

April 26, 2022
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 26, 2022 in the Commissioner's room at the Seward County Courthouse. Notice of the meeting was posted on the Courthouse bulletin board and on the Commissioner's Room door. 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 Equalization 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 26, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Chairperson: John Culver
Members: Misty Ahmic, Bob Vrbka, Ken Schmieding, Darrell Zabrocki
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 Vrbka and seconded by Ahmic to approve the minutes of April 12, 2022.

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Ahmic, Schmieding, Zabrocki, Culver Motion Carried

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Zabrocki to approve Tax List Corrections 360-22R and 361-19R.

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Zabrocki, Ahmic, Schmieding, Culver Motion Carried

Hladky updated the Commissioners on activities of her office.

Known items on the agenda for Board of Equalization on May 10, 2022 are as follows:

8:30 a.m.

1. Convene and announce Open Meetings Law
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Discuss/Action - Approve minutes of April 26, 2022
4. Discuss/Action – Assessor Information Update

8:35 a.m.

Hearing – Permissive Exemption for Omni Health
Discuss/Action – Permissive Exemption for Omni Health
Discuss/Action – Authorize the County Assessor to send County Board of Equalization Change of Value Notice

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Schmieding to adjourn at 8:39 a.m.

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Schmieding, Zabrocki, Ahmic, Culver 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 10th day of May 2022.

County Clerk

Chairperson

April 26, 2022

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 26, 2022 in the Commissioner's room at the Seward County Courthouse. Notice of the meeting was posted on the Courthouse bulletin board and on the Commissioner's Room door. 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 Commissioners convened on April 26, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Chairperson: John Culver
Members: Misty Ahmic, Bob Vrbka, 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 Ahmic to approve the minutes of April 19, 2022.
Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Ahmic, Vrbka, Schmieding, Culver Motion Carried

Maria Hatfield, Detention Center Director, was present to request American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for travel expenses.

Moved by Ahmic and seconded by Zabrocki to approve the request to pay travel expenses for Detention Center expenses with Seward County Rescue Plan Act funds in the amount of \$1,668.91.
Affirmative Vote: Ahmic, Zabrocki, Schmieding, Vrbka, Culver Motion Carried

Moved by Ahmic and seconded by Zabrocki to approve claims for the period through April 15, 2022.

SEWARD COUNTY CLAIMS THROUGH APRIL 15, 2022

ADP LLC	SE	\$2,465.35	TCA OUTDOOR POWER	EQ	\$505.77
ADVANCED CORR HLTHCR	SE	\$4,399.11	TELMATE LLC	SE	\$16.00
ADVANCED OFFICE AUTOM	SU	\$111.27	THOMSON REUTERS	FE	\$917.58
AMERITAS LIFE INS CORP	FE	\$17,838.88	TIME WARNER CABLE	UT	\$407.40
ARAMARK UNIFORM	SE	\$110.34	TRASH PANDA REFUSE	SE	\$4,023.60
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	UT	\$2,677.73	VERIZON CONNECT NWF	UT	\$834.69
BLUESTEM NETWORK	UT	\$110.00	VERIZON WIRELESS	UT	\$569.02
CAPITAL BUSINESS SYS	SU	\$29.87	VIRTUAL IMPRESSIONS	SE	\$20.00
CENTEC CAST METAL PROD	SU	\$756.64	VISA	FE	\$9,627.54
CITY OF SEWARD	UT	\$4,222.91	WASHINGTON CO COURT	SE	\$3.50
CONSOLIDATED MGMT CO	SE	\$17.48	WINDSTREAM	UT	\$10,455.81
CORNHUSKER INT TRUCKS	EQ	\$275.02	ZABKA PERDUE FUNERAL	SE	\$3,070.00
CULLIGAN	SE	\$100.50	FASTENAL COMPANY	SU	\$157.86
DIAMOND DRUGS, INC	SU	\$289.05	GWORCS	SE	\$3,375.00
DOUGLAS CO COURT	SE	\$4.50	HAMILTON EQUIPMENT	EQ	\$286.37
DOUGLAS CO SHERIFF	SE	\$10.46	JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	EQ	\$209.15
EAKES OFFICE PLUS	SU	\$1,076.24	MATHESON TRI-GAS	SE	\$488.04
JENNIFER EICKHOFF	SE	\$25.74	MEMORIAL CLINIC	SE	\$70.00
ELECTION SYS & SFTWR	SU	\$36.51	MEYER AUTOMOTIVE	SE	\$78.46

