

Wheeler County Board Minutes



Bartlett, Nebraska
December 29, 2021

The Wheeler County Commissioners met in regular session on this date at 8:00 AM. Notice of the meeting was published and posted according to law. Chairman Heinz called the meeting to order and identified the location of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act poster on the Court Room West wall and made reference to open law literature available for the public. Answering roll call were Commissioners Heinz, Plugge and Pokorny. Clerk Snider, Treasurer Seamann, County Attorney Joe McNally, Sheriff Lindsay, Road Superintendent Meyer, County Engineer Lance Harter and Road Foreman Reed were also present along with members of the public.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Pokorny made a motion to accept the minutes from the November 24th meeting, seconded by Heinz. Voting aye: Pokorny, Heinz, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

Lance Harter, County Engineer, opened the two bids that were received to replace the Schrunk Bridge. Bidders were asked to bid a steel girder replacement design and/or precast concrete replacement design. Mid-West Infrastructure submitted two bids with the precast concrete design for \$241,557.61 and the steel girder design for \$261,195.30. Tyson Construction only bid a precast concrete design for \$232,585.60. Pokorny made the motion to accept bid #3 from Tyson Construction for \$232,585.60, with the county removing the old structure and providing traffic control, seconded by Heinz. Voting aye: Pokorny, Heinz, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

Larry Day requested repairs on 495th Ave that lies north of 839th Road which is classified as minimum maintenance. He requested filling a couple holes near the north end going to Highway 281 and fixing the south entrance as well. The board agreed to the repairs to bring the road back to minimum road standards so that at least a semi would be able to travel that road.

Treasurer Seamann updated the board on the financial reports. After discussion the board felt that no transfers of funds between accounts were needed.

Sheriff Lindsay presented a report stating that all the Distress Warrants have been satisfied.

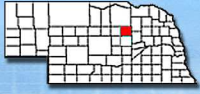
Pokorny made a motion to give the road employees a 5.9% of Cost-of-Living increase for 2022 as set by the US Department of Labor, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Pokorny made a motion to pass Resolution 20211201, amending the elected official's salary resolution passed in November, to include a maximum of 5% annual Cost-Of-Living increase and also to include family health insurance for elected officials, seconded by Heinz. Voting aye: Pokorny, Heinz, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

Snider presented an agreement for the Opioid Settlement participation. Pokorny made a motion to participate in the Opioid Settlement, seconded by Heinz. Voting aye: Pokorny, Heinz, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

Mr. McNally presented policy guidelines from NIRMA to clarify when and how county employees who are also volunteer first responders can respond to emergencies while on duty for the county. Plugge made a motion to approve the policy and to amend the policy manual to reflect the changes, seconded by Pokorny. Voting aye: Plugge, Pokorny, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

McNally presented a letter from the Department of Energy's Western Area Power Administration, that notified the county that Thunderhead Wind Energy LLC (Thunderhead) has requested to interconnect their existing Thunderhead Wind Energy Center to Western Area Power Administration's (WAPA) existing transmission line via Nebraska Public Power District's Holt County Substation. No action was taken on this matter.



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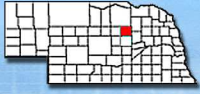
Jerry Koinzan gave the county permission to stack cut down trees upon his property that are taken down in the right of way near his property and he would take responsibility to burn them this winter.

Heinz made a motion at 9:12 am to enter into executive session to discuss personnel issues, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Heinz, Plugge, and Pokorny. Voting nay: none.

The board exited the executive session at 10:07 am.

The following claims were audited and approved.

	General Fund
Payroll,	\$20,078.12
AFLAC, insurance	203.33
Ameritas Retirement Plans Division, retirement	3,103.23
Appera, service	76.61
Applied Connective Technologies, service	167.00
Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance, insurance	13,736.66
Burwell Tribune, subscription	36.00
Cornerstone Bank-Bartlett, safe box	40.00
DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, AS400 programs	223.32
Farmers & Merchants Bank, payroll w/h	5,584.63
G-L-W Extension Service, support	1,908.44
Holt County Treasurer, veterans contract	491.67
KNLV Radio, radio ad	48.00
Loup Valleys Rural Public Power Dist., service	357.16
McNally Law Office, clerical/rent	2,100.00
Microfilm Imaging Systems, court equipment rent	60.00
MIPS Inc., programs/supplies	1,454.78
MM C Store, sheriff fuel	297.33
Nebraska Association of County Officials, mtg registration	200.00
Nebraska Dept. of Revenue, payroll w/h	748.20
Nebraska Dist. Court Clerks Association, dues	50.00
New Victorian Inn-Kearney, meeting lodging	368.48
Nordhues Family, October/November mowing	360.00
Northeast Nebraska Telephone Co., service	477.19
Office Net, copier	40.06
Peterson Legal Services, court appointed attorney	310.00
Roy Plugge, insurance stipend	500.00
Presto-X, service	50.00
Pro Printing & Graphics, supplies	20.00
Quality Sew & Vac, repairs & new vacuum	970.96
Region 26 Council, support	10,074.65
Carol Seamann, mtg mileage	109.76
Donna Sears, janitor supplies	42.72
Seger Funeral Home, supplies	100.00
Staples Credit Plan, supplies	183.53
Tonniges & Associates, PC, audit	6,669.00
Verizon Wireless, sheriff cell	162.06
VSP Insurance Co., insurance	155.37
We Mart, sheriff fuel	169.97
Wheeler County Clerk, postage	9.96



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Wheeler County Sheriff, fees	319.36
Wheeler County Treasurer, postage	196.01
	Road Fund
Payroll	\$27,248.56
Ameritas Retirement Plans Division, retirement	3,951.29
Appearra, service	31.23
Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance, insurance	8,526.16
Capital One Trade Credit, supplies	667.99
Dinkel's, tractor rent	5,340.93
Emme Sand & Gravel, gravel	31,813.03
Farmers & Merchants Bank, payroll w/h	7,652.87
Hillbill's Diesel, repairs	504.30
Loup Basin RC & D, dues	334.44
Loup Valley Rural Public Power Dist., service	163.73
Madison Life Insurance, insurance	17.28
Nebraska Dept of Revenue, payroll w/h	1,117.52
Nebraska Dept of Revenue, Motor fuels, gas tax	1,445.00
Nebraska Peterbilt, repairs	54.75
Netcom, Inc., repairs	246.00
New Victorian Inn-Kearney, mtg lodging	179.97
Northeast Nebraska Telephone Co., service	106.98
Office Net, supplies	12.99
Gail Payne, insurance stipend	500.00
Peoples Service, tires	6,968.65
Delan Reed, insurance stipend	500.00
Sapp Bros. Petroleum, diesel	9,717.73
Seamann Trucking, transporting equipment	1,600.00
State of Nebraska Fire Marshall, tank permit	120.00
Glenn Tetschner, insurance stipend	500.00
Ulrich Gravel Inc., gravel	5,726.68
VSP Insurance Co., insurance	53.77
We Mart, fuel	344.23
Lonnie Wood, insurance stipend	500.00

The meeting was adjourned at 10:36 AM on a motion by Heinz, seconded by Pokorny. Voting aye: Heinz, Pokorny, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 26, 2022, at 8 a.m.

Cara Snider, County Clerk
Travis Heinz, Board Chairman