

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

October 31, 2023

The Cherry County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session on October 31, 2023 in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Cherry County Courthouse, as per notice in the Valentine Midland News every week, with the agenda being on file in the office of the County Clerk. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman DeNaeyer. Roll call was taken. Present for the meeting were Cherry County Commissioners Martin DeNaeyer, Nina Nelson, Mike McConaughy, and Cherry County Clerk Brittny Longcor. The Open Meetings Act Poster was acknowledged by Chairman DeNaeyer and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Board of Commissioners regular meeting minutes from October 10, 2023 were read. DeNaeyer moved and Nelson seconded to approve the minutes as read. Roll call vote: Aye – Nelson, DeNaeyer, McConaughy. The motion carried.

The Board of Equalization meeting minutes from October 10, 2023 were read. McConaughy moved and Nelson seconded to approve the minutes as read. Roll call vote: Aye – DeNaeyer, McConaughy, Nelson. The motion carried.

The Board of Corrections meeting minutes from October 10, 2023 were read. DeNaeyer moved and Nelson seconded to approve the minutes as read. Roll call vote: Aye – McConaughy, Nelson, DeNaeyer. The motion carried.

The Board of Commissioners special meeting minutes from October 25, 2023 were read. DeNaeyer moved and Nelson seconded to approve the minutes as read. Roll call vote: Aye – Nelson, DeNaeyer, McConaughy. The motion carried.

DeNaeyer moved and Nelson seconded to approve claims. Roll call vote: Aye – DeNaeyer, McConaughy, Nelson. The motion carried.

October 31, 2023 CHERRY COUNTY CLAIMS LISTING

Claims were presented in the amount of	\$	279,198.30	.
and disallowed in the amount of	\$	-	.
A warrant was ordered drawn on the General Fund in the amount of			\$ 279,198.30

GENERAL FUND

AFLAC	Withholdings/Insurance	\$3,037.37
Ameritas Life Insurance/Retirement	Withholdings/Retirement	\$20,943.80
Ameritas Life Insurance/Dental	Withholdings/Insurance	\$2,832.30
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance Funding	\$2,121.00
Cherry County Sheriff	Reimbursement	\$47.17
Cherry County Health Account	Health Claims Funding	\$38,601.36
EFTPS	Withholdings/Taxes	\$38,953.26
HM Life Insurance Company	Health Insurance Funding	\$22,035.28
AUL Health Benefit Trust	Health Reimbursement Arrangement Funding	\$2,900.00
NE Department of Revenue	Withholdings/Taxes	\$6,432.98
Petty Cash	Reimbursement	\$35.00
Eric Scott Law	Clerical Salary/Rent/Telephone/Equipment	\$8,262.91
Vision Service Plan	Withholdings/Insurance	\$517.90
General Fund Payroll	Gross Wages & Salaries	\$180,080.10
	GROSS TOTAL	\$326,800.43
	Adjustment for employees' share of withholdings	(\$47,602.13)
	NET TOTAL	\$279,198.30

Claims were presented in the amount of \$ 134,306.13 .
 and disallowed in the amount of \$ - .
 A warrant was ordered drawn on the Road Fund in the amount of \$ 134,306.13

ROAD FUND

AFLAC	Withholdings/Insurance	\$1,697.87
Ameritas Life Insurance/Retirement	Withholdings/Retirement	\$10,035.69
Ameritas Life Insurance/Dental	Withholdings/Insurance	\$1,285.68
Assurity Life Insurance Company	Withholdings/Insurance	\$14.50
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Claim Funding	\$990.00
Cherry County Health Account	Health Claim Funding	\$18,781.54
EFTPS	Taxes/Withholdings	\$18,833.92
HM Life Insurance Company	Health Claim Funding	\$10,680.65
Legal Shield	Services	\$101.70
MassMutual	Withholdings/Retirement	\$300.00
AUL Health Benefit Trust	Health Reimbursement Arrangement Funding	\$1,450.00
NE Department of Revenue	Taxes/Withholdings	\$2,990.75
Vision Service Plan	Withholdings/Insurance	\$266.67
Road Fund Payroll	Gross Wages & Salaries	\$90,170.35
	GROSS TOTAL	\$157,599.32
	Adjustment for employees' share of withholdings	(\$23,293.19)
	NET TOTAL	\$134,306.13

