

January 18, 2022

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 January 18, 2022 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 January 18, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Chairperson: John Culver
Members: Misty Ahmic, Bob Vrbka, 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 Zabrocki and seconded by Schmieding to approve the minutes of January 11, 2022.

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

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Zabrocki to approve the claims for the period through January 7, 2022.

SEWARD COUNTY CLAIMS THROUGH JANUARY 7, 2022					
ADVANCED CORR HLTHCR	SE	\$4,399.11	SEWARD CO SHERIFF UNCOLL FEES	FE	\$254.00
ADVANCED OFFICE AUTOM	SU	\$248.96	SOARIN GROUP, LLC	SE	\$6,640.74
ALL COPY PRODUCTS	SU	\$47.56	ST OF NE DAS STATE ACCNTING	SE	\$8,032.64
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SE	\$126.38	ST OF NE DAS COMM	SE	\$448.00
AMERITAS LIFE INS CORP	FE	\$18,727.75	SUMMIT FOOD SERVICE, LLC	SE	\$4,986.38
BAUDVILLE	SE	\$63.14	THOMSON REUTERS-WEST	SE	\$667.80
BLUE360 MEDIA	SU	\$87.75	TIME WARNER CABLE	UT	\$357.97
BRENNAN LAW OFFICES	SE	\$494.30	VERIZON WIRELESS SERV	UT	\$2,219.63
CEIA USA	SE	\$85.00	VIRTUAL IMPRESSIONS	SE	\$20.00
CITY OF SEWARD	UT	\$9,417.98	VISA	FE	\$1,670.90
CLERK OF THE DIST CRT	SE	\$35.00	WELLS FARGO FIN LEAS	SE	\$198.15
CORDANT HLTH SOL	SE	\$267.65	YORK COUNTY EMA	SE	\$14.40
CORI J STAVA	SE	\$1,445.50	YORK GENERAL HOSPITAL	SE	\$1,218.49
CULLIGAN	SU	\$38.00	3RD MILLENNIUM CLSSRMS	SE	\$60.00
JACK DANIEL	SE	\$84.00	BAUER BUILT INC	EQ	\$6,678.16
DIAMOND DRUGS	SE	\$285.67	KENNETH PANKOKE	SE	\$296.96
EAKES OFFICE PLUS	SU	\$796.07	BLACK HILLS ENERGY	UT	\$31.64
ENGINEERED CONTROLS	SE	\$122.78	DALE JOHNSON ENT	SU	\$51,656.44
EQUIFAX WORKFORCE	SE	\$503.27	FRONTIER COOP	SU	\$23,158.56
KEARNEY HOSPITALITY INC	TR	\$1,609.30	JOHNSON SAND & GRAVEL	SU	\$24,587.13
FARMERS COOPERATIVE	SU	\$14,996.91	MEMORIAL CLINIC	SE	\$205.00
GALLS LLC	SE	\$75.94	MIDWEST AUTO PARTS	SU	\$428.91
GREAT PLAINS UNIFORMS	SE	\$211.98	NE ASSN CO ENGNRS & HWY SUPR	FE	\$325.00
GUARDIAN RFID	SE	\$5,484.46	NE PUB POW DIST	UT	\$162.65
HELMINK PRINTING	SU	\$225.00	NEWMAN SIGNS	SU	\$1,449.02
HERPOLSHEIMERS INC	SE	\$241.29	NEXTLINK AIS	SE	\$74.99
KEARNEY EXPRESS INC	TR	\$229.90	NMC, INC	SU	\$4,328.30
HOMETOWN LEASING	SE	\$544.42	NORRIS PUB POW DIST	UT	\$1,360.00
INDOFF INC	SU	\$234.98	RDO TRUCK CENTERS	SE	\$1,354.91

JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	SE	\$376.31	ROCKMOUNT RESEARCH	SE	\$3,026.82
JONES BANK (FICA)	FE	\$18,793.13	ST PJ SUPPLY INC	SU	\$15.98
DAVID KIMBLE	SE	\$275.00	TRUCK CENTER CO	SE	\$270.61
KONICA MINOLTA PRE FIN	SE	\$131.48	VILLAGE OF GARLAND	UT	\$48.27
RYAN KRENK	SE	\$36.96	VILLAGE OF GOEHNER	UT	\$399.00
LA QUINTA INN & SUITES	TR	\$374.85	MIDWEST ENGINEERING	SE	\$1,947.00
LANCASTER CO SHERIFF	SE	\$28.18	GEHRING CONST	SE	\$44,207.26
LEE'S REFRIGERATION	SE	\$1,244.28	FOXSTER OPCO. LLC	EQ	\$6,570.00
LINCOLN ORTHO CNTR	SE	\$97.25	MILES PARTNERSHIP	EQ	\$3,000.00
STEPHANIE LUEBBE	SE	\$16.80	SALINA BLUEPRINT	EQ	\$7,895.00
MCKESSON MED SURG	SU	\$322.03	MILFORD AGING SERV	SE	\$200.90
SUE MEDINGER	SE	\$42.56	MOMS MEALS	SE	\$140.99
MID AMERICAN BENEFITS	FE	\$110.50	SEWARD AGING SERV	SE	\$401.10
MID-AMERICAN INS GRP	FE	\$41,320.10	UTICA AGING SERVICE	SE	\$234.50
MIDWEST OFFICE AUTOM	SU	\$39.99	ABM SUPPLY, LLC	SU	\$17,579.00
MIPS INC	SE	\$2,840.39	TRITECH SOFTWARE SYS	EQ	\$3,247.30
DAN'S CUSTOM WORKS	SE	\$155.00	AWARDS UNLIMITED	SU	\$168.00
NE ASSN OF CO ASSESSORS	FE	\$60.00	BOBS MOBIL	SE	\$200.00
NE ASSN OF CO CLERKS	FE	\$75.00	COAST TO COAST SOL	SE	\$2,351.53
NE ASSN OF CO OFFICIALS	FE	\$200.00	DELL MARKETING L P	SE	\$950.00
NEBRASKA.GOV	SE	\$8.50	GRAHAM TIRE LINCOLN	SU	\$1,730.00
DALE NIEMANN	SE	\$50.40	GREAT PLAINS COMM	UT	\$605.00
ONESOURCE	SE	\$488.30	IDEMIA IDENTITY	SE	\$5,445.00
OREILLY AUTOM	SU	\$175.22	LINCOLN POLICE GARAGE	SE	\$548.39
PAC N SAVE	SU	\$626.06	MIDWEST AUTOMOTIVE	SE	\$325.00
PAPER TIGER SHREDDING	SE	\$65.00	POTTER REPAIR	SE	\$726.89
PETTY CASH FUND	FE	\$560.00	TRANSUNION RISK	FE	\$306.00
QUADIENT LEASING USA	SE	\$81.98	911 CUSTOM	SE	\$310.62
QUILL CORPORATION	SU	\$35.38	J CHAD PROF TRAINING	SE	\$118.00
REDIGER AUTOMOTIVE	SE	\$98.49	TOP QUALITY GLOVES	SU	\$3,109.20
REGION V SYSTEMS	SE	\$10,239.25	NEMAHA CO SHERIFF	SE	\$106.78
ZOE RICHERT	SE	\$112.00	ENCARTELE INC	SE	\$3,132.25
SAFELITE FULFILLMENT	SE	\$102.97	SALARIES		\$269,848.01
BRENT SCHLUCKEBIER	SE	\$5.04	GROSS SALARIES INCLUDE DEDUCTIONS TO:		
SEWARD COUNTY BRIDGES	FE	\$11,500.00	COLONIAL SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE		
SEWARD CO CHAMBER	FE	\$103.00	MID AMERICAN CO WISCONSIN		
SEWARD COUNTY COURT	SE	\$906.00	DELTA DENTAL		
SEWARD CO HLTH CLM FND	FE	\$155,676.13	VSP VISION		
SEWARD CO INDEPENDENT	SE	\$708.83	WADDELL & REED		
SEWARD CO ROAD FUND	FE	\$500,000.00			

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

Motion Carried

Commissioners Reports:

Commissioner Ahmic reported she received a call from a village clerk in regard to funding from County ARPA funds, attended the Seward County Mutual Aid Meeting, the Planning & Zoning Commission meeting, and participated in an easement webinar provided by the State Property Tax Dept.

Commissioner Vrbka reported he fielded a call from an engineer representing Bee in regard to County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds and a road complaint. He stated he will be attending an NRD meeting in the coming week.

Commissioner Culver reported he participated in interviews for the Public Defender, received emails dealing with the ARPA, worked on legislative issues, attended the Planning and Zoning meeting, will attend Blue Valley Community Action meeting and Safety Committee this coming week.

Commissioner Schmieding reported he also participated in the Public Defender interviews, attended the Extension Office meeting, will attend the Visitors committee meeting later this week.

Commissioner Zabrocki reported he attended a meeting with the Veteran's Office/Public Transit dept., met with the County Treasurer, met with the City of Seward representative(s) about the handicapped parking issue around the courthouse and the new subdivision planned for east of Seward.

Culleen Bauer, representing the July 4th Committee, was present to request permission to use the courthouse square and restrooms on the 4th of July 2022.

Moved by Schmieding and seconded by Ahmic to approve the 4th of July Committee to use the Courthouse square on the 4th of July 2022 and have the restrooms open 6 am to 6 pm.

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

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Zabrocki to accept the 2nd Quarter Investment Report from the County Treasurer.

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

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Ahmic to adopt Resolution No. 3659 in regard to naming the County Treasurer as the Seward County Investment Officer.

