

# Sioux County Board Minutes



Sioux County Board of Commissioners

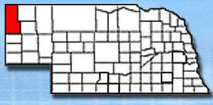
Harrison, Nebraska

March 1, 2019

The Sioux County Board of Commissioners met at the Sioux County Courthouse meeting room March 1, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. with the following present: Commissioners, Josh Skavdahl, Hal Downer and J.W. Geiser. Also present was County Clerk Michelle Zimmerman. The pledge of allegiance was recited. Hal Downer opened the meeting in prayer. Motion made by Geiser seconded by Downer to approve the agenda. On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried. Reference was made to the Open Meeting Laws posted in the meeting room. Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to approve the minutes of the February 1 and 6, 2019 meetings. On roll call vote Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried. The board met with elected and appointed officials.

The Board approved the following claims: GENERAL FUND: PAYROLL, 35,725.29; AFLAC, employee cafeteria plan, 274.75; Ameritas Life Insurance, employee optical insurance, 179.50; Ameritas Life Insurance, county share retirement, 2,295.01/employee share, 1,555.15; Blue Cross/Blue Shield, insurance, 18,629.40; Centurylink, internet, 32.50/ phone 187.48; Crawford Clipper, publications, 228.68; Randy Cullers, court appointed attorney, 915.26; DAS State Accounting, data processing, 218.84; Horse Creek Tire, Inc., supplies, 41.50; Lotton Supply, fuel, 181.91; Chad McCumbers, supplies, 50.53; MIPS, Inc., data processing, 2,420.70; Mobius Communications, phone, 224.28; Brad Munson, grounds, 500.00; NE Assn of Co. Clerks, dues, 75.00; NE Safety & Fire Equipment, fire extinguisher maintenance, 291.00; NE Dept. of Revenue, state tax, 879.99; Neofunds, postage, 500.00; NEA, electric, 1,932.98; Jennifer Nixon, mileage, meals, room, 254.43; Pine Ridge Service Center, fuel, 432.39; Irene Richey, yrs of service, 19.00; Sarah Sanderson, custodial contract, 1,200.00; Sarah Sanderson, custodial supply, 270.41; Security First Bank, county share social security, 1,924.32/employee share social security, 1,927.32/county share medicare, 450.78/employee share medicare, 450.78/ withholding, 1,941.19; Sioux County Clerk of District Court, court costs, 36.00; Sioux Co. Insurance Trust Fund, employee cafeteria plan, 508.33; Skavdahl, Edmund & Stecher, office rent, 200.00/clerical, 150.00/ phone, 18.71/ attorney fees, 243.20; Smith, King & Simmons, P.C., court appointed counsel, 200.00; Transfer to Library Fund, 3,000.00; Transfer to Noxious Weed Fund, 6,000.00; Transfer to Road Fund, 13,000.00; U-Save Mart, fuel, 55.00; University of NE-Lincoln, extension salary, 12,846.82; USDA, APHIS, Wildlife Services, predator control, 5,673.72; Viaero Wireless, phone, 124.96; Village of Harrison, utilities, 337.94; Vistabeam, internet, 63.95; Michelle Zimmerman, mileage, 303.92.

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: PAYROLL: 28,843.27; Accelerated Receivables Solutions, garnishment, 192.98; AFLAC, employee cafeteria plan, 564.33; Ameritas Life Insurance, optical insurance, 229.50; Ameritas Life Insurance, county share retirement, 1,930.21/employee share retirement, 1,286.75; Bauerkempers, parts, 10.00; Blue Cross Blue Shield, insurance, 17,195.82; Cody Bruegger, welding, 1,012.50; Butler Ag Equipment, parts, 1,110.23; Centurylink, internet, 53.70; Contractor Materials, supplies, 383.09; Crawford Clipper, advertisement, 15.75; Dooley Oil, Inc., oil, 986.00; Floyd's Truck Center, repairs, 17.76; Frank Parts, parts, 631.10; GMC of Chadron, repairs, 206.93; Herren's, supply, 640.15; Horse Creek Tire, supplies, 107.85; Ideal Linen, rugs, 32.65; Kaufman Glass, repairs, 140.00; Lotton's Service, fuel, service, 151.45; Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc., supplies, 43.78; Morrill Supply, supplies, 216.98; NE Safety & Fire Equipment, Inc., fire extinguisher maintenance, 35.00; NE Dept. of Revenue, employee withholding, 487.02; NE Machinery, repairs, 6,081.70; NEA, electric, 233.15; Panhandle Coop System, fuel, 1,628.76; Pine Ridge Service Center, fuel, 2,978.36; Powerplan, repairs, 1,473.74; S & S Plumbing, repair, 78.00; Security First Bank, county share social security, 1,532.46/employee share social security, 1,532.46/county share medicare, 358.41/employee share medicare,



