

Bridgeport, Nebraska  
Tuesday, August 27, 2024

The Morrill County Board of Commissioners met in an open and public regular meeting at 7:30 A.M., Tuesday, August 27, 2024 in the Commissioners' room at the Courthouse. Chairperson Metz announced that the Open Meetings Law was posted on 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 August 22, 2024 and posted in three locations. 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 August 23, 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, with the deletion of Board of Equalization and the minutes of the August 12, 2024 meeting. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Correspondence was received and read.

The Commissioners reviewed the following claims:

#### GENERAL FUND

Accelerated Receivables Solutions, Garnishment, \$213.71; American Family Life Insurance, Insurance, \$1,140.46; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp, Retirement, \$7,736.34; AT & T Mobility, Service, \$305.69; Black Hills Energy, Service, \$190.71; Bomgaars Supply Inc, Supplies, \$206.58; Kathy Brandt, Mileage, \$385.92; Robert M Brenner Law Office, TERC Cases, \$2,750.00; Bridgman Funeral Home, County Burial, \$2,000.00; Capital Business Systems, Inc, Equip Lease, \$131.25; Century Business Products, Supplies & Equip, \$53.96; Charter Communications, Service, \$169.99; City of Bridgeport, Service, \$3,207.87; Clerk of District Court, Court Costs, \$223.00; Colonial Life Insurance, Insurance, \$218.21; Crites, Shaffer, Connealy, Etc PC LLO, Court Appointed Counsel, \$200.00; CVSOAN, Dues, \$200.00; Dept of Revenue, State Income Tax, \$3,859.00; Shauna Faessler, Phone & Fuel, \$56.01; Holly Hjelmstad, Phone, \$40.00; Bryan Hoerler, Meals, \$17.06; Holiday Inn Express-Kearney, Lodging, \$497.00; Holyoke, Snyder, Longoria, ETC PC, Court Appointed Counsel, \$300.00; Ideal/Bluffs Facility Solutions, Supplies, \$56.64; Integrity Sales Inc, Law Enforcement Supplies, \$599.94; Intoximeters, Inc, Supplies, \$373.00; Jack's Uniforms & Equip, Uniforms, \$419.74; Susan Kelly, Phone, \$40.00; Audrey M. Long, Public Defender, \$4,250.00; Medical Air Services Assoc, Insurance, \$448.00; Morrill County Health Plan, Emp Share, \$2,154.42; Morrill County Health Plan, Insurance, \$28,612.24; Morrill County Highway Dept, Fuel, \$75.54; NE Child Support, Child Support, \$274.16; Rose Nelson, Mileage, \$418.75; Janice Newhoff, Mileage, \$33.50; Sarah Paisley, Meals & Mileage, \$52.41; Panhandle Area Develop Dist, Dues, \$1,642.08; Zeth Patterson, Mileage, \$46.90; Patty Wax General Services, Repairs, \$88.00; Platte Valley Bank, HSA Accts, \$1,022.91; Platte Valley Bank, Federal Withholding, Social Security & Medicare, \$13,271.82; Plummer Insurance Inc, Notary, \$40.00; Principal Life Insurance Co, Group Life, \$208.12; Regional Care Inc, Health Insurance, \$27,022.60; Retchless Technologies LLC, Contract Labor, \$1,500.00; Scotts Bluff Co Detention Center, Boarding Contract, \$2,790.00; State of NE-Dept of Admin, Data Processing Costs & Teletype, \$825.60; U S Bank, Data Processing Supplies & Equip, Fuel, Phone, Registration, Law Enforcement Costs, Lodging, Meals, Supplies & Misc, \$6,705.47; Valley Tire & Service LLC, Mileage, \$42.98; Jessica Velasquez, Mileage, \$46.90; Juliana Von Ruden, Mileage, \$60.97; Xerox Financial Services, Equip Rental, \$83.64; XESI Document Solutions, Equip Rental, \$229.90; 911 Custom, Uniforms & Supplies, \$554.00; General Employees, Salaries, \$63,395.82.

