

WEBSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Webster County Board of Commissioners met at 8:30am on Tuesday, April 20th, 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 Gilbert seconded by Ratzlaff to approve the minutes of the April 6th, 2021 meeting. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried. Motion was made by Shipman seconded by Karr to pay claims and payroll. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried.

At 8:35am, Paul Stoner met with the Board. He reported road crews are continuing to do equipment repairs and repairing roads due to continuing issues with the weather. Paul and the Board discussed equipment issues that need to be addressed or replaced.

At 9:00am, the Board held their public hearing on the vacating and abandonment of unimproved portion of Road 800. There was one (1) person in attendance for this hearing. Tony Sibert spoke to the Board about this because he is a partial owner of the land involved. He will put a gate up closing it to the public because it will now be private road. Motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Ratzlaff to approve of Resolution 20-2021 closing the road to the public. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried. Resolution 20-2021 was approved. The Board suggested Mr. Sibert put up a sign stating "Private Property" with No Trespassing.

At 9:15am, Lance Harter presented Resolution 21-2021 adopting the 2021 One and Six- Year Road Improvement Plan. Motion was made by Karr, seconded by Ratzlaff to approve of this Resolution. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried. Lance had gone through the report with the Board.

No report was given on the HVAC System.

Tuck Pointing and Cornice report was given by Gary Ratzlaff. He had been given an estimate from Mid-Continental Restoration Co., Inc. The Board decided to advertise for more estimates/bids if possible. The spec regulations can be obtained at the County Clerk's Office to review and submit a bid for this project.

No new information on the Employee Handbook. There will be representative from the State at our next meeting, May 4th at 11:00am with Stephanie Vanous.

Chairman Vance reminded the Board of the Electronic Recycling, Wednesday, May 19, 2021 in Red Cloud and House Hazardous Recycling, Saturday, May 15, 2021 from 8 to 10am also in Red Cloud.

9:30, Assessor, Sonja Krueger, met with the Board on 4 Governmental Property protests; GSP1 through GSP4. Motion was made by Gilbert, 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. The protests were in Inavale, Rural Red Cloud, and 2 in Blue Hill, Nebraska. Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Gilbert to leave 1 as taxable and the remaining 3 as exempt. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried.

9:45, Assessor, Sonja Krueger, presented Tax Correction for Homestead 2021-22. Voting in favor to accept Tax Correction 2021-22: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried. Motion was made by Ratzlaff and seconded by Gilbert to go out of Board of Equalization. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried. Assessor Krueger then informed the Board a TERC Hearing will be held on June 11, 2021. She then gave the Board copies of 2021 valuation and protest information. Webster County is sitting within range for valuation. She talked to them about the "2021 Reports and Opinions of the Property Tax Administrator for Webster County" from the Property Assessment Division. The TERC is having their hearings to determine if Webster County is "in" or if they will call them in for a "Show Cause Hearing". She discussed the "2020 Nebraska Department of Revenue Property Assessment Division 2020 Annual Report" from the Property Assessment Division. This report lays out all valuation and tax information from all counties in the state.

At 10:00am, Clerk Liz Petsch and Deputy Abbey Harig discussed Board meeting dates. After discussion, the Board approved of leaving the dates as they are at this time. Board meetings will be the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month.

At 10:05am, Clerk Petsch and Deputy Harig met on redistricting with Gworks for Elections. After discussion, decision was made to go with the Advanced version presented with a cost of \$4300. This program will make Elections more cost effective and easier and accurate for reporting, etc. Motion was made by Karr, seconded by Shipman to proceed with this program. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried.

At 10:30am, Ashley Olson met with the Board. She presented guidelines for applying for Grant Funding and a copy of the minutes of the previous Visitor Promotion meeting. They discussed the people who were appointed to the Visitor Promotion Board but due to COVID last year, they were never done. Motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Karr to reappoint Teresa Young, Jon Capps and Wade Gibson to this Board. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried. She informed the Board they awarded two grants to Red Cloud Tourism & Commerce for \$2,000 for advertising and Webster County Museum for \$1,650 for a new wedding dress exhibit. There is still one grant available to use. She stated the next meeting for the VP Committee will be May 17th at 4:00pm at the Courthouse.

At 10:40am, Brian Pedersen, Noxious Weed Superintendent met with the Board. He wants to update some office equipment. The Board approved of Brian doing this.

At 10:45am, Treasurer Janet Knehans went over the Audit Report with the Board highlighting things they suggested to be done. All of these have been completed and the Audit Report will be sent to Webster County as printed and approved.

At 11:30am, Sheriff Troy Schmitz met with the Board with Prohaska on the phone. They discussed the Adams County Jail and the feasibility study Prohaska had done on a 96-hour holding cell for the Sheriff/Jail Office. He went over costs with the Board depending on the time they would proceed with it as costs are continually going up every year. He stated Prohaska would like to work with the Board on this project. More details will be given at our next meeting May 4th, 2021 when Troy and the Board have time to look over and review the estimates and suggestions made to the Board.

At 11:45am, Clerk Petsch presented a County Medical Claim to the Board for burial services. The Board looked over the application and Clerk Petsch informed them some of the qualifications weren't met so the Board will check on these things with the family and will make a decision at the next Board meeting May 4, 2021 before approving or disapproving the claim.

At 12:00pm, Aaron Jones met with the Board requesting a Designated Liquor License to serve alcohol at the Bladen Alumni Banquet May 29th, 2021. Motion was made by Karr, seconded by Vance to approve of this. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried.

At 12:10pm, the Board went over plumbing issues in the basement back in the tunnel. Commissioner Gilbert had fixed it temporarily but something will have to be done to correct it some time.

