

## WEBSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Webster County Board of Commissioners met at 8:30am on Tuesday, January 19th, 2021 for their regular Business Meeting at the Courthouse in Red Cloud, Nebraska. The following Board Members were present for roll call: Trevor Karr (District Two), TJ Vance (District Three), Tim Gilbert (District Four) and Gary Ratzlaff (District Five). Dan Shipman (District One) was absent. The meeting was opened by Vice- Chairman Ratzlaff who gave notice of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act Laws. Vice Chair Ratzlaff asked if there was any old business. There being none, the 2020 Webster County Board of Commissioners was closed.

Vice-Chairman Ratzlaff asked for nominations for Chairman of Webster County Board of Commissioners. Motion was made by Karr, seconded by Gilbert to nominate TJ Vance as 2021 Chairman and Gary Ratzlaff as Vice-Chairman. Voting in favor: Ratzlaff, Gilbert and Karr. Vance abstained and Shipman was absent. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Karr, seconded by Ratzlaff to approve the minutes of the January 5th, 2021 meeting. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert and Karr. Voting no, or abstaining: None. Absent: Shipman. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Karr to pay claims and payroll. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert and Karr. Voting nay or abstaining: None. Absent: Shipman. Motion carried.

At 8:35am, Paul Stoner met with the Board. Repairs continue to be done on culverts, tubes and dirt roads. Paul and the Board discussed Showboat Road and Bladen Road. Tree cutter has been repaired. Lance Harter has done a couple water studies for him. They also discussed the LB Wind Farm Project.

Gary Ratzlaff gave a report on the Employee Handbook and the discussion is tabled until the next meeting.

The Sheriff's Distress Warrants Report was presented to the Board for review.

At 9:20am, Clerk Petsch submitted Resolution 3 – 2021 to transfer \$40,000.00 from Hospital Bond Fund back to Inheritance Fund. Motion was made by Karr, seconded by Gilbert to approve of this transfer. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert and Karr. Voting nay or abstaining: None. Absent: Shipman. Motion carried.

At 9:30am, Clerk Petsch presented several Resolutions to be approved by the Board as follows: Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Gilbert to approve Resolution 4 – 2021 designating Red Cloud Chief, Blue Hill Leader and the Webster County Website as the county's official publications for year of 2021 for Treasurer's Semi-Annual Statements, the Delinquent Tax Lists, proceedings of County Board Meetings and opening and closing of Roads in the County and advertising of construction projects. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert and Karr. Voting nay or abstaining: None. Absent: Shipman. Motion carried. Resolution 4-2021 was approved. Resolution 5 – 2021 was presented to the Board designating Heritage Bank of Red Cloud, South Central State Bank of Blue Hill and Red Cloud and Cornerstone Bank of Guide Rock as the official Depository Banks for Webster County for year 2021. Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Karr to approve Resolution 5-2021. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert and Karr. Voting nay or abstaining: None. Absent: Shipman. Motion carried. Resolution 5-2021 was approved. Resolution 6 – 2021 was presented to the Board concerning collection of delinquent real estate and special taxes, conducting tax sales and issuing Tax Sale Certificates. Motion was made by Karr, seconded by Ratzlaff to approve of this Resolution. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert and Karr. Voting nay or abstaining: None. Absent: Shipman. Motion carried. Resolution 6-2021 was approved. Resolution 7 – 2021 was presented to the Board to transfer \$150,000.00 from General Fund to Road/Capital Construction Fund. This is the third transfer of this fiscal year. Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Gilbert to approve of this transfer. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert and Karr. Voting nay or abstaining: None. Absent: Shipman. Motion carried. Resolution 7-2021 was approved. Resolution 8 – 2021 was presented to the Board transferring \$195,000.00 from General Fund to Road/Bridge Fund. This is also the third transfer this fiscal year. Motion was made by Karr, seconded by Gilbert to approve this transfer. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert and Karr. Voting nay or abstaining: None. Absent: Shipman. Motion carried. Resolution 8-2021 was approved.

Sheriff Troy Schmitz spoke to the Board about money that was to have been set aside for a jail building.