FARM & HOME PUBLISH	SU	\$150.00	MIDWEST AUTO PARTS	EQ	\$815.92
FARMERS COOPERATIVE	SU	\$21,564.69	NMC, INC	SE	\$2,369.22
GENERAL FIRE & SAFETY	SE	\$195.50	NORRIS PUBLIC POWER DIST	UT	\$1,525.00
GREAT PLAINS COMM	UT	\$883.85	ROSE EQUIPMENT INC	EQ	\$6,413.49
HELMINK PRINTING	SU	\$233.00	TRUCK EQUIP SERVICE CO	SE	\$162.20
HERPOLSHEIMERS	SE	\$160.24	SUE IMIG	SE	\$64.35
HOMETOWN LEASING	SE	\$155.84	SEWARD CO INDEPENDENT	SE	\$123.90
JONES BANK (FICA)	FE	\$19,859.65	SPORTS EXPRESS INC	SU	\$843.70
LAUBER FUNERAL SERV	SE	\$1,300.00	MILFORD AGING SERV	SE	\$1,625.00
REBECCA MCKAY	SE	\$55.58	SEWARD AGING SERV	SE	\$1,625.00
MCKESSON MED SURG	SU	\$530.65	US POST OFFICE	SU	\$92.80
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	SE	\$1,014.75	UTICA AGING SERV	SE	\$1,500.00
MIDWEST AUTOMOTIVE	SE	\$1,052.61	WATCH GUARD VIDEO	SE	\$8,012.50
MIDWEST OFFICE AUTOM	SU	\$39.99	BURMEVES LLC	SE	\$4,000.00
MIDWEST SPECIAL SERV	SE	\$1,469.00	JONES BANK	SE	\$150.00
KRYSTEL NABER	SE	\$16.38	LINCOLN POLICE GARAGE	SE	\$74.33
JENNIFER NANTKES	SE	\$12.87	POTTER REPAIR	SE	\$89.00
NE ASSN OF CO OFFICIALS	FE	\$250.00	WESTERN OIL II LLC	SU	\$210.58
NE HEALTH & HUMAN SERV	SE	\$93.00	CATCH GLOBAL FOUNDATION	SE	\$760.00
PEGGY OBORNY	SE	\$21.06	J CHAD PROF TRAINING	SE	\$70.00
OFFICE DEPOT	SU	\$48.26	BRIAN BARNES	SE	\$250.00
OREILLY AUTOMOTIVE	SU	\$40.78	MIDLANDS CONTRACTING	FE	\$5,882.75
PAC N SAVE	SU	\$225.30	PICTOMETRY INT'L	SE	\$30,680.17
PETTY CASH FUND	FE	\$149.00	ENCARTELE INC	SE	\$2,705.21
PHYSICIANS LAB SERV	SE	\$2,050.00	SALARIES		\$260,290.86
REDWOOD TOX LAB	SE	\$370.00	GROSS SALARIES INCLUDE DEDUCTIONS TO:		
REGION V SERVICES	SE	\$2,484.58	COLONIAL SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE		
SITE ONE LANDSCAPE	SE	\$322.15	MID AMERICAN CO WISCONSIN		
ST OF NE DAS STATE ACCTNG	SE	\$719.28	DELTA DENTAL		
STEINMEYER, ZACH	SE	\$1.17	VSP VISION		
SUMMIT FOOD SERV	SE	\$5,218.39	WADDELL & REED		

Affirmative Vote: Ahmic, Zabrocki, Vrbka, Schmieding, Culver

Motion Carried

Commissioners Reports:

Commissioner Ahmic reported she talked with the County Attorney's Office and JEO about Planning Commission issues, worked with UNL on the Missile Base project, gave info on Seward County Chamber & Development Partnership (SCCDP) comprehensive meeting, attended an SCCDP personnel and policy sub group, worked on the ARPA report due April 30, 2022 and talked to Village of Utica representatives.

