

Bridgeport, Nebraska
Tuesday, November 24, 2020

The Morrill County Board of Commissioners met in an open and public regular meeting at 7:30 A.M., Tuesday, November 24, 2020 in the Commissioners' room at the Courthouse. Chairperson Metz announced that the Open Meetings Law was posted on the wall. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Notice of such meeting having been published in the Bridgeport News-Blade and the Bayard Transcript on November 18, 2020. Copies of the Agenda, kept continuously current, were available from the County Clerk's office and were e-mailed to each of the Commissioners November 19, 2020. On roll call Commissioners Jeff Metz, Chairman, Susanna Batterman and Greg Sterkel were present. Absent: None. Some of the Elected and appointed Officials were also present. Josh Schmidt, Commissioner Elect was 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 Board of Equalization and Transfers and the addition of possible purchase of medical transportation and the minutes of the November 10, 2020 meeting. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Abstained: Batterman. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Correspondence was received and read.

The Commissioners reviewed the following claims:

GENERAL FUND

Action Communications Inc, Equip, \$162.00; Alarm Security Technicians, Law Enforcement Supplies, \$135.00; American Family Life Insurance, Insurance, \$843.28; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp, Retirement, \$7,362.24; Bayard Automotive LLC, Repairs, \$239.07; Bob Benton, Furniture, \$222.00; Black Hills Energy, Service, \$516.10; Capital Business Systems Inc, Data Processing Costs & Equip, \$3,753.85; Cenex Fleetcard, Fuel, \$862.44; Century Business Products, Equip, \$40.08; Century Link, Service, \$80.76; Charter Communications, Service, \$314.10; City of Bridgeport, Service, \$2,023.26; Colonial Life Insurance, Insurance, \$322.11; CVSOAN, Dues, \$60.00; Mandy M. Dalimata, Phone, \$25.00; DAS State Accounting, Data Processing Costs, \$69.88; Dept of Revenue, State Income Tax, \$4,128.57; Nancy Eichthaler, Phone, \$40.00; Jack's Uniforms & Equip, Uniforms, \$273.79; Lussetto Machine Inc, Repairs, \$107.15; Miller Powersports LLC, Util Vehicle, \$13,500.00; Morrill County Health Plan, Emp Share, \$2,377.78; Morrill County Health Plan, Insurance, \$35,824.89; Morrill County Highway Dept, Garbage & Phone, \$75.00; NACVSO, Dues, \$100.00; NE Supreme Court, Subscription, \$53.15; Panhandle Collections Inc, Garnishment, \$152.08; Panhandle Coop, Repairs, \$114.08; Platte Valley Bank, HSA Accts, \$1,880.83; Platte Valley Bank, Federal Withholding, Social Security & Medicare, \$14,173.94; Regional Care Inc, Health Insurance, \$27,076.30; Jared Reynolds, Contract Labor, \$500.00; Katlyn Rosas, Travel Exp & Supplies, \$121.89; Saunders County Sheriff, Law Enforcement Costs, \$49.46; Sonny's Super Foods, Board of Prisoners, Supplies & Medical-Prisoners, \$244.33; Staples Credit Plan, Supplies, \$234.77; Transcript Gate Llc, Subscription, \$20.00; U S Bank, Data Processing Costs & Equip, Supplies, Autopsy, Phone & Misc, \$2,795.22; Valley Tire & Service LLC, Mileage, \$13.26; Wex Bank, Fuel, \$1,244.82; Xerox Financial Service, Equip Rental, \$302.43; XESI Document Solutions, Equip Rental, \$128.02; General Employees, Salaries, \$63,189.64.

ROAD/BRIDGE FUND

American Family Life Insurance, Insurance, \$293.90; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp, Retirement, \$3,358.53; Bar-Nine Prospects LLC, Gravel, \$3,158.00; Bayard Automotive LLC, Repairs & Tires, \$1,765.62; Dana Cadwallader, Phone \$40.00; Century Link, Service, \$91.18; Charter Communications, Service, \$99.98; Colonial Life Insurance, Insurance, \$76.14; Bob Crable d/b/a R C Repair, Repairs, \$2,310.44; Ray Cranmore, Gravel, \$2,135.00; Dept. of Revenue, State Income Tax, \$1,603.05; Dooley Oil Inc, Oil, \$2,768.73; Fastenal Co, Supplies, \$160.94; Frank Parts Co, Tools & Repairs, \$380.93; Ron Franklin, Phone, \$40.00; Frenchman Valley Coop, Fuel, \$7,053.35; Gooder Trucking LLC, Gravel, \$9,205.91; Heigel's Field Service, Repairs, \$3,770.50; Harry W. Henkel, Gravel, \$4,899.00; Bryan Hoerler, Phone, \$40.00; Ideal/Bluffs Facility Solutions, Suppies, \$155.16; Inland Truck Parts & Service, Repairs, \$463.30; Lee's Service Inc, Tires, \$346.85; Mike Linch, Gravel & Phone, \$2,110.00; Mark T. Livingston, Gravel, \$290.00; Morrill County Health Plan, Emp Share, \$1,396.85; Morrill County Health Plan, Health Insurance, \$19,922.68; NE Child Support, Child Support, \$252.93; \$222.00;

