

November 24, 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 November 24, 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 November 24, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Chairperson: John Culver
Members: Misty Ahmic, Bob Vrbka, Ken Schmieding, Becky Paulsen
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 Vrbka and seconded by Schmieding to approve the minutes of November 10, 2020.

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Schmieding, Paulsen, Culver

Abstain: Ahmic as she was not in attendance at said meeting.

Motion Carried

Hladky explained to the Board information about the Tax List Corrections on the agenda.

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Paulsen to approve Tax List Corrections 319-18R, 320-19R and 321-19R.

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Paulsen, Schmieding, Ahmic, Culver

Motion Carried

Known items on the agenda for Board of Equalization on December 8, 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 November 24, 2020
4. Discuss/Action – Assessor Information Update

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Schmieding to adjourn at 8:43 a.m.

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Schmieding, Ahmic, 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 8th day of December 2020.

County Clerk

Chairperson

November 24, 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 November 24, 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 November 24, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Chairperson: John Culver
Members: Misty Ahmic, Bob Vrbka, Ken Schmieding, Becky Paulsen
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 Vrbka and seconded by Schmieding to approve the minutes of November 17, 2020.
Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Schmieding, Ahmic, Paulsen, Culver Motion Carried

Gary Petersen and Sherry Schweitzer gave an update on activities of their offices.

The Commissioners considered the Motorola Service agreement for 911. An invoice was received back in 2019 but was not paid. Andrew Matney, E911 Director, was present and will contact Motorola to see if they will send invoices showing the correct amount to pay.

Commissioners Reports:

Commissioner Ahmic reported she reached out to the Aging Services Director.

Commissioner Vrbka reported he has looked into right of way issues and also an issue of county roads that may be used for a development that may occur in York County, but adjacent to Seward County.

Commissioner Culver reported he attended a Blue Valley Community Action Committee meeting via Zoom, Safety Committee meeting, met with several officials, dealt with actions by other Board members, road issues and various correspondences.

Commissioner Schmieding reported he attended a SENDD meeting via Zoom.

Commissioner Paulsen reported her committees are meeting via Zoom and she dealt with interdepartmental problems.

The Commissioners talked about committee liaisons for new Commissioner Ahmic. After Commissioner Mundhenke passed away, the current Commissioners divided up his responsibilities. It was decided that for the current time, she would take over the committees and office liaisons of former Commissioner Mundhenke.

Under the "Change Commissioners Committee Liaisons" item on the agenda, Commissioner Paulsen requested that Commissioner Culver be removed as a member of the 911 Board Committee. No discussion on the issue was held at this time. The issue *may* be discussed later in the meeting.

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Ahmic to adopt Resolution No. 3546 in regard to authorizing the Chairman to sign the Year End Highway Supt. Certification for 2020.

RESOLUTION
SIGNING OF THE
YEAR-END CERTIFICATION OF COUNTY HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT
2020

Resolution No. 3546

Whereas: State of Nebraska Statutes, sections 39-2302, and 39-2501 through 39-2505 details the requirements that must be met in order for a county to qualify for an annual Incentive Payment; and

Whereas: The State of Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) requires that each county must annually certify (by December 31st of each year) the appointment of the County highway Superintendent to the NDOT using the Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent; and

Whereas: The NDOT requires that such certification shall also include a copy of the meeting minutes showing the appointment of the County Highway Superintendent by their name as it appears on their License (if applicable), their License Number and Class of License (if applicable), the type of appointment, i.e., employed or under contract (consultant, or interlocal agreement with another county and/or incorporated municipality), and the beginning date of the appointment; and

Whereas: The NDOT also requires that such Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent form shall be signed by the County Board Chairperson and shall include a copy of a resolution of the County Board authorizing the signing of the Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent form by the County Board Chairperson.

Be it resolved that the County Board Chairperson of SEWARD County is hereby authorized to sign the attached Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent form.

Adopted this 24th day of November, 2020 at Seward, Nebraska.

County Board Members:

Aye: Robert Vrbka, Misty Ahmic, Ken Schmieding, Becky Paulsen, John K. Culver

County Board Member Vrbka
Moved the adoption of said resolution
Member Ahmic Seconded the Motion
Roll Call: 5 Yes 0 No 0 Abstained 0 Absent
Resolution adopted, signed and billed as adopted

Attest: Sherry Schweitzer

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Ahmic, Paulsen, Schmieding, Culver

Motion Carried

Terry Wicht, Highway Supt., gave information about the requested change of the Seward County Snow Policy.

visibility is adequate and safe for machine operation or at the discretion of Highway Superintendent or Assistant Highway Superintendent. The goal is to obtain two-way traffic as soon as possible after snow removal operations have begun. This goal will be accomplished with expanded hours early or late, depending on snow amounts and wind.

Routes designated as Other Arterial and Collector roads will be plowed first with other areas or less traveled roads following.

Each operator will be furnished a map of their area showing the priority roads.

*Operator schedules will be adjusted as needed for initial snow removal. Expanded snow removal will primarily be done during normal working hours. Emergency plowing or sanding for Emergency Services and Utility Services will be done by the designate operator. Gravel roads will not be sanded or salted under any conditions. Hard surfaced roads will be sanded and/or salted in the following areas per storm as needed, or at the discretion of the Highway Superintendent or Assistant Highway Superintendent. Examples: curves, hills, stop signs, intersections, bridges.

Operators of snow equipment will have at least one meeting in September outlining their duties. They will be furnished a map of their area of responsibility along with a copy of the snow plan.

