

Bridgeport, Nebraska
Tuesday, November 28, 2023

The Morrill County Board of Commissioners met in an open and public regular meeting at 7:30 A.M., Tuesday, November 28, 2023 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 November 22, 2023. 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 November 22, 2023. 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 November 14, 2023 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, \$198.59; American Family Life Insurance, Insurance, \$1,147.43; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp, Retirement, \$7,279.86; AT & T Mobility, Service, \$265.65; Black Hills Energy, Service, \$796.10; Bomgaars, Supplies & Repairs, \$74.24; Bridgeport News-Blade, Publishing, \$69.45; Jeanne Camara, Meals & Mileage, \$207.75; Capital Business Systems, Inc, Data Processing Costs, \$237.19; Century Business Products, Supplies & Equip, \$160.41; City of Bridgeport, Service, \$2,517.03; Colonial Life Insurance, Insurance, \$206.88; Crowne Plaza-Kearney, Lodging, \$487.80; Dept of Revenue, State Tax, \$3,892.19; Fairfield-North Platte, Lodging, \$107.00; Kirk Fellhoelter, Phone, \$531.33; Holly Hjelmstad, Phone, \$40.00; Matthew Martin Hutt PHD, Law Enforcement Costs, \$825.00; J13 Enterprises LLC-Caleb Johnson, Budget Prep, \$4,062.77; Susan Kelly, Phone, \$40.00; Kone, Inspection, \$256.89; LaQuina Inn-Kearney, Lodging, \$107.00; Lighthouse Electrical Contractors, Repairs, \$554.94; Loretta McCoy, Co Treas, RE Taxes, \$5.95; Medical Air Services Assoc, Insurance, \$462.00; Microfilm Imaging Systems, Equip Rental, \$86.00; Mobius Communications Co, Service, \$90.00; Morrill County Health Plan, Emp Share, \$2,244.35; Morrill County Health Plan, Insurance, \$29,114.79; Morrill County Highway Dept, Fuel, \$86.46; NACA, Meals, \$24.00; NACO, Registration, \$175.00; Sarah Paisley, Mileage, \$86.46; Zeth Patterson, Supplies, \$19.00; Platte Valley Bank, HSA Accts, \$1,247.91; Platte Valley Bank, Federal Withholding, Social Security & Medicare, \$12,413.43; Principal Life Insurance Co, Group Life, \$162.68; Quill LLC, Supplies, \$208.72; Regional Care Inc, Health Insurance, \$20,774.05; Jean Rhodes, Public Defender, \$2,092.24; Timothy W. Rice, Supplies, \$85.59; Katlyn Rosas, Meals & Mileage, \$528.25; Becki Schlager, Court Reporting, \$1,398.75; Sirchie Acquisiton Co LLC, Law Enforcement Supplies, \$96.55; State of NE-Dept of Admin Data Processing Costs & Teletype, \$825.60; U S Bank, Data Processing, Meals, Lodging, Registration, Equip, Phone, Repairs, Supplies & Misc, \$2,972.30; Valley Tire & Service LLC, Mileage, \$85.08; Xerox Financial Services, Equip Rental, \$1,056.55; General Employees, Salaries, \$58,929.12.

ROAD/BRIDGE FUND

American Family Life Insurance, Insurance, \$549.72; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp, Retirement, \$2,985.07; Black Hills Energy, Service, \$1,884.34; Bomgaars Supply Inc, Repairs, Tools & Supplies, \$349.03; Dana Cadwallader, Phone, \$40.00; Dan Carnine, Gravel, \$50,000.00; Century Link, Service, \$119.60; Charter Communications, Service, \$109.98; City of Bridgeport, Service, \$475.34; Colonial Life Insurance, Insurance, \$24.75; Dept. of Revenue, State Tax, \$1,509.19; Ronald G. Franklin, Phone, \$40.00; Bryan Hoerler, Phone, \$40.00; Medical Air Services Assoc, Insurance, \$238.00; Justin Mitchell, Phone, \$40.00; Morrill County Health Plan, Emp Share, \$1,097.98; Morrill County Health Plan, Health Insurance, \$14,357.75; NE Child Support, Child Support, \$156.00; NE Public Power, Service, \$56.26; Platte Valley Bank, HSA Accts, \$400.00; Platte Valley Bank, Federal Withholding, Social Security & Medicare, \$5,387.55; Principal Life Ins Co, Group Life, \$106.15; Regional Care Inc, Health Insurance,

\$10,695.85; Rocky Mountain Air Solutions, Supplies, \$277.08; U S Bank, Lodging, \$32.36; David Zwirn, Phone, \$40.00; Road Employees, Salaries, \$26,533.99.

HIGHWAY BRIDGE BUYBACK FUND

Gary Wagoner, Road Project, \$6,870.00.

