

August 20, 2024

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 August 20, 2024 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 August 20, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Chairperson: Misty Ahmic

Members: Raegan Hain, John Culver, 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 Zabrocki to approve the consent agenda consisting of:

a. Minutes of August 13, 2024

b. Surplus Property Disposal Requests from the Road Dept.

c. Surplus Property Disposal Requests from the County Attorney's Office

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

Sherry Schweitzer, County Clerk, updated the Commissioners about the latest information on the budget.

The Veteran of the Month award was given out today to Aaron Shropshire. He gave information about joining the Marine Corp when he was 17 and spent two tours in Iraq. He is currently Commander of the Seward VFW.

The Commissioners discussed the appointment of members to the Planning Commission. There are currently two vacancies on the Commission.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Schmieding to appoint Aaron Shropshire for the term July 2024 through July 2027 and Sue Medinger for the term of November 2024 through November 2027 to the Planning Commission.

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

Carrie Rodriguez, Chief Probation Officer of the 5th District, was present to discuss an Adult Drug Court interlocal a/k/a Problem Solving Court. Morgan Campbell gave information about the court process.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Culver to authorize the Chair to sign the Interlocal Agreement for Adult Drug Court.

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

Commissioners Reports:

Commissioner Zabrocki reported he attended a Housing meeting, Supreme Court event at District Court, BRIDGES meeting and a 4th of July meeting.

Commissioner Schmieding reported he met with representatives of Apace, the staff of the Extension Office and the Buildings and Grounds Supt. He also has a Visitors Committee meeting later today.

Commissioner Ahmic reported she attended a Dept. Head appreciation luncheon, kept up to date with the Special session of the Legislature, worked on grants, participated in a Zoom call with a representative of Nebraska Dept. of Transportation (NDOT), met with an individual that will help with the Community Safety Action Plan, consulted with the county GIS program about Zoning information, went to the meeting of the Seward County Chamber & Development Partnership (SCCDP) and spent time on an HR Director issue.

Commissioner Culver reported he attended the Veteran's Committee meeting, Supreme Court event at District Court, the Bee Village Board meeting, noted some room problems with the cleaning and the humidity in the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) office, participated in two Zoom meetings with Blue Valley Community Action (BVCA), and received various correspondences.

Commissioner Hain reported she attended the Supreme Court event at District Court, worked on the Juvenile Justice Plan and gave information about the approval process for the plan. She also attended the Ag Society meeting and stayed up to date on the Special Session of the Legislature.

The Commissioners met with representatives of the Ag Society. Present for the organization was Brad Wagner, Treasurer, and Ron Wallman, President. The Ag Society is a Miscellaneous District in Seward County, as defined by statutes, and submitted a request for a tax levy for which the Commissioners grant authority. They were present to give information about their request which was \$400,000.

Bob Blevens and Jon Probst representing the Seward County Fire District were present to talk about their request for a tax levy. The Fire District, also a Miscellaneous District, submitted a request for \$1,160,422.19.

A resolution will be on the agenda next week to authorize the taxes to be levied and collected by these two organizations along with two other Misc. Districts, namely the J Township Cemetery District and the Pleasant Dale Cemetery District.

The Commissioners recessed at 10:42 a.m.
The Commissioners re-convened at 10:46 a.m.

Jerry Berggren of Berggren Architects presented information about possible courthouse maintenance projects. He led discussion with possible projects such as: getting rid of the black growth on the exterior stones of the building, examine the building and see what needs to be tuckpointed, repainting the fire escape on the east side of the building, and roof replacement/repair if needed. There are grants available with tax credits being awarded through them. They asked Berggren to make a proposal for assistance with the emergency exit stairs, roof, power washing and tuck pointing.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Schmieding that the Seward County Board of Commissioners sign a nomination for Darrell Zabrocki to the Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Association (NIRMA) Board of Directors.

Affirmative Vote: Hain, Schmieding, Culver, Ahmic

Abstain: Zabrocki

Motion Carried

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Culver to approve the request for purple lights to be displayed in the Courthouse windows and for statue lights outside the courthouse in September for Suicide Prevention Awareness Month and to place signs on the courthouse lawn.

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

Motion Carried

Zabrocki withdrew the agenda item in regard to a County Contribution for Workforce Housing Trip to Colorado. He stated there are other funding options available for this cost and does not wish to use tax money.

Moved by Culver and seconded by Zabrocki to approve a Special Designated Liquor License for the Seward County Chamber & Development Partnership (SCCDP) for a Farm to Table Event on September 22, 2024 at the Seward Dairy, 2 miles East of Seward.

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

Moved by Hain and seconded by Culver to authorize the Chair to sign the 2023-2024 Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification Report for the County Attorney's Office.

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

Moved by Hain and seconded by Culver to authorize the Chair to sign the HUD National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Services Agreement for the 420th Road Paving Project with Felsburg Holt & Ullevig Consulting firm (FHU) in the amount of \$88,240 to be paid of the Inheritance Fund and reimbursed to the Inheritance Fund upon receiving grant funds.

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

Known items on the agenda for Board of Equalization on August 27, 2024 are as follows:

8:30 a.m.

1. Convene and announce Open Meetings Law
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Discuss/Action - Approve minutes of August 13, 2024
4. Public Hearing – Tax Exemption Application of VSL Seward LLC for a 2019 Dodge Van
5. Discuss/Action – Tax Exemption Application of VSL Seward LLC for a 2019 Dodge Van
6. Discuss/Action – Assessor Information Update

Known items on the agenda for Board of Commissioners on August 27, 2024 are as follows:

9:00 a.m.

7. Convene and announce Open Meetings Law
8. Pledge of Allegiance
9. Discuss/Action - Approve minutes of August 20, 2024
10. Discuss/Action – Claims for the Period through August 16, 2024

Other Business Matters to Address When Time Allows

11. Discuss/Action - Public/Organizations/Officials
12. Commissioners Reports
13. Discuss/Action – Res.- Set Tax Requests for the Miscellaneous Districts
14. Discuss/Action – Budget for 2024-2025 Fiscal Year
15. Discuss/Action – Agenda for September 3, 2024

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Culver to adjourn at 11:44 a.m.

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Culver, 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 27th day of August 2024.

County Clerk

Chairperson