

Wheeler County Board Minutes



Bartlett, Nebraska

September 28, 2022

The Wheeler County Commissioners met in a special meeting to conduct a budget hearing at 8:00 a.m., to be followed by a regular meeting on this date. 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 Meetings Act literature available for the public. Answering roll call were Commissioners Heinz, Plugge and Pokorny. Clerk Snider, Treasurer Seamann, County Attorney Joe McNally, Sheriff Lindsay, and Road Foreman Reed were also present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The budget hearing was opened and the floor was turned over to Chuck Abel to present the budget as published. After Abel explained the budget it was then turned over to the public for comment. There was no public comment, so Heinz made a motion to close and adjourn the budget hearing at 8:15 A.M seconded by Pokorny. Voting aye: Heinz, Pokorny, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

Heinz made a motion at 8:15 a.m. to open the regular meeting, seconded by Pokorny. Voting aye: Heinz, Pokorny, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

Answering roll call were Commissioners Heinz, Plugge and Pokorny.

Plugge made a motion to approve the August 31, 2022, meeting minutes, seconded by Heinz. Voting aye: Plugge, Heinz, and Pokorny. Voting nay: none.

Plugge made a motion to approve Resolution 20220901 to increase the restricted Funds authority for the 2022-23 fiscal year by an additional 1%, seconded by Pokorny. Voting aye: Plugge, Pokorny, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Heinz made a motion to adopt Resolution 20220902, to accept the budget as it was published, seconded by Pokorny. Voting aye: Heinz, Pokorny, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

Heinz made a motion at 8:18 a.m. to open the public hearing to set the final tax request, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Heinz, Plugge, and Pokorny. Voting nay: none.

Heinz made a motion to approve Resolution 20220903 set the final tax request at \$1,756,779.00, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Heinz, Plugge, and Pokorny. Voting nay: none.

Pokorny made a motion to close the public hearing at 8:20 A.M., seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Steve Melnick presented information on a Colonial Life Insurance plan available to the county employees. Plugge made a motion to accept the offer to make it available to all county employees who wished to participate in the program, seconded by Pokorny. Voting aye: Plugge, Pokorny, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

The board discussed road concerns. No action taken.

Ed Knott from Applied Connective Technologies visited with the board about services and hardware upgrades for advanced cyber protection for the county computer network. Pokorny made a motion to accept the proposals presented and to start upgrading the cyber protection system immediately, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Weed Superintendent Reiter gave a monthly report.



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There was no update on replacing the courthouse roof and which was tabled indefinitely.

Pokorny made a motion to approve the Oak Creek Engineering Agreement for Professional Services for required wetlands monitoring on the Ericson South bridge project, seconded by Heinz. Voting aye: Pokorny, Heinz, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

Treasurer Seamann informed the board that the possible county tax sale has been resolved, and presented a current listing of delinquent taxes for her annual report. Seamann also presented a listing of possible Distress Warrants that will be updated at the next meeting before turning them over to the sheriff on November 1, 2022.

Pokorny made a motion to approve Resolution 20220904, to transfer \$150,000.00 from the Inheritance Tax Fund to the Road Fund, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Heinz updated the board on the zoning administrator position search. The matter was tabled.

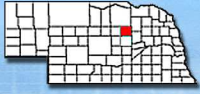
Snider presented bids for a new county auditor from Contryman Associates, PC. And Dana F. Cole & Company. Pokorny made a motion to accept the proposal from Contryman Associates, PC, seconded by Heinz. Voting aye: Pokorny, Heinz, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

Jeff Sterba joined the meeting via phone call to answer some questions in regards to replacing the skylight in the courthouse. The board tabled this topic until the October meeting to allow Sterba to submit some further details on the cost of replacement.

