abandon cemeteries in the county. The county will pay for three mowings per year on abandon cemeteries. It is suggested to take a before and after picture for documentation purposes. A claim can then be submitted to the County Clerk. For any questions on this, please contact your County Commissioner or the County Clerk.

At 9:00am, Sheriff, Troy Schmitz and Deputy Ron Sunday (who is also Webster County's Emergency Manager) met with the board about a drone program for the county. Ron and Troy discussed what the drones could be used for and how they would benefit the county.

At 9:15am, Assessor, Tami Scheuneman, met with the board to go over permissive exemptions. A motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Karr to go into CBOE. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Tami presented the permissive exemptions. A motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Gilbert to approve the re-dated permissive exempt forms. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Tami then presented clerical errors for the board to review and discussed an Order she had received from TERC. A motion was made by Karr, seconded by Shipman to go out of CBOE. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None.

At 9:20am, Clerk, Abbey Harig discussed the light poles around the courthouse. Commissioner Shipman discussed one option. However, we are still waiting to hear back from the City of Red Cloud with their option. This will be discussed at a future meeting.

Abbey then presented the County Match Request for Region 3. After reviewing this, a motion was made by Karr, seconded by Ratzlaff to approve this. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None.

Abbey then discussed the maintenance garage's roof. We need to get another quote for this.

At 9:30am, The board opened the two bids that were received for the Webster County Sheriff's Office. The first bid was from Farris Construction Co., Inc and the second from Carmichael Construction LLC. The board reviewed both bids, a motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Ratzlaff to go with the lower bid, submitted by Farris Construction. Architect, Gene Krekci and Sheriff Schmitz wanted to review the bids in further detail before voting on this motion.

At 9:45am, Commissioner Ratzlaff gave up update on the elevator and presented a bid from TKE to update the elevator in the courthouse. The commissioners decided to hold off on this until it is necessary.

At 10:05am, the Commissioners came back to the motion made by Shipman, seconded by Ratzlaff to go with Farris Construction for the Sheriff's Office construction. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None.

At 10:10am, Noxious Weed Superintendent, Brian Pedersen met with the board to present bids on a new side by side. The commissioners reviewed and discussed the options. A motion was made by Gilbert, seconded by Shipman to go with the Kawaskaki Mule FX Pro 1000HD. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None.

At 10:30am, Commissioner Shipman met with the board to discuss side by sides on county roads. After speaking with our County Attorney, the county does not have the authority to make any changes to this.

At 10:45am, The board discussed health insurance options. Life insurance and long-term disability would be provided through the NACO plan instead of having all separate plans. Then it was discussed to move the deductible buy-down through First Concord from \$500 to \$550. A motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Karr to go with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska through NACO and to approve the new deductible buy-down amount. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None.

Lastly, **Resolution 14-2024** was presented for Cash in Lieu. The commissioners decide to continue doing 50% of the employee premium. A motion was made by Vance, seconded by Karr to approve this. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert and Karr. Voting nay: Shipman. Absent or abstaining: None.

Total Wages - \$151,671.94. **GENERAL FUND:** Ameritas Life Insurance Corp (Health)-\$7496.78; AT&T Mobility (Phones)-\$518.10; Black Hills Energy (Utility)-\$146.56; Blue Cross/Blue Shield (Premium)-\$42,690.39; Blue Hill Leader (Publish)-\$1691.37; Business World Products (Supply)-\$104.44; Calkins Law Office (Contract)-\$250.00; Patrick Calkins (Expense)-\$50.00; CPI (Fuel)-\$2508.80; DAS State Accounting/Central Finance (Fees)-\$242.00; Jolene K Duffy (Expense)-\$19.98; S.S. (Fica)-\$7680.04; Eakes Office Solutions (Supply)-\$256.27; Electronic Systems, Inc (Inspection)-\$162.20; Energized Electric LLC (Repairs)-\$76.04; First Concord Benefits Group (Fees)-\$45.00; First Concord Benefits Group (Fees)-\$305.35; Hamilton Information Systems, Inc (Services)-\$57.50; Abbey Harig (Expense)-\$66.66; Hometown Market (Supply)-\$974.90; Jared's Auto Expert (Repairs)-\$340.33; Kenny's Hardware and Home Center (Supply)-\$2.29; L-Tron (Supply)-\$282.28; NACO (Registration)-\$125.00; PIP Marketing Signs Print (Supply)-\$8.70; Red Cloud Chief (Publish)-\$1883.48; Self-Insured Dental Fund (Premium)-\$2813.00; Skalka & Baack Law Firm (Counsel)-\$1273.60; South Central Pub Power Dist (Utility)-\$24.80; Superior Fire Extinguisher Co (Inspection)-\$255.00; Superior Publishing Company, Inc (Supply)-\$143.75; Theobald Law Office (Counsel)-\$1466.25; Thomson Reuters-West (Subscription)-\$192.11; Rick Timmerman (Fees)-\$78.96; Village Pharmacy (Supply)-\$66.27; Vision Service Plan (COBRA)-\$19.31; Webster County Court (Fees)-\$42.00; WJE Consulting LLC (Cost Allocation)-\$1095.00. **ROAD/BRIDGE FUND:** Ameritas Life Insurance Corp (Health)-\$2996.06; Village of Bladen (Utility)-\$59.53; Blue Hill Leader (Publish)-\$8.05; C&D Service Center (Supply)-\$50.18; CPI (Fuel)-\$2452.80; S.S. (Fica)-\$3362.43; J&A Auto Supply (Supply)-\$127.35; Jared's Auto Expert (Repairs)-\$656.22; Lawson Products, Inc (Supply)-\$1171.98; NAPA Auto Parts (Supply)-\$400.02; NE Dept of Motor Vehicles (Misc)-\$82.50; Nebraska Machinery Company (Supply)-\$5812.44; Oak Creek Engineering, LLC (Misc)-\$2353.90; Olson Enterprises LLC (Fuel)-\$12,284.86; South Central Pub Power Dist (Utility)-\$183.11; Thramers Food Center (Supply)-\$9.38. **ROAD/BRIDGE CONST FUND:** ACE/Eaton Metals (Supply)-\$28,035.00; Oak Creek Engineering, LLC (Misc)-\$11,749.11. **SELF-INSURED DENTAL FUND:** McCann-Carpenter Dental LLC (Dental)-\$176.00. **NOXIOUS WEED FUND:** Ameritas Life Insurance Corp (Health)-\$225.79; CPI (Fuel)-\$63.74; S.S. (Fica)-\$255.89. **RC AMBULANCE SERVICE #1 FUND:** Olson Enterprises LLC (Fuel)-\$92.82. **BH AMBULANCE SERVICE #2 FUND:** Bound Tree Medical LLC (Supply)-\$969.21; CPI (Fuel)-\$208.91.

Being no further business, Chairman TJ Vance adjourned the meeting at 11:16am. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 4, 2024 at 8:30am. A current agenda and complete minutes are on file in the County Clerk's Office and at www.co.webster.ne.us.

Dated this 21st day of May, 2024
Webster County Board of Commissioners

Abbey Harig
Webster County Clerk