#### ROAD/BRIDGE FUND

American Family Life Insurance, Insurance, \$723.15; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp, Retirement, \$3,623.79; Big State Industrial Supply Inc, Supplies, \$169.90; Dana Cadwallader, Phone, \$40.00; Century Link, Service, \$112.05; Charter Communications, Service, \$109.98; Colonial Life Insurance, Insurance, \$22.16; Contractors Materials Inc, Repairs, \$236.00; Dept of Revenue, State Income Tax, \$1,800.79; Dooley Oil Inc, Oil, \$5,699.91; Fat Boys Tire & Auto, Tires, \$2,647.95; Ronald G. Franklin, Phone, \$40.00; Garrett Tires & Treads, Tires, \$1,086.26; Harbor Freight Comm Acct, Supplies, Tools & Repairs, \$117.93; Heigel's Field Service, Repairs,

\$995.00; Bryan Hoerler, Phone, \$40.00; Lee’s Service Inc, Tires, \$442.00; Medical Air Services Assoc, Insurance, \$238.00; Menards-Scottsbluff, Repairs, \$19.96; Justin Mitchell, Phone, \$40.00; Morrill County Health Plan, Emp Share, \$1,109.01; Morrill County Health Plan, Health Insurance, \$14,357.75; NE Child Support, Child Support, \$156.00; NE Public Power, Service, \$94.99; Platte Valley Bank, HSA Accts, \$450.00; Platte Valley Bank, Federal Withholding, Social Security & Medicare, \$6,540.70; Principal Life Ins Co, Group Life, \$119.63; Regional Care Inc, Insurance, \$14,815.65; Simon, Asphalt, \$2,194.00; Topkote Inc, Armor Coat, \$526,363.90; U S Bank, Fuel, \$58.07; WPCI, Testing Fees, \$156.00; David Zwirn, Phone, \$40.00; Road Employees, Salaries, \$32,211.58.

911 EMERGENCY FUND

Century Link, Service, \$45.26.

COURTHOUSE BUILDING FUND

U S Bank, Repairs, \$130.40.

Motion was made by Schmidt, 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: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

**Board of Equalization**

No Agenda items for Board of Equalization.

Caleb Johnson, Budget preparer for Morrill County, presented the budget sheets that were turned in to him. The Board went through each of the budgets and made some changes. After changes the levy will be lower. The Board sat the Budget Hearing date for September 24, 2024. Johnson presented resolutions that had to be adopted. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Batterman, to authorize the petty cash funds, and approve the allowable increase in restricted funds and to adopt the following resolutions:

**RESOLUTION 2024-22  
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 any 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 and the dollar limit of any expenditure from 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 the 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 27<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024

**MORRILL COUNTY, NEBRASKA  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

/s/Jeff Metz  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

/s/Susanna Batterman  
Board Member

(S E A L)

/s/Josh Schmidt  
Board Member

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt  
County Clerk

**RESOLUTION #2024-23**  
**ALLOWABLE INCREASE OF RESTRICTED FUNDS (1%)**

WHEREAS Nebraska Revised Statute 13-519 provides that no 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 of at 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 an additional one percent increase to the base amount for restricted funds authority, for a total increase of three and one-half percent in the restricted funds authority for Fiscal Year 2024-2025.

Dated this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024

**MORRILL COUNTY, NEBRASKA**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

/s/Jeff Metz  
Chairman

/s/Susanna Batterman  
Board Member

(S E A L)

/s/Josh Schmidt  
Board Member

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt  
County Clerk

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

Correspondence was received and read.

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

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

The Quarterly report for the Road Department, was received, reviewed and placed on file.

The August minutes of the Veterans' Board meeting were received, reviewed and place on file.

Loretta McCoy, County Treasurer, presented the Uncollected Distress Warrants as returned by the County Sheriff on July 31, 2024. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to approve the Uncollected Distress Warrant report. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and

Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried. McCoy presented the resolution to strike Personal Property Tax on four properties. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to approve striking the taxes on four properties and to adopt the following resolution:

REOSLUTION #2024-24

Be it resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Morrill County, Nebraska that the County Treasurer of said Morrill County, Nebraska is hereby authorized and directed to strike Personal Property Tax per Section 77-7138, Revised Statute of Nebraska, from the Tax Lists of Morrill County, Nebraska.

A list of all persons and amounts involved is attached. The year(s) covered is 2022 and older unless otherwise noted. Tax only; no interest or fees are shown. The total base amount involved is \$313.80.

Passed and approved the 27<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024.

/s/Loretta McCoy  
Morrill County Treasurer

/s/Jeff Metz  
Chairman

(S E A L)

/s/Susanna Batterman  
Board Member

/s/Josh Schmidt  
Board Member

ATTEST: /s/Kathleen L. Brandt  
County Clerk

Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried. McCoy presented a resolution to transfer \$625,000 to the Road Fund. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to approve the transfer and to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #2024-25  
TRANSFER OF FUNDS

WHEREAS, the Road Fund monies were put into the General Fund at levy time, it is now 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 \$625,000.00 into the Road Fund.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 27th day of August, 2024.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/Jeff Metz  
Chairperson

(S E A L)

/s/Susanna Batterman  
Board Member

/s/Josh Schmidt  
Board Member

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt  
County Clerk

Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried. A resolution to add the Weed Budget to the General fund was also presented. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to approve the new fund and adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #2024-26  
RESOLUTION FOR ADDING TO BUDGET FUNDS

WHEREAS, it is necessary to add a new Fund to the 2024-2025 Budget, it is necessary to add funds for the spending of monies that are to be allocated to the Weed Fund.

