

# Sioux County Board Minutes



Sioux County Board of Commissioners

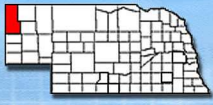
Harrison, Nebraska

June 3, 2019

The Sioux County Board of Commissioners met at the Sioux County Courthouse meeting room June 3, 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. Reference was made to the Open Meeting Laws posted in the meeting room. Motion made by Downer, seconded by Geiser to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2019 meeting. 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, 36,666.95; AFLAC, employee cafeteria plan, 274.75; Ameritas Life Insurance, employee optical insurance, 179.50; Ameritas Life Insurance, county share retirement, 2,394.73/employee share, 1,623.67; Blue Cross/Blue Shield, insurance, 18,629.40; Centurylink, internet, 32.50/ phone 187.49; Crawford Clipper, publications, 205.80; DAS State Accounting, data processing, 218.84; gWorks, website contract, 8,375.00; Herren's supplies, 8.97; Lacy Klein, mileage, supplies, 81.20; Lotton's Supply, fuel, 106.75; Chad McCumbers, supplies, 82.05; MIPS, Inc., data processing, 2,164.98; Mobius Communications, phone, 224.66; Brad Munson, grounds, 500.00; NACO, registrations, 515.00; NE Clerks of District Court Assn., dues, 50.00; NE Dept. of Revenue, state tax, 927.83; Neofunds, postage, 500.00; NEA, electric, 1,036.50; NEA, building repairs, 755.28; Shawn Noon, supplies, 54.84; Office Depot, supplies, 126.54; Panhandle Research & Ext. Center, mileage, 112.48; Pine Ridge Service Center, fuel, 1,276.47; Pritchard & Abbott, mineral appraisal, 270.00; Quill Corporation, supplies, 512.91; Irene Richey, yrs of service, 19.00; Sarah Sanderson, custodial contract, 1,200.00; Sarah Sanderson, custodial supply, 91.43; Security First Bank, county share social security, 1,985.70/employee share social security, 1,985.70/county share medicare, 464.44/employee share medicare, 464.44/ withholding, 2,058.00; Sioux Co. Insurance Trust Fund, employee cafeteria plan, 508.33; Dan Skavdahl, mileage, 475.60; Skavdahl, Edmund & Stecher, office rent, 200.00/clerical, 150.00/ phone, 18.71/ law manual, 71.25/ lodging, 345.93; Staples, supplies, 166.16; Transfer to Library Fund, 6,000.00; Transfer to Noxious Weed Fund, 6,000.00; Transfer to Road & Bridge Fund, 45,000.00; U-Save Mart, fuel, 26.02; University of NE-Lincoln, assistant salary, 12,798.51; UNL-Lincoln, equipment, 379.00; Viaero Wireless, phone, 30.46; Village of Harrison, utilities, 337.94; Michelle Zimmerman, mileage, 243.60.

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: PAYROLL: 26,214.19; AFLAC, employee cafeteria plan, 462.02; Ameritas Life Insurance, optical insurance, 203.46; Ameritas Life Insurance, county share retirement, 1,752.74/employee share retirement, 1,168.44; Blue Cross Blue Shield, insurance, 15,898.14; Centurylink, internet, 54.66; Contractor Materials, supplies, 18.20; Crawford Clipper, notice, 44.50; Dooley Oil, Inc., oil, 4,349.48; Frank Parts, parts, 170.25; Herren's, supply, 127.32; Ideal Linen, rugs, 65.30; Mark Chrisman Trucking, gravel crushing, 12,480.00; Matheson Tri-Gas, supplies, 133.63; Morrill supply, supplies, 55.28; NE Dept. of Revenue, employee withholding, 435.74; NE Machinery, repairs, 15,958.05; Nebraskaland Tire, supplies, 3,839.80; NEA, electric, 94.82; Office Depot, supplies, 204.94; Panhandle Coop System, fuel, 255.45; Pine Ridge Service Center, fuel, 10,801.62; Powerplan, repairs, 2,972.13; R & C Welding, labor, 110.00; Security First Bank, county share social security, 1,390.91/employee share social security, 1,390.91/county share medicare, 325.30/employee share medicare, 325.30/withholding, 800.57; Skeeter's Napa, parts, 512.15; Stacy Swinney, bridge inspections, 715.00; Team Chevrolet, repairs, 355.27; U-Save Mart, fuel, 453.91; Village of Harrison, utility, 95.70; Village of Morrill, electric, 112.20.



