

Bridgeport, Nebraska
Tuesday, November 26, 2024

The Morrill County Board of Commissioners met in an open and public regular meeting at 7:30 A.M., Tuesday, November 26, 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 November 21, 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 November 21, 2024. On roll call Commissioners Jeff Metz, Chairman, and Josh Schmidt were present. Absent: Susanna Batterman. 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 Schmidt, seconded by Metz, to approve the Agenda, with the deletion of Board of Equalization and the minutes of the November 12, 2024 meeting. Yeas: Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Correspondence was received and read.

The Commissioners reviewed the following claims:

GENERAL FUND

American Family Life Insurance, Insurance, \$1,140.46; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp, Retirement, \$8,590.48; \$8773.68; AT & T Mobility, Service, \$322.43; B & S Body Shop, Repairs, \$679.04; Bayard Transcript, Law Enforcement Costs, \$48.60; Black Hills Energy, Service, \$931.76; Bomgaars Supply Inc, Supplies & Repairs, \$101.84; Kathy Brandt, Mileage, \$107.20; Bridgeport News-Blade, Publishing, \$8.35; Capital Business Systems, Inc, Data Processing Costs, \$164.21; Century Business Products, Supplies & Equip, \$227.94; Century Link, Service, \$80.75; Charter Communications, Service, \$169.99; City of Bridgeport, Service, \$2,347.04; Colonial Life Insurance, Insurance, \$218.21; Dept of Revenue, State Tax, \$6,997.79; Docu-Shred LLC, Service, \$150.00; Douglas, Kelly, Ostdiek, Snyder, Etc, Court Appointed Counsel, \$727.10; Ashley Fenning, Meals & Mileage, \$426.63; Henne Family Funeral & Cremation, Autopsy, \$1,715.00; Holly Hjelmstad, Phone, \$40.00; Holyoke, Snyder, Longoria, Etc, Court Appointed Counsel, \$580.00; Justice Data Solutions Inc, Data Processing Costs, \$3,000.00; Susan Kelly, Phone & Uniforms, \$88.00; Kone Chicago, Service, \$292.86; L-Tron Corp, Auto Lease, \$245.00; Lighthouse Electrical Contractors, Repairs, \$592.74; Mediation West, Misc, \$50.00; Medical Air Services Assoc, Insurance, \$462.00; MIPA Inc, Supplies, \$1,541.00; Morrill County Community Hospital, Law Enforcement Costs, \$16.00; Morrill County Health Plan, Emp Share, \$2,226.17; Morrill County Health Plan, Insurance, \$29,118.21; Morrill County Highway Dept, Fuel, \$110.76; NACo, Dues, \$450.00; NE Child Support, Child Support, \$274.16; \$236.31; \$274.16; \$236.31; Sarah Paisley, Meals, Mileage & Supplies, \$115.74; Lisa Peters, Supplies, \$64.90; Platte Valley Bank, HSA Accts, \$1,022.91; Platte Valley Bank, Federal Withholding, Social Security & Medicare, \$14,800.49; \$16,262.29; Principal Life Insurance Co, Group Life, \$220.28; \$220.28; Regional Care Inc, Health Insurance, \$27,753.77; Samples, Dean Law LLC, Court Appointed Counsel, \$763.00; Sandhills Repair, Repairs, \$702.27; Scotts Bluff Co Sheriff's Dept, Law Enforcement Costs, \$75.80; State of NE-Dept of Admin, Data Processing Costs, \$288.00; U S Postal Service, Box Rent, \$200.00; U S Bank, Data Processing Supplies & Equip, Fuel, Phone, Registration, Law Enforcement Costs, Lodging, Meals, Uniforms, Supplies & Misc, \$8,660.72; Xerox Financial Services, Equip Rental, \$460.70; XESI Document Solutions, Equip Rental, \$101.02; General Employees, Salaries, \$69,468.32; \$70,307.86.