Claims were presented in the amount of \$ 6,224.53 .
 and disallowed in the amount of \$ - .
 A warrant was ordered drawn on the Visitors Promotion Fund in the amount of \$ 6,224.53

VISITORS PROMOTION FUND

AFLAC	Withholdings/Insurance	97.37
Ameritas Life Insurance/Retirement	Withholdings/Retirement	\$613.27
Ameritas Life Insurance/Dental	Withholdings/Insurance	\$56.46
EFTPS	Taxes/Withholdings	\$1,086.88
NE Department of Revenue	Taxes/Withholdings	\$148.15
Vision Service Plan	Withholdings/Insurance	\$31.84
Visitors Promotion Fund Payroll	Gross Wages & Salaries	\$5,451.32
	GROSS TOTAL	\$7,485.29
	Adjustment for employees' share of withholdings	(\$1,260.76)
	NET TOTAL	\$6,224.53

Claims were presented in the amount of \$ 41,924.61 .
 and disallowed in the amount of \$ - .
 A warrant was ordered drawn on the Health Claims Fund in the amount of \$ 41,924.61

HEALTH CLAIMS FUND

Cherry County Clerk	Health Insurance Claims	\$41,924.61
	TOTAL	\$41,924.61

Claims were presented in the amount of \$ 10,887.22 .
 and disallowed in the amount of \$ - .
 A warrant was ordered drawn on the Emergency Management Fund in the amount of \$ 10,887.22

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND

AFLAC	Withholdings/Insurance	9.43
Ameritas Life Insurance/Retirement	Withholdings/Retirement	\$762.33
Ameritas Life Insurance/Dental	Withholdings/Insurance	\$112.92
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Claim Funding	\$55.00
Cherry County Health Account	Health Claim Funding	\$1,417.96

EFTPS	Taxes/Withholdings	\$2,025.52
HM Life Insurance Company	Health Claim Funding	\$756.52
AUL Health Benefit Trust	Health Reimbursement Arrangement Funding	\$100.00
NE Department of Revenue	Taxes/Withholdings	\$305.35
Vision Service Plan	Withholdings/Insurance	\$63.68
Emergency Management Fund Payroll	Gross Wages & Salaries	\$7,576.26
	GROSS TOTAL	\$13,184.97
	Adjustment for employees' share of withholdings	(\$2,297.75)
	NET TOTAL	\$10,887.22

Valentine Public Library Director Caroline Graham and Library Board member, Maureen Johnson, met with the Board to present an Interlocal Agreement Renewal. The renewal contains a 3% increase from the prior year and was included in the adopted 2023-2024 Cherry County budget. McConaughy moved and Nelson seconded to approve the Valentine Public Library Interlocal Agreement Renewal and authorize the Chairman to sign. Roll call vote: Aye – McConaughy, Nelson, DeNaeyer. The motion carried.

NACO Deputy Director Candace Meredith updated the Board regarding the NACO Legislative Conference, NACO December Conference, cybersecurity grant opportunities, ARPA funds, NACO West progress, and a statewide salary study that will be sent to all County Clerks.

The Board met with Kathy Nellor, Judd Allen, Mike Boden, and Dennis Maggart to discuss BlueCross BlueShield Wellness Solutions. Information was presented on an interactive platform to promote and incentivize employee participation in their health and wellness. The previous wellness program was discussed and the Board indicated that they would prefer something similar to that.

The Board reviewed the certification submitted by Treasurer Kathy Hammond of the distress warrants issued to the Cherry County Sheriff. 48 distress warrants were delivered, totaling \$14,415.43 in taxes due.

Road Supervisor Doug Boyer updated the Board regarding equipment repairs, inspection of the striping on N. Kilgore Rd, and the completion of video documentation of Lehrman Road.

DeNaeyer moved and McConaughy seconded to declare the following Road Department equipment as surplus and authorize Mr. Boyer to consign the equipment as appropriate. Roll call vote: Aye – Nelson, DeNaeyer, McConaughy. The motion carried.

