

Bridgeport, Nebraska
Tuesday, October 22, 2024

The Morrill County Board of Commissioners met in an open and public regular meeting at 7:30 A.M., Tuesday, October 22, 2024 in the Commissioners' room at the Courthouse. Chairperson Metz announced that the Open Meetings Law was posted on the wall of the Commissioners' room. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Notice of such meeting having been published in the Bridgeport News-Blade and the Transcript Gate LLC, on October 17, 2024. 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 October 17, 2024. On roll call Commissioners Jeff Metz, Chairman, Susanna Batterman and Josh Schmidt were present. Absent: None. Some of the Elected and appointed Officials were also present. Kathleen L. Brandt, County Clerk, recorded the proceedings of the meeting.

Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to approve the Agenda and the minutes of the October 8, 2024 meeting. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Correspondence was received and read.

The Commissioners reviewed the following claims:

GENERAL FUND

Action Communications Inc, Repairs, \$315.00; American Family Life Insurance, Insurance, \$1,140.46; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp, Retirement, \$8,637.39; Anderson Ford of Lincoln, Vehicle, \$48,981.00; AT & T Mobility, Service, \$611.38; Black Hills Energy, Service, \$121.36; Bomgaars Supply Inc, Repairs, \$24.96; Robert M. Brenner Law Office, Court Appointed Counsel-TERC, \$13,870.00; Bridgeport News-Blade, Publishing, \$118.19; Capital Business Systems, Inc, Data Processing Costs, \$2,016.11; Cenex Fleet Fueling, Fuel, \$2,168.87; Century Business Products, Supplies, \$40.82; Century Link, Service, \$80.75; Charter Communications, Service, \$169.99; City of Bridgeport, Service, \$629.71; Clerk of Dist Court, Court Costs, \$144.00; Colonial Life Insurance, Insurance, \$218.21; Consolidated Management Co, Board of Prisoners, \$5.80; Dept of Revenue, State Income Tax, \$4,267.84; Shauna Faessler, Phone, \$40.00; Daniel Flores, Meals, \$100.90; Galls LLC, Uniforms, \$247.24; Government Forms & Supplies, Supplies, \$598.00; Holly Hjelmstad, Phone, \$40.00; Jamie Holloway, Election, \$700.00; Holyoke, Snyder, Longoria, Etc, Court Appointed Counsel, \$1,050.00; Hometown Leasing, Supplies, \$56.20; Steven R. Hutchinson, Contract Labor, \$615.00; Jackson's Garage LLC, Repairs, \$107.38; Susan Kelly, Phone & Supplies, \$156.00; Susan Kelly-Clk of Dist Ct, Reimburse, \$50.00; Tim Marquez, Mileage, \$592.28; Masek Power Sports, Supplies, \$495.00; Maximus Inc, Consulting Fees, \$1,870.00; Lori McCoy, Phone & Mileage, \$77.52; Mid-American Research Chemical, Testing Fees, \$595.84; Mobius Communications Co, Service, \$58.50; Morrill County Health Plan, Emp Share, \$2,176.17; Morrill County Health Plan, Insurance, \$28,612.24; Morrill County Highway Dept, Fuel, \$275.48; NACO, Registrations, \$280.00; NE Child Support, Child Support, \$274.16; \$236.31; NE Public Health Environmental Lab, Testing, \$105.00; Rose Nelson, Mileage, 174.20; Nossaman, Pettitt Law Firm PC LLO, Court Appointed Counsel, \$1,332.68; Zeth Patterson, Phone, \$40.00; Platte Valley Bank, HSA Accts, \$1,022.91; Platte Valley Bank, Federal Withholding, Social Security & Medicare, \$14,981.39; Principal Life Insurance Co, Group Life, \$220.28; Mary Ann Randall, Mileage, \$21.44; Regional Care Inc, Health Insurance, \$27,512.98; Retchless Technologies LLC, Contract Labor, \$1,500.00; Rodriguez-Fletcher Clinical Soc Work, \$2,000.00; Sandhills Repair, Repairs, \$3,706.47; Scotts Bluff Co Detention Center, Boarding Contract, \$3,000.00; Sonny's Pharmacy, Medical-Prisoners, \$45.62; Star-Herald, Subscription, \$383.99; State of NE-Dept of Admin, Data Processing Costs, \$288.00; Tyler Technologies, Inc, Supplies, \$898.00; U S Bank, Data Processing Supplies & Equip, Fuel, Phone, Registration, Law Enforcement Costs, Lodging, Meals, Uniforms, Supplies & Misc, \$4,381.25; Valley Tire & Service LLC, Mileage, \$104.70; Xerox Financial Services, Equip Rental, \$460.70; XESI Document Solutions, Equip Rental, \$180.95; 911 Custom, Supplies, \$50.50; General Employees, Salaries, \$70,149.23.

