

Chase County Commissioners  
December 28, 2023

The regular meeting of the Chase County Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Jacci Brown at 8:00am on Thursday, December 28, 2023 in the meeting room of the Chase County courthouse. Also in attendance were commissioners Billie Muehlenkamp, Kurt Bernhardt and county clerk Wendy Moe. The agenda and open meetings act were posted. The meeting had been advertised in the Imperial Republican. With no one present for open forum commissioners proceeded with agenda items.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to approve the minutes of the December 26, 2023 Emergency Meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2023 meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – Abstain. Motion carried.

Brent Krueger joined the meeting for unfinished business item of Lee Trees. He submitted an informal bid of \$9,000 to remove the trees in question on the south side of 750 road and \$14,000 for the trees on the north side of the road. This comes out to approximately \$500 per tree. He will remove, burn and bury the trees. This includes the removal of the root ball. For both sides of the road, he said the total price would not be more than \$25,000. Commissioners do not want to take action for removal of the trees on the north side of the road as they are in Perkins County. Commissioner Brown moved to accept Brent's bid to remove the trees on the Chase County side of the road. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Scott Way, Traci Space and Jakob Burke joined the meeting for agenda item of appointing fair board members. It is required that appointed fair board members reside in the district they are representing at the time of appointment or reappointment. As there is not currently equal district representation in the fair board, commissioners would like to correct that error through reappointment. Traci Space, Scott Way and Jakob Burke submitted their letters of resignation as none of them reside in the district for which they were originally appointed. Commissioner Brown moved to accept the resignation of Traci, Scott and Jakob. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Brown moved to appoint Jakob Burke for a term of two years to expire December 31, 2025 and Scott Way for a term of three years to expire December 31, 2026 and to reappoint Ryan Stromberger for a term of one year to expire on December 31, 2024 as representatives to District #2. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to appoint Traci Space as a representative to District #3 for a term of one year to expire December 31, 2024. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Muehlenkamp moved to reappoint Matt Denny for a term of one year to expire December 31, 2024 and Caitlyn Pollmann for a term of three years to expire December 31, 2026 as representatives in District #1. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

After these appointments, there are two vacant seats in District #3. Commissioners will advertise for the open positions and make appointments for them in January. Traci, Scott and Jakob left the meeting.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to approve Resolution #2023-22 to transfer funds from the county General Fund to the county Road Fund as per transfers budgeted in the county budget. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried. A complete copy of the resolution is available in the office of the county clerk.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve Resolution #2023-23 authorizing the transfer of budgeted funds from the Road Fund to the Champion Wauneta Road Project Bond Fund. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried. A complete copy of the resolution is available in the office of the county clerk.

Scott Way returned to the meeting for the agenda item of the Chase County Fair & Expo Building Rental Agreement. Commissioners would like to continue having the fair board schedule the usage of the building. Renters of the building will then need to come to the courthouse road office to complete and sign the rental agreement, complete liability insurance information and make payment.

Discussion of re-keying the locks at the fairgrounds was had. Many of the doors on the grounds are keyed differently, commissioners would like to consider having all building locks keyed the same. Scott asked if the county would be making payment for that as it would be a large expense. Commissioners indicated that the county would cover the cost.

Due to Christmas Eve and Christmas Day both being county holidays in 2024, Commissioner Brown moved to change the second December meeting of 2024 to Friday, December 20 rather than Tuesday, December 24 and to move payday to Tuesday, December 24 rather than Wednesday, December 25. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to approve signing and acceptance of the NEMA SLCGP Grant for the State & Local Cybersecurity Grant Program. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried. Chase County will receive \$9,000 in grant funding as reimbursement for cybersecurity costs. Chairman Brown signed the grant acceptance letter.

Commissioner Brown moved to dispose of an HP Intel tower and a Dell Precision T1700 tower from the County Attorney's office as both computers crashed and could not be repaired. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to accept the County Attorney's annual inventory as submitted. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to approve the signing of the Southwest Nebraska Juvenile Services amended Memorandum of Understanding naming Keith County as lead county for the program. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried. Chairman Brown signed the MOU.

Transit Administrator Jeni Lotspeich joined the meeting present the board with an updated copy of the Transit programs Zero Tolerance Drug & Alcohol policy for review and approval. Commissioner Muehlenkamp moved to accept and sign the policy as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

With no further business to come before the board, Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 9:35am.

**CHASE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**



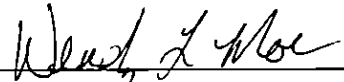
Billie Muehlenkamp – Commissioner District #1



Jacci L. Brown – Commissioner District #2



Kurt Bernhardt – Commissioner District #3

ATTEST:   
Wendy Moe, Chase County Clerk