

WEBSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Webster County Board of Commissioners met at 8:30am on Tuesday, July 16, 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 Karr, seconded by Knehans to approve the minutes of the July 2, 2019 meeting. Voting in favor: Buschow, Ratzlaff, Knehans, Karr and Shipman. Motion carried.

At 8:35am, Paul Stoner met with the Board. Doug Sittner has been doing repairs on 1400 Road E and told Paul he thought maybe we should put up a stop sign on that intersection because it was a danger to traffic coming from both directions because of visibility. The crew continues to work on Paul Krueger's place on tubes. Paul told the Board he felt previous maintenance on roads were not done properly and that we needed to do major ditch cleaning to solve drainage problems causing havoc with the roads in getting them cleaned out and seeded right away. Crushed limestone has been put on roads around Cowles and Inavale area to help repair the roads. Four county road employees have been working on weekends to fix all these problems in a timely manner.

At 9:15am, RuAnn Root from CASA met with the Board and reported their activity and request for funding of \$3,000. Following a discussion of pro and cons, and concerns of all agency's requesting funding from the Counties, motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Buschow to approve this request. Voting in favor: Buschow, Ratzlaff, Knehans and Karr. Voting no: Shipman. Motion carried.

At 9:30am, several Fire Board members met with the Board for their annual request. These requests were from Bladen, Red Cloud, Guide Rock and Blue Hill. Motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Karr to deny these requests: Voting in favor of these denials: Buschow, Ratzlaff, Knehans, Karr and Shipman. Voting no, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried. Resolutions 24 through 27-2019 were signed.

**RESOLUTION 24- 2019**

Resolution Requesting  
A Preliminary  
From the County Board

**WHEREAS**, Nebraska Statute 77-3443 (3) requires all political subdivisions subject to Webster County Levy Authority to submit a preliminary request for levy allocation to the County Board; and

**WHEREAS**, The Webster County Board is the levy agent for Guide Rock Rural Fire Protection District;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that \$27,540.00 is Tax Request for budget year 2019-2020 for the Guide Rock Rural Fire Protection District

**ADOPTED** this 16<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2019.

**RESOLUTION 25 - 2019**

Resolution Requesting  
A Preliminary  
From the County Board

**WHEREAS**, Nebraska Statute 77-3443 (3) requires all political subdivisions subject to Webster County Levy Authority to submit a preliminary request for levy allocation to the County Board; and

**WHEREAS**, The Webster County Board is the levy agent for Blue Hill Rural Fire Protection District;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that \$106,000.00 is Tax Request for budget year 2019-2020 for the Blue Hill Rural Fire Protection District

**ADOPTED** this 16<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2019.

**RESOLUTION 26 - 2019**

Resolution Requesting  
A Preliminary  
From the County Board

**WHEREAS**, Nebraska Statute 77-3443 (3) requires all political subdivisions subject to Webster County Levy Authority to submit a preliminary request for levy allocation to the County Board; and

**WHEREAS**, The Webster County Board is the levy agent for Red Cloud Rural Fire Protection District;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that \$56,355.00 is Tax Request for budget year 2019-2020 for the Red Cloud Rural Fire Protection District

**ADOPTED** this 16<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2019.

**RESOLUTION 27 - 2019**

Resolution Requesting  
A Preliminary  
From the County Board

**WHEREAS**, Nebraska Statute 77-3443 (3) requires all political subdivisions subject to Webster County Levy Authority to submit a preliminary request for levy allocation to the County Board; and

**WHEREAS**, The Webster County Board is the levy agent for Bladen Rural Fire Protection District;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that \$64,244.00 is Tax Request for budget year 2019-2020 for the Bladen Rural Fire Protection District

**ADOPTED** this 16<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2019.

Motion was made by Karr and seconded by Shipman to approve Resolution 28-2019 request for 2020/2021 Fire Boards and Webster County Ag Society to submit their requests next year. Voting in favor: Buschow, Ratzlaff, Knehans, Karr and Shipman. Voting no, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried.