ROAD/BRIDGE FUND

American Family Life Insurance, Insurance, \$651.52; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp, Retirement, \$3,384.70; Bud's Radiator Inc, Repairs, \$458.00; Dana Cadwallader, Phone, \$40.00; Capital Business Systems Inc, Data Processing Costs, \$194.43; Century Link, Service, \$123.03;

Charter Communications, Service, \$109.98; Colonial Life Insurance, Insurance, \$22.16; Dept of Revenue, State Income Tax, \$1,869.81; Ronald G. Franklin, Phone, \$40.00; Garrett Tires & Treads, Tires, \$828.00; Harbor Freight Commercial Acct, Supplies, \$31.94; Bryan Hoerler, Phone, \$40.00; Koke's Auto Farm Truck, Repairs & Supplies, \$253.02; Lee's Service Inc, Tires, \$267.45; Menards-Scottsbluff, Repairs, \$8.97; Justin Mitchell, Phone, \$40.00; Morrill County Health Plan, Emp Share, \$1,099.72; Morrill County Health Plan, Health Insurance, \$15,348.82; NE Child Support, Child Support, \$156.00; NE Dept of Rev, Fuel Tax, \$714.00; NE Public Power, Service, \$63.11; NMC Exchange LLC, Repairs, \$28,336.50; Platte Valley Bank, HSA Accts, \$450.00; Platte Valley Bank, Federal Withholding, Social Security & Medicare, \$6,064.99; Principal Life Ins Co, Group Life, \$112.18; PT Hose & Bearing, Supplies, \$472.15; Regional Care Inc, Insurance, \$13,964.28; Steve's Truck & Equip, Repairs, \$100.00; US Bank, Lodging, \$160.00; Westco, Fuel, \$29,213.64; WPCI, Testing Fees, \$478.00; David Zwirn, Phone, \$40.00; Road Employees, Salaries, \$30,086.22.

911 EMERGENCY FUND

Century Link, Service, \$53.88.

COURTHOUSE BUILDING FUND

Todd Harless Electric, Repairs, \$820.88.

Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Batterman, that the above claims, after having been examined by the Commissioners, be approved except for the mileage claim to Rose Nelson and checks drawn on the various funds, delinquent personal property taxes deducted where owing. Yeas: Schmidt, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Board of Equalization

See separate minutes for Board of Equalization.

The following 2024 monthly reports were received, reviewed and placed on file: Sept – I Cardenas, Co Sheriff, K Brandt, Co Clerk, L McCoy, Co Treas and S Kelly, Clk of Dist Ct.

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

Loretta McCoy, County Treasurer, presented a resolution to transfer \$25,000 to the Road Department. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to approve the transfer and to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #2024-37
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 \$25,000.00 into the Road Fund.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 22nd day of October, 2024.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/Jeff Metz
Chairman

/s/Susanna Batterman
Board Member

/s/Josh Schmidt
Board Member

(S E A L)

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt
County Clerk

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

Kirk Fellhoelter, County Attorney, talked to the Board about the sale of some lots in Bayard. He said they would have to have a Public Hearing at the first meeting in November. He said he would set the hearing date for November 12, 2024 at 8:30 A.M. He said then they could be sold on Monday, November 25, 2024. They discussed the back taxes and the price they would have to get out of the properties. Fellhoelter discussed the public hearing for the Conservation Easement that was voted against by the Planning & Zoning Board. He said that hearing would be held on November 12, 2024 at 8:00 A.M.

Bryan Hoerler, County Highway Superintendent, presented the Annual Certification of Program Compliance and the Resolution. He said this shows that he was in compliance with the One-and Six Year Road Program and with his reporting. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Batterman, to approve and authorize the Chairperson to sign the Program Compliance and to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #2024-38
SIGNING OF THE
COUNTY ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF PROGRAM COMPLIANCE
2024

Whereas: State of Nebraska Statutes, sections 39-2115, 39-2120, 39-2121, and 39-2510(2), requires an annual certification of program compliance to the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and standards, and

Whereas: State of Nebraska Statute, section 39-2120 also requires that the annual certification of program compliance by each county shall be signed by the County Board Chairperson and shall include the resolution of the governing body of the county authorizing the signing of the certification.

Be it resolved that the County Board Chairperson of Morrill County is hereby authorized to sign the County Annual Certification of Program Compliance.

Adopted this 22nd day of October, 2024 at Bridgeport, Nebraska.

County Board Members

/s/Jeff Metz
/s/Susanna Batterman
/s/Josh Schmidt

Attest: (S E A L)
/s/Kathleen L. Brandt
County Clerk

Yeas: Schmidt, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried. Hoerler asked the Board about closing a portion of Rd 100. He said the ditch company won't put a pipe in where the water is. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Batterman, to order the Highway Superintendent, to conduct a Road Study on RD 100 for the possibility of closing a portion of this road. Yeas: Schmidt, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried. The Board asked Hoerler how he was doing as Weed Superintendent. He said the Inspector was here on October 16th and he received 1000 points out of a possible 1000 points. He said he needs to work on identifying all of the noxious weeds. He said he did 224 inspections and that fragmities are still a problem.

