

# December 17, 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 December 17, 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 December 17, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Chairperson: Misty Ahmic  
Members: Raegan Hain, Ken Schmieding, Darrell Zabrocki  
County Clerk: Sherry Schweitzer  
Absent: John Culver

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 add "Discuss/Action - Security at The Courthouse" as an emergency item.

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

Sheriff Vance, Captain Borges and E911 Director Mariah Scamehorn were present to talk about an incident at the courthouse yesterday. A suspicious person spent an extended time at the office where he was consistently asked if he needed help. The person did not converse with employees but constantly looked around at offices and went into rooms at the various offices. Several panic buttons were activated. These are new panic buttons that need to be held longer than the previous buttons and some were not held long enough to be activated. Vance also stated he would like to have the cameras views available in his office. Currently, only the Buildings and Grounds Dept. are able to view the cameras. The officials present were told that the Safety Committee will need to address issues such as training on the new panic buttons, shelter in place plan, phone code for dangerous conditions, etc.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Zabrocki to approve the consent agenda consisting of:

1. Minutes of December 10, 2024
2. Utility Permit – Nelson Electric to bore electrical service under Fletcher Rd., 1000 feet east of the intersection of 294<sup>th</sup> & Fletcher Rd. located in the NW ¼ of Section 5, Township 10 North, Range 3 East of the 6<sup>th</sup> p.m.

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

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to approve the claims for the period through December 6, 2024.

### SEWARD COUNTY CLAIMS THROUGH DECEMBER 6, 2024

ADVANCED OFFICE AUTOM	EQ	\$156.56	VISUAL EDGE IT	SE	\$44.94
AGING PARTNERS	SE	\$43,573.00	VOSS LIGHTING	SU	\$95.70
ALLO COMM	UT	\$5,495.38	ALL STAR GLASS	SE	\$375.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERV	SU	\$164.80	BEATRICE CONCRETE CO	SU	\$11,774.43
AMERITAS LIFE INS	FE	\$22,618.98	G & P DEVELOP LANDFILL	SE	\$20.50