### **RESOLUTION 28 - 2019**

**WHEREAS**, recent legislation designates the manner in which Webster County and its various political subdivisions may levy taxes for support of their various operations; and

**WHEREAS**, all Rural Fire Districts within Webster County which would be entitled to an allocation of property tax authority not to exceed a total of 10.5 cents of valuation on any parcel or item of taxable property have filed a preliminary request for levy allocation as required by law; and

**WHEREAS**, The Webster County Board of Commissioners finds that it would not be possible to continue the necessary functions of County government if the preliminary requests for levy allocation were granted;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Webster County Board of Commissioners hereby denies preliminary requests for levy allocation for the Budget Year 2020/2021 from:

Bladen Rural Fire District  
Blue Hill Fire District  
Guide Rock Rural Fire District  
Red Cloud Rural Fire District  
Webster County Agricultural District

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the Chairperson of the governing body of each of the Fire Districts which submitted a preliminary request for levy allocation.

**ADOPTED** this 16<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2019.

At 10:00am, the Webster County Ag Society submitted their annual request. Motion was made by Karr, seconded by Ratzlaff to deny this request. Voting in favor: Buschow, Ratzlaff, Knehans, Karr and Shipman. Voting no, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried. Resolution 29-2019 was signed.

### **RESOLUTION 29 - 2019**

Resolution Requesting  
A Preliminary  
From the County Board

**WHEREAS**, Nebraska Statute 77-3443 (3) requires all political subdivisions subject to Webster County Levy Authority to submit a preliminary request for levy allocation to the County Board; and

**WHEREAS**, The Webster County Board is the levy agent for Webster County Agricultural Society;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that \$74,847.77 is Tax Request for budget year 2019-2020 for the Webster County Agricultural Society

**ADOPTED** this 16<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2019.

At 9:45am, Clerk Petsch presented to the Board an estimate from Rod's Construction for carpeting the vaults in the Clerk's Office and the Treasurer's Office. Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Knehans to approve this estimate. Voting in favor: Buschow, Ratzlaff, Knehans, Karr and Shipman. Motion carried.

At 10:15am, the Board inspected the HVAC System on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Courthouse due to some possible leakage in the ceiling. Energized Electric was also present.

At 10:30am, Stef Creech-Will and Kerry met with the Board with their program update and budget request for ASAAP. Following a lengthy discussion, the Board felt ASAAP needed to contact other entities and schools for funding before they would consider their request. Motion was made by Knehans, seconded by Shipman to deny this request at this time: Voting in favor: Shipman, Knehans and Karr. Voting no: Buschow and Ratzlaff. Motion carried for denial of this request.

At 10:45am, Dennis VanWey met with the Board for permission to help the Ext Office move stuff to the Webster County Fair and back and to the State Fair. The Board okayed this request. Dennis also requested the County reimburse him for cell phone expense for 6 months out of the year at \$20.00 a month. The Board was in agreement with this also and told him to budget it in his budget request. Dennis also presented a document to be signed by the Board for his application in the County's cash-in-lieu program since he is applying for Medicare.

At 11:00am, Teresa Young from the Webster County Museum gave her annual report. It was a very informative and thorough report of activity at the Museum.

At 11:30am, Sheriff Schmitz gave a report to the board on surplus items in the Sheriff's Office. Since the Office will no longer be having a drug dog, there is equipment and a vehicle that McCook Sheriff's Office is interested in purchasing and he also has other vehicles to possibly put on Big Iron Sale. The Board told him to go ahead and determine the best solution and do it. Troy will report later about his decisions.

At 11:30am, Chairman Buschow opened the bids for the courthouse windows. Bids were received from Century Lumber (Marvin windows) for \$214,950.00 and Carmichael Construction for \$218,000.00 (Pella windows). The Board discussed both options thoroughly and felt they needed more clarification on the bids and will be contacting both companies and make a decision on this project soon.

Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Knehans to approve payment of claims and payroll. All members voted in favor.