NE Public Power Dist, Service, \$68.31; New Pig Corp, Supplies, \$444.18; NMC Exchange LLC, Repairs, \$11,238.59; Panhandle Coop, Tires, \$6,284.13; Platte Valley Bank, HSA Accts, \$497.50; Platte Valley Bank, Federal Withholding, Social Security & Medicare, \$6,104.32; Mary Pohl, Gravel, \$3,925.00; Red Barn Shop LLC, Repairs, \$175.00; Regional Care Inc, Health Insurance, \$15,041.33; Rocky Mountain Air Solutions, Supplies, \$479.90; Pat Wright, Gravel, \$940.00; Road Employees, Salaries, \$29,853.82.

VISITORS PROMOTION FUND

John W. Berg, Meals, \$11.32; Hale Multimedia, Advertising, \$280.00; Kimball County Treasurer, Advertising, \$1,500.00.

HANDYMAN FUND

Morrill County Highway Dept, Phone, \$25.00.

W911 EMERGENCY FUND

Century Link, Service, \$182.05; Century Link Business Services, Service, \$69.46.

911 EMERGENCY FUND

Century Link, Service, \$447.65; Century Link Business Services, Misc, \$464.88.

HOSPITAL BOND FUND

BOK Financial Corp Trust Services, Bond Pmt, \$167,508.36.

COUNTY BUILDING FUND

Katlyn Rosas, Paint & Supplies, \$311.62.

Motion was made by Sterkel, seconded by Batterman, that the above claims, after having been examined by the Commissioners, 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

No minutes for Board of Equalization.

The following 2020 monthly reports were received, reviewed and placed on file: October- I Cardenas, Co Sheriff, J Schildt, Clk of Dist Ct, K Brandt, Co Clk and L McCoy, Co Treas.

The October minutes of the Morrill/Scotts Bluff County Extension meeting were received, reviewed and placed on file.

Robin Stuart, Hospital Administrator, and Frank Lussetto, Chairman of Hospital Board, were present. Stuart presented the October Financials. She reported that 520 people were tested for Covid in October. She said the machine is 98% accurate. She said they will have a full time Orthopedist after the first of the year. Stuart & Lussetto discussed the age of the ambulances that they purchased back when the hospital took over the transporting of patients. Stuart said there are funds available from the COVID Funds for ambulances and that they are looking to purchase two. Robin said their auditors said this should be covered. They discussed the purchasing of two with 4-Wheel drive because of the places where they sometime have to pick people up and also because of the snow. Metz said he suggested that the county take money out of the Inheritance Fund for the purchase and if the hospital receives the COVID Funds, it will be put back into the Inheritance Fund or the hospital will reimburse if COVID funds are not available. Motion was made by Sterkel, seconded by Batterman, to provide the money in the amount of \$244,000 from the Inheritance Fund for the purchase of ambulances and to reimburse the Fund when COVID funds are obtained or hospital repays. Yeas: Sterkel, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Susanna Batterman, Commissioner, addressed the letter that Robin had written regarding the staff at the hospital being impacted by the COVID, either because of more patients or being exposed themselves and quarantined. Batterman said she had Panhandle Health was encouraging counties to support the guidelines out there. Metz said counties cannot mandate masks, that cities can and the Governor can, but it is not the county's responsibility. Stuart said they are not asking

for mask mandates, they just want the public to be aware and to respect the health care workers and that each individual is responsible for their own well-being. She and Lussetto both commented on how taxing this has been on the health care workers across the nation. The Board agreed that they respect and commend the health care workers and appreciate what they are doing.

Loretta McCoy, County Treasurer, presented the Distress Warrants that were issued November 2, 2020. There were 111 issued, but two paid before the Sheriff had to contact them, so 109 for a total of \$53,788.52. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Sterkel, to approve and sign the Distress Warrant report. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Kathy Brandt, County Clerk, presented the Resolution and Certification from the Nebraska Department of Transportation, certifying that Hoerler was appointed and continues to serve for the year 2020 as Highway Superintendent. Brandt says this guarantees that the county will receive their Incentive Payment in February. Motion was made by Sterkel, seconded by Batterman, to approve the Chairman to sign the certification and to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #2020-50
SIGNING OF THE YEAR-END CERTIFICATION OF COUNTY HIGHWAY
SUPERINTENDENT 2020

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 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 MORRILL County is hereby authorized to sign the attached Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent form.

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

County Board Members

/s/Jeff Metz

/s/Susanna Batterman

/s/Greg Sterkel

Attest:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt
County Clerk

Yeas: Sterkel, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Board reported on meetings they had attended. Sterkel reported on the 4-day meeting and training with Region 21. Batterman said her meeting by zoom had not enough attending for a quorum.

There being no further discussion, Chairperson Metz adjourned the meeting at 8:47 A.M.
The next meeting will be Tuesday, December 8, 2020.

/s/Jeff Metz,Chairperson

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt,County Clerk