

# April 8, 2025

## Seward County Board of Equalization

State of Nebraska)  
County of Seward) ss.

A regular meeting of the Seward County Board of Equalization was convened in open and public session at 8:30 a.m. on April 8, 2025 in the Commissioner's room at the Seward County Courthouse. Notice of the meeting was posted on the Courthouse bulletin board, on the Commissioner's Room door, on the Seward County website: [sewardcountyne.gov](http://sewardcountyne.gov) and published in the Seward County Independent and the Milford Times. The agenda for all meetings is kept continually current and is available for public inspection at the County Clerk's Office during normal business hours. The agenda is held open until one business day prior to the meeting for appearance before the Board. The Board of Commissioners has the right to modify the agenda to include items of an emergency nature only at such public meeting.

The Seward County Board of Equalization convened on April 8, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. a.m.

Present:           Chairperson: Misty Ahmic  
                          Members: Raegan Hain, Darrell Zabrocki, Ken Schmieding,  
                          Scott Pekarek  
                          County Clerk: Sherry Schweitzer  
                          County Assessor: Marilyn Hladky

The Chairperson noted that the public meeting information is posted as required by law and available for public distribution if requested.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Zabrocki to approve the minutes of March 25, 2025.  
Affirmative Vote: Hain, Zabrocki, Pekarek, Schmieding, Ahmic           Motion Carried

Hladky then updated the Commissioners on activities of her office.

Known items on the agenda for Board of Equalization on April 22, 2025 are as follows:  
9:00 a.m.

1. Convene and announce Open Meetings Law
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Discuss/Action - Approve minutes of April 8, 2025
4. Discuss/Action – Assessor Information Update

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to adjourn at 8:37 a.m.  
Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Hain, Schmieding, Pekarek, Ahmic           Motion Carried

State of Nebraska)  
County of Seward) ss.

I, Sherry Schweitzer, the undersigned County Clerk of Seward County, Nebraska do hereby certify the foregoing minutes are true and are part of the official records of this office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this 22<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2025.

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County Clerk

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Chairpersons

April 8, 2025

Seward County Board of Commissioners

State of Nebraska)  
County of Seward) ss.

A regular meeting of the Seward County Board of Commissioners was convened in open and public session at 9:00 a.m. on April 8, 2025 in the Commissioner’s room at the Seward County Courthouse. Notice of the meeting was posted on the Courthouse bulletin board, on the Commissioner’s Room door, on the Seward County website: [sewardcountyne.gov](http://sewardcountyne.gov) and published in the Seward County Independent and the Milford Times. The agenda for all meetings is kept continually current and is available for public inspection at the County Clerk’s Office during normal business hours. The agenda is held open until one business day prior to the meeting for appearance before the Board. The Board of Commissioners has the right to modify the agenda to include items of an emergency nature only at such public meeting.

The Seward County Board of Equalization convened on April 8, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. a.m.

Present: Chairperson: Misty Ahmic  
Members: Raegan Hain, Scott Pekarek, Ken Schmieding,  
Darrell Zabrocki  
County Clerk: Sherry Schweitzer

The Chairperson noted that the public meeting information is posted as required by law and available for public distribution if requested.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- a. Minutes of April 1, 2025
- b. Utility Permit for Charter Communications to run Fiber Optic Conduit on Bluff Road & 140<sup>th</sup> Road thence West 1200 feet and crossing Bluff Road to a Utility Pole in Section 24 Township 11 North, Range 4 East of the 6th P.M.
- c. County Clerk Fee Report for March 2025 in the amount of \$37,652.50
- d. Clerk of the District Court Fee Report for March 2025 in the amount of \$9,554.88
- e. Special Designated Liquor Permit for the Libertarian Party Fundraiser Event at 1699 Bluff Rd, Garland, NE on June 7, 2025 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Hain, Schmieding, Pekarek, Ahmic Motion Carried

Moved by Pekarek and seconded by Schmieding to approve claims for the period through March 28, 2025.