BLUE RIVER ELECTRIC	SE	\$873.26	HUSKER AUTO GRP	EQ	\$138,417.00
BLUE360 MEDIA	SU	\$99.95	J R WELDING	SE	\$173.66
CITY OF SEWARD	UT	\$9,853.98	JOHNSON SAND & GRAVEL	SU	\$11,128.59
CLERK OF DIST COURT	S	\$326.00	LANCASTER CO ENGINEER	SE	\$1,522.00
CORNHUSKER INTL TRCKS	EQ	\$464.70	MAINELLI WAGNER	SE	\$10,181.35
CO VETRNS SERV ASSN	FE	\$200.00	MIDWEST AUTO PARTS	EQ	\$2,329.68
CULLIGAN	SE	\$326.00	NE PUBLIC POWER DIST	UT	\$80.29
DIAMOND DRUGS	SU	\$576.72	NE STATE FIRE MARSHAL	SE	\$360.00
DIVERSIFIED DRUG TESTING	SE	\$326.00	NEXTLINK AIS	UT	\$47.95
EAKES OFFICE PLUS	SU	\$679.55	NMC, INC	EQ	\$20,669.35
ELECTION WORKERS	SE	\$30.00	OVERHEAD DOOR CO	SE	\$233.50
EQUIFAX WORKFORCE	SE	\$458.55	PAC N SAVE	SU	\$1,086.42
FARMERS COOP	SU	\$35,195.20	RDO TRUCK CENTERS	EQ	\$2,762.04
FEHLHAFERS	SE	\$20.00	SEWARD CO TREASURER	SE	\$45.00
GALLS LLC	SE	\$219.99	SHAFFER COMMUNIC	EQ	\$5,072.70
HOBSON AUTO & TIRE	SE	\$380.95	SMALL ENGINE SPECIALISTS	SE	\$1,126.41
HOLIDAY INN EXP OGALLALA	TR	\$296.00	SUMMIT FIRE PROTECT	SE	\$3,397.65
HOMETOWN LEASING	EQ	\$505.64	TRUCK CENTER COMPANIES	SE	\$71.76
INT ASSN ASSESS OFFICRS	FE	\$240.00	VERIZON CONNECT NWF	UT	\$696.38
JONES BANK (FICA)	SE	\$22,748.78	VILLAGE OF GARLAND	UT	\$86.23
KINER SUPPLY CO	SU	\$270.72	DALE JOHNSON ENT	SU	\$8,354.75
LANCASTER CO SHERIFF	SE	\$47.90	SOUTHWEST GRAVEL	SU	\$6,501.69
LANGUAGE LINE SERV	SE	\$26.77	NEUTRAL GROUNDS	SE	\$2,500.00
LEE'S REFRIGERATION	SE	\$125.00	SEWARD CO HLTH CLM FND	FE	\$130,267.64
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	SE	\$581.40	MORGAN CAMPBELL	SE	\$71.57
MIPS INC	SE	\$2,264.46	ART ON DISPLAY	SE	\$820.00
MARK MOORE	SE	\$837.52	MAXMILIAN MCKEEVER	SE	\$17,428.54
NE PUB HLTH ENVIR LB	SE	\$105.00	FAST FORENSICS	SE	\$5,410.00
NEBRASKA.GOV	FE	\$1.00	SPORTS EXPRESS	SU	\$1,151.55
ONESOURCE	SE	\$600.05	POLICE OFFICERS ASSN NE	FE	\$163.00
OREILLY AUTOM	SU	\$32.48	WESTERN OIL II LLC	SU	\$108.30
PAPER TIGER SHRED	SE	\$35.00	MOTIVATE 2 COMMUNICATE	SE	\$150.00
PETTY CASH FUND	FE	\$76.01	KIRKHAM, MICHAEL & ASSOC	SE	\$18,281.63
RIXSTINE TROPHY	SU	\$1,151.60	BLACK HILLS ENERGY	UT	\$40.19
SEWARD CO CHAMBER	SE	\$610.00	FIRST WIRELESS,	UT	\$1,047.06
SEWARD CO INDEPENDENT	SE	\$1,448.00	ST OF NE DAS COMMUNIC	SE	\$844.80
SEWARD CO SHERIFF	SE	\$54.40	CENTURYLINK	SE	\$4,582.63
SEWARD SHRIF UNCOL FEES	FE	\$290.00	FIBER PLATFORM	SE	\$327.00
SEWARD LUMBER	SU	\$12.98	CIDNET	SE	\$2,692.82
SITE ONE LANDSCAPE	SE	\$265.35	WELLBEING INITIATIVE	FE	\$1,000.00
SOARIN GROUP	SE	\$14,601.50	SALARIES		\$320,664.04
NE DAS STATE ACCNTING	SE	\$773.50	GROSS SALARIES INCLUDE DEDUCTIONS TO:		
SUMMIT FOOD SERV	SE	\$8,954.40	AMERITAS DENTAL		
TIMECLOCK PLUS	FE	\$24.00	AMERITAS VISION		
VANGUARD APPRAISALS	SE	\$3,420.00	COLONIAL SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE		
VERIZON WIRELESS SERV	SE	\$1,787.24	MID AMERICAN CO WISCONSIN		
VIRTUAL IMPRESSIONS	SE	\$36.00	POINT C FSA		
VISA	FE	\$5,583.91	WADDELL & REED		

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Hain, Schmieding, Ahmic

Motion Carried

Donna Hendrickson of the Seward County Chamber & Development Partnership (SCCDP) was present to ask permission to use the Courthouse sidewalk for a job completion celebration for the Allo Fiber Project.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Schmieding to allow use of the Courthouse sidewalk for a Job Completion Celebration for the Allo Fiber County Project on Tuesday, December 17, 2024 at 11:30 a.m.

Affirmative Vote: Hain, Schmieding, Zabrocki, Ahmic

Motion Carried

The Commissioners discussed the Lancaster County Bridge Deck Project located on 140<sup>th</sup> Rd between Raymond Rd & Branched Oak Rd. Trever Trebilcock, Asst. Highway Supt., was present to answer any questions about the Lancaster County Project. The Project is on the border between Seward and Lancaster County and because of an agreement between the two counties, both have to share in the cost of the project. Seward County's estimated share is \$50,000. Seward County was not aware of this project until recently and did not budget for

the project. After having a meeting with the Lancaster County representatives, the project will be let this year with construction to start next fiscal year to give time for Seward County to fund it in their budget.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to approve the Lancaster County Bridge Deck Project located on 140<sup>th</sup> Road between Raymond Road and Branched Oak Road with the project costs to be approximately \$50,000 for construction to begin sometime in the fall of 2025.

