

WEBSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Webster County Board of Commissioners met at 8:30am on Tuesday, April 2, 2019, for a regular business meeting at the Courthouse in Red Cloud. The following Board Members were present for roll call: Dan Shipman (District One), Trevor Karr (District Two), Lonnie Knehans (District Three), Keith Buschow (District Four) and Gary Ratzlaff (District Five). The Board stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Buschow gave notice of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act Laws. Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Buschow, to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2019 meeting. Discussion was held with Knehans stating he felt the bids for cleaning and mowing should have been in the minutes so the public would have been properly informed. Since motion had already been given, voting for the motion: Buschow and Karr. Voting no: Ratzlaff and Knehans. Abstaining: Shipman. Motion did not pass.

Discussion continued on the minutes. The Board felt the public needed to know that the decision as to who to hire was based on Board members and recommendations from the Treasurer, Assessor, Sheriff and Clerk. Cleaning contract bids received were \$1,766.67 a month; \$1,500.00 a month; \$1,350.00 a month and \$1,950.00 a month. (Ron Brumbaugh was hired at \$1,766.67 a month). Mowing bids received were \$10,250.00 a year; \$100.00 per mowing; and \$165.00 per mowing, plus \$25.00 an hour for sidewalk edging & trimming as needed. (Van Wey Mowing Service was hired). After discussion on the above, Knehans made motion, seconded by Shipman to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2019 meeting with any additional information in the April 2, 2019 minutes. Voting in favor: Ratzlaff, Knehans, and Shipman. Voting no: Buschow and Karr.

At 8:40am, Paul Stoner met with the Board. Repairs are being done on the loader. Most of the tubes put in last year have washed out. Work continues to be done on the closed roads. Paul is documenting all work being done in order to help with maybe applying for federal assistance later on if it becomes available. The Board will have their bid letting for Walnut Creek Bridge at the next meeting. Paul and 4 of his road crew attended a training meeting in Grand Island. They all felt the meeting was very beneficial to them.

At 9:05am, Knehans reported on the South Heartland Board of Health appointment. Motion was made by Knehans, seconded by Karr to appoint Tori Kranau to fill the retirement vacancy of Ron Kuehner. Voting in favor: Buschow, Ratzlaff, Knehans, Karr and Shipman. Motion carried. The Board expressed their sincere appreciation for Ron Kuehner's previous 9 years of service on the Public Health Board.

The Board discussed removing of the heat registers and piping in the courthouse. There are 70 of them. This is tabled until the next meeting in order for the public to have the opportunity to bid on this project. If anyone is interested in doing this, submit your bid to the County Clerk before the May 7th meeting. We have at this time received one bid for this project.

At 9:15am, Deputy Harig met with the Board on sale of Plat Books. Motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Karr to continue to sell them at \$25.00. Voting in favor: Buschow, Ratzlaff, Karr, Knehans and Shipman. Voting no, absent or abstaining: none. We order 50 of them at the cost of \$1,150 which gives us a profit of only \$2. We will sell the old ones for \$12.50. Deputy Harig also reported on the Burial Policy. More work will be done. The Board stated they felt Abbey was doing a very good job compiling information on these and thanked her for her time. She also reported on the new phone system. The Board is requesting that Phillip Jensen meet with the Board on the phone system.

At 9:45am, Gene Horne met with the Board on the Red Cloud and Blue Hill Ambulances. They discussed expenses and possibly dividing the two ambulances into two separate budgets. Clerk Petsch reported on income and expenses for the last two years to the Board and will continue to do so on a quarterly basis. The Red Cloud Ambulance has shown a profit but the Blue Hill Ambulance has shown a loss due to high cost of equipment expense. More fund raising may need to be done by the Blue Hill Ambulance to help cover their expenses. No decision was made at this time to separate the two ambulances. They will remain as one budget.

Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Karr to approve **RESOLUTION 13 – 2019:**

Upon roll call vote, voting in favor: Buschow, Ratzlaff, Knehans, Karr and Shipman. Voting no, absent or abstaining: None. RESOLUTION 13-2019 was signed.

RESOLUTION 13 – 2019

WHEREAS, The 2018-2019 County Budget provided the transfers of funds in the total of \$600,000.00 from the General Fund to the County Road/Capital Construction Fund (#800);

WHEREAS, Sufficient funds are available in the County Treasurer's General Fund (#100) to allow for this transfer;

WHEREAS, There are pending bridge replacement projects that require funding;

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Webster County, Nebraska that \$100,000.00 be transferred from the General Fund (#100) to the Road/Capital Construction Fund (#800) pursuant to the requirements set forth in the 2018-2109 County Budget;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the above designated transfer of funds shall be made by submitting a claim from the General Fund Account (100-705-7.0202 Expense) and issuing an Impress Check to the Road/Capital Construction Fund (0800-590.02 Revenue).