2-203	GMC	DUMP TRUCK	2001	C7H064	1GDS7H4C81J506092
3-202	INTERNATIONAL	TRUCK	2011		1HSDJ SJ T6BJ 400670
3-204	INTERNATIONAL	TRACTOR TRUCK	2011		1HSDJ STXBJ 400669
9-200	TRAILBLAZER	BELLY DUMP	1996	S-4202	1C9SS4225T1424467
9-208	LOAD KING	TRAILER	2006	2066D	5LKD3723661025790
9-209		FUEL TRAILER	1990		
9-211	LOAD KING	BOTTOM DUMP	2006	PULL TYPE	5LKD3723061025784
9-215		BOX TRAILER	1968		
9-216		BOX TRAILER	1954		16491
18-204	CASE	DISC & TRAILER			522429
18-407	HAY BUSTER	BALE BUSTER	1983	256	33689

DIST #2	PICK UP BOX TRAILER
DIST #2	2 WHEEL CAR DOLLY
DIST #2	SEED SPREADER ON 2 WHEELS
DIST #2	JD UTILITY TRACTOR BLADE
DIST #2	2 MISC OLD PICK UP PLOWS
DIST #2	MISC FOLD OUT RAMPS
DIST #2	MISC BUCKET FORKS (SCREW TO LOADER BUCKET)
DIST #2	SCARIFIER THAT CAME ON MOTOR GRADER
DIST #2	6-RECAPED 285-75X24.5
DIST #2	4-20.5 X 25 OLD LOADER TIRES
DIST #2	23.5 X 25 OLD LOADER TIRES
DIST #2	HANDICAP LIFT

Highway Superintendent Lloyd Smith met with the Board to discuss engineering costs and estimates for the replacement of Anderson Bridge.

Nelson moved and DeNaeyer seconded to adopt Resolution #2023-11 Signing of the Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent 2023. Roll call vote: Aye – DeNaeyer, McConaughy, Nelson. The motion carried.

The Board reviewed documents needed to complete the process of reimbursing Cherry County for repairing underground sprinklers that were damaged during construction of the highway project. McConaughy moved and Nelson seconded to approve State of Nebraska Department of Transportation Catch All Contract re: Project #83-4(117) Tract #3 & Tract #35 and authorize the Chairman to sign. Roll call vote: Aye – McConaughy, Nelson, DeNaeyer. The motion carried.

Emergency Management Director Matt Sandoz and Deputy Emergency Manager Jessica Coyle met with the Board to discuss a siren grant for the Village of Merriman. The Hazard Mitigation Plan will be updated to include the grant and no Board action is needed until the grant is applied for. No Board action was taken on the Emergency Management Grant re: Merriman Siren agenda item.

Director Sandoz and Deputy Coyle provided an EM update regarding SRS radio grants, an issue with one of the microwaves for the Motorola dispatch consoles project, EMPG has been submitted, and upcoming NG911 ESInet installation.

Director Sandoz spoke with the Board regarding costs for satellite phones and that they aren't utilized. DeNaeyer moved and McConaughy seconded to not renew the contract with Global Star for satellite phones. Roll call vote: Aye – Nelson, DeNaeyer, McConaughy. The motion carried.

Comments from the public were received during the allotted time.

McConaughy moved and DeNaeyer seconded to designate Chairman DeNaeyer as the person casting the ballot for Cherry County and Commissioner Nelson as the alternate during the December 2023 NACO Election. Roll call vote: Aye – DeNaeyer, McConaughy, Nelson. The motion carried.

Veterans Service Officer Shawn Hamling met with the Board to discuss Operation Greenlight to bring awareness to hardships faced by veterans and their families transitioning from active service. Nelson moved and McConaughy seconded to adopt Resolution #2023-12 Supporting Operation Green Light for Veterans. Roll call vote: Aye – McConaughy, Nelson, DeNaeyer. The motion carried.

The Board recessed from regular session to convene as a Board of Equalization from 1:15 p.m. to 1:17 p.m.

Correspondence from the Nebraska State Fire Marshal Agency Boiler Inspection Division was reviewed. Commissioner DeNaeyer reported regarding the quarterly safety meeting and the NIRMA conference he had attended.

The Board recessed from regular session to convene as a Board of Corrections from 1:30 p.m. to 2:04 p.m.

Keya Paha County Commissioners: Corey Nilson, Mike Tuerk, John Frederick, County Attorney Eric Scott, EM Director Sandoz, Deputy EM Coyle, and Keya Paha County Deputy EM Timothy Wyrick met with the Board to discuss the Interlocal Agreement for Emergency Management Services between the counties of Keya Paha and Cherry. The possibility of a new interlocal agreement with changes to the payment terms was discussed. Mr. Scott will draft a new interlocal agreement for consideration by both Boards.