This Fund will be designated as the WEED FUND and will fall under the General Fund and have the Code Number 0100-733.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Morrill County Board of Commissioners order the County Clerk and County Treasurer to add this account and these codes to the MORRILL COUNTY BUDGET EXPENDITURES for the 2024-2025 Budget Year.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 27<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 2024.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/Jeff Metz  
Chairman of the Board

/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.

Milo Cardenas, County Sheriff, met with the Board to report on the money he will receive from the City of Bridgeport to help pay the cost of the radios. He said they will give \$60,000 and he has also applied for grants. Cardenas said that he had only quote for the plumbing. He said that there will be a meeting in Sidney the 29<sup>th</sup> to discuss consolidation for a jail, if any of the commissioners would like to attend. He said this has been discussed before.

Ashley Fenning introduced herself. She is the Food, Nutrition & Health Instructor for the Extension. She said she spent 7 years in Box Butte County doing this and she covers the southern area. The Board welcomed her.

The Board reported on meetings attended. Schmidt reported on the Hospital Board meeting. Batterman said she had no meetings. Metz reported on the meeting with the architect and engineers for the new fair building. He said they have to make cuts to their plan

There being no further discussion, Chairman Metz adjourned the meeting at 9:55 A.M. Next meeting will be Tuesday, September 10, 2024.

/s/Jeff Metz, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt, County Clerk

**Board of Equalization**  
Tuesday, July 23, 2024

The Morrill County Board of Equalization met in an open and public regular meeting at 7:41 A.M., Tuesday, July 23 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 July 18, 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 July 18, 2024. On roll call Commissioners Jeff Metz, Chairman, Susanna Batterman and Josh Schmidt were present. Absent: None. Rose Nelson, County Assessor, and Joanie Dudden, Deputy County Treasurer, were 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.

Rose Nelson, County Assessor, presented Form 425 for Don Mehling for Destroyed Property. Nelson said they can't do this on land. Metz said it's a gray area, even though there was no structure burned, the grass was completely destroyed by fire. He said the legislature has to change this. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to zero out the grass value on Don & Marie Mehling's property. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Nelson presented Tax List Corrections #2024-11, 12, 13 & 14, all from the TERC's decision that raised the values back to her values. The Board discussed not signing, but Kirk Fellhoelter, County Attorney, said it had to be done since TERC ruled in the Assessor's favor. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Batterman, to approve and sign the above corrections. Yeas: Schmidt, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Kathy Brandt, County Clerk, swore in the Board, the Assessor and J. D. Nein for a protest hearing.

J. D. Nein presented two protests, which he protested after receiving a second valuation notice from the Assessor. He said he felt it shouldn't have been changed until TERC makes a decision on last year's.

Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, return to regular session at 8:17 A.M. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to enter into Board of Equalization, according to Ne. Statute #77-1233.04(06) at 9:12 A.M. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Protests were reviewed.

Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to return to regular session at 11:43 A.M.

Chairman Metz adjourned the meeting at 11:45 A.M. Board will meet Wednesday, July 24, 2024 to finish protest decisions.

**Board of Equalization**  
Wednesday, July 24, 2024

The Morrill County Board of Equalization met in an open and public regular meeting at 7:30 A.M., Tuesday, July 24, 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 posted in three locations. Copies of the Agenda kept continuously current were available from the County Clerk's office and were given to each of the Commissioners on July 23, 2024. On roll call Commissioners Jeff Metz, Chairman, and Susanna Batterman were present. Absent: Josh Schmidt. 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 Metz, to enter into Board of Equalization, according to Ne. Statute #77-1233.04(06) at 7:41 A.M. Yeas: Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Board continued to review all of the protests.

Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Metz, to make changes to the following protests:

#8-11-David Abel/Cheri Covalt, #379-Loretta Abel, #126-James Adams, #124-Wayne & Debra Adams, #212-Pamela Amen, #140-Christopher Baird, \$7-Michael & Dinah Bauer, #274-Larry Bena, #5-Bob Benton, #340-John W. Berg, #118-119-Deanne Bilby, #296-Douglas & Shelli Bowman, #253-Kathleen Brandt, #361-Charlotte Brown, #362-Eugene Brown, #6-Cheema Investments LLC, #2-Connie Chistensen, #130-Jerod & Kelly Dean, #237-Terry & Michele Deaver, #134-Gregory Devrous, #271-John & Kathleen Dinges, ##278-283-Joyce Dobrinski, #171-172-Terri Dyer, #258-Cody Dykman, #304-Roger Eirich, #136-Steve Erdman, #252-Charles Fellhoelter, #273-James D. Fillis, #330-331-Brock Frohling/Heather Peterson, #183-184-Brenda Gaspers, #27, 29, 30-33, 36-Dale & Karen Giboney, #234 & 236-Arnold Harimon/PHS Land & Cattle, #381-Todd & Carrie Harless, #122-Linda Hayden, #131-Sylvia Hilderbrand, #12-Robert Houston, #176-Elaine Huggler, #248-Grant & Sherrie Iske, #178 & 182-Andrew & Bethany Jackson, #186-199-Lisa Johnston, #204-Darrell Kraupie for the Neighborhood, #206-207-Darrel Kraupie, #369-Aaron Kreman, #366-368-Allan & Diann Kreman, #133-Bruce Landen, #3-Leonard Lif, #240-Michael & Mimi Linch, #215-216-Susana Lopez, #270-Lisa Lussetto, #338-Roy & Roxann McCarty, #174-Rodney & Loretta McCoy, #111-Barbara McDemott, #132-Eddy & Nadine McNabb, #275-Robert Miller, #1B & 2B-J. D. Nein, #173-Jeff & Amy Nichols, #261, 263 & 267-Robert Dale Nichols, #250-Grady & Brittany Norman, #116-117-Linda O'Bannon, #218-Gary & Judy Oltmann, #259-Arnold Ostdiek, #383-Peltz Companies, Inc, #17-Brian & Lisa Peters, #297-299-Michael Phillips, #177-Anton & Cindy Policky, #336-Rachel Post, Post Collective LLC, #170-Tre Puintun, #200-Rehling Family Trust, #286-Allan & Kelly Roach, #268-269A-Victor & Sandra Sanchez, #208-Roger Schmidt, #254-255-Trisha Schneider(AKA Touchton), #251-Deborah Sinks, #135-Crystal Smith, #287-293-Jon Steffen, #125-Stanley Tavenner, #272-Mitzi Teten, #249-Crisal Torres(AKA Aguilar), #13-Otillo Torres, #114-Kirk Varah, #112-Dick & Beverly Wagoner, and #246-Orval Whited.

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

Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Metz, to make no changes to the following protests:

#295-Thomas Blackstone, #115-Brown Trust, #247-Charles Brown, #141-169-Camp Clarke Ranch LLC, #137-139-Lionel & Gloria Crowther, #277-Jennifer Dobrinski, #284-285-Joyce Dobrinski, #341-Gerald & Kimberly Doremus, #175-Joanie Dudden, #256-257-Cody Dykman, #300-303 & 305-Roger Eirich, #210-203-Russell & Beulah Freeburg, #310-329-Daniel & Annette Frerichs, #306-309-Will & Quincey Frerichs, #185-Brenda Gaspers, #18-26, 28, 34-35, 37-110, Dale & Karen Giboney, ##235-Arnold Harimon/PHS Land & Cattle, ##371-378, 380, 382-Todd & Carrie Harless, #123-Linda Hayden, #363-365-Jodie Holthus, #179-181-Andrew & Bethany Jackson, #121-Sam & Rose Jacoby, #384-Terry Jessen-Nebraska & West Co, #205-Darrell Kraupie, #294-Justin & Kacey Kreman, #4-Leonard Lif, #238-239, 241-245-Michael & Mimi Linch, #221-233-Pat Linch-4-P Ranch, #332-335-Everett Loomis, #213, 214, 217-Susana Lopez, #336A-337-Eric McCarty, #128-129-Douglas & Eileen McCloud, #219-220-Donald Metz, #276-Robert Miller, #260, 262, 264-266, Robert Dale Nichols, #127-Clayton Richstein, #209-211-Roger Schmidt, #16-Coffee Smith, #369-Greg & Carla Sterkel, #342-360-Stuart Land LLC, Four S Ranch LLC & Barry Stuart, #12,14-15-Otillo Torres, #113-Dick & Beverly Wagoner, #1-Nancy Wallesen, and #339-Terry Woznick.

Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Metz, to return to regular session at 9:45 A.M. Yeas: Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Chairman Metz adjourned the meeting at 9:47 A.M.

\_\_\_\_\_,Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_,County Clerk





