



Thomas County Board Minutes



Thomas County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 5, 2020

The Thomas County Board of Commissioners convened in open and public session at 9:30 a.m., utilizing the Governor of Nebraska's Executive Order No. 10-03 allowing members to meet by videoconference, telephonic conference or by other electronic means. Members present were John Seeley and Pam Moody. Jim Purdum was present by telephone. Also present were board secretary/County Clerk Lorissa Hartman, road personnel Ed Schukei and Keith Hartman, and Sheriff Gary Eng. Others attending by telephone were County Treasurer Andrea Thomas, County Attorney Kurt Arganbright and County Highway Superintendent Lloyd Smith. Other members of the public, not identified were listening by telephone.

Chairman Seeley 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 23, 2020.

Motion made by Moody and second by Purdum to adopt the May 5, 2020 regular meeting agenda. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Seeley, Purdum. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Moody and second by Purdum to approve the April 21, 2020 regular meeting minutes as published in the Thomas County Herald on April 30, 2020. Roll call vote: Ayes – Purdum, Seeley, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Road discussion:

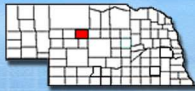
Discussion was held on Daly Bridge. Dave Masek and Bryan Rodocker met with Commissioner Purdum to look at repairs to the bridge. More information in the form of an itemized breakdown of the bids and discussion on the back walls needs discussed before the county proceeds with the project. County Highway Superintendent Lloyd Smith will contact two other contractors to look at giving the county informal bids. More discussion will be held at the May 19th meeting.

Material agreement with Dusty Paxton was discussed. Commissioner Purdum advised that the County Clerk should mail out the agreement to Dusty at his home address.

Load limits along with speed limits were discussed for Purdum Ave to help save the existing road. County Highway Superintendent Lloyd Smith will talk with Tim Baxter of NIRMA about a speed study.

N. Seneca repair options discussed. Commissioner Purdum had been in contact with a company that could come in and grind the existing asphalt along with material to be laid down. The approximate cost is \$11,404.80 per mile to grind up. Commissioner Purdum will contact the contractor to discuss the process and what the end result of material will be on the road. He will also check with the contractor to see if he knows of any other companies that offer the same service. This information will determine how the bid process will work on this project. Financial consideration was also made since the county is already committed to an Armor Coat project with the cost of this project being around \$43,000 and the cost of repair for Daly bridge. More discussion will be held at the May 19th meeting.

Other road topics discussed were the request for work on Most Lane. The decision was made that this is a private use road and the county would not do any major road work other than grading the road. Roger Licking had asked for



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assistance on building/working on a road. The commissioners advised that the county had several private businesses that could preform this type of work and that the county didn't want to compete with those companies.

Discussion was also held on railroad rock usage. There are times that the county does not have access to mud rock (\$16/ton) and the railroad rock is free, so this material is sometimes used on soft spots to help repair a road. No other action taken.

Repair on McMillan Ave was discussed. Eight loads of clay and three loads of mud rock were hauled to this road. The landowner has advised that there is clay available on his property that can be used. If this material is used, we need to get a material agreement on file with the county.

Gaston Bridge required inspection was discussed. Since discovering that the Forest Service is the owner of the bridge the county needs to have the bridge removed from the list of bridges for Thomas County. County Highway Superintendent Lloyd Smith will contact the State of Nebraska and the engineer for the Forest Service in Chadron.

Correspondence presented. No action taken.

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

GENERAL FUND-

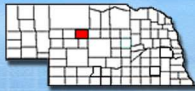
AFLAC	INSURANCE	442.92
AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	2936.03
BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD	INSURANCE	8180.74
COLONIAL LIFE & ACCIDENT INS CO	INSURANCE	269.94
CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES INC	PHONE	512.49
CREATIVE PRINTERS, INC.	PRINTING	1306.15
EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	SUPPLIES	46.98
ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE	ELECTION COSTS	1310.43
EWOLDTS GROCERY INC	SUPPLIES	48.25
HEALTHPLAN SERVICES, INC	INSURANCE	46.80
MIPS INC	SERVICES/COMPUTERS	4104.74
NEAL LUMBER CO	SUPPLIES	17.79
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	1175.18
PRESTO X	SERVICES	55.00
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL/PROPANE	661.37
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	7790.07
STAMP FULFILLMENT SERVICES	POSTAGE	333.00
THOMAS CO CLERK PETTY CASH	POSTAGE	0.60
THOMAS CO TREASURER	POSTAGE	128.40
U S BANK	FUEL/PROPANE	45.61
VISION CARE DIRECT	INSURANCE	92.88
SALARIES		25173.47

ROAD FUND-

AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	735.96
BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD	INSURANCE	1940.50
CALLS GARAGE INC	REPAIRS	229.13
INLAND TRUCK PARTS CO	REPAIRS	160.74
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	214.78
NIOBRARA VALLEY CONSULTANTS LLC	SERVICES	2860.88
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL	2001.84
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	1674.77
VISION CARE DIRECT	INSURANCE	37.30
SALARIES		6735.34

PRETRIAL FUND-

VIAERO WIRELESS	PHONE	76.22
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**VISITORS FUND-**

CREATIVE PRINTERS, INC.	PRINTING	14.75
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EXTENSION FUND-

AFLAC	INSURANCE	60.45
AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	268.48
CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES INC	PHONE	312.14
HEALTHPLAN SERVICES, INC	INSURANCE	29.40
HOMETOWN LEASING	COPIER LEASE	178.00
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	135.72
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	916.72
SALARIES		3104.91

LIBRARY FUND-

AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	146.42
COLONIAL LIFE & ACCIDENT INS CO	INSURANCE	154.06
CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES INC	PHONE	115.89
HEALTHPLAN SERVICES, INC	INSURANCE	17.40
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	25.75
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	PROPANE	264.14
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	258.08
SALARIES		877.04

Office reports:

Clerk reported Election numbers with 492 registered voters in Thomas County. We have 279 early vote ballots requested leaving 195 people left to vote at the polls on May 12th. The courthouse will only be open that day for people to enter into the courtroom to vote and then exit out the west door of the courthouse. Only two voters at a time will be allowed in the courtroom at a time. Masks and hand sanitizer will be handed out to voters as they enter the courthouse. Office fee report for the month of April was provided to the board.

Treasurer reported that taxes have been coming in and that people have been utilizing the drop box located outside of the courthouse.

Motion made by Moody and second by Purdum to approve office/fee reports. Roll call vote: Ayes – Purdum, Seeley, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

The elected officials and commissioners discussed the transition to opening the courthouse to the public. At this time, it was decided to stay with the May 31st date and then see if the Governor relaxes on the ten person gathering rule. The pandemic team will also discuss what type of safety equipment the courthouse needs to have going forward.

Public comment was opened up to anyone attending by telephone, no public comment was heard at this time.

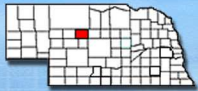
Motion made by Moody and second by Purdum to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: Ayes – Seeley, Moody, Purdum. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the Thomas County Board of Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. An agenda will be kept continually current and available for public inspection at 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.

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Attest:



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John B. Seeley, Chairman

Lorissa Hartman, Clerk