

Chase County Commissioners
January 9, 2024

The organizational meeting of the Chase County Commissioners was called to order by County Clerk Wendy Moe at 8:00am on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 in the commissioner meeting room of the Chase County Courthouse. Also, present were Commissioners Billie Muehlenkamp and Kurt Bernhardt. The open meetings act and agenda were posted. The meeting had been advertised in the Imperial Republican.

Clerk called for nominations for Chairman of the Board. Commissioner Bernhardt nominated Commissioner Brown as chairman for 2024. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. With no further nominations, nominations ceased. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – absent; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried. Commissioner Brown to serve as Chair for 2024.

Commissioner Brown joined the meeting. Clerk turned the meeting over to Chairman Brown.

Chairman called for nominations for Vice Chair. Commissioner Brown nominated Commissioner Bernhardt to serve as Vice Chair for 2024. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – abstain. Motion carried.

County Attorney Joel Burke joined the meeting for the agenda item of Lee's Trees. After reviewing the agreement between Perkins and Chase counties pertaining to the maintenance of that portion of the road, County Attorney agrees with decision made at previous meeting, the county will have the trees on the south side of the road removed.

Rex Felker joined the meeting for open forum. He wanted to inquire about priority routes for snow removal. His main concern was Old Highway 6 as he indicated that it was not cleared immediately after the recent snow storms. Commissioners assured him that Old 6 is a priority route for snow removal. Rex left the meeting.

Assistant Highway Superintendent Dick DeWester was present to discuss fuel tank bids with the board. Dick got informal bids from Mittens Inc in Oakley, KS and Orthman Energy LLC, Lexington, NE for 6,000- and 10,000-gallon fuel storage tanks to be placed at the Lamar Shop. After review of bids, Commissioner Bernhardt moved to accept the bid from Mittens Inc for an 8' x 16' (6,000 gal) UL 142 Specs Double Wall Steel Storage Tank for \$26,358.81. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Duane Dreiling joined the meeting. Commissioner Brown moved to appoint Duane Dreiling as Chase County Emergency Manager for the year 2024. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Emergency Manager Dreiling here to discuss agenda item of Generator. The Generator at the courthouse has not been working correctly, Duane would like to advertise for formal bids to replace the generator and would like for the new generator to include a service agreement. Commissioners instructed him to put together bid specs and have them ready for approval by the January 23 meeting.

Veterans Service Office Duane Todd joined the meeting for signing of MOU for Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs. This is the user agreement for software that he uses to assist Veterans, it gets renewed every two years. Commissioner Bernhardt moved to approve the signing of the MOU between the Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs and Chase County to extend the original agreement for an additional two years. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried. Chairman signed agreement.

Scott Way and Ryan Stromberger joined the meeting for unfinished business item of Fair and Expo Building Rental Agreement. Rental rates were discussed. Per the agreement that users will sign, full weekend rental (Fri thru Sun) will be \$1000 with a \$500 damage deposit. Day use rate will be \$200 per day. Renters of the facility will come to the courthouse road office to sign the agreement, pay rental fees and damage deposit, obtain (or show proof of) liability insurance and get the key from the road secretary. The question of who the key will be returned to and who will be responsible for inspecting the building to determine if deposit should be returned was addressed. Ryan doesn't think this arrangement is ideal but agrees that we need policy and a consistent process in place. Both parties agree to try it this way for a while and will revisit the issue and make changes to the process later on if necessary.

Commissioner Brown indicated that there seems to be some misunderstanding as far as ownership of buildings and responsibility over the Fair Grounds as well as the budget and funding of Fair Ground maintenance and upkeep, among other things. She asked if it would be beneficial to have a joint meeting between the Commissioners and Fair Board to clarify these points. Ryan and Scott indicated that a joint meeting would be a good idea. Commissioners instructed Clerk to advertise for a Joint Meeting. Commissioners will join Fair Board's regular meeting on January 18 at 6:30pm.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to approve Resolution 2024-1 for the Designation of Publication of Legal Notices. 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 2024-2 to Authorize Treasurer to Invest Monies. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried. A complete copy of the resolution is available in the office of the county clerk.

Commissioner Muehlenkamp moved to approve Resolution 2024-3 to Designate Depositories, set payroll schedule, proceedings of tax certificates, etc. 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.

Commissioner Brown moved to appoint Anthony Krajewski, Class A License S-1021, as the County Highway Superintendent for 2024. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Muehlenkamp moved to appoint Richard DeWester, Class B License A-1761, as the Assistant Highway Superintendent for 2024. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

After discussion of outside board assignments Commissioner Brown moved to appoint Billie Muehlenkamp as the representative to Region II Human Services, Region II Behavioral Health and West Central Nebraska Area Agency on Aging boards; Jacci Brown as representative to Southwest Nebraska Public Health, West Central Nebraska Developmental, Champion Mill and Chase County Safety boards; and Kurt Bernhardt as representative to the Chase County Community Hospital and Southwest Nebraska Juvenile Services boards. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to approve Resolution 2024-4 setting Commissioners salary for 2025-2026, returning the salary amount to 50% of elected officials salary. 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.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to approve claims as submitted. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

PE=payroll exp, TE=travel exp, SU=supply,
SE=service, CC=court cost, RP=repairs,
PT=parts, L=labor, UT=utility, AP=Appt. Counsel,
PS=Prior Service EQ=Equipment JD=Juv Div

