

Bridgeport, Nebraska  
Tuesday, September 8, 2020

The Morrill County Board of Commissioners met in an open and public regular meeting at 7:30 A.M., Tuesday, September 8, 2020 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 2, 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 on September 3, 2020. 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, and approve the minutes of the August 25, 2020 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, \$1,134.84; American Family Life Insurance, Insurance, \$843.28; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp, Retirement, \$6,877.12; Clint Bates, Phone, \$40.00; Bob Benton, Furniture, \$153.00; Benzel Pest Control Inc, Service, \$416.15; Black Hills Energy, Service, \$201.89; Bomgaars Supply Inc, Furniture, Repairs & Parts, \$248.51; Kathy Brandt, Phone & Mileage, \$91.75; Bridgeport New-Blade, Publishing, Supplies & Subscription, \$214.47; Capital Business Systems Inc, Data Processing Costs, \$140.72; Ismael Cardenas, Phone, \$40.00; Ismael Cardenas, Co Sheriff, Court Costs, \$61.83; Mike Cerney, Phone, \$40.00; City of Bridgeport, Service, \$1,024.00; Colonial Life, Insurance, \$322.11; Comfort Inn-Grand Island, Lodging, \$83.00; Crites, Shafer, Connealy, Etc, Court Appointed Counsel, \$91.00; Culligan of Scottsbluff, Service, \$25.50; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, Teletype, \$448.00; Dept of Revenue, State Income Tax, \$3,883.29; Justin Dobrovolny, Phone, \$40.00; Dollar General, Medical-Prisoners & Supplies, \$59.25; Douglas, Kelly, Ostdiek, Snyder Etc, Court Appointed Counsel, \$2,340.77; Rhett Dye, Phone, \$40.00; Election Systems & Software Inc, Data Processing Costs, \$438.36; Cheree Fisher, Phone, \$40.00; Daniel Flores, Phone, \$40.00; Galls LLC, Uniforms, \$123.50; Holiday Inn-Kearney, Lodging, \$399.80; Steve Hutchinson, Contract Labor, \$720.00; Ideal/Bluffs Facility Solutions, Service, \$171.52; Lusetto Machine Inc, Repairs, \$529.34; Tim Marquez, Phone, \$40.00; Lori McCoy, Phone, \$40.00; Jeff Metz, Phone, \$40.00; Microfilm Imaging Systems, Equip Rental, \$161.00; Morrill County Court, Court Costs, \$170.00; Morrill County Health Plan, Emp Share, \$2,377.78; Morrill County Highway Dept, Fuel, \$227.52; Brian Moss, Data Processing, \$1,500.00; NE Public Health, Medical-Prisoners, \$105.00; Nein Pharmacy, Medical-Prisoners, \$49.65; Brittany Nelson, Labor \$52.00; Rose Nelson, Phone, \$40.00; NSA/POAN Law Enforcement Conf, Registration, \$140.00; Platte Valley Bank, HSA Accts, \$2,018.33; Platte Valley Bank, Federal Withholding, Social Security & Medicare, \$13,192.39; Prairie Wind Community Center, Dist Mtg, \$350.00; Travis Rodak, Phone, \$180.00; Travis Rodak, Rent, \$600.00; Caroline Sanchez, Contract Labor, \$2,100.00; Julie Schildt, Phone, \$40.00; Scotts Bluff Co Detention Center, Boarding Contract, \$2,250.00; Staples Credit Plan, Supplies, \$300.70; Transcript Gate LLC, Publishing, \$163.36; Ricky Trevino, Phone, \$40.00; Xerox Financial Services, Equip Rental, \$754.12; General Employees, Salaries, \$59,408.32.

#### ROAD/BRIDGE FUND

Allo Communications, Service, \$105.93; American Family Life Insurance, Insurance, \$293.90; Ameritas Investment Corp, Retirement, \$2,975.35; Black Hills Energy, Service, \$296.05; Bomgaars Supply Inc, Supplies, Tools & Repairs, \$588.75; Charter Communications, Service, \$99.98; City of Bayard, Service, \$114.31; City of Bridgeport, Service, \$445.74; Colonial Life, Insurance, \$76.14; Dept of Revenue, State Income Tax, \$1,385.21; KBK Trucking LLC, Gravel, \$26,831.03; Morrill County Health Plan, Emp Share, \$1,335.93; NE Child Support Payment Center, Child Support, \$222.00; \$252.93; Newman Signs Inc, Signs, \$8,170.90; Platte Valley Bank, HSA Accts, \$497.50; Platte Valley Bank, Federal Withholding, Social Security &

Medicare, \$5,308.49; Powerplan, Repairs, \$608.56; Rocky Mountain Air Solutions, Supplies, \$495.05; Simon East Region NE, Asphalt, \$5,879.00; Staples Credit Plan, Supplies, \$69.72; Road Employees, Salaries, \$26,447.48.

HIGHWAY/BRIDGE BUYBACK FUND

Koozer Construction Inc, Road Project, \$18,167.50; Gary Wagoner, Road Project, \$6,323.00.

VISITOR'S PROMOTION FUND

Marlene Yeager, Advertising, \$47.52.

HANDYMAN FUND

Dawson Dean Avilez, Service, \$505.00; Joann Callan, Service, \$75.00; Garland Crouse, Service, \$40.00; Jeffrey D. Erdman, Service, \$275.00; Bernardo Garcia, Service, \$345.00; Andrew Leisy, Service, \$1,310.00; Debra Mason, Service, \$621.00; Bryan Lee Schluterbusch, Service, \$140.00.