ADOPTED this 2nd day of April, 2019.

Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Karr to approve **RESOLUTION 14-2019:**

Upon roll call vote, voting in favor: Buschow, Ratzlaff, Knehans, Karr and Shipman. Voting no, absent or abstaining: None. RESOLUTION 14-2019 was signed.

RESOLUTION 14 – 2019

WHEREAS, The 2018-2019 County Budget, adopted September 20, 2018 by the Webster County Board of Commissioners, provided for transfers of funds in the total of \$300,000.00 from Capt Const Fund to the Inheritance Fund #2700;

WHEREAS, Sufficient funds are available in the Capt Const Fund (#800) to allow this transfer;

WHEREAS; The balance of the Capt Const Fund is sufficient for the Transfer of Funds to Inheritance Fund (#2700);

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Webster County, Nebraska, that \$200,000.00 be transferred from the Capt Const Fund (#800) to the Inheritance Fund Account (#2700) as a transfer of funds as stated in the 2018-2019 Webster County Budget Documents;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the above designated transfer of funds shall be made by submitting a claim for the General Fund Account (0800-704-0206) and issuing an Imprest Check to the Inheritance Fund (2700-590.03).

ADOPTED this 2nd day of April, 2019.

Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Karr to approve **RESOLUTION 15-2019**:

Upon roll call vote, voting in favor: Buschow, Ratzlaff, Knehans, Karr and Shipman. Voting no, absent or abstaining: None. RESOLUTION 15-2019 was signed.

RESOLUTION 15 – 2019

WHEREAS, The 2018-2019 County Budget, adopted September 18, 2018 by the Webster County Board of Commissioners, provided for transfers of funds in the total of \$780,000.00 from the General Fund to the County Road/Bridge Fund #300;

WHEREAS, Sufficient funds are available in the County Treasurer's General Fund (#100) to allow for this first transfer;

WHEREAS, There are pending bridge projects that require funding;

BE IT RESOLVED, By the Board of Commissioners of Webster County, Nebraska that \$195,000.00 be transferred from the County General Fund (#100) to the County Road/Bridge Fund (3300) as the first transfer of funds as stated in the 2018-2019 Webster County Budget Document;

ADOPTED this 2nd day of April, 2019.

Chairman Buschow signed a letter to the Secretary of State prepared by Clerk Petsch asking for approval to do all Mail-Out Voting. This had been approved by the Board at the January 15th Board meeting.

Clerk Petsch discussed with the Board on credit card usage. She felt the cards should not include charging of meals because this expense should be given through our claims process when and if they submit a mileage reimbursement. Board tabled this until next meeting so a letter could be drafted with rules of credit card usage.

At 9:50am, Sheriff Troy Schmitz met with the Board for discussion on medical claims for inmates. The jail passed their jail inspection but they stated the county had a greater liability cost issue with the housing of out of county inmates. He also discussed the jail standards. At 10:00am Chairman Buschow left the meeting. Vice Chairman Ratzlaff presided for the remainder of the meeting. Troy stated to the Board he is considering not housing out of county prisoners.

At 10:30am Barb Otto spoke to the Board with handouts on her campaign for placing our national motto "IN GOD WE TRUST" in all the courthouses in Nebraska. She has already been to 85 of the 93 counties with very favorable responses. The Board decided to publish this in our minutes so the public could give their feedback on this as to putting posters or banners inside or outside of the courthouse. County Attorney Bockstadter will be given this information to see if this is legal or not to do this.

At 10:35am, Deputy Tami Scheuneman met with the Board on Tax Corrections. Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Karr to go into Board of Equalization. Voting in favor: Ratzlaff, Karr and Shipman. Abstaining: Knehans. Absent: Buschow. Tax Corrections were for Gary Wilhelms for \$230.88, and Doug Hubl for \$176.16. Motion was made by Karr, seconded by Shipman to approve these tax corrections. Upon discussion, Knehans expressed that the taxpayers are just as responsible as the Assessors. Voting in favor: Ratzlaff, Karr and Shipman. Voting no: Knehans. Absent: Buschow. Motion carried. Assessor Krueger met with the Board on Permissive Exemptions. VSL needs approval of their application for tax exempt status as previously requested. Motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Karr to approve of this exemption. Voting in favor: Ratzlaff, Karr and Shipman. Voting no: Knehans. Absent: Buschow. Motion carried. Sonja discussed the Willa Cather Foundation's application for exemption. She informed the commissioners of partial denial and set date for hearing. This will be tabled until May 7th meeting. Motion was made by Knehans, seconded by Shipman to go out of Board of Equalization. Voting in favor: (Ratzlaff, Karr, Knehans and Shipman). Absent: Buschow.

