

Thomas County Board of Commissioners  
Organizational Meeting Minutes  
January 2, 2024

The Thomas County Board of Commissioners convened in open and public session at 8:15 a.m., in the Commissioners meeting room of the Thomas County Courthouse, Thedford, NE. Members present were Pam Moody, Charles Daly and Lewis Herbaugh. Also present were board secretary/County Clerk Lorissa Hartman, County Treasurer Andrea Thomas, County Highway Superintendent Lloyd Smith, county road employees Doug Heavican and Keith Hartman.

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 21, 2023.

Motion made by Herbaugh and second by Daly to adopt the organizational meeting agenda with the correction to item #12, [www.thomascountyne.gov](http://www.thomascountyne.gov). Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Daly, Herbaugh. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Daly and second by Herbaugh to elect Pam Moody as the 2024 Chairperson. Roll call vote: Ayes – Daly, Herbaugh. Nays – none. Abstain – Moody. Motion carried.

Motion made by Herbaugh and second by Moody to elect Charles Daly as the 2024 Vice Chair. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Herbaugh. Nays – none. Abstain – Daly. Motion carried.

Motion made by Moody and second by Daly to set the regular board meeting dates as the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday with the meetings to begin at 8:30 a.m. Roll call vote: Ayes – Herbaugh, Daly, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Daly and second by Moody to set the following deadlines for meetings:

Notice in the paper – 10 days prior to the meeting

Claims turned into the County Clerk's office by the Friday before the meeting.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Herbaugh, Daly. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Daly and second by Herbaugh to set the 2024 observed holiday dates as: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – January 15<sup>th</sup>, President's Day – February 19<sup>th</sup>, Good Friday – March 29<sup>th</sup>, Arbor Day – April 26<sup>th</sup>, Memorial Day – May 27<sup>th</sup>, Juneteenth Day – June 19<sup>th</sup>, Independence Day – July 4<sup>th</sup>, Labor Day – September 2<sup>nd</sup>, Columbus Day – October 14<sup>th</sup>, Veterans' Day – November 11<sup>th</sup>, Thanksgiving Day & the Friday After – November 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day – December 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> and New Year's Day – January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

Roll call vote: Ayes – Daly, Herbaugh, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Daly and second by Moody to set the Thomas County Herald as the official news publication for Thomas County. Roll call vote: Ayes – Herbaugh, Daly, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Moody and second by Herbaugh to set [www.thomascountyne.gov](http://www.thomascountyne.gov) as the official county website. Roll call vote: Ayes – Daly, Moody, Herbaugh. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Daly and second the Moody approving Resolution #2024-1, selecting Security First Bank as a county depository. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Daly, Herbaugh. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Moody and second by Daly approving Resolution #2024-2, authorizing the Thomas County Treasurer to invest funds. Roll call vote: Ayes – Herbaugh, Daly, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Daly and second by Herbaugh approving Resolution #2024-3, selecting Western Nebraska Bank as a county depository. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Daly, Herbaugh. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Daly and second by Moody to appoint Richard Cook as the Thomas County Weed Superintendent for 2024. Roll call vote: Ayes – Daly, Moody, Herbaugh. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Moody and second by Daly to appoint Joseph Smith as the Thomas County Emergency Manager Director for 2024. Roll call vote: Ayes – Herbaugh, Daly, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Daly and second by Herbaugh to appoint Lloyd Smith as the Thomas County Highway Superintendent for 2024. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Daly, Herbaugh. Nays – none. Motion carried.

The agreement with Thomas County and Lloyd Smith for county highway superintendent services was tabled until Lloyd could provide the documents.

Motion made by Daly and second by Moody to appoint Lorissa Hartman as the Thomas County Zoning Administrator for 2024. Roll call vote: Ayes – Daly, Moody, Herbaugh. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Daly and second by Herbaugh to appoint Richard Cook as the Thomas County Veterans' Service Officer for 2024. Roll call vote: Ayes – Herbaugh, Daly, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Daly and second by Herbaugh to make the following board appointments:

Region II – Pam Moody

West Central District Health Department – Charles Daly & Ronda Haumann

West Central Area on Aging – Pam Moody

Region 26 – Joseph Smith

Lexington Solid Waste – Lewis Herbaugh

West Central Development District – Charles Daly

Sandhills R C & D – Pam Moody

Thomas County Safety Committee – Lewis Herbaugh  
Thomas County Planning Commission liaison – Pam Moody.  
Roll call vote: Ayes -Moody, Daly, Herbaugh. Nays – none. Motion carried.

No public comment.

Chair Moody adjourned the organizational meeting at 8:36 a.m.

Thomas County Board of Commissioners

Attest:

---

Pamela S. Moody, Chair

---

Lorissa Hartman, County Clerk

Thomas County Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
January 2, 2024

The Thomas County Board of Commissioners convened in open and public session on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at 8:36 a.m., in the Commissioners meeting room of the Thomas County Courthouse, Thedford, NE. Members present were Pam Moody, Charles Daly, and Lewis Herbaugh. Also present were board secretary/County Clerk Lorissa Hartman, County Treasurer Andrea Thomas, County Highway Superintendent Lloyd Smith, county road employees Doug Heavican and Keith Hartman, County Attorney Kurt Arganbright 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 21, 2023.

