

WEBSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Webster County Board of Commissioners met at 8:30am on Tuesday, August 18th, 2020 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), TJ Vance (District Three), Keith Buschow (District Four) and Gary Ratzlaff (District Five). Chairman Buschow gave notice of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act Laws. Motion was made by Vance, seconded by Ratzlaff to approve the minutes of the August 4th, 2020 meeting. Voting in favor: Buschow, Ratzlaff, Vance, Karr and Shipman. Voting no, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Ratzlaff to pay claims and payroll. All members present voted in favor. Motion carried.

At 8:30am, Paul Stoner met with the Board. He presented 3 copies of Contract for Project No. C-91(650) Concrete Box Culvert the Board had previously selected bid from Van Kirk Brothers Contracting. Chairman Keith Buschow signed all three contracts. Paul also discussed with the Board about the reclassification of a minimum maintenance road. On Road L, a bridge was removed and replaced with culverts. The Excavator was discussed. Crews are continuing to catch up on dirt and weeds on the roads throughout the County.

At 9:00am, Chairman Buschow passed the Clerk of District Court Fee Report for the members to read. They discussed the fence around the HVAC System and the wood floors in the Courthouse that need repaired.

At 9:10am, Assessor Sonja Krueger met with the Board on Special Evaluation Protest and Protest on Homestead Exemption. Motion was made by Vance, seconded by Shipman to go into Board of Equalization. All members voted in favor. Motion carried. Susan Daly was present for the Special Evaluation Protest #1 asking to put her land back to Ag land. Motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Vance to grant this protest. Voting in favor: Buschow, Ratzlaff, Vance, Karr and Shipman. Voting no, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried. There was also discussion on some property in the city limits of Guide Rock that the Assessor's Office was not able to make contact with, therefore, time has expired to file this. The Protest #2 was not available at this time, so the Board recessed the Board of Equalization Hearing until later in the meeting. All members were in favor so we could proceed with the rest of the regular board meeting.

At 9:20am, Tami Scheuneman, Planning & Zoning Administrative met with the Board on discussion of the Little Blue Wind Project, LLC – Preliminary Conditional Use Permit Application. She had passed out packets for the members. The Joint Planning Commission had met Thursday, August 13, 2020 and voted to approve the Application and forward it on to the Webster County Board of Commissioners for final approval. Tami then presented the Application at the Webster County Board of Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, August 18, 2020. The final draft will go to the Webster County Board of Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, September 1, 2020 for the final approval. There was a very good discussion on the project with Nextera and representatives David Levy and Natillie Williams, Attorneys from BairdHolm out of Omaha, Ne answering some very important questions and concerns the Board had about the Project. The Board discussed some adjustments and all parties interested will meet at the Red Cloud Community Center on Tuesday, September 1st, 2020 at 2:00pm.

At 9:30am, the County Board went back into Board of Equalization with a motion by Shipman, seconded by Karr. Voting in favor: Buschow, Ratzlaff, Vance, Karr and Shipman. Voting no, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried. The Board resumed their Board of Equalization meeting to hear Protest #2 for Tom & Linda Hitchler on their homestead exemption protest. Assessor Krueger stated the laws of the State of Nebraska and how her hands are tied on so many issues facing our senior citizens and taxation. With regrets, the Board made the decision to not grant the homestead. Motion was made by Karr, seconded by Shipman to go out of Board of Equalization. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

At 9:40am, the County Board resumed their regular Board Meeting with the Little Blue Wind Project discussion. Mr. Levy will be back September 1st for the Board Meeting and will send a map to Tami before then.

At 9:53am, Keith Waechter voiced his concerns about a plugged culvert that he has addressed to the Board several times, but nothing has ever been done. Paul will check on this and try to come up with a solution for the drainage problem.

At 10:10am, Treasurer Knehans met with the Board on her Letter of Credit for \$4,000,000.00 with an expiration date of 9/17/20. Motion was made by Karr, seconded by Vance to approve Resolution 30-2020. Voting in favor: Buschow, Ratzlaff, Vance, Karr and Shipman. Voting no, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried. Resolution 30-2020 was signed.

At 10:20am, the Board received a letter during the meeting given to the Zoning Board for them to read.

At 10:30am, Hospital Administrative Mirya Hallock met with the Board to present an updated Hospital Report on Covid-19, local fundraising, Capital projects, and previous projects that have been completed. She stated they will be having a Wellness Health Fair the first Wednesday of every month starting in October. The Webster County Employees will be able to take advantage of this as the County will pay a portion as they have in the past. They will be having a BBQ Cookout October 3, 2020.

At 10:55am, Kevin Harrington and Amber Conway met with the Board on Assurity Insurance.

At 11:20am, Chairman Buschow discussed the Extension Floor and what he had talked to Carmichael about. More details and information need to be gathered before we proceed on this project.

At 11:45am, the Board called Sara James with some budget questions.

At 12:00pm, the Board discussed keeping Cheyenne Knehans employed for another two weeks because of tax time and not knowing for sure what the Covid situation is going to be. Board approved.