Clerk Petsch informed the Board that Emergency Manager, Ron Sunday had done a Disaster Declaration for the wildfires throughout the county for emergency funds. This Declaration was signed by Gary Ratzlaff, Vice Chairman and Clerk Petsch on January 14, 2021.

At 9:39am, Commissioner Shipman joined the Board meeting.

At 9:40am, David Levy, Natalie Williams and Tami Scheuneman met with the Board on final approval of the LB Wind Farm Project. They presented the Board with handbooks. The Board discussed the matter and felt they wanted time to go over the handbook before giving final approval of the project. They wanted to make sure all landowners were satisfied with their proposal. They decided to put it on the agenda for the February 2, 2021 meeting and will give their final approval at that time. There will be 74 towers in Webster County and 13 towers in Franklin County.

At 10:00am, Andy Forney met with the Board on a Bond for the Bladen Road and the Showboat Road. He presented the Board with 2 types of Bonds for the Board to look over. After discussion, motion was made by Karr, seconded by Ratzlaff to get the ball rolling on this matter. There are several steps to go through to get the process started. Andy will meet with the Board on February 2, 2021 with an update.

Keith Buschow met with the Board during open session on the Extension Floor. The Board told him to proceed with the project as he felt necessary.

At 10:30am, Beth Janning, Ext Educator met with the Board. They discussed the Extension floor and where they will have an office temporarily in the Courthouse while the floor is being done. She told the Board Sydney O'Daniel had accepted another job in Hamilton County so Beth will be the Lead Resident Educator for the County until an agent is appointed at a later date.

At 10:45am, Treasurer Knehans presented her Semi-Annual Statement for the Board to review. She then presented a Tax Correction on Occupation Tax from NRD. Motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Ratzlaff to go into Board of Equalization. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried. Following a

discussion, Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Shipman to approve of the Tax Correction. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried. Motion was made by Karr, seconded by Shipman to go out of Board of Equalization. All members voted in favor.

The Board discussed LB310 pertaining to Inheritance Tax.

The Board did their County Board Appointments for 2021 as listed below.

## **COUNTY BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

### **2021**

**Webster County Board of Commissioners:** T J Vance Chairman; Gary Ratzlaff, Vice-Chairman

**Region III Governing Board** (Behavioral Services): Trevor Karr, Delegate; Tm Gilbert, Alt.

**Midland Area Agency on Aging:** Dan Shipman, Delegate; Tim Gilbert, Alt.

**Mid-Nebraska Individual Services – Kearney:** Tim Gilbert, Delegate; Trevor Karr, Alt.

**Central Community College:** Trevor Karr, Delegate; Dan Shipman, Alt.

**Webster County Hospital Trustees Board:** Gary Ratzlaff, Board Liaison; Dan Shipman, Alt.

**COUNTY ENGINEER:** Lance Harter, Oak Creek Engineering

**COUNTY MUSUEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** (5-year term) Jim Fitzgibbon (01/01/2025), Michelle Cole (01/01/2024), Sharon Berns (01/01/2024), Debbie Albers (01/01/2023), Roger Crook (01/01/2023), Judy Ord (01/01/2022).

**COUNTY PURCHASING AGENT:** County Board

**COUNTY SURVEYOR:** (4-year term) Thomas Krueger (01/05/2023)

**COURTHOUSE CUSTODIAL CONTACT:** Gary Ratzlaff and Tim Gilbert

**EMERGENCY MANAGER:** Ron Sunday

**EXTENSION SERVICE BOARD:** (3-Year Term) Doug Hubl (12/31/2021), Joe Strickland (12/31/2021), Buffy Niemeyer (12/31/2021), Riley Skrdlant (12/31/2022), Nelson P. Trambly (12/31/2022).

**FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION REPOSIBLE CHARGE:** Paul Stoner and Lance Harter

**FLOOD PLAINS MANAGER:** Tami Scheuneman

**GENERAL ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATOR:** Louise Petsch

**HOSPITAL BOARD OF TRUSTEE:** (6-Year Term) Richard Armstrong (01/01/2027), Corri McCarter (01/01/2025), Michael Buschow (01/01/2025), Janice Hartman (01/01/2023), Louise Petsch (01/01/2027)

**JOINT PLANNING COMMISSION:** (3-Year Term) Troy Himmelberg (01/01/2022), Scott Schmidt – Bladen (01/01/2023), Marvin Hartman – Guide Rock (01/01/2022), Garth Wentworth (01/01/2023), Keith Waechter (01/01/2023), Jerry Langer (01/01/2024), Paul Stoner (01/01/2024).

