

October 30, 2018

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 October 30, 2018 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 30, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Chairperson: Roger E. Glawatz
Members: John Culver, Whitney Fleischman, Becky Paulsen
County Clerk: Sherry Schweitzer
Absent: Member: Gene Gausman

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 Fleischman and seconded by Culver to approve the minutes of October 23, 2018.

Affirmative Vote: Fleischman, Culver, Paulsen, Glawatz Motion Carried

Mike Janssen, Building and Grounds Supt., Casey Keim, Highway Supt., and Wendy Elston, County Attorney, updated the Commissioners on activities of their departments.

Commissioners Reports:

Commissioner Culver reported he attended the special claims meeting and dealt with various correspondences.

Commissioner Fleischman reported she visited with Ron Nissen, County Surveyor about a land problem near the Goehner Shop and dealt with various correspondences.

Commissioner Glawatz reported he met with the Public Defender, attended the Special Claims Meeting, Appreciation Luncheon, Candidates Night and dealt with various correspondences.

Commissioner Paulsen reported she is continuing to meet with various departments and assisted in giving out awards at the County Appreciation luncheon.

Culver led discussion on the Commissioner Room Remodel item on the agenda. He had obtained a quote for electrical work needed and he has contacted Ehlers Electronics in regard to the audio.

Fleischman led discussion on the Electronic Communications Policy. She stated that it received a lot of discussion during the Personnel Board meetings.

Moved by Fleischman and seconded by Paulsen to adopt the Electronic Communications and Information Systems Acceptance Use Policy per the recommendation of the Personnel Board.

Affirmative Vote: Fleischman, Paulsen, Culver, Glawatz Motion Carried

The Commissioners recessed at 9:20 a.m.
The Commissioners re-convened at 9:30 a.m.

Keim presented several documents for the Commissioners consideration.

Moved by Fleischman and seconded by Culver to authorize the Chairperson sign the SSAR Certification for submission to the State of Nebraska.

Affirmative Vote: Fleischman, Culver, Paulsen, Glawatz Motion Carried

Moved by Fleischman and seconded by Culver to approve the right of way request for Paula Wehling in the SE ¼ of Section 14 Township 10 North, Range 4 East of the 6th p.m.

Affirmative Vote: Fleischman, Culver, Paulsen, Glawatz Motion Carried

Moved by Fleischman and seconded by Culver to approve the right of way request for Briggs Trucking Co in the East road ditch of Section 30, Township 11 North, Range 3 East of the 6th p.m.

Affirmative Vote: Fleischman, Culver, Paulsen, Glawatz Motion Carried

Moved by Fleischman and seconded by Culver to approve the right of way request in the SE ¼ of Section 10 and the NE ¼ of Section 15 all in Township 11 North, Range 4 E

Affirmative Vote: Fleischman, Culver, Paulsen, Glawatz Motion Carried

The Commissioners recessed at 9:35 a.m.
The Commissioners re-convened at 9:45 a.m.

The agenda item of Transferring Supervision of the Zoning and Weed Dept. under the Authority of the Seward County Attorney was discussed. Becky Paulsen is the current administrator and newly appointed County Commissioner. Glawatz led discussion and stated he was very concerned about her holding both positions as this may create a conflict of interest. After meeting with the County Attorney, he said it was decided that having her position under another Elected Official's Supervision and removing her as an appointed official would be appropriate. A meeting between Glawatz, Elston and Culver informed Paulsen of his thoughts.

Becky Paulsen, recused herself from the Board and stated she was not prepared for the information given to her at the meeting. She read a prepared statement which described her duties, management of her office and reason for her not agreeing with the idea of taking her department head status away.

Commissioner Culver stated that he looks at the situation both ways, since he would be the one performing her evaluation. He said he isn't so sure the County Attorney's Office would be the best place to be supervised at as he is worried about the growth of the County Attorney's office.

Fleischman stated she wants what is in the best interest of the Board. It could cause a problem and feels it's a liability. She said perception is everything and changing this would be a way to make things clearer.

Glawatz said there is a conflict from being an employee and a Board member. He feels transparency is an issue. He feels it would be best for the county if the position was removed from the Board of Commissioners supervision.

Marilyn Hladky, County Assessor, made many statements about not treating Paulsen with fairness and that there hasn't been any transparency with this issue.

April Whitney also spoke against the idea of having the Zoning and Weed Dept. Administrator under the County Attorney's supervision.

Sherry Schweitzer, County Clerk, also made many statements against the idea of taking Paulsen's appointed position status away. She said the perception is that the two people who voiced concerns with Paulsen's appointment now want to take away her appointed position status and supervise her.

Maria Hatfield stated she did agree there may be a conflict, but didn't see why she can't stay a Dept. Head and be supervised by another department.

Many commented that they felt the Commissioners shouldn't be making this decision right before the election and while there is not a full board. (Commissioner Gausman is not in attendance for health reasons.)

Jeff Baker, Veteran's Service Office, also made remarks about the subject.

Glawatz stated that the subject will again be on the agenda in 3 weeks.

Known items on the agenda for Board of Equalization on November 13, 2018 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 23, 2018

Known items on the agenda for Board of Commissioners on November 13, 2018 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 26, 2018
4. Discuss/Action - Approve minutes of October 30, 2018

Other Business Matters to Address When Time Allows

5. Discuss/Action - Public/Officials/Boards
6. Commissioners Reports
7. Discuss/Action - Commissioner Room Remodel

9:15 a.m. Hearing – Conditional Use Permit to construct a new Verizon Tower located in M Precinct in the N ½ NW ¼ Section 14 T9N R1E

Discuss/Action - Resolution - Conditional Use Permit to construct a new Verizon Tower located in M Precinct in the N ½ NW ¼ Section 14 T9N R1E

9:20 a.m. Hearing – Rezone land from A-1 to TA-1 land in P Precinct in the S ½ SW ¼ Section 4, T9N R4E

Discuss/Action - Resolution - Rezone land from A-1 to TA-1 land in P Precinct in the S ½ SW ¼ Section 4, T9N R4E

9:30 a.m. Hearing – Rezone land from TA-1 to A-1 land in K Precinct in W ½ NW ¼ Section 18 T10N R2E

Discuss/Action – Resolution - Rezone land from TA-1 to A-1 land in K Precinct in W ½ NW ¼ Section 18 T10N R2E

10:00 a.m. Discuss/Action – Extension Office Finalized Renovation Plans

Discuss/Action – Extension Board Nominations

10:30 a.m. Discuss/Action – Deputy Public Defender Position

Moved by Fleischman and seconded by Culver to adjourn at 10:55 a.m.

Affirmative Vote: Fleischman, Culver, Glawatz

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 13th day of November, 2018.

County Clerk

Chairperson