

# March 1, 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 8:30 a.m. on March 1, 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 March 1, 2022 at 8:30 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.

Those officials present for their monthly meeting with the Commissioners were Maria Hatfield, Gary Petersen and Sherry Schweitzer.

Harrison Helmer, Executive Director of BRIDGES, and Jonathan Jank, Executive Director of the Seward County Chamber & Development Partnership, updated the Commissioners about their respective organization.

Moved by Schmieding and seconded by Zabrocki to approve the minutes of February 22, 2022.

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

Hatfield provided information on invoices she presented for payment and requested both be paid out of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

Moved by Ahmic and seconded by Vrbka to approve \$567.79 for mitigation supplies and \$690.00 for training for the Detention Center.

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

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Ahmic to approve claims for the period through February 18, 2022.

### SEWARD COUNTY CLAIMS THROUGH FEBRUARY 22, 2022

ADP LLC	SE	\$3,875.70	WINDSTREAM	UT	\$4,759.75
ADVANCED OFFICE AUTOM	SU	\$34.38	BLACK HILLS ENERGY	UT	\$1,696.90
AGING PARTNERS	SE	\$40,461.00	BLUE VALLEY DOOR CO	SE	\$500.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SE	\$173.38	CENTRAL SAND & GRAVEL	SU	\$3,849.34
AMERITAS LIFE INS CORP	FE	\$18,107.76	DALE JOHNSON ENT, INC	SU	\$11,503.99
BLUE RIVER TRANSMISSIONS	SE	\$82.40	FASTENAL COMPANY	SU	\$92.49
BLUESTEM NETWORK LLC	UT	\$110.00	JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	SU	\$4.31
CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS	SU	\$29.00	MEDICAL ENTERPRISES INC	SE	\$35.00
COMEDY PRODUCTIONS	SE	\$400.00	NORRIS PUB POWER DIST	UT	\$2,160.00
E 911	FE	\$30,448.67	REED ELECTRIC	SE	\$296.01
JENNIFER EICKHOFF	SE	\$6.44	SHAFFER COMMUNICATIONS	SE	\$438.50
EQUIFAX WORKFORCE/TALX	SE	\$139.96	NEBRASKA TRAVEL ASSOC	FE	\$450.00
FARMERS COOPERATIVE	SU	\$11,938.55	SE NEB TOURISM COUNCIL	FE	\$500.00
GENERAL FIRE & SAFETY EQ	SE	\$946.96	UTICA MUSEUM	FE	\$244.22
GREAT PLAINS COMM	UT	\$1,488.85	GWORKS	SE	\$11,593.32