The Board, Keya Paha County Board, Mr. Scott, Director Sandoz, Deputy EM Coyle, and Deputy EM Wyrick spoke via Microsoft Teams with John Ericson of the Nebraska Forest Service and Katie Reinmiller, UNL Grants Specialist, regarding the Community Wildfire Defense Grant. The disposal of slash piles, wildfire risk assessment portals, administration of the grant, and timing of the grant award were discussed. The possibility of restructuring and rewriting the grant for next year with the direct involvement of the Forest Service was agreed by all present to be the best route to take. No Board action was taken on the agenda item regarding the Community Wildfire Defense Grant.

Pursuant to the strategy discussed during the October 25th special meeting, Mr. Scott presented a purchase agreement, with a tentative December 1 closing date. The agreement is contingent upon a building inspection, with an inspector of the county's choosing. If the inspection comes back unfavorably there is an option to allow the seller to cure or the agreement is voided. The agreement allows for partial possession prior to closing and upon a satisfactory inspection allows for immediate access to finished offices and ADA compliant restrooms. Nelson moved and McConaughy seconded to authorize the Chairman to enter into the purchase agreement as provided by the County Attorney. Roll call vote: Aye – DeNaeyer, McConaughy, Nelson. The motion carried.

From 3:26 p.m. to 4:03 pm the Board, County Attorney, and Keya Paha County Board toured the KPCC New Generations building.

The Board reviewed and signed a Payroll Change Notice as presented by Supervisor Boyer. Supervisor Boyer requested that the Board consider shortening the hours that road employees work per week from 45 to 40 and increasing the hourly wage.

At 4:18 p.m., with no further business to come before the Board, Chairman DeNaeyer declared the meeting adjourned.

These minutes are not the official record and may be corrected. A copy of the approved, official minutes is available to the public in the Cherry County Clerk's Office.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MINUTES

October 31, 2023

The Cherry County Board of Commissioners convened as a Board of Equalization on October 31, 2023 in the Cherry County Commissioners Meeting Room of the Cherry County Courthouse, as per notice published October 11, 2023 in the Valentine Midland News, with the agenda being on file in the office of the County Clerk. The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m. by Chairman DeNaeyer. Present for the meeting were Cherry County Commissioners Martin DeNaeyer, Nina Nelson, Mike McConaughy, and Cherry County Clerk Brittny Longcor. The Open Meetings Act Poster was acknowledged by Chairman DeNaeyer.

There was no business to come before the Board.

At 1:17 p.m. Chairman DeNaeyer declared the meeting adjourned.

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BOARD OF CORRECTIONS MINUTES

October 31, 2023

The Cherry County Board of Commissioners convened as a Board of Corrections on October 31, 2023 in the Cherry County Commissioners Meeting Room of the Cherry County Courthouse, as per notice published October 11, 2023 in the Valentine Midland News, with the agenda being on file in the office of the County Clerk. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chairman DeNaeyer. Present for the meeting were Cherry County Commissioners Martin DeNaeyer, Nina Nelson, Mike McConaughy, Cherry County Clerk Brittney Longcor, Cherry County Justice Center Administrator Sharon Hesse, and Cherry County Attorney Eric Scott. The Open Meetings Act Poster was acknowledged by Chairman DeNaeyer.

Mr. Scott presented a draft resolution for the Board to review concerning the policy of training Justice Center employees as both corrections officers and dispatchers. Administrator Hesse stated that there are some current employees who might be averse to such a requirement. The Board discussed adopting the policy to leave the terms and conditions of employment for current employees unchanged and to implement the requirement for employees hired after this date.

Nelson moved and McConaughy seconded to adopt Resolution #2023-13. Roll call vote: Aye – Nelson, DeNaeyer, McConaughy. The motion carried.

Resolution #2023-13

It is the policy, as of this date, of the Cherry County Board of Corrections that all new employees of the Cherry County Justice Center shall be trained as both corrections officers and dispatchers and each employee shall demonstrate a competence to perform both functions. The Cherry County Justice Center Administrator shall implement such programming as is necessary to promote and ensure compliance and implementation of this policy.

At 2:04 p.m. Chairman DeNaeyer declared the meeting adjourned.

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