

Bridgeport, Nebraska  
Tuesday, June 26, 2018

The Morrill County Board of Commissioners met in an open and public regular meeting at 7:30 A.M., Tuesday, June 26, 2018 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 June 20, 2018. Copies of the Agenda, kept continuously current were available from the County Clerk's office and were e-mailed to each of the Commissioners June 21, 2018. On roll call Commissioners Jeff Metz, Chairman, Susanna Batterman and Greg Sterkel were present. Absent: None. Some of the Elected Officials were also present. Kathleen L. Brandt, County Clerk, recorded the proceedings of the meeting.

Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Sterkel, that the Agenda and the minutes of the June 12, 2018 meeting as emailed. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Correspondence was received and read.

The Commissioners reviewed the following claims:

#### GENERAL FUND

American Family Life Insurance, Insurance, \$390.31; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp, Retirement, \$6,817.38; Benzel Pest Control Inc, Service, \$149.10; Best Buy Business Advantage, Data Processing Equip, \$1,318.94; Black Hills Energy, Service, \$215.11; Bluffs Sanitary Supply Inc, Supplies, \$161.83; Bomgaars Supply Inc, Supplies & Equip, \$130.99; Box Butte County Clerk, Interlocal Agreement, \$7,000.00; Kathy Brandt, Mileage, \$425.30; John Brehm, Transport Van, \$500.00; Bridgeport Dental Clinic, Medical-Prisoners, \$158.00; Bridgeport News-Blade, Publishing & Supplies, \$24.67; Cenex Fleet Card, Fuel, \$818.19; Century Link, Service, \$80.76; Charter Communications, Service, \$105.64; City of Bridgeport, Service, \$2,821.21; Clerk of the District Court, Court Costs, \$99.00; Colonial Life Insurance, Insurance, \$499.24; Consolidated Management Co, Meals, \$275.10; Credit Management Services Inc, Garnishment, \$2.42; Mandy M. Dalimata, Phone & Service, \$55.00; DAS State Accounting, Data Processing Costs, \$82.88; Dept of Revenue, State Income Tax, \$3,625.34; Dollar General, Supplies, \$128.90; Nancy Eichthaler, Mileage & Phone, \$153.36; Robert A. Erdman, Contract Labor, \$288.00; Becky A. Fields, Labor, \$450.00; Flatwater Arms, Supplies, \$53.01; Steve Hutchinson, Contract Labor, \$720.00; Incubator Warehouse.Com, Supplies, \$453.88; Indoff Inc, Supplies, \$775.22; Island Law Office PC LLO, Mental Health Board, \$100.00; Jack's Uniforms & Equip, Uniforms, \$98.94; Lussetto Machine, Repairs, \$748.54; MailFinance, Equip Rental, \$1,905.00; Tim Marquez, Phone, \$40.00; Lori McCoy, Mileage, \$221.27; Moneywise Office Supply, Supplies, \$422.88; Morrill County Community Hospital, Medical-Prisoners, \$2,593.32; Morrill County Health Plan, Employee Premiums, \$2,144.71; Morrill County Health Plan, Insurance, \$32,415.16; Morrill County Highway Dept, Garbage & Phone, \$70.00; NACVSO, Dues, \$80.00; National 4-H Council-Supply Service, Supplies, \$417.77; NE Child Support Payment Center, Child Support, \$138.47; NE Health & Human Services, Service, \$93.00; NE Total Office, Equip & Supplies, \$414.17; Rose Nelson, Mileage, \$32.70; Tom Perkins, Mental Health Board, \$100.00; Lisa Peters, Meals, \$52.26; Platte Valley Bank, HSA Accts, \$1,845.00; Platte Valley Bank, Federal Withholding, Social Security & Medicare, \$13,137.05; Quill Corp, Supplies, \$777.88; Region 21 Emergency Mngmt, Quarterly Civil Defense, \$10,238.15; Regional Care Inc, Health Insurance, \$24,218.03; Julie Schildt, Meals & Mileage, \$373.22; Carol Sinner, Mental Health Board, \$100.00; Snell Services Inc, Service & Supplies, \$1,080.00; Stanard Appraisal Service Inc, Appraisal, \$4,560.00; Staples Credit Plan, Supplies, \$119.38; Trail City Supply, Supplies, \$192.87; University of NE, Mileage, \$275.23; University of NE-Lincoln, Equip, \$1,557.14; US Bank, Election Supplies, Phone, Data Processing Costs, Meals, Lodging & Supplies, \$2,719.54; U S Dept of Education, Garnishment, \$138.45; Verizon Wireless, Service, \$3.92; Xerox Financial Service, Equip Rental, \$220.95; XESI Document Solutions, Equip Rental, \$121.48; General Employees, Salaries, \$58,758.86.

