

April 29, 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 29, 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 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 Commissioners convened on April 29, 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 Hain and seconded by Schmieding to approve the minutes of April 22, 2025.
Affirmative Vote: Hain, Schmieding, Zabrocki, Pekarek, Ahmic Motion Carried

Jon Regnier, Hwy Supt., updated the Commissioners on activities of his dept.

Ray Foreman, Veteran's Service Officer, introduced Tom Sieck as the Veteran of the Month. He gave information about his service in the Army as a mechanic and his time in Korea. He has been a member of the Pleasant Dale American Legion for 56 years and is on the Veteran's Service Committee as well as on the Norris Public Power Dist. Board (formerly Seward County Rural Public Power Dist.)

Marissa Pfile, Zoning Administrator, was present to talk to the Board about the Planning Commission's suggestion for Unpermitted Zoning Fees. She explained that there are many people in the county that are choosing not to get permits before they build/develop property. The development may not comply with the Zoning Regulations of Seward County. It's been suggested to have permits with increased fees for those people to encourage them to get permits prior to any development. Commissioners agreed that the suggested fees are reasonable, and Pfile will relay that information to the Planning Commission.

Pfile was also present when the Commissioners discussed the "Return of Board of Adjustment Variance Fee" item on the agenda. She stated she had worked with Snyder & Associates on a building permit and gave the Commissioners information about it, specifically how the square footage was calculated to make sure it was not over the maximum amount in our regulations.

Moved by Pekarek and seconded by Zabrocki to return a Board of Adjustment variance fee as submitted by Snyder & Associates.
Affirmative Vote: Pekarek, Zabrocki, Hain, Schmieding, Ahmic Motion Carried

Commissioner's Reports:

Commissioner Hain reported that she met with Commissioner Pekarek regarding abandoned cemeteries and the role of the extension office to them, made edits to evaluations, met with Commissioner Ahmic and the Hwy Supt. about the 420th Road project and met with Commissioner Ahmic, County Sheriff and a member of his staff about the claims process.

Commissioner Zabrocki reported he attended two Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Assn. (NIRMA) meetings, a SouthEast Nebraska Development District (SEND) meeting, a Chamber Luncheon where the Public Transit program was recognized and an E911 Board meeting.

Regnier was present to request permission to go out for bids for culverts.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Zabrocki to allow the request of the Road Dept. to go out for bids for culverts.

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

Commissioner Reports (Cont.)

Commissioner Ahmic reported she submitted Tribal Funds and American Rescue Plan Act reports, met with the County Attorney's office where she reviewed documents, met with Commissioner Hain, the Sheriff and a member of his staff about the claims process, attended the Chamber anniversary lunch, met with Commissioner Hain and the Hwy Supt. about the 420th Road project, visited with BNSF about a railroad crossing near Milford, worked on Legislature information about the Inheritance Fund, and watched the news on NTV about courthouses.

Commissioner Schmieding reported he attended a Visitors Committee meeting and two events hosted by the committee. He noted the volunteer treasurer of the group is retiring and so they are looking into that situation. He also attended the Arbor Day event and checked an abandoned cemetery.

Regnier was present to discuss the request from the 10x 4-H Shooting Club who has requested used grader blades be donated for their activities. Seward County has a Surplus Property Disposal Policy that must be adhered to and this donation might not follow the policy.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Pekarek deny the request from the 10x 4-H Shooting Club for the donation of used grader blades for shooting stands.

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Pekarek, Hain, Ahmic

Voting No: Schmieding

Motion Carried

Commissioner Reports (Cont.)

Commissioner Pekarek reported he attended a meeting with Commissioner Hain about abandoned cemeteries, received road and zoning questions from constituents and attended the E911 Board meeting.

During the Legislative discussion, Commissioner Ahmic gave information about the Inheritance Fund issue currently being discussed in the Legislature. Commissioner Hain also gave information about lack of legislation to support an issue that was successfully voted on at the General Election.

Known items on the agenda for Board of Commissioners on May 6, 2025 are as follows:

8:30 a.m.

1. Convene and announce Open Meetings Law
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Discuss/Action – Public/Organizations/Officials
4. Discuss/Action - Approve minutes of April 29, 2025

5. Discuss/Action - Claims for the period through April 25, 2025

Other Business Matters to Address When Time Allows

- 6. Commissioner Reports
- 7. Discuss/Action – YouTurn Health Estimate for Services to Seward County and to Determine Further Discussions
- 8. Discuss/Action - Legislative Update
- 9. Discuss/Action – Agenda for May 13, 2025
- 9:15 a.m. Hearing – Conditional Use Request – Livestock/Chicken Operation
Res. - Conditional Use Request – Livestock/Chicken Operation
- 9:30 a.m. Hearing – Border Station
Res. – Border Station
Discuss/Action – 5 Short Form Plats
- 10:00 a.m. Discuss/Action – Request to Approve FY 25-26 Wage Adjustments and Merit Increase
- 10:30 a.m. Discuss/Action – Executive Session - Personnel

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to adjourn at 10:09 a.m.
Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki Hain Schmieding Pekarek Ahmic

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 6th day of May 2025.

County Clerk

Chairman