**NIRMA SAFETY COMMITTEE:** Abbey Harig, NIRMA Contact Person, Paul Stoner, Troy Schmitz, Carla Jameson, Ron Sunday, Monica Schmitz, Monica Montgomery, Alexa Pederson.

**NIRMA CONTACT PERSON:** Abbey Harig

**PLANNING & ZONING ADMINISTRATOR:** Tami Scheuneman

**SENIOR SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD:** Gary Ratzlaff

**SOUTH CENTRAL PARTNERSHIP YOUTH TASK FORCE:** Karla Burgess

**SOUTH CENTRAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT:** Dan Shipman

**SOUTH HEARTLAND DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH:** (3-Year Term) Mirya Hallock (03/01/2021), Torey Kranau Kohmetscher (03/01/2022), Tj Vance (03/01/2023).

**TITLE IV-ADA/504 COORDINATOR:** Abbey Harig

**TRAILBLAZER RC & D:** Jim Farmer

**VETERAN'S SERVICE OFFICER:** Gary Ratzlaff

**VETERAN'S SERVICE COMMITTEE:** (5-Year Term) Don Beitler (06/30/2021), Michael Barton (06/30/2025), Keith Waechter (6/30/2024), Ron Schutte (6/30/2023), Bill Goosic (6/30/2025).

**VISITOR PROMOTION COMMITTEE:** (4-Year Term) Ashley Olson (01/01/2023), Jill Coffey (01/01/2024), Rod Ely (06/30/2023), Linda Hitchler (01/01/2022), Wade Gibson (04/01/2024).

**WEBSTER COUNTY ROAD SUPERINTENDENT:** Oak Creek Engineers – Lance Harter

**WEBSTER COUNTY TRANSIT COUNSEL:** Gary Ratzlaff

**WEED CONTROL AUTHORITY:** Brian Pedersen

**ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT:** (3-Year Term) Dean Zalman (01/01/2022), Linda Mans (01/01/2022), Scott Schmidt (01/01/2023), Kevin Herrick (01/01/2024), Rob Wilson (01/01/2024), Tim Meline, Alt.

**GENERAL FUND:** Ameritas Life Insurance Corp (Retire)-\$6572.60; Anderson, Klein, Brewster & Brandt (Counsel)-\$1000.30; Applied Connective Technologies (Email)-\$66.30; Black Hills Energy (Utility)-\$111.08; Blue Cross/Blue Shield (Health)-\$18,458.68; Blue Hill Leader (Publish)-\$86.15; Business World Prod/Hastings (Supply)-\$84.99; Charm-Tex Inc (Supply)-\$193.14; Chase County Clerk District Court (Fees)-\$2.00; Chase County Sheriff's Office (Fees)-\$20.00; Cooperative Producers, Inc (Fuel)-\$1520.04; DAS State Accounting/Central Finance (Dues)-\$225.52; S.S. (Fica)-\$6931.62; Eakes Office Solutions (Supply)-\$580.83; First Concord Benefits Group (Fees)-\$15.00; Great Plains Communications (Phones)-\$1046.39; Hometown Leasing (Lease)-\$149.08; Hometown Market (Supply)-\$591.59; Hometown Market (Supply)-\$591.59; Howard County Sheriff's Office (Fees)-\$34.94; Integrated Security Solutions (Fees)-\$480.00; Kenny's Lumber & Home Center (Repair)-\$179.70; Madison National Life Ins Co, Inc (Life)-\$28.04; Midwest Connect (Postage)-\$15.00; Mips (Support)-\$2480.09; Mips Inc (Support)-\$2281.22; Nebr Clerk of Dist Court Assn (Dues)-\$50.00; Nebraska

