

Bridgeport, Nebraska  
Tuesday, September 10, 2019

The Morrill County Board of Commissioners met in an open and public regular meeting at 7:30 A.M., Tuesday, September 10, 2019 in the Commissioners' room at the Courthouse. Chairperson Metz announced that the new Open Meetings Law was posted on the wall of the Commissioners' room. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Notice of such meeting have been published in the Bayard Transcript and the Bridgeport News-Blade on September 4, 2019. Copies of the Agenda, kept continuously current were available from the County Clerk's office and were e-mailed to each of the Commissioners on September 5, 2019. On roll call Commissioners Jeff Metz, Chairperson, Susanna Batterman and Greg Sterkel were present. Absent: None. Some of the elected and appointed officials were present. Kathleen L. Brandt, County Clerk, recorded the proceedings of the meeting.

Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Sterkel, to approve the Agenda, with the deletion of Transfer of Funds and approve the minutes of the August 27, 2019 meeting. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Correspondence was received and read.

The Commissioners reviewed the following claims:

#### GENERAL FUND

Allo Communication, Service, \$1,054.89; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp, Retirement, \$6,772.74; Applied Concepts Inc, Auto Lease & Radio Equip, \$3,319.52; Clint Bates, Phone, \$40.00; Black Hills Energy, Service, \$231.28; Bluff's Sanitary Supply, Inc, Supplies, \$254.32; Kathy Brandt, Phone, \$40.00; Bridgeport News-Blade, Publishing & Subscription, \$171.58; Capital Business Systems Inc, Data Processing Costs, \$137.72; Ismael Cardenas, Phone, \$40.00; Ismael Cardenas, Co Sheriff, Court Costs, \$330.81; Mike Cerney, Phone, \$40.00; City of Bridgeport, Service, \$3,849.10; Credit Management Services Inc, Garnishment, \$161.28; \$19.03; Culligan of Scottsbluff, Service, \$25.50; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, Teletype, \$448.00; Dept of Revenue, State Income Tax, \$5,661.40; Dollar General, Board of Prisoners, Laundry & Supplies, \$78.25; Rhett Dye, Phone, \$40.00; Audrey M. Elliott, Public Defender, \$2,550.00; Cheree Fisher, Phone, \$40.00; Daniel Flores, Phone, \$40.00; Galls LLC, Uniforms, \$18.15; Hometown Family Radio SB, Advertising, \$280.00; Steve Hutchinson, Contract Labor, \$720.00; Ideal Linen Supply, Service & Laundry, \$402.75; David Kleensang, Phone, \$40.00; Kacy Krakow, Mileage, \$111.36; Tim Marquez, Phone, \$40.00; Bobby Martinez, Phone, \$40.00; Lori McCoy, Phone, \$40.00; Jeff Metz, Phone, \$40.00; MIPS Inc, Data Processing Costs, \$2,572.71; Morrill County Community Hospital, Board of Prisoners, \$1,488.00; Morrill County Court, Court Costs, \$186.00; Morrill County Highway Dept, Fuel, \$154.44; Brian Moss, Data Processing Costs, \$1,500.00; NE Child Support Payment Center, Child Support, \$138.47; NE Total Office, Supplies & Furniture, \$803.97; Rose Nelson, Phone & Mileage, \$86.40; Platte Valley Bank, Federal Withholding, Social Security & Medicare, \$14,148.48; Regional Care Inc, Insurance, \$6,512.44; Jean Rhodes, Public Defender, \$1,957.08; Riverside Lumber LLC, Misc, \$35.00; Travis Rodak, Phone, \$180.00; Travis Rodak, Rent, \$600.00; Caroline Sanchez, Contract Labor, \$2,100.00; Julie Schildt, Phone, \$40.00; Sonny's Super Foods, Supplieess, \$14.10; Trail City Supply, Supplies, \$29.98; Transcript Gate LLC, Publishing, \$141.04; Ricky Trevino, Phone, \$40.00; U S Dept of Education, Garnishment, \$138.45; Veterans Information Service, Subscription, \$36.00; Jon Worthman, Public Defender, \$2,500.00; General Employees, Salaries, \$58,198.26.

