

March 25, 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 March 25, 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 March 25, 2025 at 8:31 a.m.

Present: Chairperson: Misty Ahmic
Members: Raegan Hain, Darrell Zabrocki, Ken Schmieding, Scott Pekarek
Deputy County Clerk: Brandy Johnson
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 Hain to approve the minutes of March 11, 2025.
Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Hain, Pekarek, Schmieding, Ahmic Motion Carried

Hladky updated the Commissioners on activities of her office.

Known items on the agenda for Board of Equalization on April 8, 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 March 25, 2025
4. Discuss/Action – Assessor Information Update

Moved by Hain and seconded by Zabrocki to adjourn at 8:54 a.m.
Affirmative Vote: Hain, Zabrocki, Pekarek, Schmieding, 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 8th day of April, 2025.

County Clerk

Chairperson

March 25, 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 March 25, 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 March 25, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

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

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 March 18, 2025.
Affirmative Vote: Hain, Pekarek, Schmieding, Zabrocki, Ahmic Motion Carried

Moved by Hain and seconded by Schmieding to approve claims for the period through March 14, 2025.

SEWARD COUNTY CLAIMS THROUGH MARCH 14, 2025					
ACCURATE CONTROLS	SE	\$2,002.61	US POSTAL SERVICE	SU	\$10,000.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERV	SE	\$485.22	USPS	SU	\$10,000.00
AMERITAS LIFE INS	FE	\$22,060.11	VERIZON WIRELESS SERV	UT	\$147.73
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	UT	\$2,887.59	VISA	SU	\$5,408.32
BLUE RIVER ELECTRIC	SE	\$1,443.61	VOLZKE FUNERAL HOME	SE	\$758.00
BLUE VALLEY BEHAV HLTH	SE	\$360.00	WELLS FARGO FINAN LEAS	EQ	\$230.66
BUFFALO CO SHERIFF	SE	\$24.19	ACKERMAN ENGINEERING	SE	\$680.00
CAMPBELL CLEANING	SE	\$4,975.00	BEATRICE CONCRETE	SU	\$21,955.26
CAPITAL BUSINESS SYS	SU	\$45.32	HELMINK PRINTING	SU	\$408.00
CASS CO SHERIFF	SE	\$32.00	KERFORD LIMESTONE	SU	\$12,330.48
CENTURY BUSINESS PROD	SU	\$175.67	KRIHA FLUID POWER	SU	\$5.52
CHARTER COMMUNIC	UT	\$335.41	MEMORIAL CLINIC	SE	\$35.00
CONNER PSYCH SERV	SE	\$425.00	NMC, INC	SE	\$1,472.36
CONTINENTAL ALARM	EQ	\$1,683.50	NORRIS PUBLIC POWER	UT	\$2,795.93
CO VETERANS SERV ASSN	FE	\$120.00	OREILLY AUTOMOTIVE	SU	\$347.82
CULLIGAN	SE	\$37.75	RDO TRUCK CENTERS	SU	\$12,004.48
DIAMOND DRUGS	SU	\$895.70	SACK LUMBER	SU	\$288.41
DIVERSIFIED DRUG TEST	SE	\$165.00	SAPP BROS PETROLEUM	SU	\$19,474.98
EAKES OFFICE PLUS	SU	\$40.49	TRUCK CENTER CO	SU	\$126.14
FARMERS COOP	SU	\$13,996.56	VERIZON CONNECT NWF	EQ	\$728.34
FGH LAW	SE	\$4,807.70	VILLAGE OF GARLAND	UT	\$61.48
H & H PLASTICS	SU	\$126.00	DALE JOHNSON ENT	SU	\$2,505.86
HERPOLSHEIMERS	EQ	\$419.89	JOHNSON SAND & GRAVEL	SU	\$15,329.75
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	EQ	\$304.34	SOUTHWEST GRAVEL PROD	SU	\$9,287.56
JONES BANK (FICA)	FE	\$22,176.05	ROLFSMEYER CONSTRUCTION	SE	\$6,400.60
LANGUAGE LINE SERV	SE	\$5.90	FLAGSHIP PUBLISHING	SU	\$263.25
LIBERTY LAW GROUP	SE	\$2,160.84	NE RURAL RADIO ASSOC	FE	\$160.00
MCKESSON MED SURG	SU	\$83.79	MILFORD AGING SERV	SE	\$2,067.40
SUE MEDINGER	SE	\$12.06	MOMS MEALS	SE	\$276.92

