

# January 9, 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 10:05 a.m. on January 9, 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 January 9, 2024 at 10:05 a.m.  
Present: Members: Misty Ahmic, Raegan Hain, John Culver, Ken Schmieding,  
Darrell Zabrocki  
County Clerk: Sherry Schweitzer  
County Assessor: Marilyn Hladky  
County Treasurer: Jake Zlatkovsky

It was 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 Seward County Board of Equalization convened on January 9, 2024 at 10:05 a.m.

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

County Clerk Sherry Schweitzer called the meeting to order and 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.

Schweitzer called for nominations for Chairman of the Seward County Board of Equalization. Zabrocki nominated Ahmic.

Schmieding nominated Culver.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Schmieding that nominations cease and a ballot be cast for Ahmic or Culver as Chairman of the Seward County Board of Equalization.

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

The Clerk called for votes: in alphabetical order.

Ahmic voted for Ahmic.

Culver voted for Culver.

Hain voted for Ahmic.

Schmieding voted for Culver.

Zabrocki voted for Ahmic.

The County Clerk announced that Ahmic has been elected as Chairman of the Seward County Board of Equalization and turned the meeting over to the Chairman.

Chairman Ahmic called for nominations for Vice-Chairman of the Seward County Board of Equalization.

Zabrocki nominated Hain.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Schmieding that nominations cease, and a unanimous ballot be cast for Hain as Vice Chairman of the Seward County Board of Equalization.

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

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to approve the minutes of December 26, 2023.

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

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to approve Tax List Corrections:

1. 423-20R: Rebecca Hasty & Kenneth Bulin
2. 424-20R: Ronald E & Marilyn E Eberspacher
3. 425-20R: Mary A & Arvin L Faig, Trustees
4. 426-23R: Ray Alexander
5. 427-23R: Benson Holdings, LLC

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

Moved by Hain and seconded by Schmieding to approve the following Vehicle Tax Exemptions for Tax Year 2024.

NAME	YEAR	VEHICLE	VIN #
ST JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL	2017	CHEVROLET EXPRESS VAN	1GAZGMFG6H1191727
	2014	CHEVROLET EXPRESS VAN	1GAZGYFG8E1196656
	2011	CHEVROLET EXPRESS VAN	1GAZGYFG5B1131226
MEMORIAL HEALTH CARE	2018	NISSEN ALTIMA	1N4AL3AP8JC271693
	2013	DODGE PICKUP -SNOW BLADE	3C6LR5ATXDG4586109
	2016	CHEVROLET SILVERADO	1GC0KUEG6GZ243017
	2011	DUMP TRAILER	4ZEDT1427B1079203
	2005	CARRY-ON TRAILER	NA
ST GREGORY THE GREAT SEMINARY	2009	FORD PICKUP	1FTSX21RX9EA51504
	2012	DODGE VAN	2C4RDGB8CR419688
	2005	CHRYSLER VAN	2C4GP54L75R460930
	2001	H & H TRLR	4J6US08151B031100
	2010	BMW X5	5UXFE4C56AL381460
MILFORD ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH	2007	TURTLE TOP BUS	1GBJG31U461253106
	1995	PACE AMERICAN ENC TRLR	E5105A
ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH	2007	INTERNATIONAL BUS	4DRBUAAP37B348660
	2017	FORD VAN	1FMZK1ZM0HKA98343
GREAT PLAINS COMMUNITY CHURCH	2010	FORD VAN	1FMNE1BL7ADA27402
GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH	1999	HAULMARK TRLR	16HCB1016XH056503
	2007	CARRY-ON CARGO TRLR	4YMCL12107G070354
OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL	2010	FORD ECONOLINE VAN	1FBSS3BL7ADB03264

Concordia University Vehicle Listing – 1/2024			
Year	Make	Type	VIN#
1996	Chevy	4WD Pickup	1GCGK24R2TZ216459
1999	Chevy	Venture	1GNDX03E7XD230052
2000	Chevy	Van	1GAHG39R2Y1165399
2001	Ford	F550 4 x 4 Truck	1FDAF57S91EB20502
2001	Chevy	Savana Van	1GJGG25R311129965
2005	Kia	Sedona Minivan	KNDUP132456711060
2005	Pontiac	Montana Van	1GMDV23EX5D131311
2008	Ford	F250	1FTNF21508EB67810
2012	Dodge	Grand Caravan	2C4RDGBGOGR224541
2012	Chevy	Express Van	1GAWGRFGOC1126350
2014	Ram	Cargo Van	2C4JRGAG0ER202834
2015	Ram	Pickup	3C6LR5BT9FG577807
2013	Chevy	Express Van	1GAWGRFG9D1126655
2013	Chevy	Express Van	1GAWGRFG3D1126750
2017	Ford	Transit 350 XLT	1FBZX2ZG9HKA28589
2018	Ford	Transit 350 Van	1FBZX2ZG8JKA07139
2019	Ford	Transit 350 Van	1FBZX2ZG9KKA18989
2020	Ford	Transit 350 Van	1FBAX2YG7LKA17064
2020	Ford	Transit 350 Van	1FBAX2YG5LKB43908
2023	GMC Savana	Van	1GJZ7NFP8P1173072
2023	GMC Savana	Van	1GJZ7NFP2P1172189
2012	Chevy	Express Van	1GAWGRFG4C1126741
2012	Chevy	Impala (Blue)	2G1WA5E37C1191926
2013	Chevy	Equinox (Silver)	1GNALDEK1DZ113414
2018	Chevy	Equinox (Gray)	3GNAXJEV6JS5762416
2000	Chevy	Equinox (Silver)	1GNALDEK1DZ113414
2015	Chevy	Equinox (Gray)	3GNAXJEV6JS5762416
2004	Cargomate	Trailer	4X4TSE218YN024677
2015	Sharp	Trailer	1S9BE0810F1870297
2004	Mac-Lander	Trailer	4UVPF182741005363
2010	Carry-On	Trailer	4YMUL0811AM023056
2015	Club Car	Carry All (Electric)	5J5LC22B4FA556151
2015	Club Car	Carry All (Electric)	5J5LC22B6FA556698