AFFILIATED BENEFITS CONSULTANTS	SE	50.00
AFLAC	PE	499.35
AFLAC (AFTER TAX)	PE	17.74
AMERITAS LIFE INS	PE	41.50
AMERITAS LIFE INS	PE	8975.19
BCBS OF NE	PE	24452.02
BOMGAARS	SU	121.95
BWTELCOM	UT	146.27
CARTER, KARON DENISE	SE	560.00
CHARM-TEX, INC.	SU	92.90
CHASE CO TREAS/CAFETERIA	PE	155.24
CHASE CO CAFETERIA PLAN	SE	4686.00
CHASE CO CDC	CC	110.00
CHASE CO COURT	CC	89.00
CHASE CO TREASURER	SU	998.74
CLARK, DEBRA	PS	48.00
COLONIAL LIFE	PE	264.77
DAS STATE ACCTG	SE	537.60
EAKES, INC	SU	152.38
EFTPS	PE	15386.93
FANNING SHIRLEY	PS	96.00
GREAT PLAINS COMM. INC	UT	1524.43
HAZARD, KAY J	PS	144.00

HIGHLINE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION	UT	454.88
HOMETOWN LEASING	SE	84.55
IMPERIAL COUNTRY FORD	SE	116.25
IMPERIAL, CITY OF	UT	1343.70
JAEGER, JANICE E	SE	645.00
JOHNSON JEAN	PS	24.00
MILLER LINDA	PS	36.00
MIPS,INC.	SE	1740.58
MOE, WENDY	TE	191.65
MOUSEL,BROOKS,SCHNEIDER,MUSTION	AP	518.72
MUELLER, KEVIN	SU	2072.11
NE CHILD SUPP PMT CTR	PE	320.00
NE STATE INCOME TAX	PE	2019.36
NE WEED CONTROL ASSO	DUES	150.00
OFFICE SERVICE INC	SU	13.99
PRAIRIE STATES COMM.	UT	1135.74
REDFIELD DIRECT	SU	30.35
REGION II SERVICES (DEV.DISABILITY)	SE	2024.00
S & S LOCK AND KEY	SU	48.00
SPADY, SHARON L.	PS	84.00
WINE LAW OFFICE	AP	2043.16

Net Payroll 43813.58

General Fund Total 118059.63

ADAMS LUMBER	SU	23.50
AFLAC	PE	274.26
AMERITAS LIFE INS	PE	5.95
AMERITAS LIFE INS	PE	1239.72
BCBS OF NE	PE	250.00
BOMGAARS	SU	385.80
BWTELCOM	UT	98.05
CHASE CO TREAST/CAFETERIA	PE	40.00
CHASE CO TREAS	SU	0.63
COLONIAL LIFE	PE	59.99
CREDIT MANAGEMENT	PE	212.62
EFTPS	PE	3801.02
GB AUTO SERVICE INC.	PT/L	415.76
GREAT PLAINS COMM. INC	UT	225.39
HIGHLINE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION	UT	130.70
IMPERIAL CARQUEST	PT	189.42
IMPERIAL NAPA	PT	351.23
IMPERIAL, CITY OF	UT	384.41
MURPHY TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT CO INC	PT/L	678.45
NE STATE INCOME TAX	PE	992.07
NEBRASKA MACHINERY COMPANY	PT/L	8937.95
OVERHEAD DOOR SPECIALISTS	SE	74.50
OWENS TRUE VALUE INC	SU	73.55
SAPP BRO PETROLEUM INC	SU	3378.41
WAUNETA MUNICIPAL UTILITIES	UT	168.50

Net Payroll 21373.54

Road Fund Total 43765.42

MIPS,INC.	SE	249.20
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P&M Fund Total 249.20

BWTELCOM	UT	283.40
CENTURY LINK	UT	2205.05
GREAT PLAINS COMM. INC	UT	386.52

E911 Fund Total 2874.97

BWTELCOM	UT	52.02
CHASE CO TREAS	SU	0.63
GREAT PLAINS COMM. INC	UT	321.39
Ambulance Fund Total		374.04
Grand Total All Claims		165323.26

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to approve the minutes of the December 28, 2023 minutes as written. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Agenda item of Ambulance Telehealth was addressed. Commissioner Brown called Craig Loeffler so the board could get clarification from him. Craig indicated that this is a telehealth system that will be installed in the back of ambulances so EMT's have a help line available during transport and transfers. The line will provide 24/7/365 professional medical counseling and consulting services for EMS Ambulance Service Agencies. The equipment, installation and access fees will be covered by State Grant funds for the first year, the State will pay directly, it is not a reimbursement grant. Craig indicated it is likely that grant funds may cover a portion of additional years, if not, services can be cancelled or the EMS service or county may opt to pay fees on their own. Commissioner Muehlenkamp moved to accept the one-year EMS Telemedicine Services Agreement for Imperial EMS. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to approve the semi-annual Community Development Betterment Grant Program Income Report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to appoint Preston Smith to fill one of the vacant District #3 Fair Board positions for a 3-year term to expire December 2026. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to appoint Clay Owens to fill the second vacant District #3 Fair Board position for a 2-year term to expire December 2025. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.


With no further business to come before the board, Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:12am.

CHASE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


 Billie Muehlenkamp – Commissioner District #1


 Jacqui L. Brown – Commissioner District #2


 Kurt Bernhardt – Commissioner District #3

ATTEST: 
 Wendy Moe, Chase County Clerk