

Bartlett, Nebraska

December 23, 2024

The Wheeler County Commissioners met to conduct a regular meeting at 8:00 a.m. Legal Notice of the meeting was published in the December 18, 2024, 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.

During the period available for public comment, a landowner requested clarification on the responsibility for removal of trees that could be on the section line. The landowner was advised to have it surveyed as the issue is likely a private dispute.

Plugge made a motion to approve the November 27, 2024 minutes as published, seconded by Pokorny. Voting aye: Plugge, Pokorny, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Discussion held about overgrowth of trees on the section lines. No action taken.

Pokorny made a motion to make changes to the Driveway Application to reflect that the Road Foreman has the authority to approve or deny applications prior to a board meeting, if need be, seconded by Heinz. Voting aye: Pokorny, Heinz, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

Foreman Reed reported that the road employees are going to begin to trim the overhanging trees. He also stated that while at the NACO conference, he and Pokorny had spoken with representatives from Platte River Dust Control. He stated that they have a product they spread on the roads to help limit the washboards and grading. Platte River Dust Control would provide a complimentary 500-foot section of a road to test and the board suggested testing the product on the Ericson Lake Road south of Ericson. In other matters, Reed stated that the warranty for the def head has recently expired on a maintainer so the county will have to pay to have it replaced, and the other machine will be fixed today. McNally suggested looking into a grant with Nebraska Game and Parks for the Pibel Lake Road.

Sheriff King reported that the Sheriff's Office has received a grant for in car cameras and requested the funds already spent for the cameras from his budget be restored once the grant funds are received. Pokorny made a motion that the camera funds be transferred back to the Sheriff's budget when funds are received from the grant, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Treasurer Seamann stated that the General and Road Funds look good as there has been tax money coming in.

Treasurer Seamann requested the board allow her to hire a direct relative to work in her office one day a week and waive the conflict of interest in doing so.

At 8:07 am Heinz made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel issues, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Heinz, Plugge, and Pokorny. Voting nay: none.

Heinz made a motion at 8:10 am to exit the executive session, seconded by Pokorny. Voting aye: Heinz, Pokorny, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

Pokorny made a motion, seconded by Plugge to deny Treasurer Seamann's request to hire a relative to work in her office. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Heinz made a motion at 8:12 to enter into the Board of Equalization to discuss the tax correction for the Lower Loup Natural Resource District for a parcel of land that was purchased in October of 2024.

Board of Equalization was adjourned at 8:18 am, with a motion from Heinz to have Mr. McNally do some research and report back, seconded by Pokorny. Voting aye: Heinz, Pokorny, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

There was no update on Courthouse security or Courthouse improvements at this time.

A motion to reconvene as the Board of Equalization at 8:30 am was made by Heinz, seconded by Pokorny. Voting aye: Heinz, Pokorny, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

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

Heinz made a motion to exit the Board of Equalization at 8:31 am seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Heinz, Plugge, and Pokorny. Voting nay: none.

#### General Fund

Payroll	\$25,584.11
Aflac, insurance	189.21
Ameritas Retirement Plans Division, retirement	4,071.19
Appera, services	81.10
Applied Connective Technologies, computer repairs	5,260.37
Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance, dental/health insurance	21,402.79
Burwell Tribune, publication	52.00
Cenex Fleet Fueling, sheriff fuel	1,322.67
Colonial Life Insurance, insurance	183.45
Cornerstone Bank, safe deposit box	40.00
DAS Sate Accounting AS 400 fees	309.75
Elan Financial Services, supplies	370.32
Farmers and Merchants Bank, payroll w/h	6,848.44
First Conrad Benefits Group, insurance bye down	599.28
G-L-W Extension Services, monthly support	2,089.43
Galls, LLC, alco sensors	1,322.89
Holt County Treasurer, veterans contract	516.67
Hometown Leasing, copier payment	60.41
Loup Valleys Rural Public Power District, services	337.80
McNally Law Office, clerical, meeting reimbursement	2,358.34
Microfilm Imaging Systems, INC, services	60.00
MIPS, Inc, program	1,343.21
Nebraska Department of Revenue, state w/h	949.10
Northeast Nebraska Telephone Co, services	529.94
Platte Valley Communications, repairs	614.76
Presto-X, monthly services	67.12
Pro-Printing & Graphics, tobacco licenses	17.00
Quill Corporation, supplies	877.80
Region 26 Council, 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter assessment	14,616.03
RSR Electrical Contracting, LLC, electrical repairs	172.00
Saw Graphics Embroidery, sheriff stitch	62.50
Seamann, Carol, mileage	154.90
Sioux Sales Company, equipment	571.70
Snider, Cara, supplies	162.44
Transunion Risk & Alt Data Solutions, subscription	179.00
Verizon Wireless, cell	245.14
VSP Insurance Co. vision insurance	156.29
Wheeler County Treasurer, postage	441.67
10-8 Video LLC, in car body camera	5,940.00
ROAD FUND	
Payroll	\$24,208.00
Ace Irrigation & MFG. Co., culverts	9,906.00
AKS Laser Cutting, repairs,	823.50
Ameritas Retirement Plans Division, retirement	3,443.21
Appera, services	36.77

Blue Cross Blue Shield, dental/health insurance	10,992.16
Bomgaars Supply, INC, supplies	709.74
Colonial Life Insurance, insurance	497.42
DB Trucking, services	400.00
Diversified Drug Testing, LLC, dues	100.00
Emme Sand & Gravel, gravel	4,588.14
Farmers and Merchants Bank, payroll w/h	6,717.92
First Conrad Benefits Group, insurance buydown,	55.00
Gehring Construction & Ready Mix, crushed concrete	25,701.06
Hillbill's Diesel, repairs	88.72
Loup Valleys Rural Public Power District, shop services	189.98
Madison Nation Life, insurance	5.42
Nebraska Department of Revenue, payroll w/h	1,035.06
Nebraska Department of Revenue, 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter fuel tax	761.00
Nebraska Truck Center, INC, repairs	25.64
Northeast Nebraska Telephone Co, services	95.04
Platinum Truck Service LLC, Pete Repairs	11,896.22
Plugge's Rod Shop, repairs	60.46
Ramsey Ranch Supply, supplies	9.90
Sapp Bros Petroleum, INC., diesel	9,108.28
State of Nebraska Fire Marshall, storage tank fees	120.00
The Parts Bin, Inc, supplies	1,226.13
Ulrich Gravel Inc, gravel	3,732.13
Verizon Wireless, cell phone	42.94
VSP Insurance Co, vision insurance	73.30
We Mart, road fuel	309.84

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 Plugge made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 am seconded by Pokorny. Voting aye: Plugge, Pokorny, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

There will be a reorganizational meeting on January 9, 2025 at 9 am.

The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday January 29, 2025 at 8 a.m.

Cara Snider, County Clerk

Travis Heinz, Board Chairman