

March 10, 2020
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 a.m. on March 10, 2020 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 March 10, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Chairperson: John Culver
Members: Bob Vrbka, Ken Schmieding, Becky Paulsen
County Clerk: Sherry Schweitzer
County Assessor: Marilyn Hladky
Absent: Member: Mike Mundhenke

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 Vrbka and seconded by Paulsen to approve the minutes of February 25, 2020.
Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Paulsen, Schmieding, Culver Motion Carried

Moved by Paulsen and seconded by Vrbka to approve Tax List Correction No. 175-18P.
Affirmative Vote: Paulsen, Vrbka, Schmieding, Culver Motion Carried

Hladky updated the Commissioners on activities of her office.

Known items on the agenda for Board of Equalization on March 24, 2020 are as follows:

8:30 a.m.

1. Convene and announce Open Meetings Law
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Discuss/Action - Approve minutes of March 10, 2020
4. Discuss/Action – Assessor Information Update

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Schmieding to adjourn at 8:55 a.m.

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Schmieding, Paulsen, 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 24th day of March 2020.

County Clerk

Chairperson

March 10, 2020

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 March 10, 2020 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 10, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Chairperson: John Culver
Members: Mike Mundhenke, Bob Vrbka, Ken Schmieding, Becky Paulsen,
County Clerk: Sherry Schweitzer
Absent: Member: Mike Mundhenke

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 Schmieding and seconded by Paulsen to approve the minutes of March 3, 2020.
Affirmative Vote: Schmieding, Paulsen, Vrbka, Culver Motion Carried

Gary Petersen, Seward/York Emergency Manager, updated the Commissioners on activities of his office.

Commissioners Report:

Commissioner Vrbka reported he looked over the suggested 1 & 6 Year road plan and dealt with various correspondences.

Commissioner Culver reported that he too looked over the suggested 1 & 6 Year Road plan, met with several officials and dealt with various constituent concerns.

Commissioner Schmieding reported he attended the Region V meeting, will be attending the Institute of Excellence class and the NACO Southeast meeting this week.

Commissioner Paulsen reported that she has looked over the 1 & 6 Year Road plan and attended a 3 day conference in Kearney last week for zoning.

Selecting an auditor for the County of Seward was discussed. Schweitzer led discussion and stated the State Auditor has been the auditor for Seward County for many years and said they provide a very thorough audit and recommended the Board approve a new 3 year contract. Bob Dahms, County Treasurer, also recommended them and stated his office was very satisfied with their work and said that the bid includes a single audit which may be required by the federal government.

Moved by Vrbka and Paulsen to authorize the Chairman to sign the contract with the State of Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts for the annual audit for Seward County at a cost of \$16,000 for each year of 2020, 2021 & 2022.

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Paulsen, Schmieding, Culver

Motion Carried

Laura McDougall, Executive Director of Four Corners Health Dept., was in attendance to give information about the activities of the Four Corners Health Dept. She provided information about the coronavirus.

Moved by Paulsen and Vrbka to appoint Roger Reamer, Dr. Scott Wieting, and Dr. Jillian Fickenscher as members of the Four Corners Health Dept. Board.

Affirmative Vote: Paulsen, Vrbka, Schmieding, Culver

Motion Carried

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Paulsen to open the hearing at 9:36 a.m. on the 1 & 6 Year Road Plan for Seward County.

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Paulsen, Schmieding, Culver

Motion Carried

Terry Wicht, Highway Supt., explained the various projects on the plan. There were questions asked about the different projects.

John Kasl, a member of the public and retired from the Road Dept., made comments about the proposed Road Plan.

Joel Navis, a member of the Pubic and retired from the Seward County Rural Public Power District, asked that a road be worked on and near the entrance to the subdivision where he lives. Currently it is armor coated and not in very good shape.

Greg Butcher, Seward City Administrator, spoke about the progression of development in Seward and about the road near Mr. Navis' subdivision that needs attention.

