

January 21, 2025

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 21, 2025 in the Commissioner's room at the Seward County Courthouse. Notice of the meeting was posted on the Courthouse bulletin board, on the Commissioner's Room door, on the Seward County website: sewardcountyne.gov and published in the Seward County Independent and the Milford Times. 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 21, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Chairperson: Misty Ahmic
Members: Raegan Hain, Scott Pekarek, Darrell Zabrocki
Deputy County Clerk: Brandy Johnson
Absent: Member: Ken Schmieding

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 Pekarek to approve the minutes of January 14, 2025.
Affirmative Vote: Hain, Pekarek, Zabrocki, Ahmic Motion Carried

The Commissioners recessed at 9:02 a.m.
The Commissioners reconvened at 9:05 a.m.

Sheriff Mike Vance, on behalf of the Commissioners and Sheriff's Department, presented Jake Zlatkovsky, County Treasurer, with a Letter of Commendation for his actions on December 16, 2024 regarding an incident at the Courthouse with a suspicious individual.

Jon Regnier, Highway Superintendent, updated the Commissioners on activities of his department.

Regnier was also present for the discussion regarding the County Bridge Match Agreement with Nebraska Department of Transportation for Bridge Project C008011235. The State's designated share will be 55% of the bridge construction costs, not to exceed \$41,250.00.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Zabrocki to adopt Resolution No. 3830 in regard to the County Bridge Match Agreement with the NE Department of Transportation for Bridge Number C008011235.

RESOLUTION
SIGNING OF THE PROJECT PROGRAM AGREEMENT – BL2436

Seward County
Resolution No. 3830

Whereas: Seward County is proposing a transportation project for which it would like to obtain County Bridge Match funds; and

Whereas: Seward County understands that it must strictly follow all State and local laws, rules, regulations, policies, and guidelines applicable to the funding of the project; and

Whereas: Seward County and Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) wish to enter into a new Project Program Agreement setting out the various duties and funding responsibilities for the project.

Be It Resolved: by the Board of Commissioners of Seward County that:

Chair of the Seward County Board of Commissioners is hereby authorized to sign the attached Project Program Agreement between Seward County and the NDOT.

Seward County is committed to providing local funds for the project as required by the Project Program Agreement.

NDOT Project Number: STWD-CBMP(9)

NDOT Control Number: 00974H

NDOT Project Name: County Bridge Match Program

Adopted this 21st day of January, 2025 at Seward Nebraska.

The Board of Commissioners of Seward County:

Darrell J. Zabrocki, Raegan Hain, Scott Pekarek,
Misty Ahmic, Chair of the Board

Board Member Hain

Moved the adoption of said resolution

Member Zabrocki seconded the motion

Roll Call: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstained, 1 Absent

Resolution adopted, signed and billed as adopted

Attest: Brandy M. Johnson, Deputy County Clerk

Affirmative Vote: Hain, Zabrocki, Pekarek, Ahmic

Motion Carried

The agenda item to authorize the Chair to sign a grant writing contract service agreement with Eleventh House Grant Writing was not discussed.

Commissioner Reports:

Commissioner Hain reported she worked on email correspondence, provided additional information on Community Safety Action Plan (CSAP) to Commissioner Ahmic, provided recommended edits to an Emergency Management brochure, reached out to Middle Creek Printing for a quote for county logo vehicle decals, visited with the Detention Center Director, and visited with the Emergency Manager regarding a Crisis Communication Plan.

Commissioner Zabrocki reported he attended a Safety Committee meeting, worked on a personnel issue, and attended a NIRMA board meeting.

Cassius Lee of Mercy City Church was present to request permission to hold an Easter Egg Hunt on the Courthouse Lawn on April 19, 2025 from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Zabrocki to approve the request from Mercy City Church to use the Courthouse Lawn for an Easter Egg Hunt April 19, 2025 from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Affirmative Vote: Hain, Zabrocki, Pekarek, Ahmic

Motion Carried

Commissioner Reports Continued:

Commissioner Ahmic reported that the final draft submitted by the Policy Board for the Public Defender contract did not include the edits that were suggested, so she merged the two and sent it to the candidate, had a conversation with Senator Jana Hughes and her Legislative Aide Matt Howe about a legislative bill, attended a New Board Member workshop hosted by Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO), serving as part of a panel and giving a presentation about getting involved with infrastructure, worked on a grant contract, worked on the Community Safety Action Plan (CSAP), reviewed the Emergency Management brochure, and reviewed the final portion of last draft of zoning regulations.

Commissioner Pekarek reported he attended the New Board Member workshop hosted by Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO), and commended Commissioner Ahmic on her presentation at the workshop, looked over some legislative bills, and plans to meet with some department heads.

Zabrocki gave an update on the courthouse maintenance project with Berggren & Associates. The maintenance project includes painting the fire escape, removing mold on the outside of the building by power washing and fixing the handrails outside the building. Discussion was held regarding the proposal from Berggren & Associates and payment options. It was noted that the handrails at the Justice Center are rusting and also need to be repaired. Ahmic asked Sheriff Vance if that could be paid using forfeiture funds, to which he said would be an allowable expense using those funds. Zabrocki will follow up with Berggren & Associates for an updated bid and to ask questions regarding their fees.

During the Legislative Update, Ahmic led discussion regarding various legislative bills.

Known items on the agenda for Board of Equalization on January 28, 2025 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 14, 2025
4. Discuss/Action – Assessor Information Update

Known items on the agenda for Board of Commissioners on January 28, 2025 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 21, 2025
4. Discuss/Action - Claims for the period through January 17, 2025

Other Business Matters to Address When Time Allows

5. Discuss/Action - Public/Organizations/Officials
6. Commissioner Reports
7. Discuss/Action - Authorize Chair to Sign Public Defender Contract with Tara Fye from FGH Law Firm, LLC for Services From February 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027
8. Discuss/Action – Agenda for February 4, 2025

9:15 a.m. Discuss/Action - Veteran of the Month

9:30 a.m. Discuss/Action - Ebony Cooksey/NextLink – presentation about NextLink

The Commissioners recessed at 10:06 a.m. to go to the Detention Center for the quarterly jail inspection.

The Commissioners reconvened at 10:25 a.m. at the Detention Center and performed the quarterly jail inspection.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Pekarek to adjourn the Board of Commissioners meeting at the Seward County Detention Center at 10:49 a.m.

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Pekarek, Hain, 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 28th day of January 2025.

County Clerk

Chairperson