ROAD/BRIDGE FUND

American Family Life Insurance, Insurance, \$651.52; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp, Retirement, \$3,183.50; \$3,283.08; Dana Cadwallader, Phone, \$40.00; Century Link, Service, \$126.39; Charter Communications, Service, \$109.98; City of Bayard, Service, \$188.67; City of Bridgeport, Service, \$533.09; Colonial Life Insurance, Insurance, \$22.16; Dept of Revenue, State Tax, \$2,551.30; Dooley Oil Inc, Oil, \$1,125.00; Fairfield – Kearney, Lodging, \$278.00; Fastenal Co, Pipes, \$32.53; Filter Care of NE LLC, Repairs, \$107.60; Floyd's Truck Center Inc, Repairs, \$140.78; Ronald G. Franklin, Phone, \$40.00; Groskopf Manufacturing, Culverts, \$1,220.59; Bryan Hoerler, Phone, \$40.00; Masaba, Repairs, \$2,518.27; Medical Air Services Assoc,

Insurance, \$238.00; 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; \$156.00; NE Public Power, Service, \$57.98; Thomas N. Panas, Supplies, \$84.98; Platte Valley Bank, HSA Accts, \$450.00; Platte Valley Bank, Federal Withholding, Social Security & Medicare, \$5,698.98; \$6,336.18; Powerplan, Repairs, \$4,166.63; Principal Life Ins Co, Group Life, \$112.18; \$110.98; Regional Care Inc, Insurance, \$13,964.28; US Bank, Meals, Postage & Fuel, \$108.26; Village of Broadwater, Service, \$111.80; David Zwirn, Phone, \$40.00; Road Employees, Salaries, \$28,297.84; \$29,182.99.

VETERAN'S AID FUND

U S Bank, Grave Markers, \$50.97.

911 EMERGENCY FUND

Century Link, Service, \$423.30.

HOSPITAL BOND FUND

BOK Financial, Bond Pmt, \$182.102.50.

COURTHOUSE BUILDING FUND

Snell Services, Inc, Repairs, \$780.00.

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

Board of Equalization

No minutes for Board of Equalization.

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

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

Loretta McCoy, County Treasurer, said she has to obligate the funds for ARPA before the end of the year. The Board told her the money that is left is obligated to the Sheriff for the repairs on the Jail. She said the LATCF funds do not have to be obligated. The Board said that the money in that fund will be used for the radio system for the Sheriff. McCoy presented a resolution to transfer \$100,000 to the Road Department. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Metz to approve the transfer and to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #2024-41
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 \$100,000.00 into the Road Fund.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 26th day of November, 2024.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/Jeff Metz
Chairman

(S E A L)

/s/Josh Schmidt
Board Member

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt
County Clerk

Yeas: Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried. McCoy also presented a resolution to transfer \$50,000 into the County Building Fund. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Metz to approve the transfer and to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #2024-42
TRANSFER OF FUNDS

WHEREAS, there were not enough funds in the County Building Fund, it is necessary to transfer money into this Fund to pay for the Maintenance of the building. The Morrill County Board of Commissioners orders the County Treasurer to transfer the funds in the amount of \$50,000.00 into the County Building Fund.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 26th day of November, 2024.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/Jeff Metz
Chairman

(S E A L)

/s/Josh Schmidt
Board Member

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt
County Clerk

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

Chairman Metz opened the Public Hearing for the property that should have been reverted back to the landowner in 1990 and now for the sale of said property at 8:00 A.M. The sale of said property will be conducted on the west side of the Courthouse at 9:00 A.M. on December 23, 2024. There being no public comment, Chairman Metz closed the Public Hearing at 8:12 A.M. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Metz, to offer the property for sale on December 23, 2024 and to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #2024-43
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF SELECT PROPERTIES
OF MORRILL COUNTY, NEBRASKA

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Morrill County, Nebraska (the Board) that the sale of the property described as

A Tract of land situated in the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 7, and the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 8, Township 21 North, Range 51 West of the 6th P.M., Morrill County, Nebraska, more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the Southeast corner of Section 7, thence northerly on the east line of Section 7, on an assumed bearing of N 03° 52' 47" E, a distance of 102.00 feet, thence bearing N 27° 23' 44" E, a distance of 83.33 feet, to the Point of Beginning, thence bearing N 03° 52' 08" E, a distance of 1110.00 feet, thence bearing N 89° 33' 32" W, a distance of 192.34 feet, thence bearing S 01° 43' 31" W, a distance of 1016.00 feet, thence bearing S 57° 44' 55" E, a distance of 175.04 feet, to the Point of Beginning, containing an area of 4.20 Acres, more or less.