Commissioner Vrbka reported he attended the Upper Big Blue NRD meeting and met with the Highway Supt. about issues.

Commissioner Culver reported he participated in a virtual Blue Valley Community Action meeting, checked roads and abandoned cemeteries, and received various correspondence.

Commissioner Schmieding reported he went to a Visitors Committee meeting and he will attend an Arbor Day event and received a comment concerning the Road Dept.

Commissioner Zabrocki reported he attended the Seward City Council meeting, a Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Association (NIRMA) Cyber Security Training Seminar, a 4th of July Committee meeting, a BRIDGES meeting, a NIRMA Committee meeting, and will attend another Policy and Procedure Committee with NIRMA.

Carrie Gottschalk, Extension Educator, was present to ask the Commissioners to sign a new Interlocal between Seward County and the University of Nebraska.

Moved by Schmieding and seconded by Vrbka to authorize the Chairman to sign the Seward County Extension Office Interlocal Agreement.

Affirmative Vote: Schmieding, Vrbka, Zabrocki, Ahmic, Culver

Motion Carried

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Schmieding to limit the items for the agenda for May 10, 2022.

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Schmieding, Ahmic, Vrbka, Culver

Motion Carried

The Commissioners recessed at 9:25 a.m.

The Commissioners re-convened at 9:30 a.m.

Jonathan Jank, Executive Director of the Seward County Chamber & Development Partnership, and Terry Wicht, Highway Supt., were present to give information about a project involving 150 acres near the Goehner Interstate 80 Exit. Beck's Hybrids purchased the land formerly occupied by Syngenta Hybrids. Beck's Hybrids is a privately held company and is proposing to add an at least 90,000 square feet building. They anticipate a lot of truck traffic and are requesting an additional hard surfaced road from the interstate exit to the site. Jank was present to give information about a grant available which would cover 75% of the cost. Jank said the estimated 25% would be approximately \$15,000 and Beck's Hybrids have approved to say they would offer to pay for half of the 25%. Wicht said it would need to be engineered. The total cost of the road is estimated to be \$60,000.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Ahmic to authorize the Chairman to sign the Economic Opportunity Program Application Form for assistance in road improvement near the Goehner I80 Exit on the south side of the Interstate.

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Ahmic, Schmieding, Vrbka, Culver

Motion Carried

During ARPA Funds discussion item on the agenda, Ahmic reported that she has been working on the report that is due April 30, 2022. She also mentioned that an application for Seward County ARPA funds has been received from the Village of Utica. The item will be on the agenda next week. Schweitzer added that Ahmic and herself participated in a Zoom session with a CPA about the ARPA report. The CPA stated that Ahmic has done a great job of gathering information for the report.

The Commissioners recessed at 9:51 a.m.

The Commissioners re-convened at 10:00 a.m.

Greg Butcher, Seward City Administrator, was in attendance to ask the Commissioners consideration in approving the Interlocal for the Seward East Project. He stated the City of Seward, although paying for the major part of the project, will not annex Seward Street for quite a while. He said when the project was first discussed, the estimated cost was \$1.4 Million. Currently, the cost is estimated to be \$1.9 million. By the time the project starts, it is anticipated to cost over \$2 million. The interlocal states Seward County's share of the project is \$200,000.00. Zabrocki asked the Commissioners, because costs are rising, to consider contributing \$250,000.00.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Schmieding to authorize the Chairman to sign the East Seward Road Maintenance and Improvement Cooperation Agreement between the City of Seward and Seward County and to reflect the change of the amount of the County Share from \$200,000 to \$250,000.

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Schmieding, Ahmic, Vrbka, Culver

Motion Carried

The Commissioners recessed at 10:09 a.m.

The Commissioners re-convened at 10:15 am.

