

June 10, 2025

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 on June 10, 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 Equalization convened on June 10, 2025 at 8:30 a.m. a.m.

Present: Chairperson: Misty Ahmic
Members: Raegan Hain, Darrell Zabrocki, Ken Schmieding, Scott Pekarek
County Clerk: Sherry Schweitzer
County Assessor: Marilyn Hladky

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 Pekarek to approve the minutes of May 27, 2025. Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Pekarek, Hain, Schmieding, Ahmic Motion Carried

Moved by Hain and seconded by Pekarek to clarify the motion made on May 27, 2025 that the Permissive Exemption hearing for Sunrise Country, Inc. was originally heard and decided on March 11, 2025, not April 22, 2025 as stated in the motion. Affirmative Vote: Hain, Pekarek, Schmieding, Zabrocki, Ahmic Motion Carried

Hladky updated the Commissioners on activities of her office.

Known items on the agenda for Board of Equalization on June 24, 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 June 10, 2025
4. Discuss/Action – Assessor Information Update

8:30 a.m.

Protest Hearings
Discuss/Action – Decisions on Protest Hearings

Moved by Hain and seconded by Schmieding to adjourn at 8:46 a.m.

Affirmative Vote: Hain, Schmieding, Pekarek, Zabrocki, 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 24th day of June 2025.

County Clerk

Chairperson

June 10, 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 June 10, 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 June 10, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. a.m.

Present: Chairperson: Misty Ahmic
Members: Raegan Hain, Scott Pekarek, 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 Hain to approve the consent agenda consisting of:

- a. Minutes of June 3, 2025
- b. Zoning Fee Report for May 2025 in the amount of \$4,050.00
- c. County Clerk Fee Report for May 2025 in the amount of \$23,844.00
- d. District Court Fee Report for May 2025 in the amount of \$5,691.88
- e. Utility Permit for Norris Public Power to run electrical line under Waverly Road approximately 900 feet west of 252nd Road in the SE ¼ of Section 10 Township 11 North, Range 2 East of the 6th P.M.
- f. Utility Permit for Charter Communications to run fiber optic on McKelvie Road from 140th Road to Highway 34 starting in the NE ¼ of Section 25, Township 11 North, Range 4 East of the 6th P.M. and running along McKelvie Road and ending in Section 20 Township 11 North Range 4 East of the 6th P.M.
- g. Utility Permit for Charter Communications to run fiber optic from the intersection of 224th & McKelvie Road in the SE ¼ of Section 24 Township 11 North Range 3 East of the 6th P.M. running North to Bluff Road and west to Section 14 Township 11 North Range 3 East of the 6th P.M.
- h. Authorizing the Chair to sign a 1-Year Annual Rental Agreement with Nebraska Machinery (NMC) for a Mini Excavator

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

Commissioner Reports:

Commissioner Hain reported she attended the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) workshop for Commissioners, received many communications about road conditions, gave a presentation at Kiwanis, received a call about the City of Seward Planning Commission, and noted a change of liaisons for the Sheriff and County Attorney offices.

Commissioner Zabrocki reported he attended the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) workshop for Commissioners, attended a Region V and Apace meeting, attended the Seward City Planning Commission meeting and met with Commissioner Pekarek on various county matters.

Commissioner Ahmic reported she attended the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) workshop for Commissioners, reviewed some materials in preparation for a Tax Equalization Review Commission (TERC) hearing, received calls from constituents and from Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) about a railroad crossing, scheduled a meeting with the Road Dept. Administrative Assistant in regard to grants, visited with Mike Oneby of the City of Seward, and announced she is running for the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) Treasurer.

Jill Engel of Aging Partners gave a report of aging services given to residents of Seward County. She also stated that in regard to Aging Partners giving aid to Seward County via grants, they are requesting \$44,662 for administrative costs. Along with a Seward County contribution, a total of over \$100,000 is then received.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to open the Public Hearing to amend the Seward County 2024-2025 Fiscal Year Budget at 9:42 a.m.

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

No one spoke in favor, opposed or in a neutral capacity at said hearing.

Moved by Pekarek and seconded by Zabrocki to close the Public Hearing at 9:44 a.m.