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

Motion Carried

Hladky then updated the Commissioners on activities of her office.

**Known items on the agenda for Board of Equalization on January 23, 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 January 9, 2024
4. Discuss/Action – Assessor Information Update

Moved by Hain and seconded by Schmieding to adjourn at 10:26 a.m.

Affirmative Vote: Hain, Schmieding, Zabrocki, 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.





Cattle Bank & Trust Co., Jones Bank, and Union Bank & Trust Company, all of Seward, Farmers & Merchants Bank of Milford, First Bank of Utica, the Short Term Federal Investment Trust (STFIT) and Nebraska Federal Investment Trust (NFIT) both administered by Union Bank & Trust.

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

Moved by Hain and seconded by Zabrocki that acceptable investments are a Certificate of Deposit, a bank Money Market Account, a bank NOW Account, a bank Checking Account, a bank Investment Trust such as the Short Term Federal Investment Trust (STFIT) and Nebraska Federal Investment Trust. (NFIT)

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

Moved by Hain and seconded by Zabrocki to name the Seward County Independent and the Milford Times as the official newspapers for Seward County and sewardcountyne.gov as the official Seward County website.

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

Moved by Culver and seconded by Hain to appoint Jon Regnier as the Seward County Highway Supt. for 2024 as per State Statute 39-1501 RSS 1943.

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

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to set the hourly wage for the Deputy of the Assessor, Clerk, Clerk of the District Court, and Treasurer for 2024 at \$32.50 per hour and the Deputy of Elections at \$30.47 per hour and in no event shall the annual wage of the deputy be less than \$54,925.00, unless the deputy is not actually engaged in the performance of the official duties of a deputy and to set the wage of the Chief Deputy Attorneys at 80% and to set the Special Deputy Attorney at 64% of the County Attorney's salary based on available funding.

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

Moved by Schmieding and seconded by Zabrocki to reappoint Sherry Schweitzer as the Seward County Budget Making Authority.

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

Moved by Hain and seconded by Schmieding to approve the minutes of January 2, 2024.

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

### **Commissioners Reports:**

Commissioner Zabrocki reported he attended the Seward City Council meeting, the Broadband Task Force meeting, Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Association (NIRMA) Roundtable Session via Zoom, Deb Aegerter's retirement reception, a SouthEast Nebraska Development District (SEND) meeting and received a request for office space at the Justice Center.

Commissioner Schmieding reported he visited with Deb Aegerter upon her retirement, received calls about zoning and payments, attended the Extension Board meeting, will go to a Chamber event in the future along with the Region V meeting.

Commissioner Culver reported he met with the Judges about files for the Public Defender, attended Debby Aegerter's retirement reception, worked on county closure matters, received phone calls from the court offices about closure due to the weather, and received a call about zoning and tried to meet with Mainelli Engineers on grant matters.

Commissioner Hain reported she meet with the Road Dept. to go over a tire waste grant, met with Detention Center employee about programming for inmates, tried to meet with engineer on grants, continue to work on the Aging Advisory Board, contacted Middle Creek on logos, and contacted the Road Dept. about crews out with the storm.

Commissioner Ahmic reported she has been working with Allo, attended the Milford City Council meeting, met with Veterans Service Officer, tried to meet with an engineer on grants, attended the Broadband Task Force meeting, attended Deb Aegerter's retirement reception, met with County Attorney and her Deputy about the new proposed Zoning regs, met with a

Nebraska Broadband Director, talked to Mark Weber and gave information about the weather alerts from the Emergency Manager.

Moved by Schmieding and seconded by Hain to accept the Clerk of the District Court Fee Report for December 2023 in the amount of \$4,236.75.

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

Moved by Schmieding and seconded by Zabrocki to amend the previous motion to accept the amount of the Clerk of the District Court Fee Report for December 2023 in the amount of \$4,246.75.