PORTION OF PARCEL LYING SECTION 7:

Commencing at the Southeast corner of Section 7, thence northerly on the east line of Section 7, on an assumed bearing of N 03° 52' 47" E, a distance of 196.37 feet, thence bearing N 03° 52' 47" E, a distance of 1090.06 feet, thence bearing N 89° 33' 32" W, a distance of 159.25 feet, thence bearing S 01° 43' 31" W, a distance of 1016.00 feet, thence bearing S 57° 44' 55" E, a distance of 137.26 feet, to the Point of Beginning, containing an area of 3.37 Acres±

PORTION OF PARCEL LYING IN SECTION 8:

Commencing at the Southeast corner of Section 7, thence northerly on the east line of Section 7, on an assumed bearing of N 03° 52' 47" E, a distance of 196.37 feet, to the Point of Beginning, thence bearing N 03° 52' 47" E, a distance of 1090.06 feet, thence bearing S 89° 33' 32" E, a distance of 33.10 feet, thence bearing S 03° 52' 08" W, a distance of 1110.00 feet, thence bearing N 57° 44' 55" W, a distance of 37.78 feet, to the Point of Beginning, containing an area of 0.83 Acres±

is in the best interest of the County; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing regarding the sale of these properties and the fair market value of the properties was held on November 26, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to sell these properties at a fair market value with a minimum bid of \$2300 with the County retaining all previously dedicated road rights-of-way.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY FOUND AND DETERMINED AND ORDERED

1. That the properties will be sold by auction to the highest bidder that meets the minimum bid requirement; and
2. That the auction for the properties will be held on Monday, December 23, at 9:00 a.m. on the West Entrance to the Morrill County Courthouse; and
3. That if no bids are received or if the bids received are substantially lower than the fair market value of the properties, the Board reserves the right to negotiate a contract for sale of the properties if such negotiated contract is in the best interest of the County; and
4. That an advertisement for bids on these properties will appear in a legal newspaper in Morrill County at least once 10 days prior to December 23, 2024.

Dated at Bridgeport, Nebraska, this 26th day of November, 2024.

(S E A L) /s/Jeff Metz
Morrill County Board Of Commissioners

Attest: /s/Kathleen L. Brandt
Morrill County Clerk

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

Audrey Elliott Long, Public Defender for Morrill County, met with the Board to renew her contract. She asked for a 6% raise for 2025 and 2026. The Board asked if she would extend the contract to four years and she agreed with a 3% raise for 2027 and 2028. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Metz, to approve a 4 year contract with Audrey Elliott Long, with the amounts of \$53,244.02 for 2025, \$59,618.66 for 2026, \$61,407.22 for 2027 and \$63,249.44 for 2028. Yeas: Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Chairman Metz opened the Public Hearing for vacating part of Road 100 at 8:30 A.M. Hearing no comments from the public, Chairman Metz closed the Public Hearing at 8:35 A.M. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Metz, to vacate a portion of Road 100 and to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #2024-44
FINAL RESOLUTION VACATING ROAD

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF MORRILL COUNTY, NEBRASKA, that a public hearing was held in the Commissioners' Room on the 26th day of November, 2024, at 8:30 A.M., pursuant to notice of public hearing published in the Bridgeport News-Blade for two consecutive weeks previous to such hearing.

WHEREAS the portion of a Morrill County Road that is to be vacated and abandoned is described and located as a 66 foot wide by approximately 4,107 foot long road right-of-way known as Road 100 located in Section 16, Township 20 North, Range 52, and Section 9, Township 20 North, Range 52 West, West of the 6th P.M., in Morrill County, Nebraska.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that at such public hearing zero persons appeared regarding the vacating and abandonment of said road as hereinafter described and the Board being fully advised and upon consideration of the matter hereby orders that the aforementioned road be vacated and abandoned and that the public right-of-way shall be disposed of in the following manner:

Shall revert back to adjacent landowners.

A certified copy of this Resolution shall be filed with the register of deed and indexed against all affected property.

Dated at Bridgeport, Nebraska this 26th day of November, 2024.

(S E A L)

/s/Jeff Metz
Chairman, Morrill County Board of Commissioners

Attest:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt
Morrill County Clerk

Yeas: Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried. Hoerler discussed road business in general.

The Board reported on meetings they had attended. Schmidt reported on the Aging Office meeting and the PADD and Human Development meetings. Metz reported on the Hospital Board meeting and the Building Champions and Fair Board meetings.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Metz adjourned the meeting at 8:53 A.M. Next meeting will be Monday, December 9, 2024.

/s/Jeff Metz, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt, County Clerk

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