HELMINK PRINTING	SU	\$400.50	DELTA DENTAL OF NEBR	FE	\$29.97
HOMETOWN LEASING	SE	\$246.93	VISION SERVICE PLAN INS	FE	\$23.29
JONES BANK (FICA)	FE	\$18,264.54	MILFORD AGING SERVICES	SE	\$1,625.00
LEE'S REFRIGERATION	SE	\$1,249.72	MOMS MEALS	SE	\$128.73
MEMORIAL CLINIC	SE	\$502.15	SEWARD AGING SERVICES	SE	\$1,625.00
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	SE	\$2,037.85	US POST OFFICE	SU	\$92.80
MID-AMERICAN INS GRP	FE	\$42,627.15	UTICA AGING SERVICE	SE	\$1,500.00
MIDWEST GANG INVESTIG	SE	\$300.00	AMTEC LESS LETHAL SYS	SE	\$5,424.00
MIDWEST SPECIAL SERV	SE	\$1,071.75	AMERICAN SECUR CABINETS	SU	\$2,013.00
MIPS INC	SE	\$2,268.29	BG&S TRANSMISSIONS	SE	\$4,790.00
JENNIFER NANTKES	SE	\$12.87	GALLS LLC	SE	\$166.99
NE ASSN OF CO OFFICIALS	FE	\$190.00	GRAHAM TIRE LINCOLN	SE	\$532.04
NE CRIMINAL DEF ATTY ASSO	SE	\$200.00	GREAT PLAINS UNIFORMS	SE	\$691.00
NE HEALTH & HUMAN SERV	SE	\$93.00	HERPOLSHEIMERS INC	SE	\$1,430.24
NE SUPREME COURT	SE	\$42.10	JONES BANK	FE	\$50.00
NE NEB JUVENILE SERV	SE	\$3,577.50	LINCOLN POLICE GARAGE	SE	\$2,810.35
OFFICE DEPOT	SU	\$11.29	MOTOROLA	EQ	\$12,962.28
OREILLY AUTOMOTIVE	SU	\$25.64	PACIFIC TRAINING GRP	SE	\$300.00
PHYSICIANS LAB SERV	SE	\$175.00	SECURITY EQUIPMENT	EQ	\$4,951.95
POLK CO CLERK OF COURT	SE	\$43.00	UPS	SE	\$11.22
REGION V SYSTEMS	SE	\$6,634.00	US BANK EQUIP FINANCE	SE	\$167.99
SEWARD CO HLTH CLM FND	FE	\$155,544.16	WESTERN OIL II LLC	SU	\$302.89
SEWARD CO INDEPENDENT	SE	\$30.99	VIGILNET	SE	\$20.85
SEWARD CO SINKING FUND	FE	\$1,200.00	MOTIVATE 2 COMMUNICATE	SE	\$150.00
SEWARD COUNTY TREASURER	FE	\$25.00	AMERICAN JAIL ASSOCIATION	FE	\$690.00
SID DILLON	SE	\$108.45	ANCHOR PROMOTIONS	SU	\$567.79
SOARIN GROUP, LLC	SE	\$1,411.94	EAKES OFFICE PLUS	SU	\$390.37
ST OF NE DAS STATE ACCTNG	SE	\$716.00	GEOCOMM INC	SE	\$3,554.00
SUMMIT FOOD SERVICE, LLC	SE	\$5,505.44	SALARIES		\$264,149.87
THOMSON REUTERS-WEST	SE	\$349.58	GROSS SALARIES INCLUDE DEDUCTIONS TO:		
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA	SE	\$10,878.53	COLONIAL SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE		
UNIV OF NEBRASKA LINCOLN	SE	\$880.88	MID AMERICAN CO WISCONSIN		
VERIZON CONNECT NWF	UT	\$834.69	DELTA DENTAL		
VERIZON WIRELESS SERV	SE	\$1,011.97	VSP VISION		
VIRTUAL IMPRESSIONS INC	SE	\$20.00	WADDELL & REED		
VISA	FE	\$5,445.32			

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

### **Commissioners Reports:**

Commissioner Ahmic reported she attended the SCCDP community update, attended the Pleasant Dale Fire Dept. meeting, a Four Corners Health District meeting, and attended a Four Corners Health District webinar.

Commissioner Vrbka reported he met with the Utica Fire Dept. and have been checking on road issues.

Commissioner Culver reported he attended the 911 Board and Pleasant Dale Fire Dept. meetings, dealt with various emails and checked on some roads.

Commissioner Schmieding reported he attended the Downtown Redevelopment meeting and received calls about that. He will go to the Seward Fire Dept. meeting in the coming week.

Commissioner Zabrocki reported he also attended the 911 Board meeting, the Four Corners Health District board meeting and received calls about a road issue.

During the ARPA discussion on the agenda, Ahmic suggested reaching out to the villages that have shown an interest in applying for County ARPA funds.

The Commissioners recessed at 9:12 a.m.

The Commissioners re-convened at 9:15 a.m.

Becky Paulsen, Weed/Zoning Director, brought three resolutions for short form plats to the Board for their consideration.

The first short form plat is for the Hentzen Addition in K Precinct in the SW ¼ of Section 1 Township 10 North, Range 2 East of the 6th p.m.

Paulsen gave information about the application and the Planning Commission's recommendation.

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Schmieding to adopt Resolution No. 3664 in regard to approving Hentzen Addition in K Precinct in the SW ¼ of Section 1 Township 10 North, Range 2 East of the 6th p.m.

**RESOLUTION NO 3664 OF THE  
SEWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**WHEREAS** Neal, and Beth Hentzen own 160.0 acres of land and have applied for a Short Form Plat to subdivide land under 10.0 acres. and described as a tract of land in the Southwest 1/4 of, Section 1, Township 10N, Range 2E, Seward County, Nebraska, and

**WHEREAS**, the subdivision shall be called the HENTZEN ADDITION SHORT FORM PLAT, and

**WHEREAS** The Seward County Planning Commission held a meeting on February 21st, 2022, to consider the Short Form Plat, and

**WHEREAS** the Planning Commission recommended to APPROVE the HENTZEN ADDITION SHORT FORM PLAT, with a vote of 8 For, 0 against, and 1 Absent and Not Voting, and

**WHEREAS** X No one appeared to oppose the subdivision

     Individuals appeared to oppose the subdivision

X No one appeared to support the subdivision

     Individuals appeared to support the subdivision

     Individuals appeared without commitment, and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Seward County Board of Commissioners do hereby Approve or Deny the HENTZEN ADDITION SHORT FORM PLAT with Resolution NO: 3664.

