

Bridgeport, Nebraska
Monday, December 9, 2019

The Morrill County Board of Commissioners met in an open and public regular meeting at 7:30 A.M., Monday, December 9, 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 December 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 December 5, 2019. On roll call Commissioners Jeff Metz, Chairperson, Susanna Batterman and Greg Sterkel, arriving late, 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 Weed reports and the addition of a Resolution for Declaration of Disaster, and approve the minutes of the November 26, 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, \$1,048.04; American Family Life Insurance, Insurance, \$644.58; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp, Retirement, \$7,109.35; Clint Bates, Phone, \$40.00; Black Hills Energy, Service, \$1,273.40; Kathy Brandt, Phone, \$40.00; Capital Business Systems Inc, Data Processing Costs, \$137.72; Ismael Cardenas, Phone, \$40.00; Ismael Cardenas, Co Sheriff, Court Costs, \$381.94; Mike Cerney, Phone, \$40.00; City of Bridgeport, Service, \$113.08; Colonial Life Insurance, Insurance, \$381.44; Credit Management Services Inc, Garnishment, \$19.03; Culligan of Scottsbluff, Service, \$25.50; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, Teletype, \$448.00; Dollar General, Board of Prisoners, Laundry, Medical-Prisoners & Supplies, \$82.50; Rhett Dye, Phone, \$40.00; Cheree Fisher, Phone, \$40.00; Daniel Flores, Phone, \$40.00; Ideal Linen Supply, Service, \$123.66; David Kleensang, Phone, \$40.00; 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; Moneywise Office Supply, Supplies, \$4.19; Morrill County Community Hospital, Board of Prisoners, \$1,990.00; Morrill County Court, Court Costs, \$316.00; Morrill County Health Plan, Emp Share, \$2,475.86; Morrill County Highway Dept, Fuel, \$135.72; Brian Moss, Data Processing Costs, \$1,500.00; NACO, Dues, \$1,423.48; NE Child Support Payment Center, Child Support, \$138.47; NE Dept of Revenue, Garnishment, \$50.00; Rose Nelson, Phone, \$40.00; Platte Valley Bank, HSA Accts, \$1,976.65; Platte Valley Bank, Federal Withholding, Social Security & Medicare, \$13,590.72; Postmaster, Box Rent, \$76.00; Jean Rhodes, Public Defender, \$1,957.08; Travis Rodak, Phone, Box Rent & Dues, \$576.00; Travis Rodak, Rent, \$600.00; Samples Dean Law LLC, Court Appointed Counsel, \$637.45; Caroline Sanchez, Contract Labor, \$2,100.00; Julie Schildt, Phone, \$40.00; Scotts Bluff County Sheriff's Dept, Law Enforcement Costs, \$8.44; Sonny's Super Foods, Medical-Prisoners & Supplies, \$27.77; Trail City Supply, Supplies & Repairs, \$212.36; Ricky Trevino, Phone, \$40.00; U S Dept of Education, Garnishment, \$138.45; Watchguard Video, Law Enforcement Costs, \$5,020.00; Jon Worthman, Public Defender, \$2,500.00; General Employees, Salaries, \$60,119.52.

ROAD/BRIDGE FUND

Allo Communications, Service, \$106.26; American Family Life Insurance, Insurance, \$272.84; Ameritas Investment Corp, Retirement, \$3,053.08; Black Hills Energy, Service, \$2,873.46; Bomgaars Supply Inc, Repairs & Supplies, \$194.60; Bridgeport News-Blade, Publishing & Subscription, \$60.80; Century Link, Service, \$85.33; City of Bayard, Service, \$676.84; City of Bridgeport, Service, \$365.81; Colonial Life Insurance, Insurance, \$76.14; Frenchman Valley Co-op, Fuel, \$17,261.13; Morrill County Health Plan, Employee Share, \$1,320.64; NE Child Support Payment Center, Child Support, \$252.93; \$222.00; Platte Valley Bank, HSA Accts, \$1,450.00; Platte Valley Bank, Federal Withholding, Social Security & Medicare, \$5,398.81; Rocky Mountain Air Solutions, Supplies, \$125.37; Staples Credit Plan, Supplies, \$110.48; Road Employees, Salaries, \$27,138.38.

HIGHWAY/BRIDGE BUYBACK FUND

BNSF Railway Co, Project, \$13.30; Gary Wagoner, Autogate Boxes, \$17,625.10.

HEALTH INSURANCE FUND

Morrill County Health Fund, Claims, \$76,361.63.

HANDYMAN FUND

Perfecto F. Garcia, Service, \$222.50; Andrew Leisy, Service, \$360.00; Debra Mason, Service, \$495.00; Lloyd Schultz, Service, 30.00.

911 FUND

Century Link, Service, \$101.37.

W911 FUND

Century Link, Service, \$435.68; GeoComm Inc, Supplies, \$736.00.

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.