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LIBRARY FUND: PAYROLL: \$1,426.55; Amazon, supplies, 704.42; Ameritas Life Insurance, county share retirement, 96.29/employee share retirement, 64.19; Centurylink, phone/internet, 152.95; Demco, books, 96.14; Sunny Edwards, supplies, 117.64; Herren's, supplies, 1,361.84; Ideal Linen, rugs, 27.73; Kapco, supplies, 89.69; Mid America Books, books, 153.61; NE Dept. of Revenue, employee withholding, 58.19; NEA, utilities, 128.16; Quill Corporation, supplies, 32.99; Jeff Quinn, summer reading, 350.00; Sarah Sanderson, books, 66.53; Security First Bank, county share social security, 88.45/employee share social security 88.45/county share medicare, 20.68/employee share medicare 20.68/withholding, 100.00; Village of Harrison, utilities, 55.00.

NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL FUND: PAYROLL: 3,878.86; Ameritas Life Insurance, employee optical insurance, 33.10; Ameritas Life Insurance, county share retirement, 261.62/employee share retirement, 174.41; Blue Cross Blue Shield, insurance, 2,085.78; Bluetarp Credit Services, supply, 50.48; Centurylink, internet, 54.66; Crawford Clipper, publications, 90.00; Lotton's Service, fuel, 46.00; NE Dept. of Revenue, employee withholding, 36.03; Office Depot, supplies, 126.55; Nick Sanderson, mileage, 62.64; Security First Bank, county share social security, 212.39/employee share social security, 212.39/county share medicare, 49.68/employee share medicare, 49.68/ withholding, 156.68.

Michelle Zimmerman, County Clerk/Assessor submitted monthly reports. Protest hearing dates were set for July 16 and 17, 2019.

Sioux County Treasurer, Lacy Klein provided the board with monthly reports and the current financial status of the county.

Sheriff McCumbers submitted monthly fees and updated the board on recent and upcoming activities. The USDA contract was signed by Chairman Skavdahl. McCumbers submitted a new budget proposal. He is trying to get as much as possible into the deputy salary line with his primary goal to get another person in place. There is a possibility to get a surplus vehicle from Agate.

Jenny Nixon updated the board. She has hired Linda Kesselring on a temporary part-time basis. Emily Parker is helping organize for fair. There was a flood meeting last Friday. NRD has put together a program to help impacted areas. Sioux County can add items to that program. NRCS is offering an extension on their emergency conservation program. FSA is adding a separate designation for people along White River. Region 23 is expanding for more damages through NEMA. LTAP has many things to offer, training people on running graders. There is a little bit of fencing available for people who lost fences.

A public hearing was opened regarding the budget amendment for the transfer of \$142,050.00 from the Inheritance Fund to the General Fund. Members of the public asking questions were Jodi Thomson and Cody Bruegger. The purpose of the amendment is to amend the expenditures in the Inheritance Fund to include \$142,050.00 that was transferred to the General Fund, but paid back. Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to approve the amendment. On roll call vote, Geiser, yes; Downer, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.

Resolution 2019-4 was reviewed by the board. The resolution states that the unexpended funds within the General Budget in the amount of \$6,047.96 are hereby assigned to the over-expended County Court Budget. Motion made by Downer, seconded by Geiser to approve the resolution. On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.



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Cody Bruegger advised the board that he was notified by the Clerk's office that he needed proof of liability insurance for doing work at the county shop. Discussion was held on liability for contract work and worker's compensation. County Attorney Edmund will look into the matter.

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

One bid for armor coating 4.2 miles of Henry Road was opened. Motion by Downer, seconded by Geiser to accept the bid and direct Superintendent Thayer to review it. On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.

