



Sioux County Board Minutes



Sioux County Board of Commissioners

Harrison, Nebraska

October 1, 2021

The Sioux County Board of Commissioners met at the Sioux County Courthouse meeting room October 1, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. with the following present: Commissioners J.W. Geiser, Hal Downer and Josh Skavdahl. Also present was County Clerk Michelle Zimmerman. The pledge of allegiance was recited. Josh Skavdahl 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 September 1, 2021 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, 42,442.50; AFLAC, employee cafeteria plan, 321.95; Ameritas Life Insurance, employee optical insurance, 191.20; Ameritas Life Insurance, county share retirement, 2,795.64/employee share, 1,904.11; Blue Cross/Blue Shield, insurance, 19,263.60; Bytes Computer Solutions, e-mail, 217.27; Centurylink, internet, 32.50/ phone 230.72; Copier Connection, contract, 798.54; Crawford Clipper, publications, 421.14 Cullers Law, P.C., court-appointed attorney, 310.00; DAS State Accounting, data processing, 218.84 Herren's, supplies, 19.38; Lacy Klein, mileage, 156.80; Midwest Special Services, transport prisoner, 603.00; MIPS, Inc., data processing, 2,249.95; Mobius Communications, phone service, 229.40; Melissa Mracek, mileage, 120.96; Brad Munson, grounds, 500.00; NACO, registrations, 180.00; NE Public Health Environmental Lab, blood alcohol test, 105.00; NE Dept. of Revenue, state tax, 1,095.27; NEA, electricity, 402.42; Print Express, supplies, 343.71; Quadiant Finance, USA, postage, 500.00; Quadiant Leasing, USA, postage machine, 840.00; Quill, supplies, 100.24; Ramada Midtown Conference Center, room, 384.00; Region I Behavioral Health Authority, mental health and substance abuse services, 2021-2022, 6,573.00; Irene Richey, yrs of service, 19.00; Pine Ridge Service Center, fuel, 1,587.95; Sarah Sanderson, custodial contract, 1,200.00; Sarah Sanderson, custodial supply, 275.81; Security First Bank, county share social security, 2,335.20/employee share social security, 2,335.20/county share medicare 546.12/employee share medicare, 546.12/withholding, 2,253.01; Sioux Co. Insurance Trust Fund, employee cafeteria plan, 508.33; Skavdahl, Edmund & Stecher, office rent, 200.00/clerical, 150.00/ phone, 21.79; Smith, King & Simmons, P.C., attorney fees, 50.00; Staples, supplies, 1,010.52; Transfer to Library Fund, 3,000.00; Transfer to Noxious Weed Fund, 10,000.00; Transfer to Road & Bridge Fund, 20,000.00; U-Save Mart, fuel, 103.00; UNL Extension, fuel, 35.73; Viaero Wireless, phone, 112.38; Village of Harrison, utilities, 557.84; Vistabeam, internet, 68.95; Michelle Zimmerman, mileage, 616.45.

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: PAYROLL: 34,718.87 AFLAC, employee cafeteria plan, 510.77; Ameritas Life Insurance, optical insurance, 215.26; Ameritas Life Insurance, county share retirement, 2,226.72/employee share retirement, 1,484.54; Blue Cross/Blue Shield, insurance, 16,835.19; Dick Burford, gravel, 500.00; Centurylink, internet, 40.27; Dale's Tire and Retreading, supplies, 3,764.86; Dooley Oil, fuel, 3,056.60; Floyd's Truck Center, Inc., repair, 51.45; Frank Parts, parts, 15.28; Herren's, repairs, 354.90; Horse Creek Tire, Inc., repair, 247.82; Ideal Linen Supply, rugs, 60.13; Inland Truck Parts, parts, 64.90; Little Park Ranches, gravel, 1,480.00; Lotton's Service & Repair, fuel, repair, 644.65; Mark Chrisman Trucking, hauling, 2,400.00; Modern Farm Equipment, parts, 167.51; Morrill Hardware, supplies, 12.37; Morrill Supply, supplies, 35.38; NE Motor Fuel Division, fuel tax, 694.00; NE Dept. of Revenue, employee withholding, 789.97; Nebraska Dept. of Transportation, 674.68; Nebraska Machinery, repairs, 6,317.64; NEA, electric, 61.22; James Phipps, CDL reimbursement, 100.00; Powerplan, repairs, 1,046.95; Pine Ridge Service Center, fuel, 8,185.00; Security First Bank, county share social security, 1,906.01/employee share social security, 1,906.01/county share medicare,



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445.78/employee share medicare, 445.78/withholding, 1,473.58; Terrance Staman, gravel, 1,240.00; Chase Staudenmaier, gravel, 300.00; TDS Environmental Services, garbage, 30.00; U-Save Mart, fuel, 207.67; Village of Harrison, utilities, 96.65; Village of Morrill, electric, 74.27.