Resolution No. 3659 of the
Seward County Board of Commissioners

Whereas, it is in the best interests of the County to have surplus funds invested. Therefore, let it be resolved the Seward County Treasurer is given the authority to invest County surplus funds within the parameters of State Statutes, and the Seward County Treasurer is the investment officer of Seward County

Moved by: Vrbka Seconded by: Ahmic 01/18/2022

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

Attest: Sherry Schweitzer, Seward County Clerk

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Ahmic, Schmieding, Vrbka, Culver Motion Carried

The Commissioners have discussed installing a driveway on the south side of the courthouse for handicapped parking. Culver had sketched out a suggestion for having the driveway and moving the ballot box and flag box along that driveway. Schmieding made a statement that having access is very important. Zabrocki stated he wondered what the public would say about the change to the public square. Ahmic said she could see opposing views of the issue. Culver said he would like to have a hearing so the public can give their thoughts on the issue.

Mike Oneby, City of Seward engineer, gave some information about city ordinances on the issue. He said since Highway 34 is on the south side and Highway 15 is on the west side, we would have to keep the Nebraska Dept. of Transportation regulations in mind. He said the State has indicated they do not want to give more access points to highways, although they have made exceptions. He said he would be happy to make a sketch to view. He named a few things the Commissioners would need to look into if the project comes to fruition such as traffic patterns, etc.

The Commissioners will think about it and the subject may be put on a future agenda.

Gary Petersen, Seward/York Emergency Manager, was present to discuss purchasing a printer for identification badges for county and village employees, fire dept. personnel, etc.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Vrbka to allow the Emergency Management Director to purchase ID printer for his department.

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

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Schmieding to authorize the Chairman to sign the Surplus Property Disposal Request from the Emergency Manager.

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

Tim Dworak and Mike Oneby of the City of Seward were present to discuss new handicapped parking spaces on the east side of the courthouse. They had submitted a drawing showing two handicapped parking spaces with the total cost being paid by the City of Seward. The plans show the new spaces will not disturb the bricks on the street.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Schmieding to accept the City of Seward proposal for two American Disability Act (ADA) parking spaces on 5th St. as presented by the City of Seward representatives.

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

Carina Sanchez, HR Director, led discussion on the recommendation for Public Defender. The recommendation was for Korey Reiman and stated he is requesting a time to finish his current cases. He was present and said he would like to start around the middle of February and explained the cases he would want to finish before starting with Seward County.

Moved by Schmieding and seconded by Ahmic to appoint Korey Reiman as the new Seward County Public Defender and allow him to start in February allowing him a transitional time to finish his cases.

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

Maria Hatfield, Detention Center Director, along with Sanchez presented a survey of correctional officers' wages in comparable counties. Hatfield said many counties are raising their wages because the State of Nebraska raised their correctional officer wages. She gave information on the struggle to get people to apply. She also gave information for existing employees' wages if the new beginning wage rises.

Moved by Ahmic and seconded by Zabrocki to raise the starting wage for Correctional Officers at Grade 28 which is \$22.24 - \$30.69 based on the "hard to fill positions" as stated in the Personnel Policy.

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

The next agenda item pertains to new wages for current employees in the Detention Center.

Moved by to Zabrocki and seconded by Vrbka to approve the request of increasing wages \$2.00/hour for all current detention center staff with an additional 2% for staff that have been here more than 1 year and less than 2 years.

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

The Commissioners then discussed having a shift differential for Detention Center employees. Currently, Seward County has no shift differential.

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Zabrocki to set the shift differential at \$.75/hour for Detention Center Employees.

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

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Vrbka to accept the Weed/Zoning Dept. Fee Report for December 2021 in the amount \$1,575.00.

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

The Commissioners discussed American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. It was reported they had contacts with representatives with the Village of Beaver Crossing and Bee.

Commissioner Ahmic stated she had gone to many entities/businesses informing them that they have volunteers/employees eligible for Premium Pay through ARPA. Other than the Fire Depts., most did not want to accept the Premium Pay. She suggested a formula for giving Premium Pay to all emergency responders.

Known items on the agenda for Board of Equalization on January 25, 2022 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 11, 2022
4. Discuss/Action – Assessor Information Update

Known items on the agenda for Board of Commissioners on January 25, 2022 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 18, 2022

Other Business Matters to Address When Time Allows

4. Discuss/Action - Public/Officials/Boards
5. Commissioners Reports
6. Discuss/Action – Disbursement of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds
7. Discuss/Action – Agenda for February 1, 2022

9:15 a.m. Discuss/Action – Veteran’s Service Officer Wage Clarification

10:00 a.m. Discuss/Action – David Harwood/UNL- Communicate Interest of UNL to Explore and Acquire the Atlas-F Missile Silo 551st SMS Site 11 in Seward County and to re-purpose this Facility into an Ice Drill Testing and Education Facility

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Vrbka to adjourn at 11:13 a.m.

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Vrbka, Ahmic, Schmieding, Culver 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 25th day of January 2022.

County Clerk

Chairperson