

# Thomas County Board Minutes



Thomas County Board of Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
September 1, 2020

The Thomas County Board of Commissioners convened in open and public session at 9:30 a.m., in the Commissioners meeting room of the Thomas County Courthouse, Thedford, NE. Members present were John Seeley, Pam Moody and Jim Purdum. Also present were board secretary/County Clerk Lorissa Hartman, County Treasurer Andrea Thomas, County Highway Superintendent Lloyd Smith, County Sheriff Gary Eng, road personnel Keith Hartman and Ed Schukei, County Attorney Kurt Arganbright and Bryan Rodocker.

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 August 20, 2020.

Motion made by Purdum and second by Moody to adopt the September 1, 2020 regular meeting agenda. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Purdum, Seeley. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Moody and second by Purdum to approve the August 18, 2020 regular meeting minutes as published in the Thomas County Herald on August 27, 2020. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Purdum, Seeley. Nays – none. Motion carried.

#### Road discussion:

Keith reported that he was having problems with gophers on the Paxton Ranch Road. Keith will look into purchasing the poison and also check with the NRD about renting the gopher machine. The board felt that it would be good to drill alongside all the asphalt roads.

Discussion was held on the N Seneca and Figgins quote. At this time the board will not go forward with Figgins and the armor coat project. Concern was that the cold mix wouldn't be thick enough and that the cost to armor coat would be wasted if the road didn't hold up. The board discussed getting access to millings to put down on the road and then to armor coat after.

Jim Purdum will talk to Paulsen about the possibility of millings being available during the airport project. He will also talk with Werner about the material left piled at Frank Warren's pit, at one point someone from Werner's had asked Jim if the county would like the material. The board said that they would take the material if it was crushed.

The damaged portion of Purdum Rd from cattle was discussed. Lloyd recommended that they patch the bad holes with Permatex. He said that the State of Nebraska Department of Roads would be the one to contact about purchasing some Permatex. Commissioner Purdum said he would contact Lex Zimmerman.

Ed reported that he needs to get two new tires for the CAT loader. The board told him to contact Sandhill Oil about purchasing them. He also reported that the semi would need new tires, this will be a winter project.

Lloyd reported that he had a utility permit from Consolidated Telephone for S Seneca, Heritage and Windmill. He will be in contact with Kirk Jacobs for any questions or concerns.



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Dusty Paxton returned the signed contract easement. Motion made by Purdum and second by Moody to go forward with the project and have the county sign the easement. Roll call vote: Ayes – Seeley, Purdum, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Moody and second by Purdum to approve Resolution #2020-16, the Annual Certification of Program Compliance Form. Roll call vote: Ayes – Purdum, Moody, Seeley. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the new law requiring the county board to place the question on the General Election ballot about whether to keep the County Surveyor an elected position or an appointed position. In the past the county has had it on the ballot with no one filing to fill the position and then the county board would appoint Lloyd Smith as the County Surveyor.

Motion made by Purdum and second by Moody to place the question on the ballot to eliminate the elected county surveyor office. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Purdum, Seeley. Nays – none. Motion carried.

The question will read:

Shall the position of elected county surveyor be eliminated, to be replaced by the position of appointed county surveyor?

\_\_\_\_\_ For election of county surveyor;

\_\_\_\_\_ Against election of county surveyor.

The county would save money by not having the county surveyor office on the ballot every four years with no one ever filing to fill the position and the board has always appointed someone to fill this position.

Correspondence presented. A non-disclosure agreement and Software agreement with Applied Connective was presented for signatures.

Bryan Rodocker, Loup to Loup representative, asked the board about closing Purdum Ave next year for the Loup2Loup race.

Motion made by Seeley and second by Purdum to allow Purdum Ave to be closed at 7 am until the race is completed on August 12, 2021. (The mail will be allowed to go before the race) Roll call vote: Ayes – Seeley, Moody, Purdum. Nays – none. Motion carried.

