

WEBSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Webster County Board of Commissioners met at 8:30am on Tuesday, November 5, 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), Tyler Vance (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 Vance to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2019 meeting. Voting in favor: Buschow, Ratzlaff, Vance and Karr. Abstain: Shipman. Motion carried.

At 8:45am, Paul Stoner met with the Board. The Road Crews are continuing to clean out road ditches and extending tubes. Paul reported work on the Walnut Creek bridge should be finished in about a month. They discussed the proposed bridge widening at Sections 20 & 29-1-12. Cost estimate is \$90,000.00. If we do it at this time there will be a cost savings of \$20,000.00. It is too late to put gravel on the roads now, but Paul informed the Board that some roads need gravel in order to be repaired properly.

Commissioner Karr informed the Board someone had written on the road near Bladen (Fix the "*****" road). The Board discussed this graffiti and decided they will not deal with terrorists.

Motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Karr to recertify Lance Harter as County Highway Superintendent for Webster County with Resolution 43-2019. Voting in favor: Buschow, Ratzlaff, Vance, Karr and Shipman. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Vance to approve Resolution 44-2019 to transfer \$10,000.00 from Inheritance Fund to Hospital Bond Fund in order to make our annual payment of \$205,106.76. Voting in favor: Buschow, Ratzlaff, Vance, Karr and Shipman. Motion carried.

An Agreement and Resolution 45-2019 for 2019 Fracture Critical Bridge Inspection was signed by Chairman Buschow and the Board Members.

The Board discussed the new windows and key fobs for the doors. Kevin Hansen will be checking into this and give a price estimate. They also discussed the HVAC fresh air vents and holes and the fence around the HVAC System. Bostock Welding will look into the fence project and give us an estimate and suggestions on what he thinks to do.

Sheriff Troy Schmitz submitted a letter to the Board stating County Treasurer Knehans had given him Nine 2018 Distress Warrants on November 1, 2019, totaling \$8,163.07 owed to the County. Troy also submitted his Webster County Jail Annual Report for year 2019 as of November 1, 2019.

Motion was made by Karr, seconded by Vance to approve payroll and claims. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

At 9:30am, Clerk Petsch submitted an Ambulance Report to the Board showing income, billings, EMT wages, number of transfers and expenses from January 1, 2019 to September 30, 2019. She also submitted an Outstanding Claim Checks Report that had been prepared by Administrative Assistant Katie Ord. Clerk Petsch discussed with the Board an outstanding Ambulance bill she has been trying to collect but due to death of transport and no funds available for payment, she asked the Board to write-off this bill. Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Karr to write it off. Voting in favor: Buschow, Ratzlaff, Vance, Karr and Shipman. Motion carried.

At 9:45am, Assessor Krueger met with the Board. Motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Ratzlaff to go into Board of Equalization to approve of a Tax Correction. All members voted in favor. Motion carried. Tax Correction for Michiael Kile was approved. Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Shipman to go out of Board of Equalization. All members voted in favor. Motion carried. Assessor Krueger gave a letter to Commissioner TJ Vance for the Webster County Ag Society explaining what is necessary for them to do in order to keep the County Fair going. TJ Vance will relay this information to the Ag Society. She also asked the Board for approval to put their Marshall & Swift Books on the credit card since it is over the \$500 limit. The Board approved of this.

At 10:00am, the Board met with Midland Area Agency on Aging concerning their vehicles. More information will be given at a later date. Casey Music and Pam Arterburn were present. ~~They are still trying to straighten out the Senior Citizens Group and will possibly be moving back into the Elm Street Center.~~

At 10:30, Audrey Berns (not on the agenda) met with the Board on Phase 2 of the Windfarm Turbine Project. She was cautioning the Board to get more information and proceed slowly as not to jeopardize the people of Webster County.

At 10:30am, Treasurer Knehans met on Distress Warrants and further discussion on the Webster County Transportation Fund. Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Karr to approve of Janet's Distress Warrants report. All members present voted in favor. Motion carried. Janet also introduced her new employee Shannon Chrisman and asked the Board for approval to have her and Monica Schmitz as authorized signers on the South Central State Bank accounts. Motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Ratzlaff to approve of this request. Voting in favor: Buschow, Ratzlaff, Vance, Karr and Shipman. Motion carried.

At 10:45am, Sheriff Schmitz met with the Board on Chief Jailer Salary. Deb Fisbeck is retiring and vacation, sick leave and comp time wages were submitted. Board approved of paying this claim. She will be receiving one last check in December for 60 hours worked also.

At 11:00am, Sharron Huffle from SCEDD presented her report on activity and request for funding. The Board discussed this request in detail. Gene Horne was also present during this discussion. No decision was made at this time. Later on in the meeting, the Board discussed the matter again and made the decision not to fund them again this year.

At 11:30am, Janet, Sonja, Liz and Troy met with the Board on wages for 2020.

At 11:45am, Deputy Clerk Abbey Harig met with the Board on the "In God We Trust" banner that had been approved to purchase and hang in the Courthouse. Banner of 14" x 60" will be purchased.