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358.41/withholding, 889.00; Skeeter's Napa, parts, 296.56; TDS, garbage, 77.50; U-Save Mart, fuel, 144.73; Village of Harrison, utility, 111.70; Village of Morill, electric, 142.82; WPCI, drug testing, 81.50.

VISITOR IMPROVEMENT FUND: Butler Ag Equipment, repair, 185.55; Mike Kesselring, reimbursement for trade show expense, 418.27.

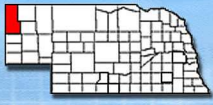
LIBRARY FUND: PAYROLL: \$1,259.18; Amazon, supplies, 231.06; Ameritas Life Insurance, county share retirement, 84.99/employee share retirement, 56.66; Centurylink, phone/internet, 152.25; Crawford Clipper, notice, 6.30; Demco, books, 356.99; Herren's, supplies, 8.99; Ideal Linen, rugs, 27.73; NE Safety & Fire Equipment, Inc., fire extinguisher maintenance; 40.00; NE Dept. of Revenue, employee withholding, 5.79; NEA, utilities, 219.32; Quill Corporation, supplies, 101.34; Security First Bank, county share social security, 78.07/employee share social security 78.07/county share medicare, 18.26/employee share medicare 18.26; Theatre West, summer reading, 50.00; Village of Harrison, utilities, 57.00.

INHERITANCE FUND: Transfer from Inheritance to General Fund, 22,000.00

NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL FUND: PAYROLL: 3,017.86; Ameritas Life Insurance, employee optical insurance, 33.10; Ameritas Life Insurance, county share retirement, 209.78/employee share retirement, 139.85; Blue Cross Blue Shield, insurance, 2,085.78; Centurylink, internet, 53.70; Herren's, supplies, 27.85; NE Weed Control Association, training, 240.00; NE Dept. of Revenue, employee withholding, 27.66; Nick Sanderson, anti-virus, 114.99; Security First Bank, county share social security, 164.77/employee share social security, 164.77/county share medicare, 38.54/employee share medicare, 38.54/ withholding, 150.00.

Joleen Falkenburg met with the board and asked if there had been any decisions about how to work on the budget following the auditor's recommendations. Commissioner Geiser stated that the board does realize it, and that they are trying to get it going in the other direction. Falkenburg asked if we had ever done layoffs in the wintertime, asking how neighboring counties do it. Commissioner Skavdahl stated that the county used to hire more part-time help in the summer. Geiser said that he had looked at highway allocations from across the state and compared us to other counties. We are less in personnel and total budget. Geiser didn't agree with the auditor's comment regarding employees being two to three higher than other counties she has compared us to. Falkenburg stated we are heavier in personnel and salaries than ever before, we need to really have a look at it. Skavdahl stated that the labor force is a big reason why we are in the position we are in now with the road conditions what they are, and we need to get them fixed. Falkenburg suggested contracting the road work done, sometimes it makes economic sense. She asked if the board thinks this will settle down and it will be corrected. Geiser provided a comparison that he has done with last year's expenses and revenues and has projected that, depending on how revenues come in, we should be considerably better this year than last year. The Road Fund had a negative balance a year ago, this year we are borrowing from Inheritance to cover expenses. Falkenburg stated that her long term concern is she doesn't want to see taxes go up, and would rather see the budget adjusted. Skavdahl said that it is a question of cash flow during the time period and the fact that costs have gone up. Falkenburg stated we have a budget problem and need to figure out a better way of spending and not spend everything, she stated that the budget process has to work better. Falkenburg also said hiring another employee in the sheriff's department is extremely unnecessary.