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

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to adopt Resolution No. 3855 in regard to amending the Seward County 2024-2025 Fiscal Year budget.

**RESOLUTION #3855 OF THE
SEWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

WHEREAS, a proposed County Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 as prepared by Sherry Schweitzer, Budget Making Authority, was adopted on September 10, 2024 by Resolution # 3819, and

WHEREAS the Seward County Board of Commissioners desire to amend the budget due to insufficient funds in Fund 2412 – Sheriff Federal Drug Law Enforcement Fund – Treasury. No additional tax monies are needed, and

WHEREAS the Seward County Board of Commissioners desire to amend the budget due to insufficient funds in Fund 2414 – Sheriff Federal Drug Law Enforcement Fund – Justice. No additional tax monies are needed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

by the Board of Commissioners for Seward, County, Nebraska as follows:

SECTION 1. That the budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025, as categorically evidenced by the Budget Document be, and the same hereby is amended as the Budget for Seward County for said fiscal year.

SECTION 2. That the offices, departments, activities and institutions herein named are hereby authorized to expend the amounts herein appropriated to them during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025.

SECTION 3. That the income necessary to finance the appropriations made and expenditures authorized shall be provided out of the unencumbered cash balance in each fund, revenues other than taxation to be collected during the fiscal year in each fund, and tax levy requirements for each fund.

Dated this 10th day of June 2025.

Moved by: Zabrocki Seconded by: Hain
Ayes: Ken Schmieding, Scott Pekarek, Raegan Hain, Darrell J. Zabrocki,
Misty Ahmic, Chair of the Board
Attest: Sherry Schweitzer, Seward County Clerk

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

Kelly Limback of Chapters Book Store was present to give information about an event on the courthouse lawn for which she is seeking approval.

Moved by Schmieding and seconded by Pekarek to allow the request for Kelly Limback of Chapters Book Store to hold the "Local Author and Artist" event on the courthouse lawn on June 18, 2025 from 12 to 6 pm.

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

Commissioners Reports (Cont.):

Commissioner Schmieding reported he attended a Problem Solving Court graduation in York and will attend a Flag Day event on the courthouse lawn soon. He will have an Extension Board meeting, Visitors Committee meeting and a Blue Valley Community Action (BVCA) meeting in the near future.

Commissioner Pekarek reported he attended the Garland Village Board this past week and will attend the Bee and Pleasant Dale meetings in the future. He also talked to the Emergency Manager about equipment, discussed cell phones with an office, received many calls about roads, and announced he will be the new liaison with the Sheriff's Office.

Marcus Kallhoff, Weed Supt., was present to give information about several documents involved with weed control. He gave information about the costs associated with spraying for weeds if his department were asked to spray on private property.

Moved by Pekarek and seconded by Hain to adopt Resolution No. 3856 in regard to the Weed Dept. Force Control and Fees after a 10- or 15-day notice.

RESOLUTION 3856

A RESOLUTION FOR FEES ASSOCIATED WITH OFFICIAL 10 AND 15 DAY NOTICES

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNTY WEED CONTROL AUTHORITY BOARD in and for Seward County, Nebraska, that the Seward County Weed Board does hereby set the Official Fee Schedule for 10 and 15 Day Noxious Weed Official Notices.

MANAGEMENT FEE - This fee includes, but is not limited to: Filing fees, postage and delivery service fees, pre and post inspection costs. This fee will be assessed per parcel.	\$250.00
LABOR/MACHINE HIRE/SPRAYING will be charged the normal fee TIMES TWO . For example, if a commercial applicator or contractor charges \$50.00 per hour/acre, the charges to the landowner will be \$100.00 per hour/acre. If an aerial applicator is used and the fee is \$20.00 per acre the charges to the landowner will be \$40.00 per acre.	RATE TIMES <u>TWO</u>
MILEAGE - If charged by the commercial applicator, mileage will be charged at the rate listed, per mile.	\$2.00
OTHER MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES relating to the control of noxious weeds on noted property. (Court Costs)	

Adopted by the Seward County Weed Board this 10th day of June, 2025.

