

Bartlett, Nebraska

September 27, 2023

The Wheeler County Commissioners met to hold a special meeting to conduct a budget hearing at 8:00 a.m., which was followed by a regular meeting on this date. Legal Notice of the meetings was published in the September 20, 2023, edition of the Burwell Tribune and Official Agenda 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. Answering roll call were Commissioners Heinz, Plugge and Pokorny. Clerk Snider, Treasurer Seamann, County Attorney Joe McNally, Sheriff King, and Road Foreman Reed were also present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Budget Meeting and Public Hearing was opened at 8:03 a.m.

Chuck Abel presented the preliminary budget as published for review and discussion. There was no public comment and Heinz made a motion to close and adjourn the budget hearing and Budget Meeting at 8:25 a.m., seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Heinz, Pokorny, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

Heinz made a motion at 8:25 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.

Resolution 20230901 was presented to increase the budget by an additional 1%. Motion was made by Pokorny to approve the Resolution, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

A motion was made by Pokorny to adopt the budget as published, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Heinz made a motion to open the public hearing at 8:29 am to set the final tax request, seconded by Pokorny. Voting aye Heinz, Pokorny, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

Plugge made a motion to approve Resolution 20230903, to set the final tax request for the General Fund at \$1,936,538, seconded by Heinz. Voting aye: Plugge, Heinz, and Pokorny. Voting nay: none.

Pokorny made a motion to close the public hearing at 8:32 A.M., seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Plugge made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 30, 2023, meeting, seconded by Pokorny. Voting aye: Plugge, Pokorny, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Jay Jenkins from UNL and the GLW Extension Office presented an updated Interlocal Agreement and GLW Constitution. Jenkins explained the changes that were made and requested the board adopt the Interlocal Agreement. A motion by Pokorny was made to adopt the new Interlocal Agreement with the University of Nebraska Extension and seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Jenkins also requested the counties have their own agreements and provided some example documents for review. The board tabled any new county agreement until the new proposed agreements could be reviewed.

Reed gave an update on road projects. Tree cutting on the county's right-of-way can begin on October 1. Reed has contacted Big Iron about listing the county excess property and those items sold at the end of October or the beginning of November. He will also solicit bids closer to Spring to repair asphalt on Pibel Lake Road. He has contacted Ulrich Gravel and Emme's Sand and Gravel, and they both have contracted with the state to have big road projects done next summer so the county will need to start stockpiling the gravel they think they may need for next summer. Reed will arrange to get electricity to where the grader is located in Ericson so that it can be plugged in over the winter and will arrange to have the fuel barrel moved. Reed was also directed to have a used motor installed in the Ford pickup before the excess property sale.

Employee cellphone reimbursement was discussed and tabled at this time.

Snider presented two Underground Road Permit applications for Section 13 Township 22 Range 11 and for Section 11 Township 22 Range 11. Pokorny made a motion to approve both permits, seconded by Heinz. Voting aye: Pokorny, Heinz, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

Heinz made a motion to enter executive session at 9:22 am to discuss potential litigation, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Heinz, Plugge, and Pokorny. Voting nay: none.

Heinz made a motion to exit executive session at 9:28 am seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Heinz, Plugge, and Pokorny.

Treasurer Seamann presented Resolution 20230904 for the transfer of funds. Pokorny made a motion to approve Resolution 20230904 transferring \$300,000.00 from the General Fund to the Road Fund, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Courthouse improvements were discussed with no major changes at this time.

Discussion was held on the Courthouse and Road Department operating on a four-day week. The board tabled the matter until Spring.

Pokorny made a motion to approve the accelerated tax correction on a trailer house that's being moved out of the county, seconded by Heinz. Voting aye: Pokorny, Heinz, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

There will be a Board of Equalization meeting to set Levies and to have County Government Day for the Juniors and Seniors at Wheeler Central on October 17, 2023.

Doug Reiter, Weed Superintendent, gave a brief update on the weed spraying and presented the Sandhills Weed Management Area (SWMA) Interlocal Cooperation Agreement. Plugge made a motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement, seconded by Heinz. Voting aye: Plugge, Heinz, and Pokorny. Voting nay: none.