**GENERAL FUND**: Adams County (Funding)-\$100.00; Adams County Clerk (Dues)-\$2539.00; Adams County Sheriff's Dept (Fees)-\$6.50; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp (Retire)-\$6002.01; Blue Cross/Blue Shield (Health/Life)-\$20,004.16; Blue Hill Leader

(Publish/Subscription)-\$279.49; Calkins Law Office (Counsel)-\$595.85; Cooperative Producers, Inc (Fuel)-\$1527.36; Corporate Image Design (Supply)-\$239.00; DAS State Accounting/Central Finance (Fees)-\$225.52; Dawson County Sheriff's Office (Fees)-\$45.30; Dawson County Sheriff's Office (Fees)-\$45.30; Department of the Treasury (Fee)-\$90.82; FICA - \$6510.31; Eakes Office Solutions (Supply)-\$639.33; Energized Electric LLC (Repairs)-\$8481.55; First Concord Benefits (Health)-\$1032.30; First Concord Benefits Group (Fee)-\$17.50; First Concord Benefits Groups (Fees)-\$210.00; Franklin County Memorial Hospital (Medical)-\$250.00; Frontier Bag Co (Supply)-\$421.87; Hometown Leasing (Lease)-\$1548.00; Hometown Market (Supply)-\$597.68; Kenny's Lumber & Home Center (Repairs)-\$26.15; Madison National Life Ins Co, Inc (Life)-\$20.32; Mailfinance (Lease)-\$303.00; Midwest Special Services (Expense)-\$483.00; Mips Inc (Support/Supply)-\$1800.12; Nebraska Tech \$ Telecom, Inc (Phone)-\$49.34; Postmaster (Postage)-\$64.00; Ramada Kearney (Lodging)-\$178.20; Region 3 Behavioral Health Services (Funding)-\$2259.93; Sam's Club (Supplies)-\$65.80; Self-Insured Dental Fund (Premiums)-\$2811.00; Skalka & Baack Law Firm (Counsel)-\$475.00; South Central Pub Power Dist (Utility)-\$24.80; Sullivan Shoemaker P.C., L.L.O. (Counsel)-\$550.50; Theobald Law Office (Counsel)-\$2992.50; Thomson Reuters -West (Supply)-\$298.35; Todd's Trees & More (Repairs)-\$500.00; Verizon Wireless (Phones)-\$240.06; Webster County Imprest Account (Int)-\$150.64; Zee Medical Service (Medical)-\$43.75. ROAD/BRIDGE FUND: Ameritas Life Insurance Corp (Retire)-\$2507.81; Bladen Sand & Gravel, Inc (Gravel)-\$ 13,282.25; Village of Bladen (Utility)-\$56.85; Blue Cross/Blue Shield(Health/Life)-\$10,911.36; Blue Hill Leader (Publish)-\$159.08; Cooperative Producers, Inc (Fuel)-\$2241.31; Country Corner (Fuel)-\$136.66; FICA - \$279.87; First Concord Benefits Group (Fees)-\$10.00; Glenn Plumbing & Heating (Repairs)-\$58.10; Hastings Outdoor Power LLC (Repairs)-\$70.97; Hometown Market (Supply)-\$12.77; J&A Auto Supply (Repairs)-\$207.29; Mips Inc (Support)-\$108.98; Monica Montgomery (Expense)-\$3.82; Nebraska Machinery Company (Repairs)-\$929.52; Self-Insured Dental Fund (Premiums)-\$995.00; Paul Stoner (Expense)-\$8.83; Timm's Service (Fuel)-\$1820.48; Wiacom Inc (Phone)-\$275.40. ROAD/BRIDGE CONST FUND: Bladen Sand & Gravel (Gravel)-\$789.36; Sunbelt Rentals (Repairs)-\$117.89. MODERN RECORDS FUND: Mips Inc (Fees)-\$112.00. SELF-INSURED DENTAL FUND: Bush Family Dentistry (Dental)-\$205.90; Robert G Money, D.D.S. (Dental)-\$111.20; Webster County Dental Clinic (Dental)-\$21.60. NOXIOUS WEED FUND: Ameritas Life Insurance Corp (Retire)-\$179.59; Blue Cross/Blue Shield (Health/Life)-\$909.28; C&D Service Center (Repairs)-\$780.83; Cooperative Producers, Inc (Fuel)-\$234.15; FICA - \$203.54; J&A Auto Supply (Repairs)-\$19.34; Self-Insured Dental Fund (Premium)-\$111.00. AMBULANCE FUND: Village of Campbell (911)-\$210.00; Cooperative Producers, Inc (Fuel)-\$143.42; Jim's OK Tires (Tires)-\$900.35; Olson Enterprises LLC (Fuel)-\$114.37. Employee Salary- \$129,178.07.