#### ROAD/BRIDGE FUND

Allo Communications, Service, \$106.03; Ameritas Investment Corp, Retirement, \$2,871.43; Black Hills Energy, Service, \$334.53; Bomgaars Supply Inc, Repairs, Tools & Supplies, \$341.27; City of Bayard, Service, \$184.42; City of Bridgeport, Service, \$407.12; Dept of Revenue, State Income Tax, \$2,275.27; Dooley Oil Inc, Oil, \$1,050.00; Filter Care of NE, Repairs, \$24.00; Frenchman Valley Co-op, Fuel, \$12,688.16; Heigel's Field Service, Repairs, \$1,518.25; Hireright Solutions, Testing Fees, \$112.14; Ideal Linen Supply, Supplies, \$95.72; Koke's Auto Farm Truck, Supplies & Repairs, \$345.08; Lee's Service Inc, Tires, \$255.50; NE Child Support Payment Center, Child Support, \$252.93; NE Total Office, Supplies, \$43.11; Platte Valley Bank, Federal Withholding, Social Security & Medicare, \$5,770.02; Pro Overhead Door Inc, Repairs, \$427.80; R & C Welding Fab Trucking & Crane, Repairs, \$1,353.20; Red

Barn Shop LLC, Repairs, \$885.00; Rocky Mountain Air Solutions, Supplies, \$48.65; Trail City Supply, Supplies, \$84.93; Village of Broadwater, Service, \$92.28; Wickard Heating & Plumbing Inc, Repairs, \$87.20; 21<sup>st</sup> Century Equip Inc, Repairs, \$264.34; Road Employees, Salaries, \$25,523.97.

HEALTH INSURANCE FUND

Morrill County Health Fund, Health Claims, \$97,988.44.

HANDYMAN FUND

Joann Callan, Service, \$60.00; Garland Crouse, Service, \$50.00; Dawn P. Daniels, Service, \$245.00; Bernardo Garcia, Service, \$517.50; Andrew Leisy, Service, \$1,795.00; Pamela S. Loomis, Service, \$120.00; Debra Mason, Service, \$522.50; Adam Ouderkirk, Service, \$560.00; Alan Ouderkirk, Service, \$405.00; Bryan Lee Schluterbusch, Service, \$100.00.

911 FUND

Century Link, Service, \$53.29.

W911 FUND

Century Link, Service, \$215.85.

Motion was made by Sterkel, seconded by Batterman, that the above claims be approved and checks drawn on the various funds, delinquent personal property taxes deducted where owing. Yeas: Sterkel, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Board of Equalization

See separate minutes for Board of Equalization.

Milo Cardenas, County Sheriff, presented the resolution to transfer W911 monies back to the General Fund, to correct an error made by the Public Service Commission. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Sterkel, to approve the transfer and to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #2019-29  
TRANSFER OF FUNDS

WHEREAS, the W911 Fund monies were transferred to the General Fund on August 13, 2019 by Resolution #2019-26. The Public Service Commission had instructed the PSAP to make an adjustment which caused the incorrect amount to be transferred. In order to correct the amount the Morrill County Board of Commissioners orders the County Treasurer to transfer the funds from the General Fund back to the W911 Fund in the amount of \$1,274.38.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2019.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/Jeff Metz  
Chairperson

/s/Susanna Batterman  
Board Member

/s/Greg Sterkel  
Board Member

(S E A L)

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt  
County Clerk

Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried. Cardenas had some numbers from WING for entire Panhandle. The Board asked him to present these at the next meeting and they will decide on an amount to give to WING.

Joanie Dudden, Deputy County Treasurer, reported that on Wednesday, September 25, 2019, the Treasurer’s office will close at 11:30 so that MIPS can switch the county over to the new system.

A letter from Nebraska Forest Service asking Morrill County to sign for the Northeast portion of Morrill County for collaboration on the 2019 Western Sandhills Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). The Counties are Arthur, eastern Cheyenne, Deuel, Grant, Hooker, McPherson and northeast Morrill. Sterkel called Ron Leal, Emergency Manager, and he said there is no cost, just simply needs the signature. Motion was made by Sterkel, seconded by Batterman, to approve and sign the document for CWPP. Yeas: Sterkel, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Chairperson Metz presented an e-mail asking that Chelsea Sterkel be appointed to the Fair Board. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Sterkel, to appoint Chelsea Sterkel to the Fair Board. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Chairperson Metz opened the Public Hearing for the 2019-2020 Budget at 8:30 A.M. There being no public comment, Chairperson Metz closed the Public Hearing at 8:38 A.M. Motion was made by Sterkel, seconded by Batterman, to adopt the 2019-2020 Budget and to increase the restricted funds by 1% and to set the Morrill County Levy at .335278 which is different from the 2018-2019 levy of .349396 and to adopt the following resolutions:

**RESOLUTION 2019-30**  
**MORRILL COUNTY BUDGET DOCUMENT**  
**RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION AND APPROPRIATIONS**

WHEREAS, A proposed County Budget for the Fiscal year of July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, prepared by the Budget Making Authority, was transmitted to the Morrill County Board of Commissioners on or about the 1st day of August, 2019;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Morrill County, Nebraska as follows:

SECTION 1. That the budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, as categorically evidenced by the Budget Document be, and the same hereby is adopted as the Budget for Morrill County for said fiscal year.

SECTION 2. That the offices, departments, activities and institutions herein named are hereby authorized to expend the amounts herein appropriated to them during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, and ending June 30, 2020.

SECTION 3. That the income necessary to finance the appropriations made and expenditures authorized shall be provided out of the unencumbered cash balance in each fund, revenues other than taxation to be collected during the fiscal year in each fund, and tax levy requirements for each fund.

Dated this 10th day of September, 2019.

MORRILL COUNTY NEBRASKA  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/Jeff Metz  
Chairman

/s/Susanna Batterman  
Board Member

/s/Greg Sterkel  
Board Member

(S E A L)

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt  
Morrill County Clerk

**RESOLUTION 2019-31**  
**ALLOWABLE INCREASE OF RESTRICTED FUNDS (1%)**

WHEREAS Nebraska Revised Statute 13-519 provides that no governmental unit shall adopt a budget containing a total of budgeted restricted funds more than last prior year's total of budgeted restricted funds plus allowable growth and plus the basic allowable growth percentage of the base limitation; and

WHEREAS the base limitation established under section 77-3446 is two and one-half percent; and

WHEREAS a governmental unit may exceed the limit provided for a fiscal year, by up to an additional one percent, based on the affirmative vote of at least seventy-five percent of the governing body.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, the Morrill County Board of Commissioners, by a majority affirmative vote exceeding 75 percent, resolves to approve an additional one percent increase to the base amount for restricted funds authority; for a total increase of three and one-half percent in the restricted funds authority for Fiscal Year 2019-2020.

On a roll call vote,        3    Ayes and    0    Nays.

Dated this 10th day of September, 2019.

**MORRILL COUNTY NEBRASKA**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

/s/Jeff Metz

Chairman

/s/Susanna Batterman

Board Member

(S E A L)

/s/Greg Sterkel

Board Member

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt

Morrill County Clerk

**RESOLUTION 2019-32**  
**PROPERTY TAX REQUEST 2019-2020**

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised statute 77-1601.02 provides that the property tax request for the prior year shall be the property tax request of the current year for purposes of the levy set by the County Board of Equalization unless the Governing body passes by a majority vote a resolution setting the property tax request at a different amount; and

WHEREAS, this action can only be taken after a special public hearing required to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax, and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of Morrill County that the property tax request for the current year be a different amount than the property tax request for the prior year.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the property tax request be set as follows for each Morrill County Fund which directly receives property taxes as all or a portion of its revenue.

1. The 2019-2020 tax rate be set at .335278 which is different than the 2018-2019 tax rate of .349396.

- 2. The 2019-2020 property tax request for the General Fund be set at \$3,477,875.00 which is different than the 2018-2019 property tax asking of \$3,626,330.00.
- 3. The 2019-2020 property tax request for the Building Fund be set at \$.00 which is different than the 2018-2019 property tax asking of \$76,270.00.
- 4. The 2019-2020 property tax request for the Hospital Bond Fund be set at \$256,953.00 which is different than the 2018-2019 property tax asking of \$77,200.00.

Dated this 10th day of September, 2019.