GENERAL FUND: Ameritas Life Insurance Corp (Retiree)-\$6894.68; Anderson, Klein, Brewster & Brandt (Counsel)-\$449.30; Black Hills Energy (Utility)-\$81.13; Blue Cross/Blue Shield (Health/Life)-\$17,934.93; Blue Hill Leader (Publish)-\$572.90; Consolidated Management Co (Expense)-\$26.22; Cooperative Producers, Inc (Fuel)-\$1266.89; CVSOAN (Training)-\$60.00; DAS State Accounting/Central Finance (Fees)-\$225.52; S.S. (Fica)-\$7356.71; Eakes Office Solutions (Supply)-\$263.25; First Concord Benefits

Group (Fees)-\$15.00; First Concord Benefits Group (Fees)-\$202.50; Franklin County Memorial Hospital (Medical)-\$265.00; Abbey Harig (Renewal)-\$30.00; Marvin Hartman (Mtg)-\$51.50; Heritage Bank (Supply)-\$115.06; Troy Himmelberg (Mtg)-\$63.00; Hometown Market (Supply)-\$433.82; Jared's Auto Expert (Repairs)-\$841.40; Kenny's Lumber & Home Center (Repairs)-\$24.98; Cheyenne Knehans (Contract)-\$1200.00; Jerry Langer (Mtg)-\$51.50; Madison National Life Ins Co, Inc (Life)-\$34.34; Mips (Support)-\$1066.69; Murray Law PC LLO (Counsel)-\$1613.50; Nebraska Tech & Telecom, Inc (Phone)-\$58.21; Quadient Finance USA, Inc (Postage)-\$1000.00; RR Donnelley (Supply)-\$105.89; Scott Schmidt (Mtg)-\$69.90; Self-Insured Dental Fund (Premiums)-\$2861.00; Skalka & Baack Law Firm (Counsel)-\$758.50; South Central Pub Power Dist (Utility)-\$27.91; Paul Stoner (Mtg)-\$52.65; Theobald Law Office (Counsel)-\$1045.40; Verizon Wireless (Phones)-\$240.06; Village Pharmacy (Supply)-\$104.60; Keith Waechter (Mtg)-\$56.10; Webster County Court (Crt Costs)-\$34.00; Garth Wentworth (Mtg)-\$48.05; WJE Consulting LLC (Fees)-\$1095.00. **ROAD/BRIDGE FUND:** Ace/Eaton Metals (Culverts)-\$6795.20; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp (Retire)-\$2446.43; Black Hills Energy (Utility)-\$71.82; Bladen Sand & Gravel, Inc (Gravel)-\$36,134.35; Village of Bladen (Utility)-\$56.72; Blue Cross/Blue Shield (Health/Life)-\$9321.80; Blue Hill Leader (Publish)-\$12.75; C&D Service Center (Repairs)-\$933.89; Consolidated Concrete Co (Concrete)-\$331.00; Cooperative Producers, Inc (Fuel)-\$1044.20; Country Corner (Fuel)-\$122.68; S.S. (Fica)-\$2743.65; Ely's Inc (Supply)-\$2.80; Fastenal (Repairs)-\$67.00; First Concord Benefits Group (Fees)-\$10.00; Fleetpride (Repairs)-\$153.53; Village of Guide Rock (Utility)-\$80.90; Hastings Outdoor Power LLC (Supply)-\$19.99; Hometown Market (Supply)-\$17.52; J&A Auto Supply (Repairs)-\$399.10; Jim's OK Tires (Repairs)-\$300.00; Kenny's Lumber & Home Center (Supply)-\$45.98; Madison National Life Ins Co, Inc (Life)-\$4.10; Mips Inc (Support)-\$108.98; Nebraska Machinery Company (Repairs)-\$1274.25; Olson Enterprises LLC (Fuel)-\$17.00; Self-Insured Dental Fund (Premiums)-\$884.00; South Central Pub Power Dist (Utility)-\$134.24; Superior Fire Extinguisher Co (Repairs)-\$1062.00; Timm's Service (Fuel)-\$4050.26; Western Pathology Consultants (Fee)-\$56.50; Kary Winslow (Expense)-\$133.74. **ROAD/BRIDGE CONST FUND:** VanWey Fencing (Repairs)-\$2446.60. **MODERN RECORDS FUND:** Mips (Supply)-\$150.00; Mips Inc (Support)-\$112.00. **SELF-INSURED DENTAL FUND:** Sean M Daly, D.D.S. (Dental)-\$132.80; Minden Dental Clinic (Dental)-\$197.40; Pershing Orthodontics (Dental)-\$344.00. **COUNTY MEDICAL/RELIEF FUND:** Department of Administrative Services (Beatrice/Lincoln)-\$180.00. **NOXIOUS WEED FUND:** Ameritas Life Insurance Corp (Retire)-\$233.10; Cooperative Producers, Inc (Fuel)-\$219.67; S.S. (Fica)-\$264.18; Kenny's Lumber & Home Center (Repairs)-\$4.99; Madison National Life Ins Co, Inc (Life)-\$3.15; Mips (Supply)-\$279.19; Brian Pedersen (Expense)-\$32.09; Self-Insured Dental Fund (Premiums)-\$34.00. **AMBULANCE FUND:** Black Hills Energy (Utility)-\$33.12; Olson Enterprises LLC (Fuel)-\$19.71. Total Wages - \$138,339.67.c

Being no further business, Chairman Buschow adjourned the Board meeting at 12:20pm. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 1st, 2020 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 18th day of August, 2020
Webster County Board of Commissioners
ATTEST: Louise Petsch
Webster County Clerk