VETERAN'S AID FUND

U S Bank, Grave Markers, \$825.73.

ARPA FUND

Platte River Power Equip, Equip, \$5,900.00.

911 EMERGENCY FUND

Century Link, Service, \$126.22.

W911 FUND

Century Link, Service, \$797.63.

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

Board of Equalization

No Agenda items for Board of Equalization.

The following 2023 monthly reports were received, reviewed and place on file: Oct – I Cardenas, Co Sheriff, K Brandt, Co Clk, L McCoy, Co Treas & S Kelly, Clk of Dist Ct

The September and October 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 money into the Road Fund. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to approve the transfer and to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #2023-55
TRANSFER OF FUNDS

WHEREAS, the Road Fund monies were put into the General Fund a 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 \$100,000.00 into the Road Fund.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 28th day of November, 2023.

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.

Robin Stuart, Hospital Administrator presented the October Financials. Stuart said that tests that were run for pulmonary issues were billed in error to the insurance companies and they have to be recouped. The Board asked if it was an error by the hospital and she said it was from another facility. She said they are waiting for money from CMS and Medicaid.

The Board received the Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent, and Resolution from the Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT). Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Batterman, to authorize the Chairperson, Jeff Metz, to sign the document that certifies that Bryan Hoerler is the Morrill County Highway Superintendent for the year 2023 and to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-56
SIGNING OF THE
YEAR-END CERTIFICATION OF COUNTY HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT
2023

Whereas: State of Nebraska Statutes, sections 39-2302, and 39-2501 through 39-2505 detail the requirements that must be met in order for a county to qualify for an annual Incentive Payment; and

Whereas: The State of Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) requires that each county must annually certify (by December 31st of each year) the appointment(s) of the County Highway Superintendent(s) to the NDOT using the Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent form; and

Whereas: The NDOT requires that such certification shall also include a copy of the documentation of the county highway superintendent's appointment, i.e., meeting minutes showing the appointment of the County Highway Superintendent by their name as it appears on their License (if applicable), their License Numbers (if applicable) and Class of License (if applicable), the type of appointment, i.e., employed under contract (consultant, or interlocal agreement with another county and/or incorporated municipality), and the beginning date of the appointment; and

Whereas: The NDOT also requires that such Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent form shall be signed by the County Board Chairperson and shall include a copy of a resolution of the County Board authorizing the signing of the Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent form by the County Board Chairperson.

Be it resolved that the County Board Chairperson of Morrill County is hereby authorized to sign the Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent form(s).

Adopted this 28th day of November, 2023 at Bridgeport, Nebraska.

Morrill County Board of Commissioners

/s/Jeff Metz
Chairperson

/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.

The Board received the Consulting Contract with Maximus for renewal. The contract is for 3 years for an annual cost of \$4,200. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to renew the contract with Maximus for a 3-Year period. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

In Tim Marquez's absence, Shawn Weibert presented the only bid for the 2002 Ford Econoline Van. The bid was \$2,000 from Jonilee Weibert. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to accept the bid of \$2,000 for the 2002 Ford Econoline Van, as is, from Jonilee Weibert. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Steve Hutchinson was unable to attend the meeting, but sent an estimate for putting rock around the courthouse. The estimate was for the rock, and the labor at a cost of \$1,054.43. The Board said they would like to know the width of where the rock would be. They will talk to Hutchinson at the next meeting.

Zeth Patterson, Custodian, met with the Board regarding the elevator repairs. Patterson said that Kone has ordered the part for the controls. He said the tech said that the elevator repairs need to be done and the cost was over \$100,000. The Board said to hold off on any further repairs until they have to be done. The Board asked Milo Cardenas, County Sheriff, to meet with Patterson and the technician when he puts in the part for the controls and to call Jeff or Josh at that time.

The Board reported on meetings they had attended. Schmidt said he missed the Extension meeting. Batterman reported on the Region I Foundation that is working with the opioid settlement. She said the settlement is down considerably because of Medicaid. She reported on the call from Ron Leal, Emergency manager, that the grant is only going to be for 71% of what they requested so he is going to figure out where the rest is going to come from. She said that Panhandle Health is also applying for a grant for opioid money. Metz reported on the CAPWN meeting, they are still negotiating a contract with Dr. Gage. He said he had attended the Fair Board meeting and the Building committee meeting and the Fund raising meeting. He said that they have raised \$1.2 million in donations.

Kaitlyn Rosas said they are starting the Connect the Dots program with high schools this Thursday. Rose Nelson, County Assessor, reported that Jeanne Camara has passed her Assessors' exam.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Metz adjourned the meeting at 9:07 A.M. Next meeting will be Tuesday, December 12, 2023.

/s/Jeff Metz, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt, County Clerk