

WEBSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Webster County Board of Commissioners met at 8:30am on Tuesday, August 17th, 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 Ratzlaff, seconded by Gilbert to approve the minutes of the August 3rd, 2021 meeting. 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 pay claims and payroll. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried. Motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Gilbert to pay County Commissioner claim. Voting in favor: Vance, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Abstaining: Ratzlaff. Motion carried.

At 8:35am, Highway Road Manager, Paul Stoner met with the Board. He informed the Board he has been looking at trucks. Road 1500 is being worked on.

At 8:40am, Billy Wilkins and Joe Yona from Nextera met with the Board. They discussed with the Board and Paul Stoner some things that would have to be addressed jointly on road surfacing in order to be done correctly. They discussed Road 300 being heavily traveled on. Mr. Wilkins and Mr. Yona will make it a point to report to the Board often in order to keep up with the progress.

No report was given on the Handbook.

At 9:05am, Treasurer Janet Knehans and Deputy Clerk Abbey Harig went over improvements and changes made with the various budgets with the Board.

At 9:10am, County Clerk Louise Petsch met with the Board and gave a report on abandoned cemeteries. The Board voted with a motion by Shipman, seconded by Karr to allow individuals to mow an abandoned cemetery 3 times a year instead of 2 times in order to better keep the cemeteries clean and make mowing them easier. All members voted in favor of this motion. Motion carried.

At 9:15am, Noxious Weed Supt, Brian Pedersen met with the Board on his budget and discussed several things going on pertaining to his office.

At 9:20am, Hospital Administrator, Mirya Hallock met with the Board and reported on the Hospital Operations. It was a very thorough report. The Board also discussed where the situation was going on as far as remodeling or building new. The Board voiced their opinion on both options and suggested they meet at the next Board meeting with Mirya and all of the Hospital Board Members. Hopefully, this will clarify things for all concerned in going forward. No one wants to lose our hospital in Red Cloud but a lot of things financially need to be considered to make the best possible decision. Mirya reported the Hospital Thrift Shop is doing good and encourage people to keep bringing items to sell. They received an anonymous donation to help pay for COVID shots. Anyone getting one will receive \$20.

At 9:30am, Gene Horne and Marlys Schmidt met with the Board on Ambulance. They would like to split the two Ambulances into separate entities and budgets. Motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Karr to split the Red Cloud and Blue Hill Ambulances. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried. They will be budgeted as Red Cloud Ambulance One and Blue Hill Ambulance Two. Liz Petsch will keep separate records of wages, withholdings, expenses, income, number of runs, etc.

At 10:00am, Assessor Sonja Krueger met on a Tax Correction. Motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Karr to go into Board of Equalization. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried. Assessor Krueger presented Tax Correction No. 2021-28 concerning Adam Pavelka. Motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Ratzlaff to allow this Tax Correction. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried. Tax Correction No. 2021-28 was approved. Motion was made by Shipman, seconded by Karr to go out of Board of Equalization. Voting in favor: Vance, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Karr and Shipman. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion carried.

At 10:20am, County Attorney Patrick Calkins met with the Board on his budget and Diversion Program Fund budget.

At 10:25am, the Museum Budget was presented to the Board by Teresa Young.

At 10:30am, Extension Educator Beth Janning met with the Board on her budget and replacing the flooring in her office. The Board will check with Rod Hunter to see if he can incorporate this when he does the flooring elsewhere in the Courthouse.

At 10:55am, Sara James met with the Board to go over final review of budgets after corrections and changes have been made. Sara will meet at our September 7th meeting for final Budget approval. She informed the Board she will be leaving her position of doing budgets for the County. Since we are still under contract with Lutz & Associates, Sara introduced Kayla Schulte to the Board as her replacement. Sara has done an excellent job for the County. The Board

expressed their regrets in losing Sara, but congratulated her on her new appointment and wished her well. We look forward to working with Kayla.

A letter was received from Gans Family Farms LLC for the Board to know they also oppose the establishment of 49 County Heritage Area and the 30 x 30 programs. They agree with Webster County in opposing both of them.

No report on HVAC System.

Clerk Petsch presented Employee time sheets for the Board to review.

At 11:50am, Veteran Service Office, Gary Ratzlaff presented a FY20 Geographic Distribution of VA Expenditures Report for the Board to go over. Webster County has been successful in helping our Veterans in the County thanks to Gary. The Board thanked him for the work done through his office.

Certifications of Taxable Value for tax year 2021 were presented for the various Political Subdivisions in the County for the Board to review.

