

Thomas County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
April 16, 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 throughout the meeting were board secretary/County Clerk Lorissa Hartman, County Treasurer Andrea Thomas, road personnel Doug Heavican and Keith Hartman, County Highway Superintendent Lloyd Smith, Val Jansante, County Sheriff Joseph Smith, Alison Werner, Michelle McIntosh, Norma Butler and Jon Cannon.

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 April 4, 2024.

Motion made by Herbaugh and second by Daly to adopt the April 16, 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 April 2, 2024 regular meeting minutes as published in the Thomas County Herald on April 11, 2024. Roll call vote: Ayes – Herbaugh, Daly, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Roads:

Lloyd had received a revised estimate from Figgins Construction on one mile of Windmill Road. Lloyd is working on obtaining another quote from Topkote. Action will be taken at the May 7th meeting.

The CAT loader is still showing antifreeze in the fuel. The road men will continue to watch and will contact NMC, if necessary.

Commissioner Herbaugh talked about obtaining clay material in Logan County to use on the N. Ringgold Road area.

Gary Thayer responded to the request to lower the speed limit along the highway 2 business corridor. He has requested a list of changes to the adjacent land use in the last three years in the corridor and also any potential changes expected to occur in the next year or two. Once they receive this list a speed study may be scheduled.

Clint Harvey has contacted the county about potential part time employment. The board agreed that once projects begin, they would be interested in utilizing his employment.

Commissioner Moody reported that there is a spot along the Purdum Road that needs attention. Not sure what is causing the issue.

Correspondence presented. The email from the West Central District Health Department about installing an air monitor outside of the courthouse was reviewed. Commissioner Daly will contact WCDHD about the request.

Motion made by Daly and second by Moody to pay the L & L Gravel claim of \$1,120 for dirt. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Daly. Nays – none. Abstain – Herbaugh. Motion carried.

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

GENERAL FUND-

APPLIED CONNECTIVE TECHNOLOGIES	SERVICES	910.80
ARGANBRIGHT LAW OFFICE	ADMIN EXP	725.00
BORDERS LAW OFFICE	ATTY FEES	200.00
CUSTER COUNTY SHERIFF	INMATE COST	50.00
CUSTER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	UTILITIES	382.10
DAS STATE ACCOUNTING-CENTRAL	SERVICES	150.00

EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	SUPPLIES	42.93
ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE	ELECTION	454.38
LORISSA HARTMAN	MILEAGE	183.58
NACO	REGISTRATION	125.00
NEBRASKA UC FUND	UNEMPLOYMENT	56.63
NO LIMIT POWER INC	TRUNK BOX/BATT	519.98
THOMAS CO CLERK PETTY CASH	POSTAGE	3.00
THOMAS CO TREASURER	POSTAGE	68.00
U S BANK	ZOOM	319.80
VERIZON WIRELESS	PHONE	80.02

ROAD FUND-

CROSSROADS AUTO REPAIR SPECIALISTS	REPAIRS	72.59
CLUSTER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	UTILITIES	91.81
L & L GRAVEL	MATERIAL	1120.00
NMC EXCHANGE LLC	REPAIRS	3864.33
POWERPLAN	REPAIRS	108.51

PRETRIAL FUND-

VIAERO WIRELESS	PHONE	83.10
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EXTENSION FUND-

EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	SUPPLIES	45.71
HOOVER COUNTY TRIBUNE	PUBLISHING	35.00
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN EXT	COMPUTER	2521.01

LIBRARY FUND-

AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICE, INC	KEYBOARD/MOUSE	144.96
APPLIED CONNECTIVE TECHNOLOGIES	SERVICES	295.00
VILLAGE OF THEDFORD	UTILITIES	154.50

BOOKMOBILE FUND-

AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICE, INC	BOOKS	240.94
BRODART CO.	BOOKS	241.50

Office reports:

Assessor reported that the 2024 Reports and Opinion has been completed and can be found online with the Property Assessment Division. The TERC statewide equalization process begins April 17th.

Election – in person voting began on Monday, April 15th.

Treasurer presented the March financial report.

Sheriff reported on the fire that occurred on April 15th. 30 mutual aid departments responded to help.

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

Chair Moody recessed the regular meeting at 10:15 a.m. to enter into the Board of Equalization meeting.

Chair Moody reconvened the regular meeting at 10:21 a.m.

Val Jansante-Community liaison for Adrian Smith reported on topics that Congressman Smith is working on in Washington DC. Topics included the North Platte postal service moving the sorting facility to Denver, supplemental oxygen and Medicare, firearm due process, Boston Bridge repair, student loan forgiveness and secure rural school funding (PILT).

Thomas County library board members Alison Werner and Michelle McIntosh met with the board to discuss the new library director position. The new position is a 33 hour per week position at \$17.50 per hour. The board advised that they increased the hours and rate of pay due to the continual turn over for this position. The library board also inquired about vacation pay for the part time position. Currently Thomas County part time employees receive no vacation benefits. Discussion was held on responsibilities of the library board vs. county board.

Norma Butler suggested that the county board establish guidelines for each county office budget requests for the 2024-2025 year. This way the offices will know how much they will be able to request.

Jon Cannon-NACO Executive Director met with the board and reviewed upcoming conferences offered by NACO. He also gave a report on the current legislation and asked the board to let any district representatives know about any future legislation requests. He also reported on NACO West office status and future meetings to be held there in Ogallala.

Public comment. Val Jansante reported that he had spoken with Congressman Adrian Smith about the Secure Rural school funding, and that they would keep the county posted on the future status of this funding.

No other public comment.

Chair Moody adjourned the meeting at 11:58 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the Thomas County Board of Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 8:30 a.m., in the Commissioner 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