Sherry Leising, Deputy County Treasurer, gave information about an employee in the Treasurer's Office that is unable to take vacation due to the County Treasurer being out on sick leave.

Moved by Ahmic and seconded by Zabrocki to approve the request for employee #0307 to have their maximum vacation hours extended to 260 hours for 6 months.

Affirmative Vote: Ahmic, Zabrocki, Schmieding, Vrbka, Culver

Motion Carried

The Commissioners recessed at 10:18 a.m.

The Commissioners re-convened at 10:30 a.m.

Sheriff Vance was present to ask permission to have the limit increased for the two Sheriff's Office credit cards. There are deputies going to a training in Chicago and will need the limits increased to accommodate travel expenses. He requested the limit be raised to \$9,000 for each card for 60 days.

Moved by Ahmic and seconded by Zabrocki to increase the limit for two Sheriff's Office credit cards to \$9,000 for 60 days.

Affirmative Vote: Ahmic, Zabrocki, Schmieding, Vrbka, Culver Motion Carried

Vance also asked the Commissioners consideration for an Interlocal for patrolling for the Village of Garland.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Vrbka to authorize the Chairman to sign the Law Enforcement Services Agreement between Seward County and the Village of Garland for patrolling services.

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Vrbka, Ahmic, Schmieding, Culver Motion Carried

The Commissioners recessed at 10:37 a.m.

The Commissioners re-convened at 10:45 a.m.

Terry Wicht, Highway Supt., was present to ask the Commissioners their consideration for a Verizon Contract.

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Schmieding to authorize the Chairman to sign a Verizon Contract for the Road Dept.

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Schmieding, Zabrocki, Ahmic, Culver Motion Carried

The Commissioners recessed at 10:51 a.m.

The Commissioners re-convened at 11:00 a.m.

The last item on the agenda was about wage increases for Fiscal Year 2022-2023. Carina Sanchez, HR Director, and Spencer Conradt, E911 Director, were present to ask the Commissioners consideration for increases for the E911 Dept. employees. In discussion for wages for all county employees, Culver stated he feels that \$2/hour could be used as a retention increase and each supervisor would have the authority of giving an increase of *up to* \$2/hour, dependent on the employee evaluation. Barb Armstead, Deputy County Attorney, said that for employees who already got the additional \$2/hour, it was not dependent on merit. Culver stated that with the labor shortage we are currently experiencing, wages need to be increased, although it will be difficult to complete the Seward County budget under the current budget lid for counties. He would suggest \$2/hour for each person who has not already received an increase since January 1, 2022. Conradt gave the Commissioners information on a salary study he completed. His study showed different options for increases, but his recommendation would be to give each employee a \$3/hour increase. Zabrocki stated he has talked to the City of Seward and said they believe the wages of the E911 Dept. employees need to be raised. Maria Hatfield, Detention Center Director, stated she would like merit raises for the Detention Center staff in addition to the raises already given. Sheriff Vance stated he does not expect more for his staff than the raises already received. Discussion on full time vs part time was also discussed. Lengthy discussion was had on how much of an increase the County can afford to give. It was decided that additional time and more data is needed before making a decision.

Known items on the agenda for Board of Commissioners on May 3, 2022 are as follows:

8:30 a.m.

1. Convene and announce Open Meetings Law
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Discuss/Action – Public/Officials/Boards
4. Discuss/Action - Approve minutes of April 26, 2022

Other Business Matters to Address When Time Allows

- 5. Commissioners Reports
- 6. Discuss/Action – Disbursement of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds
- 7. Discuss/Action – Agenda for May 10, 2022
- 9:15 a.m. Discuss/Action - Request from Village of Utica to use County ARPA Funds for A Generator Project
- 9:30 a.m. Discuss/Action – E911 Wage Difficult to fill subjects
- Discuss/Action – Wages Increases for Fiscal year 2022-2023

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Zabrocki to adjourn at 12:23 p.m.
 Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Zabrocki, Ahmic, Schmieding, Culver 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 3rd day of May 2022.

 County Clerk

 Chairman