Affirmative Vote: Schmieding, Vrbka, Paulsen, Ahmic, Culver

Motion Carried

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Schmieding to adopt Resolution No. 3548 in regard to the Completion of the County Bridge Match Program Agreement.

RESOLUTION CERTIFYING PROPER COMPLETION OF PROJECT

Seward County
Resolution No. 3548

WHEREAS, Seward County and State entered into an agreement entitled "County Bridge Matching Program Agreement", for the structure numbers C008002905P the Project, Program Agreement number BL 1832 signed by State on the 17th day of April, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Seward County has now completed the construction of the Project that was identified in the Program Agreement; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution is to formally notify State of the proper completion of the Project according to the terms of the Program Agreement.

Be It Resolved: by the Board of Commissioners of Seward County:

1. The Project, for Structure No. C008001105, C008002905P has been properly constructed by County and its contractor, in accordance with the terms of the Program Agreement.
2. The bridge was constructed in strict compliance with
 - a) The plans and specifications including any State-approved change orders,
 - b) All applicable design standards, and
 - c) The conditions and requirements of the Program Agreement.
3. County understands that it is the owner of the bridge, and that it is solely responsible for the design, inspection, construction, reconstruction, repair, and operation of the bridge and roadway and is responsible for meeting any environmental or other post-construction permit or legal commitments applicable to the project
4. The project costs were fair, reasonable and necessary for the proper construction of the project.

NDOT Project Number: STWD-CBMP(1)

NDOT Control Number: 00974

NDOT LPA Control Number: 00974R

NDOT Project Name: County Bridge Match Program

Adopted this 24th day of November, 2020 at Seward Nebraska.

The Board of Commissioners of Seward County

Robert Vrbka

Misty Ahmic

Ken Schmieding

Becky Paulsen

John K. Culver

Board/Council Member Vrbka

Moved the adoption of said resolution

Member Schmieding Seconded the Motion

Roll Call: 5 Yes 0 No 0 Abstained 0 Absent

Resolution adopted, signed and billed as adopted

Attest: Sherry Schweitzer, County Clerk

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Schmieding, Ahmic, Paulsen, Culver

Motion Carried

Wicht gave information about his department activities. He reported information about gravel, culverts, equipment, box culvert issues, and right of way issues.

The Board discussed going into Executive Session. Questions arose about employee notification if the Executive Session is about that person.

Barb Armstead, Deputy County Attorney, asked that the Board recess so she could reach out to give answer to the question.

The Commissioners recessed at 10:10 a.m.

The Commissioners re-convened at 10:16 a.m.

The Commissioners discussed the offer of upkeep of abandoned cemeteries. Nolan Eickhoff had done work with the abandoned cemeteries as a 4-H Project and now contacted the Commissioners about taking continued care of them. It was discussed that some of the cemeteries have already been "adopted" by 4-H Clubs and the Road Dept. does perform upkeep with tree removal, etc. Commissioner Ahmic also said Girl Scout groups may want to take on a volunteer project also.

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Schmieding to send a letter to Nolan Eickhoff thanking him for his efforts but that there are plans already in place to deal with the upkeep of the abandoned cemeteries.

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Schmieding, Paulsen, Ahmic, Culver

Motion Carried

The Commissioners discussed the Executive Session listed on the agenda.

Wendy Elston, County Attorney, was present and explained information about an Executive Session.

Moved by Paulsen and seconded by Vrbka to go into Executive Session at 10:20 a.m. for personnel, it being necessary to protect the reputation of the individual(s).

Affirmative Vote: Paulsen, Vrbka, Ahmic, Schmieding

Voting No: Culver

Motion Carried

Jeff Baker, a member of the public, stated he objected to the motion and challenged the action of going into Executive Session.

Before going into Executive Session, Chairman Culver stated that the Executive Session is for personnel.

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Schmieding to go out of Executive Session at 11:34 a.m.

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Schmieding, Paulsen, Ahmic, Culver

The Chairman stated personnel was discussed and no action was taken.

The Commissioners discussed.

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Paulsen to accept the resignation of Brea Ehmen, HR Director, with regrets, effective December 1, 2020.

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Paulsen, Schmieding, Ahmic

Voting No: Culver

Motion Carried

Moved by Schmieding and seconded by Ahmic to authorize the Chairman to sign the audit letter for the 2019-2020 Audit.

Affirmative Vote: Schmieding, Ahmic, Paulsen, Vrbka, Culver

Motion Carried

The Commissioners discussed changing the Commissioner Committee Liaisons.

Moved by Paulsen to remove Commissioner Culver as a member of the 911 Board due to breach of confidentiality and mishandling of employees.

Motion died for lack of a second.

Known items on the agenda for Board of Commissioners on December 1, 2020 are as follows:

8:30 a.m.

1. Convene and announce Open Meetings Law
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Discuss/Action - Public/Officials/Boards
4. Discuss/Action – Approve minutes of November 20, 2020
5. Discuss/Action - Approve minutes of November 24, 2020

Other Business Matters to Address When Time Allows

6. Commissioners Reports
7. Discuss/Action – Res. – Short Form Plat to create Petri Addition in H Precinct located in part of the NE ¼ NW¼ of Section 18, T11N R4E
8. Discuss/Action – Agenda for December 8, 2020

9:15 a.m. Discuss/Action – Payment of Motorola Service Agreement for E911

Moved by Schmieding and seconded by Vrbka to adjourn at 11:42 a.m.

Affirmative Vote: Schmieding, Vrbka, Ahmic, 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 1st day of December 2020.

County Clerk

Chairman