

February 13, 2024

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 February 13, 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 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 February 13, 2024 at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Chairperson: Misty Ahmic
Members: Raegan Hain, John Culver, Ken Schmieding, Darrell Zabrocki
County Clerk: Sherry Schweitzer
County Assessor: Marilyn Hladky
County Treasurer: Jake Zlatkovsky

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 Culver to approve the minutes of January 23, 2024.

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

Moved to Zabrocki and seconded by Culver approve the Motor Vehicle Tax Exemption for Concordia University for a 2015 Chevy Impala VIN# 1G1125S38FU132081 and for the Lighthouse Pentecostal Church, Inc. for a 2000 Chevrolet Van VIN# 1GAH639ROY1168625.

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

Hladky then updated the Commissioners on activities of her office.

Known items on the agenda for Board of Equalization on February 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 February 13, 2024
4. Discuss/Action – Assessor Information Update

Moved by Hain and seconded by Zabrocki to adjourn at 8:45 a.m.

Affirmative Vote: Hain, Zabrocki, Schmieding, Culver, 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 February 2024.

County Clerk

Chairperson

February 13, 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 February 13, 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 February 13, 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.

The Commissioners recognized those who helped with an incident involving the life-saving effort for Mike Stewart. David Frye, a Sheriff's Deputy, told a story about an incident that happened at a pickle ball game in which life-saving efforts by multiple parties helped revive Stewart. Through the quickness and alertness of those present and of those who were called when the incident happened, Mr. Stewart is alive today.

Those receiving Life Saving Awards were: Zach Pilcher, Bryce Johnson, Tracy List, Richard Runnels, Jordan Legband, Mitch Jones, Jason Rasmussen, Brian Albright, Emily Estes, Connie Languin, Dave Frye, Landon Dirks, and Jodi Hughes.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Culver to approve the minutes of February 6, 2024.

Affirmative Vote: Hain, Culver, Zabrocki, Ahmic

Abstain: Schmieding

Motion Carried

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to approve claims for the period through February 2, 2024.

SEWARD COUNTY CLAIMS THROUGH FEBRUARY 2 2024

ACCURATE CONTROLS	SE	\$1,856.36	ST OF NE DEPT CORR.SERV	SE	\$2,800.85
ADVANCED CORR HLTHCR	SE	\$6,976.59	STEPHANIE FLYNN LAW	SE	\$563.50
ADVANCED OFFICE AUTOM	SU	\$232.60	SHARILYN K STEUBE	SE	\$312.50
AERNI LAW, LLC	SE	\$978.40	SUMMIT FOOD SERVICE	SE	\$6,356.62
AMERICAN JUDGES ASSN	FE	\$475.00	SUE SYLWESTER	SE	\$100.00
AMERITAS LIFE INS CORP	FE	\$20,331.02	THOMSON REUTERS-WEST	EQ	\$822.00
BECKY BAKER	SE	\$110.17	THYSSENKRUPP ELEVATOR	EQ	\$7,649.53
CASS COUNTY SHERIFF	SE	\$24.85	VERIZON WIRELESS SERV	SE	\$2,268.74
CITY OF SEWARD	UT	\$11,203.83	VOSS LIGHTING	EQ	\$563.90
CLERK OF THE DIST COURT	SE	\$471.00	WALL, ROBERT	SE	\$250.00
CONNER PSYCH SERVICES	SE	\$260.00	WINDSTREAM	UT	\$2,147.16
CULLIGAN	SE	\$28.00	WOOSTER LAW	SE	\$9,699.26
E 911	SE	\$44,869.17	ACKERMAN DESIGN	SE	\$31.88
EAKES OFFICE PLUS	SU	\$585.46	ALL STAR GLASS	SU	\$550.00
FARMERS COOPERATIVE	SU	\$15,453.61	BEAVER HARDWARE	SU	\$190.56
FIRST WIRELESS, INC	UT	\$338.88	BLACK HILLS ENERGY	UT	\$2,455.59
SIDNEY FREY	SE	\$125.00	BROKEN ARROW EXCAVAT	SE	\$28,920.00