Motion made by Moody and second by Daly to adopt the January 2, 2024 regular meeting agenda. Roll call vote: Ayes – Daly, Herbaugh, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made Herbaugh and second by Daly to approve the December 19, 2023 regular meeting minutes as published in the Thomas County Herald on December 28, 2023; with the following correction of the published minutes to read the meeting date of December 19, 2023 rather than December 15, 2023. Roll call vote: Ayes – Herbaugh, Daly, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Road discussion:

Discussion was held on the Christmas snowstorm. Issues on East Antelope Valley Rd snow removal was discussed. Commissioner Moody will reach out to the landowners to discuss ideas at the January 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Keith reported that he discovered the bridge on Railroad Street in Seneca was washing behind the wings. Some repair was done but will need to be watched to see if the washing continues. The county may need to locate other equipment to reach the area in concern.

Discussion was held on establishing a job description for a road project manager. More discussion will be held at the next meeting.

Correspondence presented. No action taken.

Commissioner Herbaugh left the meeting at 9:36 a.m.

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

**GENERAL FUND-**

AFLAC	INSURANCE	190.51
AFLAC INC	INSURANCE	40.88
AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	2784.09
BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD	INSURANCE	7765.26

CARROT TOP INDUSTRIES	FLAG	66.57
COLONIAL LIFE & ACCIDENT INS CO	INSURANCE	107.42
CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES INC	PHONE	445.81
RICHARD COOK	REGISTRATION	66.66
EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	SUPPLIES	153.81
FAIRFIELD INN & SUITES	LODGING	1439.40
HEALTHPLAN SERVICES, INC	INSURANCE	64.20
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	1233.65
REGION 26	ASSESSMENT	11497.85
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL	100.34
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	7690.95
THOMAS CO TREASURER	POSTAGE	12.45
U S BANK	SUPPLIES	273.72
VILLAGE OF THEDFORD	UTILITIES	418.50
VISION CARE DIRECT	INSURANCE	4.66
SALARIES		28141.04

**ROAD FUND-**

AFLAC INC	INSURANCE	40.88
AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	884.65
BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD	INSURANCE	2437.55
CALLS GARAGE INC	REPAIRS	954.75
EDWARD H. HOEVET	BRIDGE WORK	9240.00
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	390.11
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL	4044.61
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	2286.17
TRIPLE G REDIMIX, LLC	MATERIAL	392.64
VILLAGE OF THEDFORD	UTILITIES	154.50
WENQUIST, INC	TOOLS	24.40
SALARIES		8184.50

**PRETRIAL FUND-**

VIAERO WIRELESS	PHONE	83.09
-----------------	-------	-------

**VISITORS IMPROVEMENT FUND-**

CARROT TOP INDUSTRIES	FLAGS	558.89
-----------------------	-------	--------

**EXTENSION FUND-**

AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	302.18
BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD	INSURANCE	2437.55
COLONIAL LIFE & ACCIDENT INS CO	INSURANCE	150.14
CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES INC	PHONE	214.39
HOMETOWN LEASING	COPIER LEASE	168.16
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	103.55
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL	20.74
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	619.55
SALARIES		2068.10

**LIBRARY FUND-**

AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	129.68
CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES INC	PHONE	114.22
CLUSTER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	UTILITIES	124.65
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	11.37
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	197.76

VILLAGE OF THEDFORD	UTILITIES	154.50
SALARIES		1130.38

**BOOKMOBILE FUND-**

NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	3.87
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL	75.67
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	63.68
THOMAS COUNTY LIBRARY	TRANSFER	15000.00
SALARIES		380.29

**Office reports:**

Clerk reminded of upcoming election calendar dates for the 2024 election.

Treasurer reported that any postmarked envelopes for December 31<sup>st</sup> taxes would be receipted for 2023 and would receive the school tax credit for income taxes.

Sheriff fee report was provided to the board. He also discussed options for the upcoming forest contract for FY24/25.

Library statistic report was presented to the board.

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

Motion made by Daly and second by Moody to approve the MOU with Nebraska Department of Veterans’ Affairs. Roll call vote: Ayes – Daly, Moody. Nays – none. Absent – Herbaugh. Motion carried.

The Thomas County 2023 Audit report was completed and on file in the Clerk’s office. Motion made by Moody and second by Daly to accept the 2023 Audit report from Don Wilson. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Daly. Nays – none. Absent – Herbaugh. Motion carried.

Motion made by Daly and second by Moody to approve the continuing engagement letter with Don Wilson for audit services for 2024. Roll call vote: Ayes – Daly, Moody. Nays – none. Absent – Herbaugh. Motion carried.

No public comment.

Chair Moody adjourned the meeting at 10:52 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the Thomas County Board of Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, January 16, 2024 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