The following claims were approved as follows: Wages totaling \$21,618.51.

GENERAL FUND: Ameritas Life Insurance Corp (Retire)-\$1253.58; BDY Cabinets and More (Repairs)-\$78.79; Black Hills Energy (Utility)-\$78.00; Blue Cross/Blue Shield (Health)-\$1832.00; Bockstadter & Glen Law, LLC (Contract)-\$1705.00; Sara Bockstadter (Expense)-\$451.02; Katie Bolte (Expense)-\$67.28; Ron Brumbaugh (Contract)-\$1766.67; Carmichael Construction, LLC (Windows)-\$100,450.00; DAS State Accounting/Central Finance (Fees)-\$448.00; S.S. (Fica)-\$1420.07; Eakes Office Solutions (Supply)-\$1056.69; First Concord Benefits (Health)-\$1349.81; First National Bank Omaha (Supplies)-\$1303.92; Franklin County Sheriff (Fees)-\$18.50; Great Plains Communications (Phones)-\$1105.76; Hometown Leasing (Lease)-\$129.00; J&A Auto Supply (Repairs)-\$35.98; Carla Jameson (Expense)-\$118.65; Elizabeth Janning (Expense)-\$32.48; Janet Knehans (Expense)-\$83.52; Sonja Krueger (Expense)-\$102.08; Leaf Capital Funding, LLC (Lease)-\$424.45; Lincoln Fire & Rescue (Supply)-\$1209.55; Lutz (Fees)-\$1050.00; Mips Inc (Supply)-\$137.92; Neb Institute of Forensic Sciences Inc (Autopsy)-\$2000.00; Neb Public Health Environmental Lab (Autopsy)-\$105.00; Nebraska.gov (Supply)-\$126.00; Sydney O'Daniel (Expense)-\$221.56; Alexa Pedersen (Expense)-\$208.78, Pierce Electronics (Repairs)-\$110.00; Red Cloud Chief (Publish)-\$555.29; City of Red Cloud (Utility)-\$3483.26; Tami Scheuneman (Expense)-\$178.71; Monica Schmitz (Expense)-\$83.52; Shirt Shack Hastings (Supply)-\$223.64; South Central Pub Power Dist (Utility)-\$24.80; Amber Stoner (Expense)-\$100.86; Ken VanWey (Repairs/Mowing)-\$690.00; Williams Exterminating, Inc (Pest Control)-\$88.00; 911 Custom (Supply)-\$203.00.

ROAD/BRIDGE FUND: Ameritas Life Insurance Corp (Retire)-\$32.20; Black Hills Energy (Utility)-\$136.56; Bladen Sand & Gravel, Inc (Gravel)-\$22,236.64; Village of Bladen (Utility)-\$56.73; City of Blue Hill (Utility)-\$101.94; Country Corner (Fuel)-\$420.68; S.S. (Fica)-\$36.49; Fastenal (Repairs)-\$75.98; First Concord Benefits (Health)-\$500.00; First National Bank Omaha (Supply)-\$1365.38; Glenwood Telecommunications (Phones)-\$166.35; Great Plains Communications (Phone)-\$49.51; Hometown Market (Supply)-\$7.79; Island Supply Welding Company (Repairs)-\$116.58; LRNRD Rural Water Project (Water)-\$22.21; Nebraska Salt and Grain (Gravel)-\$1501.50; Nebraska Machinery Company (Repairs)-\$ 10,014.48; Overhead Door (Repairs)-\$165.45; R&M Disposal LLC (Utility)-\$47.50; Red Cloud Chief (Publish)-\$11.15; South Central Pub Power Dist (Utility)-\$114.27; Verizon Wireless (Phone)-\$37.32; Webster County Hospital (Medical)-\$42.00; Windstream (Phone)-\$71.94.

SELF-INSURED DENTAL FUND: Sean M Daly, D.D.S. (Dental)-\$400.60; Mark Driscoll (Dental)-\$142.60; Kearney Pediatric Dentistry (Dental)-\$203.60; Timothy Lebsack (Dental)-\$190.00; McCann-Carpenter Dental LLC (Dental)-\$315.40; Webster County Dental Clinic (Dental)-\$1065.40.

COUNTY MEDICAL/RELIEF FUND: NE Health & Human Services System (Lincoln)-\$90.00.

INHERITANCE TAX FUND: Webster County Treasurer (Transfer)-\$10,000.00.

HOSPITAL BOND FUND: Union Bank & Trust Company (Bond Payment)-\$205,106.76.

AMBULANCE FUND: Black Hills Energy (Utility)-\$105.79; Bound Tree Medical LLC (Repairs)-\$1245.68; S.S. (Fica)-\$196.66; Great Plains Communications (Phone)-\$48.83; Gene Horne (Expense)-\$203.29; Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc (Rental)-\$77.48; Petsch Billing (Contract)-\$350.00; Marlys Schmidt (Training)-\$40.00.

Employee Salary: \$21,618.51.

Being no further business, Chairman Buschow adjourned the meeting at 12:30pm. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 19th, 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 5th day of November, 2019
Webster County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: Louise Petsch
Webster County Clerk