GARCIA CLINICAL LAB	SE	\$35.00	CATHER & SONS CONST	SE	\$3,125.68
HERPOLSHEIMERS	EQ	\$533.93	CHEMSEARCH	SE	\$873.40
HOMETOWN LEASING	EQ	\$495.61	EQUIPMENT BLADES	EQ	\$1,389.00
SUE IMIG	SE	\$325.48	FRONTIER COOP	SU	\$22,877.14
INDOFF INC	SU	\$129.99	WILLIAM F HARTMANN JR	SE	\$1,840.00
JONES BANK (FICA)	FE	\$20,305.22	HELMINK PRINTING	SU	\$354.00
KOTIK & MCCLURE, ATTYS	SE	\$1,537.50	MIDWEST AUTO PARTS	SU	\$1,040.10
LANCASTER CO SHERIFF	SE	\$32.10	MIDWEST SERVICE & SALES	EQ	\$36,933.40
LANGUAGE LINE SERVICES	SE	\$44.00	NE ASSN OF CO HWY SUPR	FE	\$160.00
LEE'S REFRIGERATION	SE	\$120.00	NE PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	UT	\$209.20
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES	SE	\$45.00	NEBRASKA TRUCK REPAIR	SE	\$53.80
LIBERTY LAW GROUP	SE	\$962.50	NEXLINK AIS	UT	\$39.95
MCHENRY, HASZARD	SE	\$1,995.50	NMC, INC	EQ	\$5,894.32
MCKESSON MED SURG	SU	\$129.61	PAC N SAVE	SU	\$10.98
MID-AMERICAN INS GROUP	FE	\$46,103.43	POWERPLAN	SE	\$487.34
MIDWEST AUTOMOTIVE	EQ	\$1,048.48	RDO TRUCK CENTERS	EQ	\$283.44
MIDWEST SPECIAL SERV	SE	\$66.00	SACK LUMBER	SU	\$192.93
MIPS INC	SE	\$3,060.42	TRUCK CENTER CO	EQ	\$3,628.72
MORROW, POPPE	SE	\$1,205.32	UTICA PARTS AND SERV	SU	\$43.96
MY CENTRAL SUPPLY	SU	\$156.24	VERIZON CONNECT NWF	EQ	\$694.85
NE ASSN OF CO OFFICIALS	FE	\$40.00	VILLAGE OF GARLAND	UT	\$50.25
NE STATE FIRE MARSHAL	SE	\$480.00	NE TOURISM COMMISSION	SE	\$475.00
NEBRASKA.GOV	SE	\$8.50	MILFORD AGING SERV	SE	\$156.10
PAT OHLMANN	SE	\$50.00	SEWARD AGING SERV	SE	\$508.20
ONESOURCE	SE	\$46.50	UTICA AGING SERV	SE	\$184.80
OREILLY AUTOMOTIVE	SU	\$248.97	GREAT PLAINS COMMUN	UT	\$605.00
PAPER TIGER SHREDDING	SE	\$195.00	MOTOROLA	EQ	\$651.21
PETTY CASH FUND	SU	\$319.06	REED ELECTRIC	SE	\$2,103.18
POLLACK AND BALL	SE	\$9,874.76	TRANSUNION RISK	FE	\$436.00
POTTER REPAIR	SE	\$123.90	WESTERN OIL II	SU	\$448.62
QUADIANT LEASING USA	EQ	\$231.00	DUCKS UNLIMITED	FE	\$110,360.00
RADAR ROAD TEC	SE	\$677.00	SEWARD CO GENERAL FUND	FE	\$600,000.00
REGION V SERVICES	SE	\$2,484.58	ALLO COMMUNICATIONS	UT	\$595.00
BECKY REISINGER	SE	\$50.00	NEMAHA CO SHERIFF	SE	\$55.44
KEVIN SCHLENDER	SE	\$312.50	CIDNET	SE	\$2,187.98
SECRETARY OF STATE	SU	\$20.00	WELLBEING INITIATIVE	FE	\$1,000.00
SEW CO HLTH CLM FND	FE	\$157,726.27	SALARIES		
SEWARD CO INDEPENDENT	SE	\$5.45	GROSS SALARIES INCLUDE DEDUCTIONS TO:		
SEWARD CO SHERIFF'S DEPT	SE	\$58.60	COLONIAL SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE		
SHERIFF UNCOLL FEES	FE	\$477.00	MID AMERICAN CO WISCONSIN		
SEWARD LUMBER	SU	\$62.00	DELTA DENTAL		
SOARIN GROUP	SE	\$324.00	VSP VISION		
ST OF NE DAS COMMUNIC	SE	\$1,382.40	WADDELL & REED		