Pepper Dodge submitted a letter of resignation effective March 15. Motion made by Downer, seconded by Geiser to accept Dodge's resignation. On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.



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Michelle Zimmerman, County Clerk/Assessor submitted monthly reports. It looks like ag values will not change this year.

Sioux County Treasurer, Lacy Klein provided the board with monthly reports and the current financial status of the county. Commissioner Geiser stated that the county is going in the right direction instead of building a hole. He stated that we are going to be short next month, as the majority of the revenues aren't available until May. Treasurer Klein advised the board that from the state auditor's standpoint it isn't acceptable to have as little cash available as we currently have. The goal should be to have enough to cover two months expenses in cash reserve. Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to approve Resolution 2019-1 a resolution to borrow \$22,000 from the Inheritance Fund to be paid back on May 1, 2019. On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.

Nick Sanderson gave an update on the weed department.

Sheriff Chad McCumbers reported on recent activities. Discussion was held on education on medical marijuana and vaporizers. Sheriff McCumbers is looking into education for the kids.

John Campbell, Extension Board member met with the board. Discussion was held on the agreement with UNL. Campbell stated that we have an active extension service and try to meet the needs of our residents.

The Courthouse Maintenance Plan submitted by Berggren Architects was reviewed and will be discussed at the April meeting.

There will be a public hearing on March 27 for public input on adding wind energy to the Sioux County Zoning Resolution.

Andy Devine, Territory Manager for Purple Wave Auction met with the board. Devine described Purple Wave Auction's services.

Road Superintendent Thayer updated the board on the Montrose Bridge project.

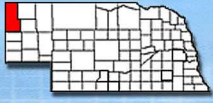
Road Foreman Mathis reported that they are doing what they can to work on the signs.

The board adjourned from 12:00 to 1:00 for a lunch recess.

A public hearing was held at 1:15 for the purpose of reviewing the One and Six Year Road Plan. Road Superintendent Thayer stated that the Montrose Bridge is completed outside of seeding and some small projects. The One Year Plan will include 4.5 miles of Edgemont Road from the middle of Lange's to Andy Federle's. The remaining 4 miles of Henry Road and 5 miles of Morrill Road will also be on the One Year Plan. The Six Year Plan will be the remainder of Cut Across Road and Wheeler Roads. Other roads will be on the County Road Improvement List. This list will be for roads that don't require a major project.

Bill Wilson discussed Circle Buttes Road, stating that the first mile was elevated 2 ½ to 3 years ago and it has been worth it. Wilson would hate to see that grade in the first mile blow away through time. Wilson also spoke in support of Pleasant Ridge Road getting worked on.

Jim Dunn asked that work be done on Pleasant Ridge Road between Sean Grote and Howard Willey's, as that is the worst part of the road. Dunn would also like to see the three miles west of his house be elevated. Dunn offered his truck if we can find gravel, and also said we need to use local gravel. Dunn offered help looking around for gravel.



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Kevin Grote spoke in support of Jim Dunn's comments. Grote asked if a 12' road is possible from Gillett's on. Road Foreman Mathis stated that the road is legally supposed to be 20' according to state standard. Minimum maintenance designation was discussed. County Attorney Edmund said that minimum maintenance roads wouldn't have blades or gravel on them. Mathis stated that if we put minimum maintenance on the road, we would lose state funding, and the state does come check roads. Mathis' said that it cost \$25,000 per mile to gravel a road.

Commissioner Skavdahl advised the patrons that the road will be on the priority list and it will get done, barring any unforeseen circumstances. Foreman Mathis asked Grote to let him know when he can go look for gravel.

The board directed Road Foreman Mathis to advertise for gravel crushing bids.

Motion made by Downer, seconded by Geiser to accept the one and six year road plan as presented. On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Lotton, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 P.M. The Sioux County Board of Commissioners will meet April 1, 2019.

/s/Joshua Skavdahl  
Chairman of the Board

/s/Michelle J. Zimmerman  
Sioux County Clerk