Road Foreman Gordon Mathis asked if the board would be ok with him stepping down from foreman to just a blade operator. Mathis stated that all the roads are torn up and he is tired of getting bad mouthed, he's about had enough and is not going to continue to take the beating he's taking from the community.

Commissioner Geiser, seconded by Commissioner Downer moved to enter Executive Session at 11:19 a.m. to discuss personnel issues. Roll call vote Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried. At 11:33 a.m. Commissioner Geiser, seconded by Commissioner Downer moved to enter regular session with no action taken during Executive Session. Roll call vote, Geiser, yes; Downer, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to transfer Mathis to operator at operator salary. On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried. Each commissioner will be responsible for their own districts. Mathis exited the meeting.

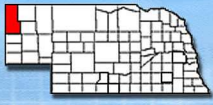
Members of the public present to discuss road issues were Jodi Thomsen, Joe Falkenburg, Gale Henry, Mike Bannan and Jim Fox. Jodi Thomsen inquired about Edgemont Road. Thomsen showed 50 some pictures of the road. She stated that Story Road is even worse, and you can't go down Indian Creek Road. Thomsen named the families who will be traveling to school daily on the roads. They are only getting spots fixed. Why not start and put the blade down and fix the road. There were no blades out after any of the blizzards. Thomsen said they are willing to offer free gravel. We are paying workers, what are they doing?

Jim Fox asked about sending workers home if it's too wet to do anything, and then work when conditions are right. County Attorney Edmund cited the Fair Labor Standards Act and only working 40 hours per week. They can float some guys if they are willing to do it. Jodi Thomsen asked who the District 1 guys are. Bill Mack and Bobby Reece are designated to District 1.

Road Superintendent Thayer stated that running two blades together works well. Joe Falkenburg asked how many patrols the county has. There are 8. Commissioner Skavdahl says 3 miles a day is what they can get done right now.

Overtime was discussed. Joe Falkenburg added that it's past the point of excuse, now it is dangerous. Falkenburg added that as far behind as we are we should be able to pay some overtime. It's been a tough spring, but clear last summer we didn't have any blades.

Gale Henry suggested that road employees be sent to the schools where they can get trained. You can't let the blades sit alongside the road for a week or two. Need to get a good manager who can work with the people. Henry said you may need to hire contractors to work.



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Mike Bannan said if there was a little improvement on every road, he wouldn't feel left out. Cottonwood and Highland Roads were discussed. Bannan asked where the money comes from to buy a new grader, adding that the condition this county is in is serious.

Jim Fox asked about the money going to the community college saying that that money would do a lot of good on the roads. County Attorney Edmund stated that is by statute. Fox commended Falkenburgs for donating gravel, and that he has and will continue to donate gravel. Fox said that more people visit Toadstool Park than Fort Robinson. The county has got to tighten up and run a better business, it's been many years since we've had good timely management on roads, it's going to take a lot to get them back. Fox suggested Burlington Northern hauling gravel to a central spot.

Gale Henry asked if there was any place to get help with the roads. County Attorney Edmund said that we are working with FEMA right now. We spend the money, and then get reimbursed.

Jodi Thomsen asked if it is possible to work with Dawes County or, do we need to get rid of some guys? Thomsen said that a contractor rebuilt three miles in three days in South Dakota last year, and it took Sioux County 30 days to do the same.

The board scheduled meeting for Wednesday, June 19 to discuss how to go forward within the road department. In the meantime, each commissioner will contact the road employees in his respective district to schedule work.

Chairman Skavdahl contacted NE Machinery to discuss continuation of renting the blade. Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to give Skavdahl authority to either continue the rent or not at his discretion. On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.

The board adjourned for lunch from 12:25 to 1:15

Jeff Kelly updated the board on PADD, Panhandle Area Development District.

Luke Peebles, USDA, APHIS gave an update of wildlife management over the past year. He has requested \$21,445.33 for his services for 2019-2020. Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to approve the contract. On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 P.M. The Sioux County Board of Commissioners will meet July 1, 2019.

/s/ Joshua Skavdahl  
Chairman of the Board

/s/ Michelle J. Zimmerman  
Sioux County Clerk