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

Moved by Hain and seconded by to accept the County Clerk Fee Report for December 2023 in the amount of \$60,761.15.

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

The Commissioners discussed setting the salaries of County Commissioners. Since there are two Commissioners up for election, according to statutes, a resolution needs to be passed.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Zabrocki to adopt Resolution No. 3795 in regard to setting the salaries for those up for the election in 2024.

### RESOLUTION NO. 3795 OF THE SEWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, the laws of the State of Nebraska provide that the salaries of elected officials be fixed by the County Board prior to January 15th of the year in which a general election will be held for the respective offices; and

WHEREAS, a general election will be held for certain county commissioners in 2024; and

WHEREAS, all elected county officials shall be included on an equal basis with other county employees as to the provisions and benefits of any group insurance, retirement, life insurance or any other benefits adopted by the County Board of Commissioners.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the salary for Seward County Commissioners be established for the terms of office beginning in 2025 and 2026 as follows:

Seward County Commissioner's annual salary for the term beginning January 9, 2025, is hereby established at \$36,335.00.

Seward County Commissioner's annual salary for the term beginning January 8, 2026 is hereby established at \$37,410.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that during the terms of office listed above, all county commissioners shall be included on an equal basis with other county employees as to the provisions and benefits of any group insurance, retirement, life insurance or any other benefits adopted by the County Board of Commissioners. If changes to health insurance, life insurance, retirement, or any other county employee benefit occur during the above terms of office, county commissioners enrolled in those benefits will be subject to the same modifications.

Dated this 9th day of January 2024.

Moved by: Hain Seconded by: Zabrocki

Ayes: Darrell J. Zabrocki, Ken Schmieding, John K. Culver, Raegan Hain, Misty Ahmic, Chair of the Board

Attest: Sherry Schweitzer, Seward County Clerk

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

Motion Carried

Roxanne Knutson, HR Director was present to discuss the employee notifications for County-wide closure. Knutson said that there are various ways an employee can find out such as a notification from Everbridge, the county website and emails. With the new phone system, a phone line could be put in place and the number can be listed on the county website to call and get the latest information.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Schmieding to approve the additional costs adding an Allo phone line designated for county-wide notification of any county-wide closures.

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

Motion Carried

The Commissioners discussed a contract with Pavers, Inc for the awarded bid on Milford East Paving Project C-80(591) on Sunrise Road East of Milford.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to authorize the Chairman to sign the awarded bid on Milford East Paving Project C-80(591) on Sunrise Road East of Milford in the amount of \$689,635.51.

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

Motion Carried

The Commissioners discussed considering working with Marvin Planning Consultants on the Seward Planning Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Regulations update. Ahmic stated she had worked with the County Attorney's Office on the final plan as proposed and discovered that there are many duplications and the editing of it is very time consuming. She stated that JEO were the engineers that helped with the new proposed plan. Becky Paulsen, Zoning Administrator, stated other counties have used Marvin Planning Consultants. Ahmic suggested giving the document to them as updated for review.

Jake Zlatkovsky, County Treasurer, presented his Semi-Annual Report and Condensed Report for Publication.

Moved by Schmieding and seconded by Hain to adopt Resolution No. 3796 in regard to accepting the County Treasurer's Submittal of the Semi-Annual Report and Condensed Report for Publication.

### RESOLUTION NO. 3796 OF THE SEWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS: The Seward County Treasurer has submitted the Settlement of Accounts (Semi Annual Report), showing beginning balances, collections, disbursements and ending balances for all of the funds of the county as per state law.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that it is noted the report for the period of time covering 07/01/2023 to 12/31/2023 was submitted. This county board declines comment until audited by the county auditor.

Moved by: Schmieding

Seconded by: Hain

Ayes: Ken Schmieding, Darrell J. Zabrocki, John K. Culver, Raegan Hain, Misty Ahmic, Chair of the Board

Attest: Sherry Schweitzer, Seward County Clerk

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

Motion Carried

Knutson was present again to discuss the Distribution of Obstructing Government Operations Signage per Nebraska Statute 28-901. Ahmic led discussion and said at a previous discussion about the subject, it was suggested that some type of notice be made for employees/offices to use when feeling threatened or in danger. After discussion, it was decided not to make a notice about this.

Infrastructure Grants discussion involved a meeting about the Safe Street and Roads Grant.



**Known items on the agenda for Board of Commissioners on January 16, 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 January 9, 2024

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

4. Discuss/Action – Public/Officials/Boards
5. Commissioners Reports
6. Discuss/Action – Grant Funds being Sought by Seward County
7. Discuss/Action – Legislative Update
8. Discuss/Action – Agenda for January 26, 2024

State of Nebraska)

County of Seward) ss.

Moved by Hain and seconded by to adjourn the Seward County Board of Commissioners meeting at 12:19 p.m.

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

Motion Carried

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 16<sup>th</sup> day of January 2024.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman