

May 22, 2023
North Platte, Nebraska

Meeting of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners. Present were Commissioners Joe Hewgley, Kent Weems, Micaela Wuehler, Chris Bruns, Jerry Woodruff and County Clerk, Rebecca Rossell. Wuehler offered prayer. Woodruff called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

Chairman Woodruff announced the Open Meeting Act with amendments is posted for public review and the county board will comply with the open meeting requirements.

Motion by Weems, seconded by Wuehler to approve the minutes regarding the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners meeting held on May 15, 2023. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

Motion by Wuehler, seconded by Hewgley to receive and order filed the treasurer's receipts. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

Motion by Bruns, seconded by Hewgley to authorize closing county offices for the Juneteenth holiday on June 19, 2023. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

Motion by Weems, seconded by Hewgley to authorize the Chairman to sign the right-of-way application submitted by Consolidated Companies Inc. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

Motion by Wuehler, seconded by Hewgley to authorize the Chairman to sign the right-of-way application submitted by Allo Communications Inc. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

Motion by Bruns, seconded by Weems to receive and order filed the fee report submitted by the County Sheriff for \$1683.06. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

Motion by Hewgley, seconded by Weems to approve the agreement with Marcia Trego for referee services for 2023 property valuation protests as presented. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

Motion by Weems, seconded by Hewgley to authorize the Chairman to sign the right-of-way application submitted by McCook Public Power District with definition of a specific route and immediate supervision of the project. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners recessed at 9:24 A.M. and the Lincoln County Board of Equalization convened.

Chairman Woodruff announced the Open Meeting Act with amendments is posted for public review and the county board will comply with the open meeting requirements.

Deputy County Assessor, Pat Collins appeared along with County Treasurer, Alex Gurciullo.

Motion by Hewgley, seconded by Wuehler to approve the minutes regarding the Lincoln County Board of Equalization meeting held on May 15, 2023. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

Motion by Weems, seconded by Hewgley to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the certificates of correction or refund submitted by the County Assessor on real property. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

Motion by Hewgley, seconded by Weems to approve the motor vehicle tax exemption application submitted by American National Red Cross as recommended for approval by the County Treasurer. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

The Lincoln County Board of Equalization adjourned at 9:27 A.M. and the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners reconvened.

County Sheriff, Jerome Kramer, swore in Ty Staman and Jeremy Parker as Lincoln County Deputy Sheriffs.

Motion by Weems, seconded by Bruns to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the grant award packet for the 2024 Community-based Juvenile Services Aide grant for \$123,238.00 from the Nebraska Crime Commission. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

Valerio Jansante, Community Liaison for Congressman Adrian Smith, presented an update on the Congressman's activities.

District Court Judge, Cindy Volkmer & County Court Judge, Tanya Roberts-Connick appeared to discuss court appointed attorney fees. After much discussion among the 11th Judicial District Judges, it was decided to increase the court appointed attorney fees to \$125.00 per hour as of July 1, 2023. There had not been an increase in fees for approximately 15 years. They also discussed the possibility of having incremental increases each year so the increase would not be so much in one year. They understand this will affect the county budget, but at \$125.00 an hour the attorneys will be taking half of the current regular rate. Per Nebraska State Statute §29-305 it is the courts responsibility to set the rate.

Commissioners expressed concern about the budget impact of a 25% increase. Judges responded the rate is fair and in line with other districts attorney fees.

Commissioner Hewgley commented that he understood that one attorney was very vocal about wanting this increase. For consistency he does not want to see incremental increases.

Judge Volkmer clarified that she would prefer to see one large increase and not have incremental increases.

Hewgley replied in the affirmative as he feels it would be better for the taxpayer in the end.

Motion by Bruns, seconded by Wuehler to set June 12, 2023, at 9:30 A.M. to amend the 2022-2023 Lincoln County, NE budget as needed. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

County Treasurer, Alex Gurciullo, spoke regarding license plate renewals. Due to an aluminum shortage Lincoln County did not receive all the license plates. She sent out a press release letting residents know that if they wished to have the same license plate number, they would have to reserve it. She stated that the Victory software will not allow her to issue surrendered plates.

Ted Hoatson discussed his personal issue with a license plate he had for many years. He tried to reserve the plate and was told he had to wait. He found out shortly after that his former plate had been issued to someone else. That person was willing to exchange the plate but was told no by the DMV.

Gurciullo asked if a commissioner had asked him to come to the Commissioners meeting or if he came on his own.

Hoatson replied both.

Gurciullo said they must go through all the plates before they can issue surrendered plates.

Discussion was held concerning interlocal rural ambulance agreements with certain villages and rural fire districts. Discussion included prior agreements, ambulance billings, the mutual fire organization and tax levies.

Commissioner Weems indicated that he would like to try and make the other districts, outside the City of North Platte, whole this budget year with the amount they received for the last five years if they had a contract. The ALS (advanced life support) agreement already signed with the City of North Platte skews the final amount allocated. The board could choose to amend the budget for the additional \$26,000.

Commissioner Hewgley stated he would like to see the county stay on the five-year cycle for future contracts. The contract with the City of North Platte is different than what the county is doing with the rural fire departments.

Lynn Swanson told Commissioners that each rural department has an interlocal agreement with the City of North Platte for ALS services.

Roger Lathrop of Sutherland Rural Fire reported they are in the process of switching billing companies after they received information that ALS services could be billed through this other billing company.

Motion by Hewgley, seconded by Weems to enter into a five-year agreement with certain villages and fire districts as listed on the summary sheet with a minimum of \$97,808.65 in funds to be divided among all the districts listed except the City of North Platte with the possibility of an adjustment in the future. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

Highway Supt., Jason Schultz, confirmed that he had solicited three informal bids for the O'Fallons Rd culvert project, but only received one bid.

Motion by Wuehler, seconded by Hewgley to accept the informal bid of Shelco Asphalt and Paving for O'Fallons Rd. culvert project for \$42,456.00. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

Hear concerns from Elected Officials, Department Heads, or their representative.

Approved the following claims as presented for payment. Motion carried.

GENERAL	FUND	NAME		CLAIMS
		A T & T MOBILITY	cont/se	3450.34
		ALEX GURCIULLO	mi	189.95
		ALL MAKERS	su	5025.22
		AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	su	375.63
		BEAR COMMERCIAL FLOOR CARE	se	687.5
		BERRECKMAN & BAZATA PC LLO	se	1850
		BROUILLETTE DUGAN & TROSHYNSKI	se	7390.64
		BROWNS SHOE FIT	ex	150
		CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS	se	545.33
		CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS INC	rt	193.33
		CDW GOVERNMENT INC	su	78366.01
		DAS STATE ACCOUNTING	se	184.6
		CERVELLE CONSULTING SERVICES INC	eq	450
		CITY OF NORTH PLATTE	se	52414.99
		CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT	se	1159
		COLFER,WOOD,LYONS & WOOD LAWYERS	se	2710.79
		COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS	grant	5848.85
		CONDONS SIGNS	se	2200
		CONSOLIDATED MANAGEMENT CO	se	115.25
		DAS CENTRAL FINANCE	cont	813.06
		DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF	se	23.43

EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	su	1607.22
ECCA	se	50
FAIR LAW OFFICE PC LLO	se	3450
GORDON PETERSON	rt	3201
GRACE JOHNSON	se	25
GUARDIAN RFID/CODEX CORP	se	710
HAMPTON INN KEARNEY	ldg	557
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES/FIN RESPON	se	450
HENRY VOGT	mi	82.53
HITCHCOCK COUNTY TREASURER	ex	3727.5
JASEN RUDOLPH	se	645
LINDEMEIER LAW OFFICE	se	380
KORTNEI SMITH	reb	315.81
MADISON NATIONAL LIFE INS CO INC	ins	104.27
MADISON NATIONAL LIFE INS CO INC	ins	276.89
MENARDS	su	277.01
MENTZER OIL CO	su	95.99
MI6 PIZZA INC	su	40.74
MUNICIPAL LIGHT & WATER	se	370.84
NE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CE	se	360
NEBRASKA HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES	se	576
NORTH PLATTE HARDWARE LLC	su	47.97
NORTH PLATTE TELEGRAPH	se	125.56
NORTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE	se	318.92
NPZA	se	200
PEDERSON LAW OFFICE	se	190
PENN EMBLEM COMPANY	ex	30.33
RECOGNITION UNLIMITED	se	125.95
SOFTWARE UNLIMITED	eq	3801.6
SQUEEGEE CLEAN WINDOW CLEANING	se	759
STAPLES CREDIT PLAN	su	2818.64
THE HOME DEPOT PRO	su	1198.57
TROYER ENTERPRISES	su	104.2
U S BANK	se	349.96
U S BANK	se	330.24
U S BANK	se	435.44
U S BANK	se	823.15
U S BANK	se	19.26
U S BANK	se	321.09
U S BANK	se	893.87
U S BANK	se	128.32
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN	mi	169.59
VERIZON	su	59.04

		VICTORIA HERVEY	se	1933.49
		WHITETAIL SCREEN PRINT	ex	208
		911 CUSTOM	se	18577.17
ROAD	FUND	A T & T	se	98.86
		ARROW SEED COMPANY INC	se	10149.5
		B G & S TRANSMISSIONS	se	3800
		BLACK HILLS STAGE LINES	se	155.11
		COUNTRY PARTNERS COOPERATIVE	su	194.14
		CROELL INC	su	9010.86
		GARRETT TIRE	su	283.6
		IDEAL LINEN SUPPLY	su	125.66
		LINCOLN COUNTY WEED CONTROL	su	1629.5
		MC COOK PUBLIC POWER	se	96.66
		MIDWEST ELECTRIC MEMB CORP	se	216.84
		MILLER USED TIRE WAREHOUSE	su	500.07
		NE TRUCK CENTER INC	se	302.02
		PAULSENS INC	su	4014.1
		RDO TRUCK CENTER CO.	se	3047.11
		ROAD GROOM MANUFACTURING	su	2374.59
		TITAN MACHINERY	se	8022.87
		TOXIC GRAPHICS	su	140.22
SLF FND	INS	FIRST CONCORD BENEFITS GROUP LLC	ins	3549.06
BUILDING	FUND	HINTON'S LOCK & ALARM	rep	45

The meeting was adjourned at 12:19 A.M.

Advance notice and the agenda for the May 22, 2023, board meetings were sent to the county board and all others requesting the same. Advance public notice (includes agenda) of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners meeting and the Lincoln County Board of Equalization meeting was posted at the Lincoln County Courthouse, City Hall, and the Lincoln County website on May 19, 2023; and was also emailed to the media on May 19, 2023.

The agenda for the meetings to be held on Tuesday, May 30, 2023, will be kept continually current and open for inspection at the office of the Lincoln County Clerk. The regular meeting of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners will be at the Lincoln County Courthouse in the Commissioners Room at 9:00 A.M. The regular meeting of the Lincoln County Board of Equalization will be at the Lincoln County Courthouse in the Commissioners Room at 9:15 A.M.

Rebecca J. Rossell
Lincoln County Clerk