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	SE	\$3,036.90	SEWARD AGING SERV	SE	\$3,030.60
NE ASSN CO OFFICIALS	FE	\$585.00	UTICA AGING SERV	SE	\$1,941.70
NE ASSN CO TREASURERS	FE	\$175.00	BURMEVES	EQ	\$8,250.00
NE LAW ENFORC TRAIN	FE	\$75.00	MAXMILIAN MCKEEVER	SE	\$691.06
NE STATE FIRE MARSHAL	SE	\$244.00	GREAT PLAINS COMMUN	UT	\$629.89
PENNER'S TIRE & AUTO	SU	\$1,275.23	LINCOLN POLICE GARAGE	SE	\$827.29
PER MAR SECURITY	SE	\$165.00	STATE OF NE STATE PATROL	SE	\$2,172.50
PETTY CASH FUND	FE	\$73.90	WESTERN OIL II	SU	\$96.34
PHYSICIANS LAB SERV	SE	\$3,520.50	DILLON WILLIAMS	SE	\$750.00
POTTAWATTAMIE CO SHERIFF	SE	\$41.00	VIGILNET	SE	\$76.45
PRIORITY ENVIR SOL	SE	\$10.98	ADVENT FINANCIAL SYS	SE	\$270.00
REDWOOD TOX LAB	SE	\$168.75	SPORTS EXPRESS	SU	\$416.50
ZOE RICHERT	SE	\$53.60	PICTOMETRY INTL	SE	\$28,744.51
RIXSTINE TROPHY CO	SU	\$60.00	HOMETOWN LEASING	EQ	\$74.00
SECRETARY OF STATE	SU	\$40.00	ALLO COMMUN	UT	\$605.88
SEWARD CO INDEPENDENT	SE	\$1,264.89	FIBER PLATFORM	SE	\$327.00
SEW CO SHERIFF UNCOLL FEES	FE	\$254.00	APCO INTL	SE	\$435.00
SEWARD LUMBER	SU	\$76.92	SALARIES		\$314,129.58
SEWARD VISION CLINIC	SE	\$110.80	GROSS SALARIES INCLUDE DEDUCTIONS TO:		
SMPC, LLC	SE	\$500.00	AMERITAS DENTAL		
SOARIN GROUP	SE	\$6,408.25	AMERITAS VISION		
ST OF NE DAS ST ACCNTNG	SE	\$795.50	COLONIAL SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE		
STERICYCLE	SU	\$55.59	MID AMERICAN CO WISCONSIN		
SUMMIT FOOD SERV	SE	\$9,371.61	POINT C FSA		
THOMSON REUTERS-WEST	EQ	\$1,604.31	WADDELL & REED		
US BANK EQUIP FINANCE	EQ	\$64.70			

Affirmative Vote: Hain, Schmieding, Zabrocki, Pekarek
Voting No: Ahmic

Motion Carried

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

Ray Foreman, Veterans Service Officer, introduced the March 2025 Veteran of the Month, Roger Cradick.

Cradick spoke about his time in the Navy. He registered for the draft when he turned 18 in 1955 and was drafted shortly after. After WWII, he went to Japan and spent time at sea moving people and supplies. When he returned to Seward County, he joined the VFW and later joined the Legion. He is still active in both the VFW and the Legion Post 49 in Utica.

Roxanne Knutson, Human Resources Director, was present to discuss the 457(b) deferred compensation plan contract with Spectrum/Wealth Partners. Barb Armstead, Deputy County Attorney, had some questions and remarks regarding various parts of the contract that need to be looked into further before it is signed.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to open bids for mowing the abandoned cemeteries.

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

One bid was received from Buresh Lawn Care.

Martin Schildt from GBE, CPA was present with the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Audit Report and request for Board approval to submit to the state auditor's office.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to add an emergency item to the agenda of authorizing the chair to sign the management representation letter for the 2023-2024 fiscal year audit.

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

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Schmieding to approve the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Audit for Seward County as submitted by GBE, CPA.

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

Moved by Hain and seconded by Zabrocki to authorize the board chair to sign the management representation letter presented by GBE, CPA.

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

The Commissioners recessed at 9:57 a.m.

The Commissioners reconvened at 10:02 a.m.

Erika Kratochvil, Seward 4th of July Committee member, was present to request the use of the courthouse lawn and restrooms for the City of Seward 2025 4th of July celebration.

Moved by Schmieding and seconded by Zabrocki to allow the 4th of July Committee to use the Courthouse lawn and restrooms and have access to electricity for the 2025 4th of July Celebration from 5:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Affirmative Vote: Schmieding, Zabrocki

Voting No: Hain, Pekarek, Ahmic

Motion died based on the motion as presented.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Schmieding to approve request from the 4th of July Committee to use the Courthouse lawn from 5 a.m. to 7 p.m. and to use the restrooms from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. for the 2025 4th of July Celebration.

