

Thomas County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
April 2, 2024

The Thomas County Board of Commissioners convened in open and public session at 8:30 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, road personnel Keith Hartman and Doug Heavican, County Highway Superintendent Lloyd Smith, Bill Knoll, Dave Masek, County Sheriff Joseph Smith, County Attorney Kurt Arganbright, and County Veterans Service Officer Rich Cook.

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 21, 2024.

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

Motion made by Herbaugh and second by Daly to approve the March 19, 2024 regular meeting minutes as published in the Thomas County Herald on March 28, 2024. Roll call vote: Ayes – Daly, Moody, Herbaugh. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Roads:

Commissioner Moody reported about discussion held with Tyler Teahon to cut/trim trees along East Antelope Road. She will get in touch with Dennis Hoffman to see what the landowners have discussed about the tree trimming along the road. We will also obtain a bid on the projects listed separately. Discussion was also held on various other locations that we may need to obtain his services with a bucket truck.

Road personnel reported that the CAT loader was still having issues, Keith will contact NMC to let them know what is going on.

Windmill East was discussed. The proposal from Figgins to complete 3.2 miles came in costing over \$320,000. Discussion was held on possibly doing only 1 mile to start with and using the crushed material on other projects throughout the county. The board asked Lloyd to get bids for 1 mile of Windmill starting at the y for River Ave and then heading east toward Highway 83.

Other projects discussed were shouldering projects on N Seneca and S Seneca.

Bill Knoll and Dave Masek visited with the board about trying to get the speed limit lowered on Highway 2 between the Highway 83 North intersection and the Village of Thedford limits. Lloyd said he would contact Gary Thayer, District 6 engineer for the State of Nebraska and find out the procedure to file this request.

The board reviewed the information provided on the abandoned road/bridge in Seneca from 1994. The Clerk/Assessor provided the legal descriptions from the documents from 1994 to Gworks to draw out what was abandoned at that time. From the information provided by Gworks it shows that the road on the north side of the river heading to Broadway Street was abandoned. The County Board of Equalization will review the omitted property at their meeting on April 16th and will add this land back onto the tax rolls with each property owner lying adjacent to the abandoned land receiving half on each side.

No correspondence to present to the board.

Commissioner Moody opened the one lawn care bid that was received at 10:00 a.m.

Motion made by Herbaugh and second by Moody to accept the lawn care bid from Marion Rhoades at \$1,500 per month. Roll call vote: Ayes – Daly, Moody, Herbaugh. Nays – none. Motion carried.

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

GENERAL FUND-

AFLAC	INSURANCE	190.51
AFLAC INC	INSURANCE	40.88
AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	2785.02
APPLIED CONNECTIVE TECHNOLOGIES	SERVICES	1556.00
BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD BROUILLETTE, DUGAN, TROSHYNSKI PC	INSURANCE	7760.66
COLONIAL LIFE & ACCIDENT INS CO	ATTY FEES	926.50
CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES INC	INSURANCE	107.42
RICHARD COOK	PHONE	473.86
CREATIVE PRINTERS, INC.	MILEAGE	115.24
CUSTER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	PRINTING	1058.91
EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	UTILITIES	424.55
ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE	SUPPLIES	97.98
LORISSA HARTMAN	ELECTION	955.62
HEALTHPLAN SERVICES, INC	MILEAGE	159.46
LINDEMEIER LAW OFFICE	INSURANCE	64.20
	ATTY FEES	37.50

MIPS INC	SERVICES	1488.20
NACO	REGISTRATION	25.00
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE REGION 26	STATE TAXES ASSESSMENT	1227.99 11497.85
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL/PROPANE FEDERAL	1207.17
SECURITY FIRST BANK	TAXES	7671.72
ANDREA THOMAS	MILEAGE	159.46
VILLAGE OF THEDFORD	UTILITIES	441.00
VISION CARE DIRECT	INSURANCE	4.66
SALARIES		28159.26

ROAD FUND-

AFLAC INC	INSURANCE	40.88
AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	889.26
BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD	INSURANCE	2522.20
BOMGAARS SUPPL INC	SUPPLIES	457.97
CALLS GARAGE INC	REPAIRS	174.00
CUSTER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	UTILITIES	94.34
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	392.31
NIOBRARA VALLEY CONSULTANTS LLC	SERVICES	1812.10
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL FEDERAL	1575.00
SECURITY FIRST BANK	TAXES	2280.66
TRIPLE G REDIMIX, LLC	MATERIAL	2403.18
VILLAGE OF THEDFORD	UTILITIES	163.80
SALARIES		8004.16

VISITORS FUND-

CUSTER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	UTILITIES	956.85
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EXTENSTION FUND-

SHANIYA ALBERTUS	MEALS & GAS	44.71
AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	187.46
ARNOLD INSURANCE AGENCY	INSURANCE	2350.00
COLONIAL LIFE & ACCIDENT INS CO	INSURANCE	150.14
CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES INC	PHONE	236.01
HOMETOWN LEASING	COPIER LEASE	168.16
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	76.20
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL FEDERAL	146.88
SECURITY FIRST BANK	TAXES	361.07
SALARIES		1119.89

LIBRARY FUND-

AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	177.24
CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES INC	PHONE	113.84
CREATIVE PRINTERS, INC.	PRINTING	10.00
CUSTER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	UTILITIES	107.17
EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	COPIER METER	74.16
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	20.50
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	PROPANE FEDERAL	330.23
SECURITY FIRST BANK	TAXES	260.68
SALARIES		1448.94

BOOKMOBILE FUND-

AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICE, INC	BOOKS	101.09
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	6.67
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL FEDERAL	123.76
SECURITY FIRST BANK	TAXES	93.48
SALARIES		557.59

Office reports:

Clerk presented the office fee report for the month of March.

Election dates upcoming: 1st day to mail out ballots is April 8th; 1st day to vote early in person in the office is April 15th.

Upcoming workshops in June were discussed. The budget workshop is June 12th in Kearney, County Board workshop is June 13 & 14 in Kearney. County Clerk workshop is June 13-14 in Kearney.

Sheriff presented his quarterly fee report to the board. He also gave an activity report for his office.

Treasurer discussed preparing for the upcoming budget year.

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

Rich Cook met with the board about entering into a Interlocal agreement with Logan County to provide for Veterans Service services.

Motion made by Daly and second by Herbaugh to enter into the Interlocal Agreement with Logan County effective July 1, 2024 with the noted change to the payment being paid annually rather than monthly. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Herbaugh, Daly. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the error found on page 22 of the employee handbook for Vacation benefits. The Clerk presented the working copy of the employee handbook from June 6, 2023. Notes presented showing the board decided to not offer vacation benefits to part time employees.

Motion made by Moody and second by Herbaugh to correct the employee handbook to match the June 6, 2023 notes and not offer part time employees vacation benefits. Roll call vote: Ayes – Daly, Herbaugh, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the requests from members of the Thomas County Library board for the position of library director. The county attorney reviewed statutes on how the library board should work with the county board for administrative decisions. The board asked the County Attorney to send a letter to the library board advising of the processes to be followed in the future. No other action taken.

Sheriff Smith reviewed the new forest contract with the county board.

Motion made by Daly and second by Herbaugh to approve the new cooperative law enforcement agreement between the County of Thomas and the USDA, Forest Service Nebraska National Forests and Grasslands. Roll call vote: Ayes – Herbaugh, Daly, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

No public comment.

Chair Moody adjourned the meeting at 11:44 a.m.

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