#### ROAD/BRIDGE FUND

American Family Life Insurance, Insurance, \$252.29; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp, Retirement, \$3,032.56; Bar-Nine Prospects LLC, Gravel, \$1,610.00; Dana Cadwallader, Phone \$40.00; California Contractors Supplies Inc, Tools, \$239.70; Century Link, Service, \$73.69;

Colonial Life & Accident Ins Co, Insurance, \$94.30; Dept of Revenue, State Income Tax, \$1,469.31; Ron Franklin, Phone, \$40.00; Garrett Tires & Treads, Tires, \$11,712.56; Heigel's Field Service, Repairs, \$4,510.50; Bryan Hoerler, Phone, \$40.00; Ideal Linen Supply, Supplies, \$144.32; Lee's Service Inc, Tires, \$2,212.95; Mike Linch, Gravel, \$1,365.00; Doug McCloud, Phone \$40.00; Morrill County Health Plan, Employee Premium, \$1,094.65; Morrill County Health Plan, Health Insurance, \$16,704.28; NE Child Support, Child Support, \$252.93; \$222.00; NE Public Power Dist, Service, \$59.56; NMC Exchange LLC, Repairs, \$4,403.82; Bob Noonan, Gravel, \$2,145.00; Panhandle Co-op, Fuel & Repairs, \$16,733.95; Platinum Chemicals Inc, Supplies, \$474.00; Platte Valley Bank, HSA Accts, \$765.00; Platte Valley Bank, Federal Withholding, Social Security & Medicare, \$5,633.76; Mary Pohl, Gravel, \$180.00; Power Equip Co, Equip, \$6,486.25; PowerPlan, Repairs, \$6,627.50; Regional Care Inc, Health Insurance, \$13,525.98; Trail City Supply, Supplies, \$29.45; U S Bank, Meals, Fuel & Lodging, \$356.04; Travis VanAnne, Gravel, \$540.00; Owen D. Walker, Gravel,, \$480.00; WY Machinery Co, Repairs, \$3,435.40; Road Employees, Salaries, \$26,956.09.

#### HEALTH INSURANCE FUND

Morrill County Health Fund, Claims, \$63,491.97.

#### HANDYMAN FUND

American Family Life Insurance, Insurance, \$104.78; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp, Retirement, \$67.50; Dept of Revenue, State Income Tax, Debra Mason, Mileage, \$163.50; Morrill County Highway Dept, Phone, \$25.00; Platte Valley Bank, Federal Withholding, Social Security & Medicare, \$115.36; Handyman Employee, Salary, \$600.00.

#### W911 EMERGENCY FUND

Century Link, Service, \$130.30.

#### 911 EMERGENCY FUND

Century Link, Service, \$187.39.

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

See separate minutes for Board of Equalization.

Rose Nelson, County Assessor, met with the Board for the possibility of renewing the contract with Stanard Appraisal Service. She said the cost would be \$15,600 if we use the 20 days he has allowed for Morrill County. The Board asked if we could change the contract to be 15 days like last year. Nelson said that would work and the cost would be \$11,760. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Sterkel, to approve the contract with Stanard Appraisal for 15 days a cost of \$11,760. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The following 2018 monthly reports were received, reviewed and placed on file: May - I Cardenas, Co Sheriff, J Schildt, Clk of Dist Ct, K Brandt, Co Clk and L McCoy, Co Treas.

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

Tony Armer met with the Board about property that adjoins his south of Redington. He said that the Scotch Thistle have taken over and that the land is owned by the State and leased by Hoehn's. He said the state will not pay for the spraying and he was asking the county to force them to spray it. The Board said they will contact Renkoski and he can send out the necessary letters, but that the County is not in the business of forcing the landowner to spray or spraying it and then being left with the cost. Armer said that County Road 80 right-of-way is full of the thistle too. The Board said that Renkoski can spray that. Cody Renkoski, Contractual Weed Superintendent, stopped by the meeting later and said he would contact the state, because they will pay for the spraying and he will take care of the right-of-way.