Moved by: Vrbka                      Seconded by: Schmieding                      03/01/2022

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

Attest: Sherry Schweitzer, Seward County Clerk

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

The next short form plat was for T & K Luebbe Subdivision in E Precinct in the NW ¼ of Section 19 Township 11 North, Range 1 East of the 6th p.m.

Paulsen gave information about the application and the Planning Commission's recommendation.

Moved by Schmieding and seconded by Ahmic to adopt Resolution No. 3665 in regard to approving the T & K Luebbe Subdivision in E Precinct in the NW ¼ of Section 19 Township 11 North, Range 1 East of the 6th p.m.

**RESOLUTION NO 3665 OF THE  
SEWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**WHEREAS** Jon and Billie Jo Schulz own 72.06 acres of land and have applied for a Short Form Plat to subdivide land under 10.0 acres. and described as a tract of land in the Southeast 1/4 of, Section 26, Township 10N, Range 1E, Seward County, Nebraska, and

**WHEREAS** the subdivision shall be called the JON SCHULZ SUBDIVISION SHORT FORM PLAT, and

**WHEREAS** The Seward County Planning Commission held a meeting on February 21st, 2022, to consider the Short Form Plat, and

**WHEREAS** the Planning Commission recommended to APPROVE the JON SCHULZ SUBDIVISION SHORT FORM PLAT, with a vote of 8 For, 0 against, and 1 Absent and Not Voting, and

**WHEREAS**  X  No one appeared to oppose the subdivision

- Individuals appeared to oppose the subdivision
- No one appeared to support the subdivision
- Individuals appeared to support the subdivision
- Individuals appeared without commitment, and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Seward County Board of Commissioners do hereby Approve or Deny the JON SCHULZ SUBDIVISION SHORT FORM PLAT with Resolution NO:  3665 .

Moved by: Schmieding      Seconded by: Ahmic      03/01/2022  
Ayes: Darrell J. Zabrocki, Robert Vrbka, Misty Ahmic, Ken Schmieding,  
John K. Culver, Chair of the Board  
Attest: Sherry Schweitzer, Seward County Clerk

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

The last short form plat for the Commissioners consideration is for the Jon Schulz Subdivision in L Precinct in the SE ¼ of Section 26 Township 10 Range 1 East of the 6th p.m.

Paulsen gave information about the application and the Planning Commission's recommendation.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Ahmic to adopt Resolution No. 3666 in regard to approving the Jon Schulz Subdivision short form plat in L Precinct in the SE ¼ of Section 26 Township 10 Range 1 East of the 6th p.m.

**RESOLUTION No. 3666 OF THE  
SEWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**WHEREAS** Jon and Billie Jo Schulz own 72.06 acres of land and have applied for a Short Form Plat to subdivide land under 10.0 acres. and described as a tract of land in the Southeast 1/4 of, Section 26, Township 10N, Range 1E, Seward County, Nebraska, and

**WHEREAS** the subdivision shall be called the JON SCHULZ SUBDIVISION SHORT FORM PLAT, and

**WHEREAS** The Seward County Planning Commission held a meeting on February 21st, 2022, to consider the Short Form Plat, and

**WHEREAS** the Planning Commission recommended to APPROVE the JON SCHULZ SUBDIVISION SHORT FORM PLAT, with a vote of 8 For, 0 against, and 1 Absent and Not Voting, and

**WHEREAS**  X  No one appeared to oppose the subdivision

- Individuals appeared to oppose the subdivision
- No one appeared to support the subdivision
- Individuals appeared to support the subdivision
- Individuals appeared without commitment, and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Seward County Board of Commissioners do hereby Approve or Deny the JON SCHULZ SUBDIVISION SHORT FORM PLAT with Resolution No:  3666 .

Moved by: Zabrocki      Seconded by: Ahmic      03/01/2022  
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: Zabrocki, Ahmic, Vrbka, Schmieding, Culver          Motion Carried

The Commissioners recessed at 9:27 a.m.  
The Commissioners re-convened at 9:30 a.m.

Sheriff Mike Vance and Blake Swicord of the Sheriff's Office were present to explain the need for a Petty Cash Fund for Criminal Investigations.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Ahmic to adopt Resolution No. 3667 in regard to approving a Petty Cash account for the Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$10,000.00 for criminal investigations.