GENERAL FUND: Ameritas Life Ins (Retirement)-\$7289.94; Black Hills Energy (Utility)-\$55.14; Blue Cross/Blue Shield (Health)-\$21,224.32; Blue Hill Leader (publish)-\$898.39; Ron Brumbaugh (repairs)-\$520.42; Burt County Clerk (registrations)-\$150.00; CPI (fuel)-\$1,682.31; CVSOAN (dues)-\$60.00; DAS State Acctng (fees)-\$225.52; S.S. (Fica)-\$7797.79; Eakes (supplies)-\$536.54; Empower Ret Services (deferred comp)-\$50.00; Energized Electric (repairs)-\$178.75; First Concord Benefits (health/life)-\$642.15; Hometown Leasing (leasing)-\$153.98; Hometown Market (supplies)-\$198.13; Jared's Auto Expert (repairs)-\$1736.04; Kenny's Hardware & Home Center (supplies)-\$12.58; Madison Life (life)-\$37.13; McGill Restoration (contract)-\$45,415.00; MIPS, Inc (support)-\$2543.83; Nebr Tech & Telecom (phone)-\$78.59; Gary Ratzlaff (supply)-\$40.97; Red Cloud Chief (publish)-\$658.01; Region 3 Behavioral (funding)-\$2299.60; Self-Insured Dental (premiums)-\$2938.00; Thomson Reuters (subscription)-\$174.25; Turner Technology (network)-\$157.50; Viaero Wireless (phone)-\$19.42; Web Co Clk Dist Crt (fees)-\$35.00; Webster Co Crt (fees)-\$169.00; Zee Medical Ser (supplies)-\$78.90; ROAD FUND: Ameritas Life Ins (retirement)-\$2694.02; Black Hills Energy (utility)-\$22.81; Bladen Sand & Gravel (gravel)-\$5450.40; Village of Bladen (utility)-\$59.68; Blue Cross Blue Shield (health)-\$10330.10; Blue Hill Leader (publish)-\$282.15; C & D Service (repairs)-\$40.85; Cencon of Kansas (rock)-\$1353.80; CPI (fuel)-\$2859.31; S.S (Fica)-\$8931.73; Eakes (supply)-\$20.38; First Concord Benefits (fees)-\$5.00; Village of Guide Rock (utility)-\$81.95; Hastings Outdoor Power (repairs)-\$41.97; J & A Auto (repairs)-\$152.72; Jim's OK Tires (tires)-\$1101.00; Krueger Land Surveying (surveys)-\$375.00; Madison Life (Life)-\$4.10; Midwest Service & Sales (posts)-\$2040.00; MIPS, Inc (support)-\$113.34; Nebraska Salt & Grain (gravel)-\$1507.00; Nebr Machinery Co (repairs)-\$2022.15; Olson Ent (fuel)-\$9901.27; Self-Insured Dental (premiums)-\$918.00; SCPPD (utility)-\$23.36; Timm's Service (fuel)-\$2336.15; Michael Todd & Co (flags)-\$261.90; Web Co Hospital (testing)-\$88.00. COUNTY MEDICAL/RELIEF: Dept of Admin Servs (funding)-\$129.00; DIVERSION PROGRAM FUND: Transunion Rick & Alt Data (online services)-\$900.00; NOXIOUS WEED FUND: Ameritas Life Ins (retirement)-\$238.19; CPI (fuel)-\$125.85; S.S. (Fica)-\$269.96; J & A Auto (repairs)-\$143.62; Madison Life (life)-\$3.15; Self-Insured Fund (premium)-\$34.00; AMBULANCE FUND: Bio-Electronics (Agreement)-\$265.00; Olson Enterprises (fuel)-\$34.22.

Salaries for Employees: (Monthly) 5 County Commissioners: \$1,909.62; 3 County Officials: \$4,685.64; 1 County Official: \$5,039.27; 1 County Official: \$5,133.40; 1 Office Jailer: \$400.00; 1 Chief Deputy Sheriff: \$4,150.00; 3 Deputy Sheriff: \$3,750.00; 1 Deputy Sheriff: \$3,550.00; 5 On-Call Compensation: \$50.00; 3 Deputy County Officials: \$3,378.27; 4 County Officials Office Clerks: \$3,088.80; 1 County Official Office Clerk: \$2,600.00; 1 Chief Dispatcher: \$3,350.00; 1 Dispatcher: \$2,950.00; 1 Dispatcher: \$2,730.00; 1 Veteran Service Officer: \$1,267.57; 1 Emergency Manager: \$700.00; 1 Noxious Weed Supt: \$3,059.33; 1 Highway Supt Manager: \$4,506.66; 2 Road Operators: \$3,250.00; 1 Road Operator: \$3,163.33; 1 Road Operator: \$3,076.66; 2 Road Operators: \$3,189.33; 3 Road Operators: \$3,206.66; 1 Road Operator: \$3,033.33; 1 Office Manager/Road: \$3,163.33; 1 Office Deputy: \$19.49 an hour; 1 Office Clerk: \$17.82 an hour.

Being no further business, Chairman TJ Vance adjourned the meeting at 12:20 pm. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 7th, 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 17th day of August, 2021
Webster County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: Louise Petsch
Webster County Clerk