

Thomas County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
March 19, 2024

The Thomas County Board of Commissioners convened in open and public session on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 8:30 a.m., in the Commissioner meeting room in 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, road employees Doug Heavican and Keith Hartman, Twyla Witt, Tom Witt, County Sheriff Joseph Smith, Barb Welch, Dan Welch, County Weed Superintendent Rich Cook, Robert Mills and Jack Johnston.

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 March 7, 2024.

Motion made by Herbaugh and second by Daly to adopt the March 19, 2024 regular meeting agenda. Roll call vote: Ayes- Daly, Moody, Herbaugh. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Daly and second by Herbaugh to approve the March 5, 2024 regular meeting minutes as published in the Thomas County Herald on March 14, 2024. Roll call vote: Ayes – Herbaugh, Moody, Daly. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Road discussion:

Figgins Construction met with Commissioner Herbaugh and Keith Hartman to review Windmill Road and the material stock piled at the airport. Figgins submitted a plan and cost on the project. The county board has asked that the Highway Superintendent bid out this project based on the plan designed by Figgins.

The CAT loader has been repaired. CAT will be looking into whether there is warranty on the new motor to cover the repair cost. County was given the go ahead to start using the loader but to contact CAT if the issues persist.

Commissioner Herbaugh asked that we obtain a price list on material from Triple G and Jeffres.

Commissioner Herbaugh stated that the road department can use some of the dirt out at his old pit to use for shouldering.

Correspondence presented. No action taken.

Dan and Barb Welch visited with the board about the R-line project and the connection to wind energy. Suggestion was made that Thomas County outright ban wind energy or increase the setbacks. Eminent domain laws were also discussed. As well as discussion on tribal rights. Commissioner Moody asked that the Welch's share any information about how they think the county can help in regards to the R-line.

Twyla Witt asked the board about the heavy use agreement between Thomas County and NPPD to protect the roads.

Chairman Moody recessed the regular meeting at 10:00 a.m. to enter into the Board of Equalization meeting.

Chairman Moody reconvened the regular meeting at 10:09 a.m.

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

GENERAL FUND-

ARGANBRIGHT LAW OFFICE	ADMIN EXPENSE	100.00
CREATIVE PRINTERS, INC.	PRINTING	1220.07
DAS STATE ACCOUNTING-CENTRAL	SERVICES	150.00

EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	SUPPLIES	206.03
GALLS LLC	SUPPLIES	70.05
MIPS INC	SUPPLIES	99.67
NACO	REGISTRATIONS	50.00
THOMAS CO CLERK PETTY CASH	POSTAGE	9.85
THOMAS CO TREASURER	4TH QTR EXTEN	6371.28
U S BANK	SUPPLIES	476.98
VERIZON WIRELESS	PHONE	80.02

ROAD FUND-

NIOBRARA VALLEY CONSULTANTS LLC	SERVICES	487.40
THEDFORD LUMBER & SUPPLY	SUPPLIES	6.63

VISITORS FUND-

MALY MARKETING	SERVICES	570.00
KORTNI P SCHAUB	SERVICES	28.20

EXTENSION FUND-

KWIK STOP-NORTH PLATTE	FUEL	37.22
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LIBRARY FUND-

AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICE, INC	SUPPLIES	44.66
APPLIED CONNECTIVE TECHNOLOGIES	SERVICES	295.00
	DATA	
FOLLETT SCHOOL SOLUTIONS, INC.	PROCESSING	199.00

BOOKMOBILE FUND-

AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICE, INC	BOOKS	41.90
BRODART CO.	BOOKS	241.50

Office reports:

Clerk/Assessor reported that a new desktop computer/server has been purchased to replace the server after issues with programs freezing and the recommendation from Applied Connective to replace the old server at a cost of \$1,506.00 installed.

MIPS microfilming project has been scheduled to begin this year sometime at a cost of \$10,064.90, with possible use of remaining ARPA funds. Once this project is completed the Register of Deeds office plans to begin the process of having the indexes online.

The librarian has submitted her resignation effective March 31st, she stated that she would still like to work part time as needed in the library or bookmobile.

Ballots for the May Primary election have been ordered.

A current road project historical review has been requested by various landowners on the old west bridge in Seneca and what portions of the old road were abandoned once the new bridge was built in Seneca.

Treasurer office presented the February financial statement.

Sheriff reported that the new forest contract was received last night and will be on the next agenda for board approval.

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

Jack Johnston, Thomas County Airport Authority board member presented the name of BJ Thomas to the county board to fill out the term of Ron Masten.

Motion made by Daly and second by Herbaugh to appoint BJ Thomas to the Thomas County Airport Authority board to fill the unexpired term of Ron Masten. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Daly, Herbaugh. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Rich Cook presented the NDA weed office evaluation to the board.

Motion made by Moody and second by Daly to approve the office evaluation report by NDA. Roll call vote: Ayes – Herbaugh, Daly, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the old Mercer shop building. No action taken at this time.

Motion made by Daly and second by Herbaugh to approve Resolution #2024-5, adopting the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Daly, Herbaugh. Nays – none. Motion carried. Robert Mills asked for a copy of the Hazard Mitigation Plan, Sheriff Smith stated he would provide him a copy of the plan.

Public comment. Twyla Witt passed out information on LB399. Tom Witt passed out travel guides to the board.

Commissioner Moody adjourned the meeting at 10:58 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the Thomas County Board of Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, April 2, 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, County Clerk