SEWARD COUNTY WEED
CONTROL AUTHORITY BOARD

Ayes: Misty Ahmic, Scott Pekarek, Ken Schmieding, Raegan Hain, Darrell J. Zabrocki
Attest: Sherry Schweitzer, County Clerk

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

The Commissioners recessed at 10:10 a.m.
The Commissioners re-convened at 10:15 a.m.

The Commissioners discussed exploring a county wide cell phone plan. Pekarek stated he talked to a representative from Verizon and said he learned there is no financial advantage to having a single plan, but he said that the cost for having extra cell phones on a plan is now \$20. He suggested possibly lowering the county reimbursement fee of \$35 because the fee for having a county cell phone is less than the current reimbursement. Questions were asked about particulars of a plan which Pekarek will find out and report at a later meeting.

Eric Thomas and Marty Walter of Soarin' Group were present to discuss and implement an advanced filtering software. He stated that there are scams out there and this would help if someone clicked on an email that had malware, etc.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to approve the implementation of advanced filtering software with Soarin' Group.

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

The Commissioners discussed audio and visual recoding equipment for use during the Commissioner meetings. Representatives from Soarin' Group were present to offer answers to questions from the Board about a quote they offered. There were questions about video options on the quote for uploading video, storage of said videos, etc. They will find the information and report back at a later date.

The Commissioners reviewed the Seward County Surplus Property Policy. Commissioner Ahmic led discussion about the present policy. There was a question about equipment that was being traded in for new equipment. Some equipment cannot be used by other offices such as equipment from law enforcement, but there needs to be a paper trail for inventory purposes. Sheriff Vance was present to give information about equipment from his department.

The Commissioners recessed at 11:20 a.m.
The Commissioners re-convened at 11:24 a.m.

Brandy Hafer, Public Transit Director, was present to ask the Commissioners' consideration on two agreements for her department.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to authorize the Chair to sign the Agreement with Nebraska Dept. Of Transportation (NDOT) for the purchase of a new Public Transit Van with the county share being \$8,466.00.

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

Moved by Pekarek and seconded by Schmieding to authorize the Chair to sign the Public Transit Supplemental Agreement with the Nebraska Dept. Of Transportation for 5311 Invoice Funds.

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

The Commissioners discussed the deductible for liability insurance through Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Assn. (NIRMA). Since it's renewal time, the county can change the amount of deductible per incident. After discussion, it was decided to leave the current deductibles. Also reported was the Seward County liability

insurance renewal that was increased by approximately 5%. This was discussed along with ways Seward County can decrease current exposure.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Pekarek to retain the same deductibles for the liability insurance with Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Assn. (NIRMA) at \$1,000 for Auto Physical Damage; \$1,000 for Mobile/Remote; and \$2,500 for Property, Building & Contents.

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

The Commissioners discussed agreements with Region V and Apace.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to authorize the Chair to sign the Human Services Agreement with Region V Services.

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

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Pekarek to authorize the Chair to sign the Human Services Agreement with Apace.

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

The Commissioners discussed the request to place Uncle Sam's Junkin' Jam signs at the West Wing and Weed Office on July 2, 2025 through July 5 2025.

Moved by Pekarek and seconded by Schmieding to approve the request to place Uncle Sam's Junkin' Jam signs at the West Wing Building and Weed Office on July 2, 2025 through July 5 2025.

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

The Commissioners discussed grant opportunities for the various offices of Seward County. They looked at different grant possibilities.

Known items on the agenda for Board of Commissioners on June 17, 2025 are as follows:

9:00 a.m.

5. Convene and announce Open Meetings Law
6. Pledge of Allegiance
7. Discuss/Action - Approve minutes of June 10, 2025
8. Discuss/Action – Claims for the period through June 6, 2025

Other Business Matters to Address When Time Allows

9. Discuss/Action – Public/Organizations/Officials
10. Commissioner Reports
11. Discuss/Action – Agenda for June 24, 2025

9:15 a.m. Discuss/Action – Carrie Rodriguez/Probation – Annual Report and Request for 2025-2026 Funding for the 5th District Probation Office

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to adjourn at 12:11 p.m.

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Hain, Schmieding, Pekarek, 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 17th day of June 2025.

County Clerk

Chairman