

November 2, 2021

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 November 2, 2021 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 November 2, 2021 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 and updating the Commissioners about their offices were Ann Dobesh, Matt Starkey, Carina Sanchez, Marilyn Hladky and Sherry Schweitzer.

Jonathan Jank, Executive Director of Seward County Chamber & Development Partnership, and Harrison Helmer, Executive Director of BRIDGES, updated the Commissioners on activities of their organizations.

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Zabrocki to approve the minutes of October 26, 2021.

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

The Commissioners recessed at 8:56 a.m.

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

Tom Nielsen of Soarin' gave information on IT for Seward County. He explained that county emails and the website will soon be under sewardcountyne.gov. He gave information about a new spam filter placed on county emails. He stated because there is a large amount of spam being sent out and also phishing attempts, so he installed a new spam filter that is quarantining emails. There was quite a bit of discussion about the lack of communication about this new spam filter. Nielsen also gave information about future IT suggestions/needs for Seward County.

Maria Hatfield, Detention Center Director, was in attendance to present several documents for the Commissioners consideration.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Schmieding to authorize the Chairman to sign the Guardian RFID System Agreement Renewal Amendment for the Detention Center.

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

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Vrbka to authorize the Chairman to sign the yearly renewal with Advanced Correctional Healthcare for Medical Services at the Detention Center.

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

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Zabrocki to authorize the Chairman to sign the

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

The Commissioners discussed a Conservation Easement that was filed against the N ½ NE ¼ of Section 19, Township 11 Range 1 East of the 6th p.m. in the Register of Deeds office. Per state statute, a Conservation Easement needs to go before the Board of Commissioners first, who shall refer it to the Planning Commission for their recommendation, then come back before the Board of Commissioners for approval/denial.

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Zabrocki to refer a Conservation Easement that was filed against the N ½ NE ¼ of Section 19, Township 11 Range 1 East of the 6th p.m. to the Planning Commission for their recommendation.

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

Bob Dahms, County Treasurer, and Sherry Leising, Deputy County Treasurer, were present to discuss a change of fees for mailing out license plates.

Moved by Schmieding and seconded by Vrbka to approve the Treasurer's Office to change the fee for mailing license plates to \$4.50 for 1 license plate and \$5.50 for 2 license plates.

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

Carina Sanchez, HR Director was present to ask the Commissioners about a wage for the Interim E911 Director. She stated they are recommending around \$22.00 or 85% of the E911 Director position wage. Zabrocki stated he has been helping out a lead dispatcher who is currently working as the Interim E911 Director.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Vrbka to accept the HR Director's recommendation for a wage for the Interim E911 Director at \$22.40 effective October 19, 2021.

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

Commissioners Reports:

Commissioner Ahmic reported she attended a Seward County Chamber & Development Partnership meeting, worked on the comprehensive plan update, and worked on ARPA information.

Commissioner Vrbka reported he attended the Staplehurst and Utica Village Board meetings.

Commissioner Culver reported he attended the Safety Committee meeting.

Commissioner Schmieding reported he attended the Visitors Committee meeting and will attend the Region V meeting later in the week.

Commissioner Zabrocki reported he attended Broadband Task Force Committee meetings, attended the Four Corners Health District briefing, an EMS meeting, and a 4th of July Committee meeting. He also had a suggestion for the Planning Commission member.

The Commissioners discussed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds. They looked over a form that was suggested from NACO for those requesting ARPA funds. Ahmic suggested that the form should be used as a template, but make our own form with the information we feel is important. Culver stated he feels infrastructure should be a priority, followed by non-profits and county agencies. Ahmic will work on developing a form for us to use.

Barb Armstead, Deputy County Attorney, led discussion on two agreements she drafted for the Board to consider for those receiving county ARPA funds. She also suggested the Board appoint someone to monitor those that have been awarded funds including how and what they are using it for.

The Commissioners also discussed using ARPA funds for a conference room in the West Wing Annex for a Veterans Tele-Health/Tele-Counseling room, it being necessary to be a confidential area. A room would be cleared out and equipped for this use. The quote

for equipping this room is \$2,931.22. This expense will be considered at next week's meeting.

Other discussion on ARPA funds pertained to using ARPA funds for equipping the Commissioners Room for audio/visual.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Schmieding to expend \$6,848.00 for the purpose of buying an owl video conference device, docking station, screens and appropriate set up for the Commissioners' Room using ARPA funds.

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

Known items on the agenda for Board of Equalization on November 9, 2021 are as follows:

8:30 a.m.

1. Convene and announce Open Meetings Law
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Discuss/Action - Approve minutes of October 26, 2021
4. Discuss/Action – Assessor Information Update

Known items on the agenda for Board of Commissioners on November 9, 2021 are as follows:

9:00 a.m.

1. Convene and announce Open Meetings Law
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Discuss/Action - Approve minutes of November 2, 2021
4. Discuss/Action – Claims for the period through October 29, 2021

Other Business Matters to Address When Time Allows

5. Discuss/Action - Public/Officials/Boards
6. Commissioners Reports
7. Discuss/Action – Disbursement of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds
8. Discuss/Action – Equipping the Veteran's Tele-Health/Tele Counseling Room in the West Wing Annex Using ARPA Funds
9. Discuss/Action - Microphones for the Commissioners Room
10. Discuss/Action – Commissioner's District Restructuring due to 2020 Census
11. Discuss/Action – Agenda for November 16, 2021

9:45 a.m. Hearing/Findings of Facts-Development Permit to operate and construct a tower for Verizon Wireless on land owned by Galen & Julie Roebke in H Precinct in the NE ¼ of Section 30 Township 11 North Range 4 East of the 6th p.m.

Discuss/Action – Res. - Development Permit to operate and construct a tower for Verizon Wireless on land owned by Galen & Julie Roebke in H Precinct in the NE ¼ of Section 30 Township 11 North Range 4 East of the 6th p.m.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Schmieding to adjourn at 11:28 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 9th day of November 2021.

County Clerk

Chairperson