A letter of resignation from the Morrill County Fair Board was received from Amber Malcolm. Motion was made by Sterkel, seconded by Batterman, to accept Malcolm’s resignation and would like to thank her for her service. Yeas: Sterkel, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried. Metz said that the recommendation had been made to appoint Cary Leithead to fill her position. Motion was made by Sterkel, seconded by Batterman, to appoint Cary Leithead to the Morrill County Fair Board. Yeas: Sterkel, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Loretta McCoy, County Treasurer, presented a resolution to transfer money from the General Fund to the Hospital Bond fund. McCoy explained that the payment is due before the tax money comes into that fund and that next year with the addition to the budget we should be ahead. Motion was made by Sterkel, seconded by Batterman, to approve the transfer and to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #2019-43
TRANSFER OF FUNDS

WHEREAS, the General Fund monies were needed for the Hospital Bond Fund, the Morrill County Board of Commissioners orders the County Treasurer to transfer the funds from the General Fund in the amount of \$50,000.00 into the Hospital Bond Fund. This money will be paid back when the taxes are collected for the Bond Fund.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 9th day of December, 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: Sterkel, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Travis Rodak, County Attorney, presented a Service Animal Policy for the County. It would establish a policy for allowing only Service dogs that are trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, into the Courthouse. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Sterkel, to adopt the policy for the County. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried. A copy of the policy will be on the bulletin board at the courthouse and on file in the County Clerk's Office.

Ron Leal, Region 21 Emergency Manager, had asked that Morrill County declare a disaster from the storm on November, 30, 2019. Motion was made by Sterkel, seconded by Batterman, to declare the storm of November 30, 2019 as a disaster and adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #2019-44
DECLARATION OF DISASTER

Morrill County, Nebraska has suffered from a severe winter storm that occurred on November 30, 2019 causing severe damage to public and private property, disruption of utility service and endangerment of health and safety of the citizens of Morrill County within the disaster area.

Therefore, the Chairman of the Morrill County Board of Commissioners of Morrill County, Nebraska has declared a State of Emergency authorized under Nebraska State Statute R.R. 81-829-50 on behalf of Morrill County and will execute for and on behalf of Morrill County the expenditure of emergency funds from all available sources, the invoking of mutual aid agreements and the applying to the State of Nebraska, for assistance from the Governor's Emergency Fund and any other resources he deems necessary in the fulfillment of his duties.

MORRILL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/Jeff Metz

Chairman

(S E A L)

WITNESS my hand and the Seal of my office, this 9th day of December, 2019.

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt

Morrill County Clerk

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

Bryan Hoerler, County Highway Superintendent, met with the Board to discuss the FEMA and NEMA money that we should be getting. He said the areas are for Bayard, Bridgeport and Broadwater. He said that we have received the FEMA money for Broadwater in the amount of \$35,280.56 and should be getting NEMA money in the amount of \$11,760.18. He said the Bridgeport amount totals \$220,113.15 and Bayard will be \$100,000.00. Metz said several people had commented on being thankful that the road crews were out on Sunday all day working.

The Board reported on meetings they had attended. Sterkel reported on the Safety Meeting and Milo Cardenas, County Sheriff, reported on the report from NIRMA from Tim Baxter and the safety review. Cardenas said the report should be discussed in Executive session because of Safety sensitivity. Batterman reported that she will have a meeting with Region I this week regarding the Panhandle Health District's purchase of their downtown office. Metz said he had attended the CAPWN meeting and they received a good audit.

Bryan Hoerler, County Highway Superintendent, opened the bids for fuel at 8:30 A.M. There were two fuel bids, one from Panhandle Co-op and one from Frenchman Valley Co-op. Stacey Daily from Frenchman Valley was present. The bid from Panhandle Co-op was \$2.199 per gallon for both Unleaded Gasoline and Premium Diesel Fuel, plus a \$.05 per gallon for winter additive or \$.35 per gallon up charge. The price contains the .297 Ne State Road Tax and "0" Federal Tax. Prices could increase or decrease with State tax change. The bid from Frenchman Valley Co-op was for \$2.37 for Unleaded Gasoline and \$1.89 for Premium Diesel Fuel and \$.10 per gallon for winter additive. The prices also include NE State Road Tax and "0" Fed Tax. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Sterkel, to award the bid for fuel to Frenchman Valley Coop. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the salary for the Clerk of the District Court for 2021-2024. Julie Schildt, Clerk of the District Court, said that the judge wants her to train on using the portal to help with the judge's workload. Metz said that he talked to the judge and that she said that people in Morrill County need access to the Justice system. Metz said he had talked to Schildt earlier about the court. Schildt said she had 50 Civil cases this year and 20 Criminal cases. The Board will table this until the next meeting.

Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Metz, to enter in Executive Session, according to Ne. Statute #84-1410(a) at 8:50 A.M., for the protection of public interest. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried. The Board asked that Travis Rodak, County Attorney, and Milo Cardenas, County Sheriff, remain. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Sterkel, to return to regular session, with no action being taken, at 9:16 A.M. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Sara Paisley and Katlyn Rosas, from the Extension Office, reported on programs they are implementing in the schools. Paisley said that the Extension is changing and we will soon be referred to as the Panhandle Zone.

There being no further discussion, Chairperson Metz adjourned the meeting at 9:25 A.M. Next meeting will be Friday, December 20, 2019.

/s/Jeff Metz _____, Chairperson

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt _____, County Clerk

Board of Equalization
Monday, December 9, 2019

The Morrill County Board of Equalization met in an open and public regular meeting at 7:40 A.M., Monday, December 9, 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 December 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 December 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 7:40 A.M. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Rose Nelson, County Assessor, presented Tax List Correction #2019-16. Motion was made by Sterkel, seconded by Batterman, to approve and sign the above correction. Yeas: Sterkel, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Sterkel, to return to regular session at 7:47 A.M. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

/s/Jeff Metz _____, Chairperson

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt _____, County Clerk