At 12:30pm, the Board discussed some of the sprinkler heads are not working or needs repairing. Commissioner Ratzlaff will call someone to fix the problem.

GENERAL FUND: Adams County Sheriff's Dept (Fees)-\$37.00; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp (Life)-\$6489.07; Anderson, Klein, Brewster & Brandt (Counsel)-\$38.00; Applied Connective Technologies (Email)-\$22.10; AT&T (Phones)-\$400.51; Black Hills Energy (Utility)-\$95.46; Blue Cross/Blue Shield (Premium)-\$17,549.40; Blue Hill Leader (Publish)-\$765.95; C&D Service Center (Supply)-\$354.90; COMDATA Universal Mastercard (Fuel)-\$94.40; Cooperative Producers, Inc (Fuel)-\$2105.73; DAS State Accounting/Central Finance (Dues)-\$225.52; Tom Dinsdale Automotive (Repairs)-\$455.85; S.S. (Fica)-\$6834.28; Electronic Systems, Inc (Repairs)-\$80.00; First Concord Benefits Group (Fees)-\$15.00; First Concord Benefits Group (Premium)-\$217.50; Great Plains Communications (Phones)-\$862.39; Hometown Leasing (Lease)-\$153.98; Hometown Market (Supply)-\$327.04; Jared's Auto Expert (Repairs)-\$1241.85; Kenny's Lumber & Home Center (Repairs)-\$1182.67; Madison National Life Ins Co, Inc (Life)-\$28.04; Mips, Inc (Support)-\$2295.22; NACO (Registration)-\$250.00; Nebraska Tech & Telecom, Inc (Phones)-\$74.97; Quadient Finance USA, Inc (Postage)-\$1000.00; Quadient Leasing USA, Inc (Lease)-\$303.00; Red Cloud Chief (Publish)-\$207.86; Self-Insured Dental Fund (Premium)-\$2573.00; Skalka & Baack Law Firm (Counsel)-\$66.50; South Central Pub Power Dist (Utility)-\$24.50; Sullivan Shoemaker P.C. L.L.O. (Counsel)-\$114.00; Theobald Law Office (Counsel)-\$427.50; USDA, APHIS, Wildlife Services (Funding)-\$1314.36; Viaero Wireless (Phones)-\$19.42; Webster County Hospital (Health Fair)-\$270.00. **ROAD/BRIDGE FUND:** Ameritas Life Insurance Corp (Life)-\$2520.33; Black Hills Energy (Utility)-\$92.15; Bladen Sand & Gravel, Inc (Gravel)-\$3578.05; Village of Bladen (Utility)-\$60.11; Blue Cross/Blue Shield (Premium)-\$10,002.08; Blue Hill Leader (Publishing)-\$77.59; C&D Service Center (Supply)-\$655.31; Century Lumber Center (Supply)-\$10.74; Cooperative Producers, Inc (Fuel/Supply)-\$2585.06; Country Corner (Fuel)-\$549.94; S.S. (Fica)-\$2815.90; First Concord Benefits Group (Fees)-\$5.00; Village of Guide Rock (Utility)-\$83.70; Hometown Market (Supply)-\$30.02; Island Supply Welding Company (Supply)-\$213.06; J&A Auto Supply (Supply)-\$546.08; Kenny's Lumber & Home Center (Supply)-\$331.14; Madison National Life Ins Co, Inc (Life)-\$4.10; Mips, Inc (Support)-\$108.98; Monica Montgomery (Expense)-\$20.00; NAPA Auto Parts (Supply)-\$54.75; Nebraska Machinery Company (Supply)-\$9243.24; Oak Creek Engineering, LLC (Fees)-\$1288.40; Olson Enterprises LLC (Supply)-\$6905.05; Rockmount Research & Alloys, Inc (Supply)-\$339.60; Self-Insured Dental Fund (Premium)-\$918.00; South Central Pub Power Dist (Utility)-\$207.72; Paul Stoner (Expense)-\$487.49; Timm's Service (Fuel/Supply)-\$1660.95; Titan Machinery-Hastings (Supply)-\$65.70. **ROAD/BRIDGE CONST FUND:** Speece-Lewis Engineers (Engineers)-\$7262.00. **MODERN RECORDS FUND:** Mips, Inc (Support)-\$138.00. **SELF-INSURED DENTAL FUND:** Mark Driscoll (Dental)-\$149.20; McCann-Carpenter Dental LLC (Dental)-\$592.20. **COUNTY MEDICAL/RELIEF FUND:** NE Health & Human Services System (Lincoln/Beatrice)-\$186.00. **NOXIOUS WEED FUND:** Ameritas Life Insurance Corp (Life)-\$233.10; Cooperative Producers, Inc (Fuel)-\$74.00; S.S. (Fica)-\$264.18; Kenny's Lumber & Home Center (Supply)-\$7.98; Madison National Life Ins Co, Inc (Life)-\$3.15; Self-Insured Dental Fund (Premium)-\$34.00. **AMBULANCE FUND:** Black Hills Energy (Utility)-\$178.40; Bound Tree Medical LLC (Supply)-\$217.90; Village of Campbell (911 Rent)-\$210.00; Cooperative Producers, Inc (Fuel)-\$92.91; Great Plains Communications (Phones)-\$49.53; Olson Enterprises LLC (Fuel)-\$409.78. Total Payroll - \$133,919.02.

Being no further business, Chairman TJ Vance adjourned the meeting at 12:40pm.

The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 4th, 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 20th day of April, 2021
Webster County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: Louise Petsch
Webster County Clerk