911 FUND

Century Link, Service, \$40.02; Frontier, Misc, \$4.44.

W911 FUND

Century Link, Service & Misc, \$10,536.75; Frontier, Misc, \$29.75; GeoComm Inc, Misc, \$4,626.25.

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.

The August minutes of the Veteran's Board meeting were received, reviewed and placed on file.

The August minutes of the Visitor's Committee meeting were received, reviewed and placed on file.

Loretta McCoy, County Treasurer, presented a resolution to transfer \$50,000 into the Road Fund. Motion was made by Sterkel, seconded by Batterman, to approve the transfer and to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #2020-30  
TRANSFER OF FUNDS

WHEREAS, the Road Fund monies were put into the General Fund at levy time, it is necessary to transfer those monies into the proper funds. The Morrill County Board of Commissioners orders the County Treasurer to transfer the funds in the amount of \$50,000.00 into the Road Fund.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 8<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONER

/s/Jeff Metz  
Chairperson

/s/Susanna Batterman  
Board Member

(S E A L)

/s/Greg Sterkel  
Board Member

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt  
County Clerk

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

Tammie Ostdiek, Extension Educator, presented an update on programs that had been presented. She reported there had been more programs on canning. She said the Evergreen Greenhouse has donated 1200 pounds of produce. She said the greenhouse has been a success. She reported on the Go Knapsack program. She said there will be a multicooker demonstration.

The Board reported on meetings they had attended. Sterkel reported on the Veteran's Service Board meeting. Batterman had no meetings. Metz reported on the CAPWN meeting.

Chairman Metz opened the Public Hearing for the 2020-2021 County Budget at 8:30 A.M. Notice of such hearing had been published in the Bridgeport News-Blade and the Transcript Gate LLC on September 2, 2020. The Board reviewed the budget documents. There being no public comment, Chairman Metz closed the hearing at 8:40 A.M.

Chairperson Metz opened the Public Hearing for setting the County Tax Levy at 8:41 A.M. There being no public comment, Metz closed the hearing at 8:50 A.M.

Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Sterkel, to adopt the 2020-2021 Budget and to increase restricted funds by 1% and to set the Morrill County Levy at .344998 which is different from the 2019-2020 Levy of .335278 and to adopt the following resolutions:

**RESOLUTION 2020-31**  
MORRILL COUNTY BUDGET DOCUMENT  
**RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION AND APPROPRIATIONS**

WHEREAS, A proposed County Budget for the Fiscal year of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, prepared by the Budget Making Authority, was transmitted to the Morrill County Board of Commissioners on or about the 1st day of August, 2020;

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, 2020 to June 30, 2021, 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, 2020, and ending June 30, 2021.

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 8th day of September, 2020.

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 2020 - 32**  
**ALLOWABLE INCREASE OF RESTRICTED FUNDS (1%)**

WHEREAS Nebraska Revised Statutes 13-519 provides that not government 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 for a 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 and additional one percent increase to the base amount for restricted funds authority; for a total increase of there and one-half percent in the restricted funds authority for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

On a roll call vote, Batterman, Sterkel & Metz, Ayes and No, Nays.

Dated this 8th day of September, 2020.

MORRILL COUNTY, NEBRASKA  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/Jeff Metz  
Chairman

(S E A L)

/s/Susanna Batterman  
Board Member

/s/Greg Sterkel  
Board Member

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt  
Morrill County Clerk

**MORRILL COUNTY**

AUTHORIZATION/REAUTHORIZATION PETTY CASH RESOLUTION

**RESOLUTION #2020 - 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 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	\$100.00	\$100.00

Dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020

Morrill County 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 2020 - 34  
PROPERTY TAX REQUEST 2020-2021**

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 the purpose 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 interest 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 received property taxes as all or a portion of its revenue.

1. The 2020-2021 tax rate be set at **0.344998** which is different than the 2019-2020 tax rate of **0.335278**.
2. The 2020-2021 Property Tax request for the General Fund be set at **\$3,564,758.00** which is different than the 2019-2020 Property Tax asking of \$3,477,875.00.
3. The 2020-2021 Property Tax request for the Hospital Bond Fund be set at **\$231,982.00** which is different than the 2019-2020 Property Tax asking of \$256,953.00.

Dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.

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: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None Motion carried. The complete Budget Document is on file at the Morrill County Clerk's office.

The Board discussed with Loretta McCoy, County Treasurer, the technical assistance that she needs in her office. The Board agreed to let McCoy have Bytes come in and do the work to get caught up, but this is only a one time thing, since we have Moss as our IT Technician.

There being no further discussion, Chairperson Metz adjourned the meeting at 8:59 A.M. Next meeting will be Tuesday, September 22, 2020.

/s/Jeff Metz, Chairperson

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt, County Clerk

**Board of Equalization**  
Tuesday, September 8, 2020

The Morrill County Board of Equalization met in an open and public regular meeting at 7:41 A.M., Tuesday, September 8, 2020 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 2, 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 on September 3, 2020. 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 7:46 A.M. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Rose Nelson, County Assessor, presented Tax List Correction #2020-16. Motion was made by Sterkel, seconded by Batterman, to approve and sign the above correction. Yeas: Sterkel, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Chairman Metz opened the Public Hearing for the Motor Vehicle Tax Exemption was opened at 7:45 A.M. Loretta McCoy, presented a Tax Exemption for Church of Christ. There being no public comment, Chairperson Metz closed the public hearing at 7:50 A.M. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Sterkel, to approve the Exemption. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Sterkel, to return to regular session at 7:53 A.M. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

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

ATTEST:

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