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

Commissioner Reports:

Commissioner Pekarek reported he met with the Veterans Service Officer, met with Seward City Administrator and is working on setting a date for a Lower Platte South meeting to be held in Garland.

Commissioner Schmieding reported he attended a 4th of July Committee meeting, and he will attend the Flag burning ceremony on the courthouse lawn, Wellness Center Open House, a Rec Board meeting, a Tree Board meeting and an Extension Board meeting.

Commissioner Ahmic reported she received many calls regarding the snowstorm and power outages, signed a Declaration of Emergency regarding the recent snowstorm, had the final Community Safety Action Plan (CSAP) review, met with the Zoning Administrator, attended a virtual meeting with Felsburg, Holt & Ullevig (FHU) and Kirkham Michael along with Commissioner Hain, and reported that she and Commissioner Hain plan to provide an appreciation lunch for the road department employees on Thursday if any other Commissioners would like to contribute.

Commissioner Zabrocki reported he had a SouthEast Nebraska Development District (SEND) board meeting, attended a Region Five board orientation, attended a BRIDGES board meeting, and met with Martin Schildt from GBE to review the 2023-2024 fiscal year audit.

Commissioner Hain reported she participated in the Community Safety Action Plan (CSAP) meeting and congratulated Commissioner Ahmic on her work on this project, met with Felsburg, Holt & Ullevig (FHU) and Kirkham Michael along with Commissioner Ahmic, received many calls and messages about road conditions, power lines, and Emergency Management response regarding the recent snow storm, sent email correspondence to the Sheriff, and received a message regarding the opioid settlement quarterly report.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Pekarek to enter into Executive Session to discuss Strategy/Personnel at 10:21 a.m.

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

The chairperson reiterated that the Executive Session was for strategy/personnel.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Pekarek to come out of Executive Session at 12:15 p.m.

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

Commissioner Hain asked to table the future funding for remainder of 420th road paving discussion until next week.

Commissioner Ahmic led discussion on the Declaration of Emergency for Seward County. Seward County suffered from a major winter storm on March 19th, 2025 causing severe damage to public and private property, disruption of utility service and endangerment of health and safety of the citizens of Seward County within the disaster area. Because of this declaration, the county will execute the expenditure of emergency funds from all available sources and apply to the State of Nebraska for assistance from the Governor's Emergency Fund and any other resources deemed necessary. Ahmic suggested cities and villages reach out to the Emergency Manager and file their own declarations of emergency to open up funding for themselves for things such as generators.

Commissioner Ahmic tabled the Legislative update to next week.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Pekarek to enter into Executive Session to discuss Strategy/Personnel at 12:20 p.m.

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

The chairperson reiterated that the Executive Session was for strategy/personnel.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to come out of Executive Session at 1:22 p.m.

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

Known items on the agenda for Board of Commissioners on April 1, 2025 are as follows:

8:30 a.m.

1. Convene and announce Open Meetings Law
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Discuss/Action - Public/Organizations/Officials
4. Consent Agenda:
 - a) Minutes of March 25, 2025
 - b) Sheriff's Fee & Mileage Reports for January 2025 - \$1,017.00 and \$653.53
 - c) Utility Permit – South Bow LP to Bore Electrical Line for a Remote Mainline Valve for the Keystone Pipeline under Rokeby Road located in the SW ¼ of Section 28, Township 9 North, Range 3 East of the 6th P.M. to the NW ¼ of Section 33, Township 9 North, Range 3 East of the 6th P.M.

Other Business Matters to Address When Time Allows

5. Commissioner Reports
6. Discuss/Action - Future Funding for Remainder of 420th Road Paving
7. Discuss/Action - Legislative Update
8. Jail Inspection
9. Discuss/Action - Agenda for April 8, 2025

9:15 a.m. Discuss/Action - Open Bids for Project C-80 (677) Bridge Deck Replacement on Bridge #8011235 on Branched Oak Road East of 266th Road

9:30 a.m. Discuss/Action - Award Abandoned Cemetery Mowing Bid

9:45 a.m. Discuss/Action – Public Hearing – Permit to Upgrade/Modify Existing Equipment on Wireless Tower in O Precinct in Section 9, Township 9 North, Range 3 East of the 6th P.M.

Discuss/Action - Res– Permit to Upgrade/Modify Existing Equipment on Wireless Tower in O Precinct in Section 9, Township 9 North, Range 3 East of the 6th P.M.

10:00 a.m. Discuss/Action - Carol Albrecht – Request to hold Farmers Market on Courthouse Lawn from May 17, 2025 – October 29, 2025

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to adjourn at 1:24 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 1st day of April 2025.

County Clerk

Chairman