SEWARD COUNTY CLAIMS THROUGH MARCH 28, 2025					
ADP INC	SE	\$2,977.60	BEATRICE CONCRETE	SU	\$10,389.11
AKRS EQUIP	EQ	\$3,400.00	BLACK HILLS ENERGY	UT	\$1,420.59
ALLO COMM	UT	\$4,327.43	CHEMSEARCH	SE	\$1,346.40
AMERITAS LIFE INS	FE	\$21,909.11	HEARTLAND TIRES	SU	\$6,826.50
BRYAN PHYSICIAN	SE	\$788.00	INDOFF INC	SU	\$49.99
CENTURY BUSIN PROD	SU	\$109.91	KERFORD LIMESTONE	SU	\$15,424.90
CITY OF SEWARD	UT	\$23,501.58	MAINELLI WAGNER	SE	\$13,887.50
CROWNE PLAZA KEARNEY	TR	\$309.90	MEDICAL ENTERPRISES	SE	\$36.00
CULLIGAN	SE	\$93.75	MIDWEST AUTO PARTS	SU	\$104.60
DIVERSIFIED DRUG TEST	SE	\$55.00	NE PUBLIC POWER DIST	UT	\$123.95
E 911	SE	\$39,183.83	NEXTLINK AIS	UT	\$51.07
EAKES OFFICE PLUS	SU	\$6,330.31	DAN PICKERILL	SE	\$1,577.84
ESRI	SE	\$1,450.00	POWERPLAN	SE	\$139.70
FARMERS COOP	SU	\$1,962.46	REED ELECTRIC	SE	\$1,200.82
FEHLHAFERS	SE	\$17.00	SAPP BROS PETROLEUM	SU	\$19,323.62
FGH LAW OFFICE	SE	\$4,807.70	TRUCK CENTER CO	SE	\$202.41
GARCIA CLINICAL LAB	SE	\$30.00	VILLAGE OF UTICA	UT	\$55.40
GBE CPA	SE	\$25,205.00	DALE JOHNSON ENT	SU	\$5,007.41
SCOTT R GROPP	SE	\$1,362.50	JOHNSON SAND & GRAVEL	SU	\$8,090.73

HOMETOWN LEASING	EQ	\$273.26	SOUTHWEST GRAVEL PROD	SU	\$951.29
JONES BANK (FICA)	FE	\$22,006.42	NEBRASKA TRAVEL ASSOC	TR	\$125.00
LEE ENTERPRISES	SE	\$275.00	SEWARD CO BRIDGES	SE	\$2,500.00
MARLIN MATULKA	SE	\$226.20	SEWARD CO CLERK	FE	\$32.00
MCKESSON MEDICAL	SU	\$247.41	ART ON DISPLAY	SE	\$960.00
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	SE	\$685.71	CREATIVE PROD SOURCING	SE	\$117.15
MID-AMERICAN INS	FE	\$47,177.32	CORI J STAVA	SE	\$91.25
MIDWEST AUTOM	SE	\$75.58	GREAT PLAINS UNIFORMS	SE	\$903.81
NAYLOR AND RAPPL LAW	SE	\$1,012.50	JONES BANK	FE	\$50.00
NE ASSn CO OFFICIALS	FE	\$320.00	MAGNUM ELECTRONICS	EQ	\$639.80
NE PUB HLTH ENV LAB	SE	\$105.00	US BANK EQUIP FINANCE	FE	\$167.99
PETTY CASH FUND	FE	\$66.81	UTICA BODY & PAINT	SE	\$907.48
REGION V SYSTEMS	SE	\$4,280.00	HUMAN RELATIONS MEDIA	SE	\$1,343.89
SEW CO HLTH CLM FND	FE	\$360,167.88	MOTIVATE 2 COMMUNICATE	SE	\$150.00
SEWARD CO INDEPENDENCE	SE	\$869.66	THE CHANGE COMPANIES	SE	\$1,354.50
SEWARD SINKING FND	FE	\$1,000.00	NORRIS PUB POWER DIST	UT	\$249.00
SEWARD LUMBER	SU	\$54.43	ST OF NE DAS ST ACCNTNG	SE	\$115.00
SITE ONE LANDSCAPE	SU	\$101.11	LANGUAGE LINE SERV	SE	\$9.44
SOARIN GROUP	SE	\$7,098.25	CENTURYLINK	EQ	\$4,586.11
ST OF NE DAS COMMUNI	SE	\$1,382.40	PAC N SAVE	SU	\$33.98
SUMMIT FOOD SERV	SE	\$9,576.39	SALARIES		\$311,095.60
SVEHLA LAW OFFICES	SE	\$1,637.50	GROSS SALARIES INCLUDE DEDUCTIONS TO:		
THYSSENKRUPP ELEVATO	SE	\$870.57	AMERITAS DENTAL		
TYLER TECHNOLOGIES	SE	\$898.00	AMERITAS VISION		
VERIZON WIRELESS SERV	UT	\$2,372.62	COLONIAL SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE		
VIRTUAL IMPRESSIONS	SE	\$36.00	MID AMERICAN CO WISCONSIN		
VISA	FE	\$105.00	POINT C FSA		
ZABKA PERDUE FUNERAL	SE	\$610.00	WADDELL & REED		
BARCO MUNICIPAL PROD	SU	\$2,190.20			