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

Motion Carried

The Commissioners recessed at 9:25 a.m.

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

Jon Regnier, Highway Supt., led discussion on accepting the bid for the Beaver Crossing South project. The project is being administered by the State Dept. of Transportation.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Culver to adopt Resolution No. 3800 in regard to authorizing the Chairman to sign the contract with Midwest Infrastructure, Inc. for Project BRO-7748(1) Beaver Crossing South.

RESOLUTION #3800

WHEREAS, there has been signed by the COUNTY OF SEWARD on the 13th day of September, 2016, and the State on the 28th day of September, 2016, an agreement providing for the construction of a Federal Aid County Project at the following location: BEAVER CROSSING SOUTH, and

WHEREAS, in the above agreement, the County has pledged sufficient funds to finance its share of the cost of the construction of this project identified as BRO-7748(1), and

WHEREAS, the above-mentioned agreement provided that the County will pay costs as set forth in the agreement, and

WHEREAS, the State, on behalf of the County received bids for the construction of this project based on the final plans and specifications on February 01, 2024, at which time 8 bid(s) were received for the construction of the proposed work, and

WHEREAS, the following Contractor(s) for the items of work listed has/have been selected as the low bidder(s) to whom the contract(s) should be awarded:

MIDWEST INFRASTRUCTURE, INC., LINCOLN, NE 68527-7000
GRADING CULVERTS, SEEDING, BRIDGE AT STATION 23+83.00, GUARDRAIL,
GENERAL ITEMS: \$1,970,085.61

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the above facts, the SEWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, by this resolution, takes the following official action:

1. If for any reason the Federal Highway Administration rescinds, limits its obligations, or defers payment of the Federal share of the cost of this project, the County hereby agrees to provide the necessary funds to pay for all costs incurred until and in the event such Federal funds are allowed and paid.
2. The Board hereby concurs in the selection of the above-mentioned Contractor(s) for the items of work listed, to whom the contract(s) should be awarded.
3. The Board hereby approves of the final plans and specifications that were used in the bidding process for this project.
4. The Board hereby authorizes the Board Chairperson to sign the contract(s) with the above-mentioned Contractor(s) for the above mentioned work on behalf of the County using State's standard contract signing process, including when applicable, an electronic or digital signing process such as DocuSign®.

DATED THIS 13TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, A.D. 2024

SEWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Misty Ahmic, Chairperson

Board Member Raegan Hain moved the adoption of said resolution.

Roll Call: 5 yea, 0 nay.

Resolution adopted, signed and billed as adopted.

Attest: Sherry Schweitzer, County Clerk

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

Motion Carried

The Commissioners discussed the 1 & 6 Year Road Plan. Regnier told the Commissioners what he anticipated to complete this coming year.

Moved by Hain and seconded by to authorize the Highway Supt. to publish the 1 & 6 Year Road Plan Hearing to be on March 5, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.