**RESOLUTION 3667 OF THE SEWARD COUNTY BOARD**

WHEREAS, the Seward County Sheriff's Office desires to establish a petty cash fund in order to have funds in cash format for drug enforcement purposes.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Seward County Board of Commissioners hereby establishes a petty cash fund for drug enforcement purposes. The Fund shall be called the Criminal Drug Investigation Fund. The amount of the Fund to be established shall be in the amount of Ten Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$10,000.00). Said Petty Cash Fund is to be maintained by the Seward County Sheriff's Office in accordance with proper accounting practices.

Drug enforcement purposes shall include, but not be limited to, the following when used or expended by the Seward Sheriff's Office or its agents in Seward County in discharging their responsibilities concerning traffic in controlled substances and in suppressing the abuse of controlled substances: (a) Salaries for informants and any expenses of all agents and informants; (b) Flash money for drug purchases; and (c) Money for drug purchases.

When it becomes necessary to replenish such fund, the claim therefor shall be accompanied by an accounting of transactions of the fund as the State Auditor may require. In no event shall such information compromise a pending investigation. Said claims submitted to the Board to reimburse the fund shall be kept confidential pursuant to *Neb. Rev. Stat.* § 84-712.05 (5). The Fund shall be audited by the Auditor of Public Accounts. The dollar amount of the fund shall be stated in the fiscal policy of the county board budget message.

Dated this 1<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2022.

Moved by: Zabrocki          Seconded by: Ahmic          03/01/2022  
Ayes: Darrell J. Zabrocki, Robert Vrbka, Misty Ahmic, Ken Schmieding,  
John K. Culver, Chair of the Board  
Attest: Sherry Schweitzer, Seward County Clerk

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

The Commissioners recessed at 9:40 a.m.  
The Commissioners re-convened at 9:45 a.m.

Tammy Sladek, Cordova Village Board member, was present to discuss the application for Seward County ARPA funds for water filtration systems for the individual households in the village. Sladek said the individual filtration systems in each house was more financially feasible rather than putting a larger system on their water tower. Barb Armstead, Deputy County Attorney, stated she did not feel that this project would be eligible for ARPA Funds since it is not "infrastructure" as defined in the ARPA rules.

The Commissioners recessed at 9:50 a.m.  
The Commissioners re-convened at 10:00 a.m.

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Zabrocki to open the public hearing at 10:00 a.m. for the 1 & 6 Year Road Plan for Seward County.

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

Terry Wicht, Highway Supt., gave information on the main projects in process for the 1 Year Program.

Larry Ahrens spoke about Branched Oak Road near Staplehurst. He stated the road was at one time on the 1 & 6 Year Road Plan, but years ago it had been taken off. He said it is hard surfaced but not concrete. Wicht stated that it can be put back on the Road Plan. Since it is hard surfaced, the work would be contracted out to be repaired/upgraded. Wicht stated the equipment the County owned for that type of work was old and inoperable. Clelland Tonniges and Tim Hegeholz also spoke in favor of paving it. Russ Daehling, former Highway Supt., also spoke about the previous paving program. It was suggested the hard surfaced portion of Branched Oak Road west of Staplehurst be extended one mile and added to the plan. Those also speaking on keeping the road upgraded were Kirk Hain, John Heath and Jason Butzke. It was also mentioned a culvert needs to be repaired on the road.

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Zabrocki to close the public hearing at 10:23 a.m.

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

A resolution adopting the 1 & 6 Year Road Plan will be considered at next week's meeting.

**Known items on the agenda for Board of Equalization on March 8, 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 February 22, 2022
4. Discuss/Action – Assessor Information Update

**Known items on the agenda for Board of Commissioners on March 8, 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 March 1, 2022

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

4. Discuss/Action - Public/Officials/Boards
5. Commissioners Reports
6. Discuss/Action – Authorize County Clerk to Advertise for Abandoned Cemetery Mowing
7. Discuss/Action – Disbursement of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds
8. Discuss/Action – Agenda for March 15, 2022

9:15 a.m. Discuss/Action – Res. – 1 & 6 Year Plan for Seward County

9:30 a.m. Discuss/Action – Open bids for West Wing Tornado Shelter

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Schmieding to adjourn at 10:30 a.m.

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Schmieding, Vrbka, Ahmic, 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 8<sup>th</sup> day of March 2022.

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County Clerk

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Chairperson