Robin Stuart, Hospital Administrator, presented the May Financial Statements to the Board. Stuart presented a letter of resignation from George Hall and a recommendation that

Kevin Hall be appointed as his replacement. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Sterkel, to regretfully accept George Hall's resignation and to let him know how appreciated he is for his dedication and years of service to the Hospital Board. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried. Metz stated that the County Board thanks George Hall for his leadership and his 46 years of valuable knowledge, dedication and service to the Hospital Board. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Sterkel, to appoint Kevin Hall for two years to fill out the remainder of George Hall's term. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

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

RESOLUTION #2018-22  
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 26<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2018.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/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: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried. McCoy discussed the collection of taxes for the Irrigation Districts. She said that if these properties are up for tax sale, the bidders don't want to pay the irrigation taxes. McCoy asked her Deputy, Joanie Dudden, to explain to the Commissioners what the secretary for the Irrigation District had told her. They had sent out a letter to a taxpayer telling them the amount that they are delinquent. She said that if the district collects it, the Treasurer's office has no way of knowing whether they have been paid. McCoy said there is no record of where it shows the district asking the county to collect these taxes. She said her office sends out a list showing who they are taxing but the Irrigation Districts never correct it to show if someone else should be paying these taxes. The Board said it is the Irrigation District's problem and it would be up to them to shut off their water if they are not paying. The County would not be involved. The County still needs to collect those taxes for the Irrigation Districts.

Rex Schmidt met with the Board over a locked gate on Road 100. He said that the County Board had allowed a gate there, but the landowners were to be given keys or a combination. He said he used to have the combination but it has been changed and he can no longer get through. Also present were Claire Schmidt, Rick Bentley and Frank Nerud. Rex showed the map to the Commissioners of the road. Bentley said that he had permission from the County years ago to put in a gate and the right to padlock that gate. Nerud showed the commissioners the Easement agreement that was drawn up years ago regarding this road. Schmidt said the property will be for sale, but the hunting rights are still theirs. Travis Rodak, County Attorney, said this would be a civil matter because of the problems that have arisen in the past. Schmidt said he would have to contact his attorney about grandfathering this in. The Board said they are not involved in settling family matters. Metz asked if Nerud or Bentley have a problem with closing the road. They did not and had petitioned years ago to get it closed. Bryan Hoerler, County Highway Superintendent, said it is a road that has not been maintained for years. The Board said it probably should be closed. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Sterkel, to order the Road Superintendent, to conduct a road study or find the road study that was conducted previously on Road 100 for the purpose of closing a section of that road. Yeas:

Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried. Hoerler discussed the progress on the armor coating.

Marge Chapman, Samantha Stoltenberg and Steve Jobman, representing RCI, met with the Board to discuss the renewal of the Health Insurance. Chapman presented the numbers for the County and the Hospital. Stoltenberg presented the renewal rates that were lower if the County stays with the same company. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Sterkel, to renew with HM and authorize Kathy Brandt, County Clerk, to sign the necessary paperwork. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Board reported on meetings they had attended. Metz reported on the Hospital Board meeting and the State Republican convention. Batterman said she had not attended the meeting but the decision had been made to close the Foundation House. She said the other offices will be moved up to a building close to the hospital and the downtown building is to be sold.

Chelsea Altena, Extension, reported that Kelley Rice is no longer going to be with the Extension, but will still be helping out with Fair and that Tammie Ostdiek is taking her place and will be at the next meeting. Altena reported on the Fair and the Makerspace at the library.

There being no further discussion, Chairperson Metz adjourned the meeting at 9:59 A.M. Next meeting will be Friday, July 6, 2018, to hear Property Valuation Protests. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, July 10, 2018.

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

ATTEST:

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

**Board of Equalization**  
Tuesday, June 26, 2018

The Morrill County Board of Equalization met in an open and public regular meeting at 7:38 A.M., Tuesday, June 26, 2018 in the Commissioners' room at the Courthouse. Chairperson Metz announced that the Open Meetings Law was posted on the wall. Notice of such meeting having been published in the Bridgeport News-Blade and the Bayard Transcript on June 20, 2018. Copies of the Agenda, kept continuously current were available from the County Clerk's office and were e-mailed to each of the Commissioners June 21, 2018. On roll call Commissioners Jeff Metz, Chairman, Susanna Batterman and Greg Sterkel were present. Absent: None. Rose Nelson, County Assessor was also 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(06) at 7:38 A.M. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Rose Nelson, County Assessor, presented Tax List Corrections #2018-12 & 13. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Sterkel, to approve and sign the above corrections. Yeas: Batterman, Sterkel and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Nelson asked about the TERC hearings and recouping some of the cost from having to travel so far for these hearings. Rodak said there are enough out this way that he felt they could hold them in Scottsbluff.

Motion was made by Sterkel, seconded by Batterman, to return to regular session at 7:54 A.M. Yeas: Sterkel, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

/s/Jeff Metz, Chairperson

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt, County Clerk