Chairman Metz had an agreement with MC Schaff for a survey of Parcel #200100559. He said Dennis Sullivan, Surveyor, will reestablish the corners as surveyed by Keefover and provide a drawing for the county's use. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to approve the survey at a cost of \$2,300.00. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Milo Cardenas, County Sheriff, presented the bids for replacing toilets in the jail. The bids were from \$22,000 - \$56,000 from Best, Gering Valley and Independent Plumbing. He said the one for \$22,000 he needs to see if that replaces all of the toilets or just one. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to approve the bid with Independent Plumbing if it is correct or to go with the best of these three. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Susanna Batterman, Commissioner, excused herself from the meeting.

Diego Cardenas presented a contract to the Board for snow removal. The contract was the same as last year. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Metz, to approve and sign the above contract. Yeas: Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Board reported on meetings they had attended. Schmidt had no meetings. Metz said he attended the Planning & Zoning meeting. He said they discussed having solar and wind energy added to the Zoning plan. Metz and Cardenas met with Cheyenne, Kimball and Banner Counties about a regional jail.

The Board moved the first meeting in December to Monday, December 9, 2024.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Metz adjourned the meeting at 9:25 A.M. Next meeting will be Tuesday, November 12, 2024.

/s/Jeff Metz, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt, County Clerk

Board of Equalization
Tuesday, October 22, 2024

The Morrill County Board of Equalization met in an open and public regular meeting at 7:41 A.M., Tuesday, October 22, 2024 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 having been published in the Transcript Gate LLC and the Bridgeport News-Blade on October 17, 2024. 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 October 17, 2024. On roll call Commissioners Jeff Metz, Chairman, Susanna Batterman and Josh Schmidt 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 Schmidt, to enter into Board of Equalization, according to Ne. Statute #77-1233.04(06) at 7:41 A.M. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Kathy Brandt, County Clerk, presented the levies that Morrill County shares valuation with other counties for ratification. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by , to ratify the levies that Morrill County shares valuation with

**MORRILL COUNTY LEVIES
2024 - 2025**

POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS	GENERAL	SPECIAL	BOND	CAPITAL	TOTAL
		BLDG		IMPROV	
SCHOOL DISTRICTS					
1-BANNER	0.729985	0.069845			0.799830
3-CHEYENNE-LEYTON	0.914096	0.000000			0.914096
6BX-BOX BUTTE	0.843579	0.094799		0.030020	0.968398
21-BAYARD	0.999686	0.030954	0.055718		1.086358
32-SCOTTS BLUFF	0.647689	0.100000	0.140000	0.030000	0.917689
35-0001 GARDEN	0.371360	0.002586			0.373946
63-BRIDGEPORT	0.892543		0.091049		0.983592
ESU					
ESU #13	0.015000		0.000411		0.015411
WCC					
WEST COMM COLLEGE				0.021121	0.021121
NRD					
NORTH PLATTE NRD	0.046577				0.046577
CEMETERY DISTRICTS					
		SINKING			
ANGORA	0.011571				0.011571
BAYARD	0.043995				0.043995
BRIDGEPORT	0.014664				0.014664
BROADWATER	0.003874				0.003874
REDINGTON	0.001909	0.000835			0.002744
EASTMOR/WEST GARD	0.001827				0.001827
FIRE DISTRICTS					
	GENERAL	BOND	SINKING		
#1 (BRIDGEPORT)	0.016502				0.016502
#2 (CHEYENNE CO)	0.027949				0.027949
#3 (BAYARD)	0.025181				0.025181
#4 (BROADWATER)	0.095193				0.095193
#G2 (GARDEN CO)	0.013787	0.010686			0.024473
#A6 (BOX BUTTE CO)	0.033950				0.033950

CITIES/VILLAGES	GENERAL				
BAYARD	0.370935				0.370935
BRIDGEPORT	0.305117				0.305117
BROADWATER	0.290469				0.290469
COUNTY LEVY FUNDS					
GENERAL	0.297890				0.297890
HOSPITAL BOND FUND	0.012501				0.012501
TOTAL	0.310391				0.310391

We, the Morrill County Board of Commissioners, acting as a Board of Equalization, do hereby certify the above levies for Morrill County and Counties that share valuation in Morrill County to be true and correct to the best of our knowledge.

Dated this 22nd day of October, 2024

Morrill County Board of Commissioners

(S E A L)

/s/Jeff Metz, Chairman

/s/Susanna Batterman, Board Member

/s/Josh Schmidt, Board Member

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt, Morrill County Clerk

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

Rose Nelson, presented an Omitted Property for Letitia Cranmore. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to approve and sign the Omitted Property form. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Batterman, return to regular session at 7:48 A.M. Yeas: Schmidt, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

/s/Jeff Metz _____, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt _____, County Clerk