Affirmative Vote: Pekarek, Schmieding, Hain, Zabrocki

Voting No: Ahmic

Motion Carried

In regard to the agenda item "Planning for Telecom Expansion in Seward County", Oliver Borchers Williams and Shaimaa Saydo of SouthEast Nebraska Development District (SEND D) were present to give information about the BEAD Program (Broadband, Equity, Access & Deployment) which involves broadband internet. The Nebraska Broadband office is involved in facilitating the BEAD program. Saydo also gave information about the Digital Equity Capacity grant.

The Commissioners discussed the planned Scrap Tire Event to be held on May 16 & 17, 2025 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Seward Road Shop at 3427 Waverly Rd. They discussed the parameters for the event, such as no trailers longer than 14 feet, need to be a Seward County resident, etc. which were the parameters in the last grant offered in the fall of 2024. They decided to change some restrictions for this event such as trailer length, having the event for two days, opening it up to businesses, etc.

Aaron Clark Of NextLink was present to request support for the Nebraska BEAD Defined Project Area that will be impacted by NextLink's projects. He gave information about his company and the projects they have done in years prior. Questions arose about whether or not they would use fixed wireless (towers) or fiber for rural broadband. Jonathan Jank, Executive Director of Seward County Chamber & Development Partnership (SCCDP), added comments to the discussion agreeing that fiber is the preferred method of installation of rural broadband.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Pekarek to approve a letter of support for NextLink's Application for the BEAD Project for fixed wireless or fiber projects.

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Pekarek, Schmieding

Voting No: Hain, Ahmic

Motion Carried

Dan Policy was present to request barricades and road closures on April 13, 2025 from 6:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. for the Bee Buzz Run. The run would occur on 238<sup>th</sup> Rd and 252<sup>nd</sup> Rd from Agnew Rd to Rock Creek Rd and Agnew Rd to Rock Creek Rd from 238<sup>th</sup> Rd to 252<sup>nd</sup> Rd. He stated this is a fundraiser for the Bee Ballroom. The Sheriff's Posse will help with traffic.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Schmieding to approve the request for barricades and road closures on April 13, 2025 from 6:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. for the Bee Buzz Run on 238<sup>th</sup> Rd and 252<sup>nd</sup> Rd from Agnew Rd to Rock Creek Rd and Agnew Rd to Rock Creek Rd from 238<sup>th</sup> Rd to 252<sup>nd</sup> Rd.

Affirmative Vote: Hain, Schmieding, Pekarek, Zabrocki, Ahmic      Motion Carried

The Commissioners discussed the Fair Labor Standards Act Designation the jail staff is going to implement. Roxanne Knutson, HR Director, and Brandon Noordhoek, Jail Administrator, were present to discuss the subject. The staff will be under the "Panama Schedule" which is a "Law Enforcement" type of schedule. This would let them have an 80 hour before overtime schedule with alternating weekends off.

The Commissioners recessed at 10:11 a.m.

The Commissioners re-convened at 10:25 a.m.

Commissioner Ahmic stated that during the recess, pictures were taken of county employees in front of the courthouse celebrating County Government Month.

Jon Regnier, Highway Supt., updated the Commissioners on activities of his department.

Commissioner Zabrocki led discussion on the newly proposed bylaws for Region V and for Apace. He stated he has sent the proposals to the other members of the board and asked them to review and give their feedback. He stated that the bylaws will then be reviewed by the Region V and Apace Boards at their May meeting. Commissioner Ahmic had read the proposed bylaws and there was discussion about her questions.

Marcus Kallhoff, Weed Supt., presented the Nebraska Dept. of Agriculture Weed Report for 2024. He started as the Weed Supt. of Seward County this past year and this is the first report he has submitted. He gave information about the report and his plans for getting a certification and spraying for the next year.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Pekarek to authorize the Chairman to sign the Nebraska Dept. of Agriculture Weed Report for 2024.

Affirmative Vote: Hain, Pekarek, Schmieding, Zabrocki, Ahmic      Motion Carried

Moved by Hain and seconded by Schmieding to go into Executive Session for personnel/strategy at 11:04 a.m.