Being no further business, Chairman Buschow adjourned the meeting at 12:45pm. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 6, 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](http://www.co.webster.ne.us).

Dated this 16<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2019  
Webster County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: Louise Petsch  
Webster County Clerk

On July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019, the Board of Equalization reconvened at 3:35 p.m. Members present: Buschow, Knehans, Ratzlaff, Assessor Krueger, and Deputy Assessor Scheuneman. Absent: Karr and Shipman.

PROTEST OF VALUATION HEARING WERE:

Protest 2019-42 Eric Ritter, owner, no one present, valuation decreased;  
Protest 2019-37 Audrey Berns, owner, no one present, valuation decreased;  
Protest 2019-13 Kathryn Lockhart, owner, no one present, valuation no change;  
Protest 2019-43 Stuart Kerr, owner, no one present, valuation decreased;  
Protest 2019-44 SPTIHS Properties Trust, no one present, valuation decreased;  
Protest 2019-38 & 39 Plowshare, LLC & AKLEVAP, LLC, owner, no one present, valuations decreased;  
Protest 2019-34 Bradley Gilbert, owner, no one present, valuation decreased;  
Protest 2019-22 & 23 CHS-Holdrege, owner, Mitch Woeste present, valuations decreased;  
Protest 2019-29,30 & 31 City of Red Cloud, owner, Kory McCracken present, valuations decreased;  
Protest 2019-28 Kory & Beth McCracken, owners, Kory present, valuation decreased;  
Protest 2019-25 & 26 Roy & Susan Phillips, owners, no one present, valuations decreased;  
Protest 2019-41 Kathrine Moore, owner, no one present, valuation decreased;  
Protest 2019-35 Lawrence & Virginia Goll, owners, no one present, valuation decreased;  
Protest 2019-14,15,16,17 & 18 Phillip Gleason, owner, no one present, valuations decreased.

Motion made by Buschow, second by Knehans, to approve the 23 protests. Voting in favor: Buschow, Knehans, and Ratzlaff. Absent: Karr and Shipman. Motion carried.

Board of Equalization meeting recessed @ 4:45 until the July 17<sup>th</sup> hearing date.

On July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019, the Board of Equalization reconvened at 8:30 a.m. Members present: Buschow, Knehans, Ratzlaff and Deputy Assessor Scheuneman. Absent: Karr and Shipman.

PROTEST OF VALUATION HEARINGS WERE:

Protest 2019-20 Douglas & Denise Cline, owners, no one present, valuation increased;

Protest 2019-24 Daniel & Valarie Benge, owners, no one present, valuation decreased;

Protest 2019-27 Don Theobald, Trustee, no one present, valuation decreased;

Protest 2019-40 Tyrha Schriener, owner, Tyrha present, valuation no change.

Motion made by Knehans, second by Ratzlaff, to approve the 4 protests. Voting in favor: Buschow, Knehans, Ratzlaff.

Absent: Karr and Shipman. Motion carried.

Motion made by Ratzlaff, second by Knehans, to adjourn out of Board of Equalization @ 9:05 a.m. Voting in favor: Buschow, Knehans and Ratzlaff. Absent: Karr and Shipman. Motion carried.