Mark Mainelli of Mainelli Wagner and Associates presented information about several Road Dept. plans he has been asked to do for Seward County. He stated he has done a study of current paved roads and delivered a report in 2014 about the sustainability of them in Seward County. Due to the fact that there have been multiple Highway Supt.'s for Seward County, he will review the report with Wicht, the current Highway Supt.

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Schmieding to close the public hearing at 10:16 a.m.

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Schmieding, Paulsen, Culver

Motion Carried

Moved by Schmieding and seconded by Paulsen to adopt Resolution No. 3506 in regard to the adoption of the 1 & 6 Year Road Plan and change Project 530 and 531 on the 6 Year Plan rather than the 1 year plan.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 3506

SEWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

WHEREAS, Neb. Rev. Stat 39-2115 through 39-2119 require annual development and filing with the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards (NBCS) a One- and Six-Year Plan of highway, road, and street improvements based on a priority of needs and calculated to contribute to the orderly development of an integrated statewide system of highway, roads, and streets.

WHEREAS, a One- and Six-Year Plan was prepared and proposed to the governing body.

WHEREAS, an advanced notice was published in the local newspaper, stating that a public hearing will be held on the proposed One- and Six-Year Plan, was held in the County Commissioner's Room in the Seward

County Courthouse, Seward, Nebraska, on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.

WHEREAS, an advanced notice was posted at the following places where it was likely to attract attention: Seward Post Office, Seward County Courthouse, Seward Memorial Library and the Seward City Hall.

WHEREAS, a public hearing was conducted on the proposed One- and Six-Year Plan, as stated in the advance notices, on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.

WHEREAS, the One- and Six-Year Plan as approved by resolution of the governing body on March 10th, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Seward County, Nebraska, that the aforementioned approved One- and Six-Year Plan is hereby adopted for submittal to the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards (NBCS).

Adopted this 10th day of March, 2020 at Seward, Nebraska.

Moved by: Schmieding Seconded by: Paulsen Absent: Mundhenke

Ayes: Robert Vrbka, Ken Schmieding, Becky Paulsen,

John K. Culver, Chair of the Board

Attest: Sherry Schweitzer, Seward County Clerk

Affirmative Vote: Schmieding, Paulsen, Vrbka, Culver

Motion Carried

Jeff Baker, Veterans Service Office/Public Transit Director, was present to give information about the sale of the old Public Transit bus. He asked that the money from the sale be put in the Sinking Fund and thereby not have to return a portion of it back to the federal government since they helped purchase it initially.

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Paulsen to authorize the Treasurer to deposit proceeds from the sale of the 2013 Public Transit bus into the Public Transit Sinking Fund for a future capital purchase.

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Paulsen, Schmieding, Culver

Motion Carried

Moved by Paulsen and seconded by Vrbka to approve the proclamation of naming March 22 – 28, 2020 as Agriculture Week in Seward County.

Affirmative Vote: Paulsen, Vrbka, Schmieding, Culver

Treasurer Bob Dahms and Deputy Treasurer Sherry Leising were present to give information about a new real estate program the Treasurer's Office wants to use. He stated that the company that owns the program he currently uses was bought out and is providing no reasonable customer support. He stated his budget cannot support all the costs to switch and is asking the Commissioners for financial support outside his budget. He asked that the costs be paid out of another fund. The Commissioners asked them to find out if costs will be incurred in the current fiscal year and report back.

Sheriff Mike Vance along with Blake Swicord, Temporary Interdiction Task Force Consultant/Trainer, gave the Commissioners statistics on the 2019 Criminal Interdiction Task Force for 2019. They gave information on several cases that were stopped by the Task Force as well as new equipment available in the search for illegal drug crimes.

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Paulsen to accept the Clerk of the District Court Fee Report for February 2020 in the amount of \$5,539.63.