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Hain, Schmieding, Ahmic

Motion Carried

Joan Shurtliff was present at the meeting to give information about burials at the former Nebraska Industrial Home in Milford. This was also called the "home for unwed mothers". She stated that there were some deaths over the course of time it was open and would like the county to recognize this burial site as abandoned. Commissioner Ahmic stated there is a process set out in statutes for declaring a cemetery abandoned and directed Shurtliff to look at them for further action.

Shurtliff also stated that the Genealogical Society of Seward inherited some very old county documents. She asked if the county would be interested in helping with utilities of the house at which the documents are stored. Commissioner Ahmic stated that these documents could be stored at a county storage facility near Milford if need be. Shurtliff stated they have gone through the boxes of these documents and while some are not necessarily important, there are some that have lists of names.

Shurtliff also gave a status on the preservation of the School Census Records that her organization has been putting in sleeves to help preserve them. Ahmic stated she will forward any grants that are available for preserving old records.

#### **Commissioners Reports:**

Commissioner Zabrocki reported he attended the ribbon cutting for Highway 15 last week and he will be at the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) conference this coming week.

Commissioner Schmieding reported he has a 4<sup>th</sup> of July committee meeting this week and will participate in the Allo ribbon cutting ceremony later this morning.

Commissioner Ahmic reported she worked with the Policy Board for the Public Defender position, completed a form for a HUD Grant, participated in a Zoom meeting with a HUD representative about a grant, received a call about 252<sup>nd</sup> Road, attended the Planning Commission meeting, the Chili cook-off hosted by the Sheriff's Office, will attend that Allo ribbon cutting ceremony later this morning and the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) conference this week.

Commissioner Hain reported she took part in a grant meeting this week, participated in three employees evaluations, listened to the Safe Street and Road Webinar, attended the Sheriff's Office Chili Cook-off, met with director of the Seward Wellness Center, gave information on the availability of a meeting room to the Wellness Initiative, attended the Ag Society meeting and reached out to another local supplier about motor vehicle decals.

Commissioner Hain led discussion on Seward & Butler County's Comprehensive Juvenile Service Community Plan for July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Schmieding to approve the Seward and Butler County Comprehensive Juvenile Services Community Plan for July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2029.

Affirmative Vote: Hain, Schmieding, Zabrocki, Ahmic

Motion Carried

The Commissioners discussed a document for the Community Funding Grant for FY 2024 that needed to be approved. The item will be put on next week's agenda for approval to give time for the County Attorney's Office to look at the document.

Commissioner Ahmic led discussion on the grant writer RFP that was recently released. Two proposals were received. The two companies that submitted proposals have been interviewed. Discussion was held on the pros and cons of each proposal. The recommendation from Commissioners Ahmic and Hain was for the "Eleventh Hour" organization's proposal.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to work to retain the proposal submitted by "Election House" grant service organization with funding to come from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Hain, Schmieding, Ahmic

Motion Carried.

**Known items on the agenda for Board of Equalization on December 31, 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 December 10, 2024
4. Discuss/Action – Assessor Information Update

**Known items on the agenda for Board of Commissioners on December 31, 2024 are as follows:**

9:00 a.m.

1. Convene and announce Open Meetings Law
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Discuss/Action - Approve minutes of December 17, 2024
4. Discuss/Action – Claims for the period through December 20, 2024

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

5. Discuss/Action – Public/Organizations/Officials
6. Commissioners Reports
7. Discussion/Action – Authorize the Chair to sign FY 2024 Community Project Funding Grant Agreement No. B-24-CP-NE-1365
8. Discuss/Action – Agenda for January 7, 2025

9:05 a.m. Discuss/Action – Veteran of The Month

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to adjourn at 10:20 a.m.

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Hain, Schmieding, 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 31<sup>st</sup> day of December 2024.

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

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Chairman