Tech & Telecom, Inc (Phones)-\$55.82; Quadient Leasing USA, Inc (Lease)-\$303.00; Red Cloud Chief (Publish)-\$323.97; Region 3 Behavioral Health Services (Funding)-\$2299.60; Secretary of State (Supply)-\$10.00; Self-Insured Dental Fund (Premium)-\$2607.00; Kelly Skrdlant (Lease)-\$12.00; South Central Pub Power Dist (Utility)-\$24.80; South Central State Bank (Supply)-\$96.63; Sullivan Shoemaker P.C. L.L.O. (Counsel)-\$104.50; Sunset Law Enforcement (Training)-\$734.27; Theobald Law Office (Counsel)-\$2707.50; USDA, APHIS, Wildlife Services (Funding)-\$1509.26; Ken VanWey (Repairs/Snow Removal)-\$400.00; Verizon Wireless (Phones)-\$240.06; Viera Wireless (Phones)-\$19.38; Village Pharmacy (Supply)-\$23.36; Webster County Treasurer (Transfer)-\$195,000.00; Webster County Treasurer (Transfer)-\$150,000.00; Woodward's Disposal Service (Utility)-\$20.00; Zelle Human Resource Solution (Fees)-\$250.00. **ROAD/BRIDGE FUND:** Ameritas Life Insurance Corp (Retire)-\$2632.48; Black Hills Energy (Utility)-\$442.05; Bladen Sand & Gravel, Inc (Gravel)-\$4330.24; Village of Bladen (Utility)-\$59.68; Blue Cross/Blue Shield (Health)-\$10,002.08; Blue Hill Leader (Publish)-\$53.05; C&D Service Center (Supply)-\$302.28; Caterpillar Financial Services (Motor Grader)-\$23,858.10; Cooperative Producers, Inc (Supply/Fuel)-\$2246.25; County Corner (Fuel)-\$152.84; S.S. (Fica)-\$2937.37; Fastenal (Supply)-\$78.01; First Concord Benefits Group (Fees)-\$5.00; Monte Garvin (Expense)-\$99.99; Village of Guide Rock (Utility)-\$81.25; J&A Auto Supply (Supply)-\$341.78; Jim's OK Tires (Repairs)-\$208.50; Kenny's Lumber & Home Center (Supply)-\$79.18; Madison National Life Ins Co, Inc (Life)-\$4.10; Mips Inc (Support)-\$108.98; NAPA Auto Parts (Supply)-\$25.42; Nebraska Machinery Company (Supply)-\$1917.69; Olson Enterprises LLC (Repairs/Fuel)-\$4039.94; Self-Insured Dental Fund (Premium)-\$918.00; South Central Pub Power Dist (Utility)-\$223.00; Timm's Service (Fuel)-\$614.99; Titan Machinery-Hastings (Supply)-\$116.07; Universal Hydraulics (Repairs)-\$606.72. **MODERN RECOREDS FUND:** Mips Inc (Support)-\$138.00. **SELF-INSURED DENTAL FUND:** Heartland Oral Surgery & Dental (Dental)-\$275.20; Minden Dental Clinic (Dental)-\$119.00; Pershing Orthodontics (Dental)-\$2000.00; Webster County Dental Clinic (Dental)-\$248.00; RC Wilson & SA Wilson D.D.S., PC (Dental)-\$342.00. **HOSPITAL BOND:** Webster County Treasurer (Transfer)-\$40,000.00. **NOXIOUS WEED FUND:** Ameritas Life Insurance Corp (Retire)-\$233.10; S.S. (Fica)-\$648.98; Madison National Life Ins Co, Inc (Life)-\$3.15; Brian Pedersen (Expense)-\$30.76; Self-Insured Dental Fund (Premium)-\$34.00. **AMBULANCE FUND:** Black Hills Energy (Utility)-\$323.65; Village of Campbell (911 Rent)-\$210.00; Cooperative Producers, Inc (Fuel)-\$76.04; Great Plains Communications (Phones)-\$49.08; Olson Enterprises LLC (Fuel)-\$34.02. Total Wages - \$136,817.87.

Being no further business, Chairman TJ Vance adjourned the meeting at 11:55am.

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 2nd, 2021 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](http://www.co.webster.ne.us).

Dated this 19<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2021  
Webster County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: Louise Petsch  
Webster County Clerk