MORRILL COUNTY NEBRASKA  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/Jeff Metz  
Chairman

/s/Susanna Batterman  
Board Member

/s/Greg Sterkel  
Board Member

(S E A L)

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt  
Morrill County Clerk

MORRILL COUNTY  
RESOLUTION 2019-33  
AUTHORIZATION/REAUTHORIZATION OF PETTY CASH FUNDS

WHEREAS: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 23-106(2) (Reissue 2007) authorizes the Morrill County Board of Commissioners to establish Petty Cash Funds, and

WHEREAS: That statute requires that the Morrill County Board of Commissioners set the amount of money to be carried in such petty cash funds, and

WHEREAS: That statute also requires that the Morrill County Board of Commissioners also set the dollar limit of an expenditure from petty cash funds.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT

- 1. The Morrill County Board authorizes/reauthorizes the following Petty Cash Funds and lists the amount to be carried in each fund and the dollar limit of an expenditure from each fund as follows:

Petty Cash Fund	Amount to carry in Fund	Dollar Limit of Expenditure from Fund
Clerk	\$100.00	\$100.00
Clerk of District Court	\$100.00	\$100.00
Veteran's Aid	\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00
Health Insurance	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
County Court Magistrate	\$75.00	\$75.00

Dated this 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2019

**MORRILL COUNTY NEBRASKA  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

/s/Jeff Metz  
Chairman

/s/Susanna Batterman  
Board Member

/s/Greg Sterkel  
Board Member

(S E A L)

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt  
Morrill County Clerk

Yeas: Sterkel, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried. The complete budget document is on file at the County Clerk’s office.

The Board met with Andrea Graham and Rex Leisy regarding Road 99. Graham said the oil part of that road has traffic going too fast and there are sometimes children and animals on that road. Leisy said the road is heavily traveled and they would like a road study to see if the traffic could be slowed down on the curve. Hoerler said he could do the road study without having to hire an engineer. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Sterkel, to order a speed study on Road 99. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Bryan Hoerler, County Highway Superintendent, met with the Board to report on the disaster and that they have finished all of the sites and FEMA is getting thing all done. Tye Wallesen came into the meeting to discuss his road and what could be done. Hoerler said that road is part of the FEMA project and will be fixed. Hoerler also reported on the damage from the hail storm in Broadwater and the damage to his pickup was over \$9,000. The Board said that possibly he should have a minimum amount fixed and put that pickup in Bayard and be looking for another for himself. He said that David Zwirn will do the repairs to the buildings in Broadwater for \$1,401.00.

The Board reported they had not attended any meetings.

Sara Paisley and Jackie Guzman, from the Extension office, reported on the Fair. Guzman said she is looking into an interlocal agreement with UNL for paying her office manager. Travis Rodak, County Attorney, said that Box Butte and Sioux counties have done that.

There being no further discussion, Chairperson Metz adjourned the meeting at 9:25 A.M. Next meeting will be Tuesday, September 24, 2019.

/s/Jeff Metz,Chairperson

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt,County Clerk

**Board of Equalization**  
Tuesday, September 10, 2019

The Morrill County Board of Equalization met in an open and public regular meeting at 7:42 A.M., Tuesday, September 10, 2019 in the Commissioners' room at the Courthouse. Chairperson Metz announced that the new Open Meetings Law was posted on the wall of the Commissioners' room. Notice of such meeting have been published in the Bayard Transcript and the Bridgeport News-Blade on September 4, 2019. Copies of the Agenda, kept continuously current were available from the County Clerk's office and were e-mailed to each of the Commissioners on September 5, 2019. On roll call Commissioners Jeff Metz, Chairperson, Susanna Batterman and Greg Sterkel were present. Absent: None. Rose Nelson, County Assessor, was present. Kathleen L. Brandt, County Clerk, recorded the proceedings of the meeting.

Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Sterkel, to enter into Board of Equalization, according to Ne. Statute #77-1233.04(6) at 7:42 A.M. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding the TERC appeal from Meadowview Apartments. It had been lowered from \$485,000 to \$439,000 and Rose Nelson, County Assessor, said after being shown their income statements, she could lower it more. Travis Rodak, County Attorney, questioned why every rental property could be lowered then with income statements. Nelson said it is commercial property and is based on income. Nelson told the Board that they could back their value and she will back hers. They discussed the value of The Neighborhood. The Board asked Rodak to check on other apartments in the state that are like Meadowview.

Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Sterkel, to return to regular session at 8:01 A.M. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

/s/Jeff Metz \_\_\_\_\_, Chairperson

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt \_\_\_\_\_, County Clerk