

WEBSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Webster County Board of Commissioners met at 8:30am on Tuesday, March 2nd, 2021 for their regular Business Meeting at the Courthouse in Red Cloud, Nebraska. The following Board Members were present for roll call: Dan Shipman (District One), Trevor Karr (District Two), TJ Vance (District Three), Tim Gilbert (District Four), and Gary Ratzlaff (District Five). The Board stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Vance gave notice of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act Laws. Motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Karr to pay the claims and payroll. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay or abstaining. None. Motion carried. Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Gilbert to approve the minutes of the February 16th, 2021 meeting. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay or abstaining. None. Motion carried.

At 8:35am, Paul Stoner, Road Superintendent met with the Board. He told the Board he was going to Kansas City to haul back a pile driver for the County to rent for a while to see if we wanted to purchase one in the future. Tubes are being put in on 700 Road. Road crews are blading and repairing roads that are dry enough to work on.

At 8:40am, Lance Harter, Highway Superintendent met with the Board. He went over all aspects of the Bladen Reconstruction/ShowBoat Repairs that will be done. These things are in the Cost Estimate Agreement for professional services with Oak Creek Engineering he had brought for the Board to sign. Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Karr to sign this Agreement. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried. Bid Letting will hopefully start in July of 2021.

At 9:20am, the Board called Andy Forney with a few questions from Lance Harter that needed clarified.

At 9:25am, Clerk Louise Petsch informed the Board the Webster County Museum Board wanted to put Julie Zimmerman on the Board with a term to run to (01/01/2025). Motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Gilbert to approve of this appointment. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried.

At 9:25am, Clerk Petsch reported for South Heartland District Health Department informed us that Mirya Hallock, has completed her 3-year term on the Board and that they would like to re-appoint her to a new term from 04/01/2021 to 04/01/2023. Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Gilbert to approve of this appointment. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried.

At 9:30am, Mirya Hallock, Hospital Administrator gave a report on the status of the Hospital. They are discussing remodeling the hospital or building a new one. Mirya informed the Board, this will not cost the County or taxpayers. They plan to pay for the project with grant money they are applying for. Webster County has never paid monthly expenses for the hospital. However, Webster County has paid their Bond payments since August of 2012 and will make the last payment in November of 2021. Total of payments have totaled \$1,615,000.00. Mirya asked the Board for their Blessings in proceeding with trying to get the money through grants. The Board gave them their approval to continue to look into all avenues of obtaining money to accomplish this without burdening the taxpayers. The hospital is open to suggestions of where some 15 to 20 acres can be obtained. She also gave the Board several cost estimates and dimensions of small rural critical hospitals built in the area.

At 9:45am, Gene Horne and Liz Petsch submitted to the Board a Resolution Request to raise Ambulance Transport and mileage rates since they have not had an increase since August of 2017. They also wanted to raise rates for EMTs and Drivers since they had not had one since 2017 also. The suggestions were based on information Liz obtained from 11 different Ambulance Services and recommended rates the State provides each year. Webster County is in the lower range of rates. BLS rate will go from \$500 to \$600 per run and mileage will go from \$12 to \$17 a mile per run. The EMTs will go from \$40 to \$50 a run and the Drivers will go from \$30 to \$40 a run. The Board felt this was reasonable and motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Karr to approve this Resolution. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried. Resolution 13-2021 was signed. These rates will go into effect April 1, 2021.

The County Board received information on nominating an Emergency Manager person to receive an award for Professional of the Year. The Board submitted Ron Sunday for this award. Sheriff Troy Schmitz wrote the letter for the Board and emailed it to the appropriate person.

No information was reported on Employee Handbook and the Tuck Pointing Project. Keith Buschow informed the Board of progress on the Extension Floor and reported to the Board on the HVAC System.

Commissioner Gary Ratzlaff discussed the Adams County Jail.

The Commissioners went down to the Extension Office to view the progress made so far.

GENERAL FUND: Adams County Sheriff's Dept (Fees)-\$18.50; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp (Retire)-\$327.98; Blue Hill Leader (Subscription)-\$31.50; Central District NACO (Registration)-\$40.00; DAS State Accounting/Central Finance (Dues)-\$448.00; S.S. (Fica)-\$364.94; Eakes Office Solutions (Supply)-\$173.39; Electronic Systems, Inc (Repairs)-\$285.00; Great Plains Communications (Phones)-\$1054.81; Hometown Leasing (Lease)-\$1023.48; J&A Auto Supply (Supply)-\$169.99; Sonja Krueger (Expense)-\$37.65; LB413164-Blue 360 Medical, LLC (Supply)-\$81.75; NE Assn of Co Treasurers (Dues)-\$50.00; Alexa Pedersen (Expense)-\$80.92; City of Red Cloud (Utility)-\$2634.30; Tami Scheuneman (Expense)-\$78.40; South Central Pub Power Dist (Utility)-\$24.39; Sullivan Shoemaker P.C. L.L.O. (Counsel)-\$434.88; Superior Publishing Company Inc (Supply)-\$89.71; Webster Co Clk District Crt (Fees)-\$33.00; Williams Exterminating, Inc (Pest Control)-\$88.00; Woodward's Disposal Service (Utility)-\$25.00. **ROAD/BRIDGE FUND:** City of Blue Hill (Utility)-\$142.52; Phil Boyd (Repairs)-\$300.00; Country Corner (Fuel)-\$150.30; Linda Grummert (Prior Service)-\$57.00; Hometown Leasing (Lease)-\$84.86; John Deere Financial (Repairs/Supply)-\$3949.06; LRNRD Rural Water Project (Water)-\$22.21; Nebraska Truck Center, Inc (Supply)-\$114.10; R&M Disposal LLC (Utility)-\$53.50; South Central Pub Power Dist (Utility)-\$232.36; Michael Todd & Company (Supply)-\$707.80; Windstream (Phone)-\$78.99. **SELF-INSURED DENTAL FUND:** Webster County Dental Clinic (Dental)-\$248.00. **COUNTY MEDICAL/RELIEF FUND:** NE Health & Human Services System (Lincoln/Beatrice)-\$180.00. **NOXIOUS WEED FUND:** J&A Auto Supply (Supply)-\$15.00. **AMBULANCE FUND:** S.S. (Fica)-\$305.95; Energized Electric LLC (Repairs)-\$65.00; Great Plains

Communications (Phones)-\$49.53; Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc. (Supply)-\$74.20; Petsch Billing (Contract)-\$400.00. Total Wages - \$8858.15.

Being no further business, Chairman TJ Vance adjourned the meeting at 11:00am.

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 16th, 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.

Dated this 2nd day of March, 2021
Webster County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: Louise Petsch
Webster County Clerk