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

Motion Carried

During public comment time, David Helge commented to the Board about a road past his property that he had been previously told would be hard surfaced. The road in question is 154th Road going north from Interstate 80 to Highway 34. He gave information about the current conditions of the road and requests this road be put on the 1 year road plan.

Gary Petersen, Seward/York Emergency Manager, and Becky Paulsen, Weed/Zoning Administrator, along with Regnier were present to talk about updating the Upper Big Blue Mitigation Plan. Commissioner Hain led discussion on the subject. Petersen said a lot of the information needed to be in the plan comes from departments like zoning and road. The Commissioners would have some part in the update for future development/plans. Zabrocki suggested a steering committee be formed with those officials that have information needed to be put in the Hazard Mitigation Plan for 2024. Commissioners Zabrocki and Culver will be the board members on the steering committee with Petersen being the Chair.

Continuing public/officials comment time, Regnier updated the Commissioners on activities of his department. Specifically, equipment in the road dept. was discussed.

Commissioners Reports:

Commissioner Hain reported she reach out to the Seward Independent about grant information, talked to the Seward City Administrator about a grant writer position, sat in on two interviews about Detention Center Director, contacted Senator Vargas about legislation, contacted a Nebraska Dept. of Transportation (NDOT) engineer about a culvert, and took logo information to Mustang Graphics.

Commissioner Culver reported he checked roads and talked to the Highway Supt. about them, attended legislative hearings, participated in a meeting with grants via Zoom.

Commissioner Ahmic reported she attended legislative hearings, completed duties for the Public Defender office, attended a Seward County Chamber & Development Partnership (SCCDP) meeting, participated in a call with the Nebraska Dept. of Transportation (NDOT) in regard to reimbursements for Public Transit, received calls from constituents in regard to a broadband tower in Beaver Crossing, checked roads, and worked on HR issues.

Commissioner Schmieding reported he attended the Chamber Awards Night, discussed a project at the West Wing building, attended the Region V (now called Apace) meeting.

Commissioner Zabrocki reported he attended a Seward City Council meeting and City Planning meeting, and received an email from a constituent.

Commissioner Zabrocki led discussion about the Accident Claim Review item on the agenda. He read an excerpt from the Personnel Policy that stated if someone is driving a county vehicle, that employee should participate in a driver's training course and refresher course after three years. Although it states in the personnel manual to do this, the courses are not occurring. He gave information about the number of claims in the past fiscal year which was high. It was discussed that all employees who drive county cars participate in a safety driving course. Zabrocki will develop new policies and procedures with the Public Transit Dept.

The Commissioners recessed at 11:17 a.m.

The Commissioners re-convened at 11:21 a.m.

The Commissioners discussed current legislation. Commissioners Ahmic and Culver attended several hearings involving noxious weed, planning commission, levy limits, visitors committee money and the elimination of the Inheritance Tax Fund.

In regard to the "Grants Funds being Sought by Seward County" agenda item, Commissioner Hain stated she had reached out to the Seward County Independent to publicize the fact that more letters of support for a grant are needed. Commissioner Ahmic gave a sample of the information in the support letters received so far. Ahmic also stated the Nebraska Dept. of Transportation (NDOT) and Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) are having a "Safe Streets and Road Grant" Webex giving information about the grant.

Known items on the agenda for Board of Commissioners on February 20, 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 February 13, 2024

Other Business Matters to Address When Time Allows

4. Discuss/Action – Public/Officials/Boards
5. Commissioners Reports
6. Discuss/Action – Legislative Update
7. Discuss/Action – Grant Funds being Sought by Seward County
8. Discuss/Action – Agenda for February 27, 2024

9:15 a.m. Discuss/Action – Proclamation declaring February as Nebraska 4-H month in Seward County

10:00 A.M. Discuss/Action – Allo Representatives/Soarin’ - Information upon Completion of New Phone System

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to adjourn at 12:00 p.m.

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki Hain Culver Schmieding 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 20th day of February 2024.

County Clerk

Chairman