Pokorny made a motion to amend Article 4-3 of the Employee Personnel Policy Manual to reflect that new full-time employees are eligible for health insurance benefits 60 days after their start date instead of the current 90 days to comply with federal law, seconded by Heinz. Voting aye: Pokorny, Heinz, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

Plugge made a motion to approve the following claims, seconded by Pokorny. Voting aye: Plugge, Pokorny and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

General Fund	
Payroll	\$20,676.61
Aflac, insurance	203.33
Ameritas Retirement Plans Division, retirement	3,208.12
Applied Connective Technologies, support	147.50
Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance, dental/health insurance	17,525.10
DAS Sate Accounting AS 400 fees	149.12
Eakes Office Solutions, copier expense	216.54
Farmers and Merchants Bank, payroll w/h	5,726.13
First Conrad Benefits Group, deductible buy down	64.00
G-L-W Extension Services, monthly support	1,970.50
Holt County Treasurer, veterans contract	516.67
Loup Valleys Rural Public Power District, services	333.20
McNally Law Office, clerical, meeting reimbursement	2,100.00
Microfilm Imaging System, services	60.00
MIPS, Inc, program	1,259.25
MM C Store, sheriff fuel	276.86
Morris Press, envelopes	53.43
Nebraska Association of County Officials, annual conf. & fall regis	640.00
Nebraska Department of Revenue, payroll w/h	766.98
Nebraska Department of Revenue, Property Tax, workshop/training	900.00
Nordhues Family, services	500.00



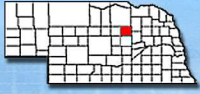
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Northeast Nebraska Telephone Co., services	483.59
Plugge, Roy, insurance stipend	500.00
Presto-X, monthly services	56.50
Quill Corporation, Norton renewal	71.99
Snider, Cara, meeting reimbursement	118.75
Staples Credit Plan, supplies	487.59
Stenka, Ken, meeting expenses	902.65
Stevens Medical Clinic, PC, prisoner appointment	140.00
Valley County Sheriff, prisoner keep	1,300.00
Verizon Wireless, sheriff cell	165.68
VSP Insurance Co. vision insurance	155.37
We Mart, sheriff fuel	477.34

ROAD FUND

Payroll	\$21,878.08
Ameritas Retirement Plans Division, retirement	3,181.09
Blue Cross Blue Shield, dental/health insurance	13,315.00
Bomgaars Supply, Inc, supplies	469.98
Capitol One Trade Credit, parts	321.97
Emme Sand & Gravel, gravel	2,935.70
Equipment Blades, grader blades	1,845.00
Farmers and Merchants Bank, payroll w/h	6,123.47
First Conrad Benefits Group, deductible buy down	48.00
Hillbill's Diesel, repairs	80.94
Hubel Welding, welding gas	160.98
J & J Sanitation, services	251.74
John Deere Credit, grader payment	65,406.45
Loup Basin RC & D, weed watch pos	63.39
Loup Valleys Rural Public Power District, shop services	156.02
Madison National Lives, insurance	8.57
Murphy Tractor & Equipment Co. Inc, disc mulcher	17,000.00
Nebraska Association of County Officials, conference registration	300.00
Nebraska Department of Revenue, payroll w/h	933.64
Nebraska Department of Revenue, quarterly fuel tax	577.00
Nebraska Machinery Co, repairs	483.00
Nebraska Weed Control Association, dues	125.00
Nitro Construction Inc, crushed concrete	24,444.18
Northeast Nebraska Telephone Co, services	110.02
PowerPlan, repairs	1,835.92
Ramada Inn-Kearney, lodging	154.00
Reed, Delan, insurance	500.00
Shotkoski Enterprises, services	12,905.07
The Parts Bin, Inc, supplies	471.36
Ulrich Gravel Inc, gravel,	17,212.09
VSP Insurance Co, vision insurance	36.68
We Mart, road fuel	716.41



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The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 a.m. on a motion by Pokorny, seconded by Heinz. Voting aye: Pokorny, Heinz, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

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

Cara Snider, County Clerk

Travis Heinz, Board Chairman