Chairman Heinz made a motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel matters at 9:59 am, seconded by Pokorny. Voting aye: Heinz, Pokorny, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

Pokorny moved to exit the executive session at 10:38 am, seconded by Heinz. Voting aye: Pokorny, Heinz, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

#### General Fund

Payroll	\$23,729.24
Aflac, insurance	357.04
Ameritas Retirement Plans Division, retirement	3,821.43
Appera, services	118.01
Applied Connective Technologies, computer repairs	1,062.87
Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance, dental/health insurance	17,557.12
Burwell Tribune, publication	425.00
Cenex Fleet Fueling, sheriff fuel	605.94
Colliers Landscaping & Lawn Care, fall lawn care	305.00
Colonial Life Insurance, insurance	74.02
Comfort Inn-Kearney, assessor lodging	344.85
DAS Sate Accounting AS 400 fees	266.75
Eakes Office Solutions, copier expense	168.03
Elan Financial Services, supplies	251.58
Farmers and Merchants Bank, payroll w/h	6,434.49
First Conrad Benefits Group, insurance bye down	4,478.54
G-L-W Extension Services, monthly support	2,069.98
Holt County Treasurer, veterans contract	516.67
Hydro Tech Fire Extinguishers, fire extinguishers	338.85
J & M Steel, storage trailer	2,550.00
KBRX FM, tax ad	57.00
King, Dale, fuel reimbursement	21.00
Koinzan Enterprises, INC, sprinkler repair	175.00

Lexipol LLC, grant application	2,500.00
Loup Valleys Rural Public Power District, services	344.88
McNally Law Office, clerical, meeting reimbursement	2,308.34
MIPS, Inc, program	1,299.34
MM C Store, sheriff fuel	136.61
Motorola Solutions, INC, radios	13,579.16
Nebraska Association of County Officials, Central District meeting	165.00
Nebraska Department of Revenue, state w/h	902.99
Nordhues Family, services	525.00
Northeast Nebraska Telephone Co, services	406.73
Plugge, Roy, insurance stipend	500.00
Presto-X, monthly services	61.02
Quill Corporation, supplies	189.66
Region 26 Council, support	11,939.56
Seamann, Carol, mileage	144.38
Sears, Donna, reimbursement	57.58
Snider, Cara, meeting mileage	112.45
Transunion Risk & Alt Data Solutions, subscription	583.00
Verizon Wireless, sheriff cell	122.86
VSP Insurance Co. vision insurance	156.29
We Mart, sheriff fuel	154.78
ROAD FUND	
Payroll	\$22,531.44
Ameritas Retirement Plans Division, retirement	3,307.84
Appeara, services	35.27
Big Red Motors, ranger repairs	1,171.31
Blue Cross Blue Shield, dental/health insurance	8,349.83
Colonial Life Insurance, insurance	156.89
Dexter Diesel, LLC, repairs	2,507.61
Dirt Worx Excavating & Demolition, crushed concrete	42,201.14
DMC Wear Parts, LLC, blades	355.21
Edgehill, Motors INC, supplies	539.99
Emme Sand & Gravel, gravel	43,568.94
Farmers and Merchants Bank, payroll w/h	6,429.76
First Conrad Benefits Group, insurance buydown,	312.72
Gehring Construction & Ready Mix, crushed concrete	22,146.00
Glesinger, Terry, insurance stipend/mileage	500.00
Hillbill's Diesel, parts	89.58
Hydro Tech Fire Extinguishers, fire extinguishers	1,799.00
J & J Sanitation, services	334.46
J & M Steel, storage trailer	2,550.00
Kayton International-Albion, rental	130.69
Kit L Held Trucking, crushed concrete	1,027.62
Loup Basin RC & D, weed watch postage	68.90
Loup Valleys Rural Public Power District, shop services	170.33
Madison Nation Life, insurance	9.74
Miller Tire Service, tires	2,983.20
Nebraska Association of County Officials, Central District meeting	55.00
Nebraska Department of Revenue, payroll w/h	978.47
Nebraska Department of Revenue, 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter tax	1,425.00
Nitro Construction, INC, crushed concrete	12,785.92
Northeast Nebraska Telephone Co, services	88.39
Pitzer Digital, LLC, help wanted ad	180.00
PowerPlan, repairs	2,203.95

Quill Corporation, supplies	86.99
Reed, Delan, insurance	500.00
Sapp Bros Petroleum, INC., diesel	8,426.13
Shotkoski Enterprises, crushed concrete	20,287.29
The Parts Bin, Inc, supplies	2,561.88
TRP of O'Neill, repairs	119.11
Ulrich Gravel Inc, gravel	7,464.40
VSP Insurance Co, vision insurance	41.46
We Mart, road fuel	540.36
Courthouse Fund	
Applied Connective Technologies, phone system	5,378.23

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

With no further business Pokorny made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 am seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 25, 2023, at 8 a.m.

Cara Snider, County Clerk

Travis Heinz, Board Chairman