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

## GENERAL FUND-

AFLAC	INSURANCE	367.17
AMERITAS	RETIRMENT	2840.81
BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD	INSURANCE	9772.10
CROSSROADS AUTO REPAIR SPECIALISTS	REPAIRS	299.06
CHARRON LAWN CARE	LAWN SERVICE	400.00
COLONIAL LIFE & ACCIDENT INS CO	INSURANCE	299.42
CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES INC	PHONE	368.47
RICHARD COOK	EXPENSES-WEED	261.24
CREATIVE PRINTERS, INC.	PUBLISHING	470.63
CUSTER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	UTILITIES	595.08
EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	SUPPLIES	144.39
ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE	SUPPLIES	35.01
EWOLDTS GROCERY INC	SUPPLIES	46.28
GALLS LLC	SUPPLIES	58.72
GRANT COUNTY CLERK	INMATE COSTS	1167.35
LORISSA HARTMAN	MILEAGE	156.40
HEALTHPLAN SERVICES, INC	INSURANCE	81.60
HOLIDAY INN	LODGING	199.90
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	1117.27



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UNITED STATES POSTMASTER	POSTAGE	55.00
PRESTO X	SERVICES	58.00
REGION II MENTAL RETARDATION SER	ASSESSMENT	1249.00
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL	436.67
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	7320.96
THOMAS CO CLERK PETTY CASH	POSTAGE	8.60
THOMAS CO TREASURER	POSTAGE	220.00
U S BANK	FUEL/MEALS	72.70
VISION CARE DIRECT	INSURANCE	4.66
WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT	REGISTRATIONS	35.00
SALARIES		23,328.74

## ROAD FUND-

AMERITAS	RETIRMENT	688.58
BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD	INSURANCE	1940.50
CROELL, INC.	MATERIAL	1731.38
CUSTER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	UTILITIES	56.43
L & L GRAVEL	MATERIAL	1949.50
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	203.25
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL	2432.13
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	1682.27
VISION CARE DIRECT	INSURANCE	32.64
SALARIES		7065.95

## LB 98 ROAD FUND-

FIGGINS CONSTRUCTION CO INC	ARMOR COAT	36994.77
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## PRETRIAL FUND-

VIAERO WIRELESS	PHONE	105.81
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## EXTENSION FUND-

AFLAC	INSURANCE	60.45
AMERITAS	RETIRMENT	408.40
CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES INC	PHONE	314.51
AMANDA DAVIS	MILEAGE	42.55
HEALTHPLAN SERVICES, INC	INSURANCE	29.40
HOMETOWN LEASING	COPIER LEASE	178.00
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	160.50
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL	60.46
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	1188.62
SALARIES		4274.17

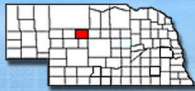
## LIBRARY FUND-

AMERITAS	RETIRMENT	3.33
DAWN BRYANT	SUPPLIES	5.80
CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES INC	PHONE	118.25
CUSTER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	UTILITIES	166.90
EWOLDTS GROCERY INC	SUPPLIES	46.39
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	0.42
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	139.02
SALARIES		837.39

## BOOKMOBILE FUND-

BRODART CO.	BOOKS	241.50
HEALTHPLAN SERVICES, INC	INSURANCE	11.70
MIDAMERICA BOOKS	BOOKS	193.50
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	0.16
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	5.04
SALARIES		30.30

Office reports:



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Clerk/Election commissioner reported that the Nebraska Secretary of State will once again mail out early vote applications to all registered voters in the county. People will be able to request a ballot to be mailed to them starting on September 28<sup>th</sup> if they choose not to come to the polls on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Assessor sent letters to the rural landowners advising them that the rural reappraisal work will begin the week of September 14<sup>th</sup>.

Treasurer reported that taxes are coming in.

Sheriff reported that the Airport Authority has allowed him to park the gator and trailer out at the airport where it could be locked up.

Emergency Manager talked to the board about COVID-19 cases and isolation issues in the county.

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

Motion made by Moody and second by Purdum to approve Resolution #2020-12, setting final allocation of levy to all political subdivisions subject to county levy authority. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Seeley, Purdum. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the County Pandemic Plan. No action taken.

The assessor presented a contract from Central Plains Valuation, LLC for the rural reappraisal work. The board had previously approved a contract with Tax Valuation Inc but that company had a split of partners and the Assessor feels more comfortable with the employees of Central Plains Valuation LLC.

Motion made by Moody and second by Purdum to approve the contract with Central Plains Valuation LLC. Roll call vote: Ayes – Seeley, Purdum, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Budget work session was held for a final time. Numbers were reviewed and set. The budget hearing and tax request hearing will be held on September 15<sup>th</sup>.

No public comment.

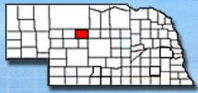
Motion made by Purdum and second by Moody to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: Ayes – Purdum, Seeley, Moody. Nays -none. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Thomas County Board of Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 9:30 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 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.

Thomas County Board of Commissioners

Attest:



# Thomas County Board Minutes



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John B. Seeley, Chairman

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Lorissa Hartman, County Clerk