

Seward County Board of Commissioners

December 19, 2017

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 19, 2017 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 19, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.

Present:	Chairperson:	Roger E. Glawatz
	Members:	John Culver, Whitney Fleischman, Eugene Gausman, Diana Garske
	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 Culver and seconded by Gausman to approve the minutes of December 12, 2017.

Affirmative Vote: Culver, Gausman, Fleischman, Garske, Glawatz Motion Carried

Joe Yocum, Sheriff, reported he had been contacted to do a ribbon cutting for the Seward Ambassadors. He also updated the Commissioners on activities of his office.

Sherry Schweitzer, County Clerk updated the Commissioners on the annual renewal for NIRMA.

Commissioners Reports:

Commissioner Culver reported he completed the Institute of Excellence, attended the NACO Conference, dealt with several emails and viewed the Auditors Report.

Commissioner Fleischman reported she attended the NACO Conference and dealt with various correspondences.

Commissioner Gausman reported he attended the NACO Conference and drove by the Sunrise Road Project.

Commissioner Garske reported she dealt with various correspondences.

Commissioner Glawatz reported he attended the NACO Conference and dealt with various correspondences.

The Surplus Property agenda item was discussed. They discussed the items in the pod that have been purchased and want them to be removed so that the pod can be

emptied since rent is being paid on it. The exterior surplus flag poles will be placed at the Seward and Milford Road Shops.

Carrie Gottschalk, Extension Educator was present to discuss the reconfiguring and additional needs to their office at the West Wing. She had contacted Eakes to make sure the quote received was under State bid. The amount given to them was "Government Pricing", but not under State Bid. The amount listed on the quote was just over \$20,000. According to law, if the amount of the requested items is over \$20,000, sealed bids are required. Joe Dalton, Deputy County Attorney gave information about sealed bids vs. quotes. If the amount is under \$20,000 but over \$5,000, 3 informal quotes are needed. Gottschalk will consider getting quotes for items that would total less than \$20,000.

Commissioner Culver reported that he has been in contact with the contractor who is doing work on the jury box. Yocum stated he would like mats purchased for the entrance into the Justice Center to help with winter weather.

Georgia Stockley, Highway Supt. presented a Right of Way request for the Commissioners consideration.

Moved by Garske and seconded by Gausman to approve the right of way request for Norris Public Power between the SW ¼ of Section 33 Township 12 North and the NW ¼ of Section 4, Township 11 North all in Range 4 East of the 6th p.m.
Affirmative Vote: Garske, Gausman, Culver, Fleischman, Glawatz Motion Carried

The Commissioners discussed Elected Officials salaries. According to Statute, salaries of Elected Officials up for election have to be set by January 15, 2017. Commissioner Garske stated that according to the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) Survey, it suggested the Sheriff and the Attorney make a larger percentage of the salaries of the County Assessor, Clerk District Court and Treasurer. NACO recommended 125-140% for Sheriff and 160% for Attorney. Previously it was 120% and 150% respectively. She also said that the Budget Authority salary will need to be looked at since a raise has not been given in 8 years. Commissioner Glawatz stated that their own salaries as well, need to be addressed. Commissioner Culver stated the County Surveyor position also needs to be taken into consideration since that office is up for election. He has been in contact with the current County Surveyor and said that he has put in many hours. Schweitzer said that Seward County previously has always had to contract with a surveying firm because no one was ever elected. This past term, Ron Nissen filed for County Surveyor and was elected, so this has been something new for Seward County. Culver would recommend that the salary be doubled to \$13,000 based upon the work hours of the current Surveyor. After considering a certain percentage for Elected Officials raises, Fleischman said it was hard to justify too much because they have tried to get employees up to a salary level. Garske said she felt the Elected Officials need to be kept in line also. Both Garske and Fleischman said that the effects of the County budget need to be taken into consideration. Culver stated there are requirements for the Officials and that in order to get qualified applicants, the salaries have to be competitive. Fleischman said it's a big chunk of money and she would have a hard time giving more than what employees get. The subject will be put on next week's agenda for more discussion.

Commissioner Garske is absent at 10:14 a.m.

Deanna Boyer, Deputy Assessor was present to answer any questions about increasing a position in the County Assessor's Office for the Homestead Exemption/Personal Property/Clerk 3 Clerk. Marilyn Hladky, County Assessor was not able to be at the meeting. Boyer stated the work load is more than it used to be and Hladky would like to increase the position from 30 hours to 40 hours.

Moved by Fleischman and seconded by Culver to change the Homestead Exemption/Personal Property/Clerk 3 position to a 40 hour position.
Affirmative Vote: Fleischman, Culver, Gausman, Glawatz Motion Carried

Known items on the agenda for Board of Equalization on December 26, 2017 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 12, 2017
4. Discuss/Action - Assessor Information Update

Known items on the agenda for Board of Commissioners on December 26, 2017 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 19, 2017
4. Discuss/Action - Claims for December 2017

Other Business Matters to Address When Time Allows

5. Discuss/Action – Public/Officials/Boards
6. Commissioner’s Reports
7. Discussion Only - Salaries for Elected Officials for 2019-2022 Term
8. Discuss/Action - Surplus Property
9. Discuss/Action - Justice Center Update

9:15 a.m. Discuss/Action – Ribbon Cutting for Justice Center

9:30 a.m. Discuss/Action - County Tree and Brush Policy

Moved by Fleischman and seconded by Culver to adjourn at 10:24 a.m.
Affirmative Vote: Fleischman, Culver, Gausman, Glawatz 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 26th day of December 2017.

County Clerk

Chairperson