Affirmative Vote: Hain, Schmieding, Zabrocki, Pekarek, Ahmic      Motion Carried

The Chair stated the Executive Session was for personnel/strategy.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Schmieding to go out of Executive Session at 12:05 p.m.

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Schmieding, Hain, Pekarek, Ahmic      Motion Carried

### **Commissioner Reports:**

Commissioner Pekarek reported he met with the Emergency Manager, noted there is a meeting on May 22, 2025 at 7 p.m. with Lower Platte South NRD in regard to the water conservation district subject, will be going to the budget meeting with Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO), worked with the Zoning Administrator on a density issue, followed up with a constituent about a road near the Lancaster County line, worked with property line issues, received a request for a letter of support, and spoke with the county surveyor.

Commissioner Schmieding reported he checked on various roads/streets, and will have meetings this week for Blue Valley Community Action, Visitors Committee and Extension Board. He also attended a Rec Board meeting at the new Wellness Center and will attend a Seward Tree Board meeting tonight.

Commissioner Ahmic reported she talked with Senator Hughes about future discussion with our federal representatives, attended the City of Milford Council, noted information

about vacation of roads in Seward County, attended a meeting with the Zoning Administrator, the Jana Hughes Town Hall meeting, asked the Building and Grounds Supt. to check on the inventory of Public Defender's Office since we now contract for a Public Defender, requested more information about a technology claim, received calls from constituents, gave information about Johnson Dam road and Central Square formerly Zuercher.

Commissioner Zabrocki reported he attended the fundraiser for the bandshell, attended the Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Assn. (NIRMA) seminar, attended the town Hall meeting of Jana Hughes, had a meeting with our HR Director and attended the Utica Village Board meeting. He finished a review of two employees and visited with the 911 Director about the Justice Center EOC room.

Commissioner Hain reported she met with Tom Nielsen of Soarin' Group about microphones, attended the Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Assn. (NIRMA) seminar, sent an email to the Villages about the Emergency Declaration from the recent storm, had a meeting with Commissioner Ahmic and the Highway Supt. about a road project, attended the Jana Hughes Town Hall meeting, received survey results for the Juvenile Services Comprehensive Plan, wants to send letters to residents near the area of the 420th road project and received various correspondences about roads, ditches, etc. She also followed up with a constituent about a parcel near the Village of Bee that the County owns and met with a member of the Village of Utica Board.

The Commissioners discussed an Engagement Letter for Operational Overview of the Equitable Sharing Fund Program. Paying for an audit of these funds was discussed as well as discussing the program as a whole.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Zabrocki to authorize the Chair to sign an Engagement Letter with Nesbitt & Associates for the Operation Overview of the County Attorney's and Sheriff's Equitable Sharing Fund Program with the cost to be paid out of the Inheritance Fund.

Affirmative Vote: Hain, Zabrocki, Pekarek

Voting No: Schmieding, Ahmic

Motion Carried

During the Legislative Update, Commissioner Ahmic gave information about various bills in the Legislature and where they are in the legislative process.

Commissioner Zabrocki is absent at 1:14 p.m.

Known items on the agenda for Board of Commissioners on April 15, 2025 are as follows:

9:00 a.m.

1. Convene and announce Open Meetings Law
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Discuss/Action - Approve minutes of April 8, 2025

### **Other Business Matters to Address When Time Allows**

4. Discuss/Action – Public/Organizations/Officials
5. Commissioner Reports
6. Discuss/Action – YouTurn Health Estimate for Service to Seward County and determine whether the county would like to proceed with further discussions
7. Discuss/Action - Dust Control Program for Seward
8. Discuss/Action - Legislative Update
9. Discuss/Action –Agenda for April 22, 2025

9:15 a.m. Discuss/Action – Award Bids for Project C-80 (677) Bridge Deck Replacement on Bridge # 8011235 Branched Oak Rd East of 266<sup>th</sup> Rd.

9:30 a.m. Discuss/Action - Matt Wullenwaber/Point C (formerly Mid-American Benefits) – Renewal of Health Insurance for Seward County

Moved by Pekarek and seconded by Schmieding to adjourn at 1:18 p.m.

Affirmative Vote: Pekarek, Schmieding, Hain, Ahmic

Motion Carried

State of Nebraska)  
County of Seward) ss.

I, Sherry Schweitzer, the undersigned County Clerk of Seward County, Nebraska do hereby certify the foregoing minutes are true and are part of the official records of this office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Clerk

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Chairman