

Thomas County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
December 19, 2023

The Thomas County Board of Commissioners convened in open and public session on Tuesday, December 15, 2023 at 8:30 a.m., in the Commissioners meeting room of the Thomas County Courthouse, Thedford NE. Members present were Pam Moody and Charles Daly. Motion made by Moody and second by Daly to excuse member Lewis Herbaugh. Roll call vote: Ayes – Daly, Moody. Nays – none. Absent – Herbaugh. Motion carried.

Also present were board secretary/County Clerk Lorissa Hartman, County Treasurer Andrea Thomas, road employees Doug Heavican and Keith Hartman, County Highway Superintendent Lloyd Smith, County Weed Superintendent Rich Cook and County Sheriff Joseph Smith.

Chair Moody stated open meeting guidelines are posted as required by law and copies are available, if requested.

Notice of meeting was given by publication in the Thomas County Herald on December 7, 2023.

Motion made by Daly and second by Moody to adopt the December 19, 2023 regular meeting agenda. Roll call: Ayes – Moody, Daly. Nays -none. Absent – Herbaugh. Motion carried.

Motion made by Daly and second by Moody to approve the December 5, 2023 regular meeting minutes as published in the Thomas County Herald on December 14, 2023. Roll call vote: Ayes – Daly, Moody. Nays – none. Absent – Herbaugh. Motion carried.

Road discussion:

The old Mintle bridge has been removed by Hoevett Construction; all the old material was hauled to the county site at the airport. The road department will sort through the material to see if anything can be used. The unusable material will be placed in a hole and maybe with the assistance of the fire department be burnt.

Keith visited with the board about purchasing new LED flashing lights for the graders that will flash white and blue for better visibility during snow. The county will file this expense through the NIRMA Assist grant for reimbursement.

Discussion was held on having Jim Sevier do snow removal in Seneca and surrounding drives and having Troy Collins do snow removal at the courthouse and assigning surrounding drives around Thedford.

The board will work on establishing a road foreman position description at their January meetings.

Keith asked Rich Cook for vendor information on auto gate sills.

Correspondence presented. No action taken.

Motion made by Moody and second by Daly to pay claims as presented. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Daly. Nays – none. Absent – Herbaugh. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND-

BORDERS LAW OFFICE	ATTY FEES	695.90
CUSTER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	UTILITIES	458.12
DAS STATE ACCOUNTING-CENTRAL	SERVICES	150.00
EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	SUPPLIES	186.66
EWOLDTS GROCERY INC	SUPPLIES	25.69
GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES LLC	FREIGHT	42.17
LORISSA HARTMAN	MILEAGE/MEAL VIN	200.97
HOOKER COUNTY TREASURER	INSPECTION	10.00
LINDEMEIER LAW OFFICE	ATTY FEES	25.00
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES	DUES	450.00
THOMAS CO TREASURER	POSTAGE	411.95
ANDREA THOMAS	MILEAGE	180.78
U S BANK	FUEL	105.76
VERIZON WIRELESS	PHONE	80.04

ROAD FUND-		
CUSTER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	UTILITIES	79.83
KRIS GANOUNG	LOT RENT 2023	300.00
NIOBRARA VALLEY CONSULTANTS LLC	SERVICES	2443.80
POWERPLAN	REPAIRS	1226.37

EXTENSION FUND-		
CROSSROADS AUTO REPAIR SPECIALISTS	REPAIRS	683.57

LIBRARY FUND-		
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICE, INC	SUPPLIES	121.95
APPLIED CONNECTIVE TECHNOLOGIES	SERVICES	295.00
CONNIE BROWELEIT	CHRISTMAS DECO	34.82

BOOKMOBILE FUND-		
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICE, INC	BOOKS	62.24
BRODART CO.	BOOKS	241.50

ARPA FUND-		
K C ELECTRIC	SERVICES	1871.28

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT FUND-		
SANDHILLS AREA CHILDCARE	GRANT DISBURSE	2000.00

Office reports:

Clerk reported that the organizational meeting will begin at 8:15 a.m. on January 2nd with the regular meeting to follow.

Election deadlines for the 2024 election were reviewed.

The clerk reported on the NEMA cyber security grant of \$9,000. Once the completed documents are returned from NEMA the clerk will reach out to Applied Connective.

Treasurer presented the November financial report. All tax statements were mailed out last week.

Sheriff reported that he will have completed his obligation with the forest contract this week. Attorney General Mike Hilgers is supposed to be through Thedford tonight and will be stopping to visit with him. NIRMA will be conducting an assessment of the Sheriff's office in January.

Emergency Manager report: The Thedford Fire Department attended electric vehicle fire training. Discussion followed on how to handle this type of fire along with the additional equipment that will be needed for emergencies involving electric vehicles. Joseph provided information to the officials on FEMA courses that can be taken online.

Discussion was held on the NACO conference last week in Kearney on the EPIC consumption tax petition. The Treasurer provided information to the board on the pros and cons for the consumption tax.

Motion made by Daly and second by Moody to approve all office/fee reports. Roll call vote: Ayes – Daly, Moody. Nays – none. Absent – Herbaugh. Motion carried.

Motion made by Moody and second by Daly to approve the change of corporate manager on the Sandhills Corral Liquor license. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Daly. Nays – none. Absent – Herbaugh. Motion carried.

County Weed Superintendent Rich Cook presented the annual weed report to the board. Motion made by Moody and second by Daly to approve/accept the annual weed report. Roll call vote: Ayes – Daly, Moody. Nays – none. Absent – Herbaugh. Motion carried.

No public comment.

Chair Moody adjourned the meeting at 10:27 a.m.

The organizational meeting of the Thomas County Board of Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at 8:15 a.m. with the regular meeting to be held at 8:30 a.m., in the Commissioners

meeting room of the Thomas County Courthouse, Thedford, NE. An agenda will be kept continually current and available for public inspection in the office of the Thomas County Clerk during regular business hours. Additions to the agenda may be made up to 24 hours before the meeting.

Thomas County Board of Commissioners

Attest:

Pamela S. Moody, Chair

Lorissa Hartman, Thomas County Clerk