At 11:25am, Ron Brumbaugh and Lonnie met with the Board for discussion and clarification on duties required in cleaning the courthouse. The Board approved of him purchasing a vacuum cleaner. Ron told the Board the wood flooring is in bad shape and will need to be addressed at a later date when all the repair work, etc. is done at the courthouse. He suggested a professional to do the job because it would require sanding and a lot of time to fix them.

Motion was made by Karr, seconded by Shipman to approve the payroll and claims for April 2, 2019. Members voting in favor: Ratzlaff, Knehans, Karr and Shipman. Absent: Buschow.

GENERAL FUND: Ameritas Life Insurance (Retire)-\$403.43; Black Hills Energy (Utility)-\$95.60; Katie Bolte (Expense)-\$23.78; Calkins Law Office (Counsel)-\$382.10; CEI Security (Repairs)-\$182.00; Central NE Co Assessor Assn (Dues)-\$20.00; Charm-Tex Inc (Supply)-\$153.16; Das State Accounting/Central Finance (Telecom)-\$448.00; Dunse Nutrition Consultings, LLC (Fee)-\$14.47; S.S. (Fica)-\$453.95; Eakes Office Solutions (Supply)-\$1024.76; First Concord Benefits (Health)-\$500.00; First National Bank Omaha (Expense)-\$35.74; First National Bank Omaha (Expense)-\$213.14; Katie Glenn (Service)-\$108.00; Glenwood (Fee)-\$10.00; Great Plains Communications (Phones)-\$894.01; Alexa Hinrichs (Expense)-\$93.96; Hometown Leasing (Lease)-\$129.00; Integrated Security Solutions (Repairs)-\$127.50; Jared's Auto Expert (Repairs)-\$730.61; Leaf Capitol Funding (Lease)-\$424.45; Neb Instit of Forensic Sciences, Inc (Autopsy)-\$2,000.00; Neofunds by Neopost (Postage)-\$1,000.00; Red Cloud Chief (Publish)-\$480.77; Sam's Club (Supply)-\$54.36; Monica Schmitz (Expense)-\$92.80; Theobald Law Office (Counsel)-\$926.25; VanWey Fencing (Repairs)-\$600.00; Ken VanWey (Repairs)-\$75.00; Village Pharmacy (Medical)-\$61.64; Web Co Sheriff-Petty Cash Fund (Petty Cash)-\$4.00; Web Co Court (Court Cost)-\$51.00; Webs Co Treasurer (Transfer)-\$195,000.00; Web Co Treasurer (Transfer)-\$100,000.00; Williams

Exterminating, Inc (Pest Control)-\$88.00; Woodward's Disposal Service (Utility)-\$20.00; Zee Medical Service (Supply)-\$46.75. ROAD/BRIDGE FUND: Black Hills Energy (Utility)-\$216.14; Village of Bladen (Utility)-\$56.68; City of Blue Hill (Utility)-\$130.53; Bostock Welding LLC (Repairs)-\$120.00; Country Corner (Fuel)-\$175.08; First National Bank Omaha (Supply)-\$371.29; Glenwood Telecommunication (Phone)-\$154.65; Great Plains Communications (Phone)-\$224.72; Hometown Market (Supply)-\$11.78; J & A Auto Supply (Repairs)-\$7.69; Jones Machinery, Inc (Equip)-\$2,300.00; Krueger Land Surveying (Fees)-\$450.00; LRNRD Rural Water Project (Water)-\$22.21; Monica Montgomery (Expense)-\$4.57; Napa Auto Parts (Supply)-\$64.70; Neb Machinery Company (Repairs)-\$1,759.75; Oak Creek Engineering, LLC (Fees)-\$2,604.00; R&M Disposal LLC (Utility)-\$33.00; Verizon Wireless (Phone)-\$47.34; Windstream (Phone)-\$72.00. ROAD/BRIDGE CONST FUND: Web Co Treasurer (Transfer)-\$200,000.00. SELF INSURED DENTAL FUND: Bush Family Dentistry (Dental)-\$368.20; Central Dental Group (Dental)-\$979.20; Heartland Periodontics & Implant (Dental)-\$106.40; Timothy Lebsack (Dental)-\$47.40; McCann-Carpenter Dental LLC (Dental)-\$267.40; Pediatric Dental Specialists (Dental)-\$176.80; Webster Co Dental Clinic (Dental)-\$515.00; RC Wilson & SA Wilson DDS, PC (Dental)-\$135.00. AMBULANCE FUND: S.S. (Fica)-\$213.47; Great Plains Communications (Phone)-\$48.39; Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc (Oxygen Rental)-\$183.41.

Being no further business, Vice Chair Ratzlaff adjourned the meeting at 11:45am. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at 8:30am. A current agenda and complete minutes are on file at the County Clerk's Office and at www.co.webster.ne.us.

Dated this 2nd Day of April, 2019
Webster County Board of Commissioners
ATTEST: Louise Petsch
Webster County Clerk