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Paulsen, Schmieding, Culver

Motion Carried

Moved by Paulsen and seconded by Vrbka to accept the County Clerk Fee Report for February 2020 in the amount of \$28,842.54.

Affirmative Vote: Paulsen, Vrbka, Schmieding, Culver

Motion Carried

Moved by Schmieding and seconded by Vrbka to appoint Eric Hofer as the Building and Grounds Supt.

Affirmative Vote: Schmieding, Vrbka, Paulsen, Culver

Motion Carried

The Commissioners discussed the specifications for the mowing of abandoned cemeteries.

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Schmieding to approve the following specifications:

SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE MOWING OF ABANDONED CEMETERIES IN SEWARD COUNTY

These specifications are for the mowing of the 17 abandoned cemeteries in Seward County. See attached map for locations. Said mowings shall occur between May 1, 2020 and November 1, 2020. There will be no more than 6 mowings of said cemeteries unless directed otherwise by the Seward County Board of Commissioners. One mowing shall take place within 10 days prior to May 25, 2020 (to allow 4-H Clubs to put crosses on the graves before Memorial Day).

Bids will be submitted in a "Price per Mowing" bid. A "mowing" shall be defined as one mowing of all 17 cemeteries and shall be considered to include the **entire area** of each cemetery (fence to fence) and trimming around plantings, headstones and other structures. This contract will be bid using your own equipment. Upon completing each mowing, the successful bidder shall submit a written report as to the date each individual cemetery was mowed. Said report may be delivered, mailed, faxed, or emailed to the County Clerk's Office, P O Box 190, Seward, NE 68434 (402) 643-2228 (fax) or email at sschweitzer@co.seward.ne.us .

Bid will include all costs associated with a mowing, including but not limited to insurance, lawnmower gas, transportation to all cemeteries and use of your own equipment. Crosses will be provided for you to put on the graves at Memorial Day time in the following cemeteries only: Blue Ridge, Neujahr, Valley View, Dry Creek, Prairie Grove, Knob Hill, One Grave, Englehaupt and Oak Grove. (4-H Clubs have volunteered to put the crosses on the other cemeteries for Memorial Day.)

The successful bidder will not become an agent or employee of Seward County and therefore, will not be covered by any governmental immunity or Seward County insurance policy. The successful bidder shall carry public liability insurance to indemnify the public for injuries sustained by reasons of carrying on the work in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 Bidders who have one or more employees are subject to the Workman's Compensation Act and must have Workman's Compensation Insurance in accordance with the statutory requirements of the State of Nebraska. A Certificate of Insurance or a quote/estimate for insurance must be provided at the time of the bid. If you are considered the successful bidder, a Certificate of Insurance **MUST** be provided to the County Clerk within 7 days of being notified. Failure to provide the proof of acceptable insurance shall cause said bid to be disqualified.

We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, and genetics.

All bids must be received by 9:30 a.m. on March 24, 2020 in the office of the Seward County Clerk, Courthouse, Room 205, P. O. Box 190, Seward, NE 68434. (You cannot email or fax a bid submission.)

Bids **MUST** be submitted in the format below specified:

Name of Bidder: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____

Bid per mowing: \$ _____

Signature of bidder: _____ Date: _____

Certificate of Insurance or Quote/Estimate Insurance MUST be attached to said bid.

Seward County reserves the right to refuse and reject all bids or to waive any technicality considered irrelevant.

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Schmieding, Paulsen, Culver

Known items on the agenda for Board of Commissioners on March 17, 2020 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 10, 2020
4. Discuss/Action – Claims for the period through March 6, 2020

Other Business Matters to Address When Time Allows

1. Discuss/Action - Public/Officials/Boards
2. Commissioners Reports
3. Discuss/Action – Agenda for March 24, 2020

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Schmieding to adjourn at 11:37 a.m.

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Schmieding, Paulsen, 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 17th day of March 2020.

County Clerk

Chairman