

# October 5, 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 October 5, 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 October 5, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Vice Chairperson: Bob Vrbka

Members: Misty Ahmic, Ken Schmieding, Darrell Zabrocki

County Clerk: Sherry Schweitzer

Absent: Chairman: John Culver

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 during their monthly meeting with the Commissioners were: Kathy Ruzicka, Cara Kohel, Carrie Gottschalk, and Sherry Schweitzer.

Jonathan Jank, Executive Director of Seward County Chamber & Development Partnership (SCCDP), updated the Commissioners on activities of his organization.

Harrison Helmer, Executive Director of BRIDGES, updated the Commissioners on activities of his organization.

John Culver is present at 8:42 a.m.

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Zabrocki to approve the minutes of September 28, 2021.

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

### **Commissioners Reports:**

Commissioner Ahmic reported she did some work on ARPA funding, found information about audio/visual equipment called "the owl", participated in the Four Corners Health Dept. and SCCDP meetings, and received calls about abandoned cemeteries.

Commissioner Vrbka reported he continues to check roads and noted there were two pictures of the Courthouse at the County Fair that were given to him.

Commissioner Culver reported he dealt with emails, worked on Seward/Saline Solid Waste Management Agency work, and reported the Blue Valley Community Action office is now open.

Commissioner Schmieding reminded everybody about the President's reception for Concordia University and attended the Seward Tree Board and Park and Recreation Board for City of Seward.

Commissioner Zabrocki reported he went with the Highway Supt. on bridge inspections, went to Grand Island for an Emergency Manager meeting, and received correspondence from the City of Seward in regard to the Waverly Road Project.

Commissioner Ahmic led discussion on the audio/visual conferencing equipment for the Commissioners Room. She received estimates for the equipment, wiring, etc. She explained two different options ranging from approximately \$5,000-\$7,000. A demonstration will be requested of Nebraska Assn. of County Officials (NACO) who has the equipment.

Zane Francescato and Jonathan Jank of SCCDP were present and gave information about broadband in Seward County. He stated a village in Seward County received a grant to help with internet speed. Francescato stated there are funds from the Federal/State level available to help fund broadband problems in rural Nebraska. Jank stated that internet speed in most rural areas of the county is not what a resident is paying for. They request that a Task Force be formed to help with questions about broadband needs in Seward County. They ask that the Commissioners take the lead to get a task force started.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Ahmic to create the Rural Broadband Task Force and have Zane Francescato and Jonathan Jank as leaders of the group.

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

Leann Miller was present for the Seward Christmas Festival committee to request use of the courthouse grounds for the festival in November.

Moved by Ahmic and seconded by Schmieding to give permission to the Seward Christmas Festival committee to decorate the Christmas tree and place the Santa House on the North side of the Courthouse in the month of November and permit live reindeer, hold a Fruitcake Toss and allow access to the public restrooms in the Courthouse for the Christmas Festival on November 27, 2021.

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

Becky Paulsen, Weed/Zoning Administrator, presented two short form plats for the Commissioners' consideration.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Ahmic to adopt Resolution No. 3636 in regard to approving the short form plat to create Fiala Acres in A Precinct located in the NW ¼ of Section 29, Township 12 North Range 4 East of the 6th p.m.

### **RESOLUTION No. 3636 OF THE SEWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**WHEREAS**, Otter Bay Holdings LLC. has applied for a Short Form Plat Subdivision, and described as a tract of land in the Northwest ¼ of, Section 29, Township 12N, Range 4E, Seward County, Nebraska, and

**WHEREAS**, the subdivision shall be called FIALA ACRES SHORT FORM PLAT, and

**WHEREAS** The Seward County Planning Commission held a meeting on September 20th, 2021, to consider the Short Form Plat, and

**WHEREAS** the Planning Commission recommended approval of the

FIALA ACRES Short Form Plat with a vote of 6 For, 0 against, and 3 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  X , Deny \_\_\_\_\_ the FIALA ACRES Short Form Plat with Resolution NO:  3636 .

Moved by: Zabrocki                      Seconded by: Ahmic                      10/05/2021  
Ayes:  Darrell J. Zabrocki, Misty Ahmic, Ken Schmieding, Robert Vrbka,  
Chair of the Board,  John K. Culver  
Attest:  Sherry Schweitzer, Seward County Clerk

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

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Ahmic to adopt Resolution No. 3637 in regard to approving the short form plat to create Kouma Addition in B Precinct located in the NE ¼ of Section 20, Township 12 North Range 3 East of the 6th p.m.

### **RESOLUTION No. 3637 OF THE SEWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**WHEREAS** Sarah and Brian Kraus have applied for a Short Form Plat Subdivision, and described as a tract of land in the Northeast ¼ of, Section 20, Township 12N, Range 3E, Seward County, Nebraska, and

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

**WHEREAS** The Seward County Planning Commission held a meeting on September 20th, 2021, to consider the Short Form Plat, and

**WHEREAS** the Planning Commission recommended approval of the KOUMA ADDITION Short Form Plat with a vote of 6 For, 0 against, and 3 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  X , Deny \_\_\_\_\_ the KOUMA ADDITION Short Form Plat with Resolution NO:  3637 .

Moved by: Vrbka                      Seconded by: Ahmic                      10/05/2021  
Ayes:  Robert Vrbka, Misty Ahmic, Darrell J. Zabrocki, Ken Schmieding,  
Chair of the Board,  John K. Culver  
Attest:  Sherry Schweitzer, Seward County Clerk

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

The Commissioners recessed at 10:04 a.m.  
The Commissioners re-convened at 10:10 a.m.

Jerry Zieg, Village of Beaver Crossing Trustee, gave the Commissioners information about two Water/Sewer Projects the Village is anticipating and would like the Commissioners to help by obligating funds from the County ARPA Funds. Zieg was asked to bring back actual bids next week and the Commissioners will make a decision then.

Highway Supt., Terry Wicht and City of Seward Engineer, Mike Oneby brought a Change Order # 6 for the Waverly Road Project.

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Schmieding to authorize the Chairman to sign Change Order # 6 for the Waverly Road Project.

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

The Commissioners discussed disbursement of American Rescue Plan Act Funds. No one had heard anything from other communities about requesting ARPA funds. Ahmic stated she has been working on details for the proposed Premium Pay subject of using ARPA funds.

Sherry Schweitzer, County Clerk, reported on the Compliance and Reporting for ARPA item on the agenda. She stated she has been looking at the instructions for complying with requirements and noted that most counties are hiring a firm to complete the reports because they are so complex. Schweitzer stated that ARPA funds can be used for the cost. It was decided that the contract for a CPA firm be considered next week.

**Known items on the agenda for Board of Equalization on October 12, 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 September 28, 2021
4. Discuss/Action – Assessor Information Update

**Known items on the agenda for Board of Commissioners on October 12, 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 October 5, 2021
4. Discuss/Action –Claims for the period through October 1, 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 – Res. – Premium Pay for County Employees Using ARPA Funding
9. Discuss/Action – Agenda for October 19, 2021

9:15 a.m. Discuss/Action - Jerry Zieg/Village of Beaver Crossing – Request for American Rescue Plan Act Funds for Water and Sewer Project

Moved by Vrbka and seconded by Zabrocki to adjourn at 11:04 a.m.

Affirmative Vote: Vrbka, Zabrocki, Ahmic, Schmieding, 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 12<sup>th</sup> day of October 2021.

---

County Clerk

---

Chairperson