VISITOR IMPROVEMENT GRANT FUND: Herren's, tourism, 371.80.

LIBRARY FUND: PAYROLL: \$1,384.71; Amazon, supplies, 773.55; Ameritas Life Insurance, county share retirement, 93.47/employee share retirement, 62.31; Centurylink, phone/internet, 152.08; Crawford Clipper, notice, 6.46; MPC Heating & Cooling, repairs, 40.00; NE Dept. of Revenue, employee withholding, 57.59; NEA, electricity, 92.12; Security First Bank, county share social security, 85.85/employee share social security 85.85/county share medicare, 20.08/employee share medicare 20.08/withholding, 100.00; Village of Harrison, water, 95.00.

NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL FUND: PAYROLL: 4,897.13; AgSpray Equipment, supplies, 773.34; Ameritas Life Insurance, employee optical insurance, 33.10; Ameritas Life Insurance, county share retirement, 330.56/employee share retirement, 220.67; Blue Cross Blue Shield, insurance, 2,156.78; Centurylink, internet, 59.94; Crawford Clipper, notice, 99.00; Heritage Seed, chemical, 1,088.70; Herren Brothers, supplies, 115.00; Lotton's, fuel, repair, 751.16; NE Dept. of Revenue, employee withholding, 66.98; Nick Sanderson, mileage, 58.24; Security First Bank, county share social security, 274.83/employee share social security, 274.83/county share medicare, 64.27/employee share medicare, 64.27/withholding, 234.28.

Michelle Zimmerman, County Clerk/Assessor submitted monthly reports.

Lacy Klein, Sioux County Treasurer updated the county financial status to the board

Road Superintendent Phipps presented an application for permission to occupy county road/right-of-way from United Tel of the West d/b/a/ CenturyLink to install fiber optic cable for approximately 4.25 miles along and across Henderson Road. Motion made by Downer, seconded by Geiser to approve the application. On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to direct Road Superintendent Phipps to advertise for crushing gravel in three different gravel pits in the county. On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.

Phipps advised the board that the county had committed its resources to the Post Fire for five days.

Jeff Metz, Morrill County Commissioner and Travis Rodak, Morrill County Attorney met with the board regarding Executive Order 14008, signed by President Biden regarding preservation of 30% of the lands and waters in the US by the year 2030. Metz expressed his concern with perpetual easements. It might be better to put a 30-year term on it. They are dangerous when signed into perpetuity. When property is sold, the value is reduced due to restrictions placed on it. Morrill County has amended their comprehensive plan to include language allowing for denial of conservation easements. Morrill County Attorney Rodak stated that the only way to deny an easement is if it conflicts with the county's comprehensive plan. The more conservation easements a county has, the more it erodes the tax base. Sioux County Attorney Edmund stated that the Sioux County plan has been ag-based. Details of amending the comprehensive plan was discussed. Chase Staudenmaier asked questions regarding restrictions on easements. Bill Wilson raised the concern of control of phragmites, Russian olives, and other noxious weeds when there is an easement in place. The issue will be explored further.



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Gale Henry requested county help in finding out what is going on with predator control in the county. Henry stated that South Dakota is flying, but he hasn't been able to find out what is being done in Sioux County. Commissioner Geiser advised that the new trapper here should be on the job. Chase Staudenmaier would like to push for the ability of more private killing out of the air.

Road Superintendent Phipps advised the board that Deric Anderson would like the county to install an autogate on East Hat Creek Road. County Attorney Edmund advised that both property owners would need to agree prior to installation of the autogate. Chase Staudenmaier, adjacent landowner expressed his opposition. Discussion was held on the bridge over Hat Creek, Staudenmaier owns both sides, and would be in favor of moving the bridge if need be.

The board adjourned for a lunch recess at 12:00.

Don Lease, NE Strong met with the board concerning National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. Lease discussed food pantries and busing through transport systems.

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m. The Sioux County Board of Commissioners will meet November 1, 2021.

/s/Joshua Skavdahl
Chairman of the Board

/s/Michelle J. Zimmerman
Sioux County Clerk