

Thomas County Board Minutes



Thomas County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
October 4, 2022

The Thomas County Board of Commissioners convened in open and public session at 8:30 a.m., in the meeting room of the Thomas County Courthouse, Thedford, NE. Members present were Pam Moody and John Seeley. Absent was Jim Purdum. Also present were board secretary/County Clerk Lorissa Hartman, County Treasurer Andrea Thomas, County Highway Superintendent Lloyd Smith, County Attorney Kurt Arganbright, Norma Butler and available by Zoom was Rich Kotite, T-Mobile representative.

Chairman 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 September 22, 2022.

Motion made by Moody and second by Seeley to adopt the agenda with the following addition, due to the emergency nature of the Bovee Forest fire that started in the National Forest at Halsey on Sunday, October 2, 2022. And due to the agenda being finalized at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, October 3rd and the United States Government not contacting the Thomas County Clerk in time to place this Resolution #2022-27 on the agenda, an emergency addition to the October 4, 2022 agenda needs made for the United States Forest Service to use the Thomas County Fairgrounds for a staging area to fight the wildfire. Roll call vote: Ayes – Seeley, Moody. Nays – none. Absent – Purdum. Motion carried. Resolution #2022-27 will be added to the agenda as item #19A.

Motion made by Seeley and second by Moody to approve the September 20, 2022 meeting minutes as published in the Thomas County Herald on September 29, 2022. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Seeley. Nays – none. Absent – Purdum. Motion carried.

Road discussion:

The draft copy of the auto gate policy was reviewed. The board would like to see language added that the landowner must give adequate notice. The county attorney will review and have a new draft for the October 18th meeting.

Road maintenance classification map reviewed. Changes to the classification needs to be reviewed. Lloyd will check with the County Attorney about how the county should proceed with the changes, if there should be a public hearing or not. The board would also like to add language that any new/existing roads should meet minimum standards. The board will discuss this again at their October 18th meeting.

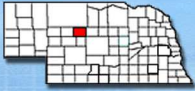
Discussion was held on the quote for the Kaufman flat bed trailer. This was tabled until October 18th. The board would like to review the bid to make sure it meets all of the needs for the county.

No correspondence to present.

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

GENERAL FUND-

AFLAC	INSURANCE	426.12
AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	2644.22
APPLIED CONNECTIVE TECHNOLOGIES	SERVICES	542.45
BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD	INSURANCE	9807.86
BROUILLETTE, DUGAN, TROSHYNSKI PC	ATTORNEY FEES	1021.65



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COLONIAL LIFE & ACCIDENT INS CO	INSURANCE	107.42
CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES INC	PHONE	472.62
RICHARD COOK	MILEAGE/REG	286.25
CREATIVE PRINTERS, INC.	PRINTING	1458.41
EWOLDTS GROCERY INC	SUPPLIES	48.61
HEALTHPLAN SERVICES, INC	INSURANCE	64.20
MIPS INC	SERVICES	1335.23
NACO	REGISTRATION	35.00
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	1026.29
NEBRASKA WEED CONTROL ASSOCIATION	DUES	125.00
REGION 26	ASSESSMENT	10466.94
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL	272.22
SANDHILLS WEED MANAGEMENT AREA	MAILINGS	80.41
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	6567.32
CHEVAS SHAW	ATTORNEY FEES	425.00
SYNCB/AMAZON	SUPPLIES	70.99
THOMAS CO TREASURER	EXT/BOOKMOBLIE/POSTAGE	7055.23
TYLER TECHNOLOGIES INC	DATA PROCESSING	449.00
VILLAGE OF THEDFORD	UTILITIES	400.50
VISION CARE DIRECT	INSURANCE	4.66
SALARIES		22460.31

ROAD FUND-

AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	758.31
CALLS GARAGE INC	REPAIRS	69.80
CREATIVE PRINTERS, INC.	PRINTING	105.00
HOOKE COUNTY TRIBUNE	PRINTING	30.00
NEAL LUMBER CO	SUPPLIES	109.74
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	215.53
NIOBRARA VALLEY CONSULTANTS LLC	SERVICES	4728.13
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL	2871.66
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	1637.40
TRIPLE G REDIMIX, LLC	MATERIAL	3530.12
VILLAGE OF THEDFORD	UTILITIES	148.50
SALARIES		6593.04

PRE-TRIAL FUND-

VIAERO WIRELESS	PHONE	81.91
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EXTENSION FUND-

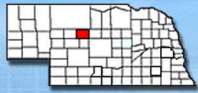
AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	293.45
BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD	INSURANCE	2344.25
CROSSROADS AUTO REPAIR SPECIALISTS	REPAIRS	64.22
COLONIAL LIFE & ACCIDENT INS CO	INSURANCE	150.14
CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES INC	PHONE	226.89
HOMETOWN LEASING	COPIER LEASE	166.24
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	103.02
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL	268.01
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	614.05
SALARIES		1564.58

LIBRARY FUND-

AFLAC	INSURANCE	149.49
AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	139.73
CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES INC	PHONE	101.96
EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	COPIER METER	56.43
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	3.77
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	200.46
SYNCB/AMAZON	SUPPLIES	38.59
SALARIES		1009.58

BOOKMOBILE FUND-

HEALTHPLAN SERVICES, INC	INSURANCE	11.70
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	1.50
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL	104.68



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SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	56.26
SYNCB/AMAZON	2 LAPTOPS	899.98
SALARIES		338.11
ARPA FUND-		
APPLIED COA49:C77NNECTIVE		
TECHNOLOGIES	2 IPADS	901.75

Office reports:

Clerk reported that the 2022 General Election ballots have been delivered. Starting October 11th, ballots may be requested in person. Applications on file for mail ballots can be sent out starting October 3rd.

West Central District meeting will be held on October 5th in North Platte. September office fee report was presented to the board.

Sheriff office report was passed out for the quarterly fee report and distress warrant report.

Treasurer reported that any new ARPA grant applications should be stopped until the obligated applications that have been approved are completed, after those that are on the agenda for today. The county has obligated close to the \$140,000 that was received from the Federal Government.

Commissioner Moody reported that local fire chiefs for Thedford and Halsey had received compliments on how they handled the Bovee fire.

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

Motion made by Seeley and second by Moody to approve Resolution #2022-22, transfer from Bookmobile fund to Library fund in the amount of \$15,000. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Seeley. Nays – none. Absent – Purdum. Motion carried.

Motion made by Seeley and second by Moody to approve Resolution #2022-23, to close the Courthouse Debt fund and transfer \$18,587.51 to County General fund along with any future tax collections. Roll call vote: Ayes – Seeley, Moody. Nays – none. Absent – Purdum. Motion carried.

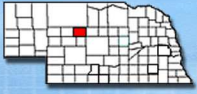
No road employee interviews were conducted. No applications were submitted.

Motion made by Seeley and second by Moody to approve Resolution #2022-24, ARPA grant with the Village of Thedford application #2 in the amount up to \$29,032. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Seeley. Nays – none. Absent – Purdum. Motion carried.

Motion made by Seeley and second by Moody to approve Resolution #2022-25, ARPA grant with the Thedford Rural Fire Protection District, application #2 in the amount up to \$12,111.45. Roll call vote: Ayes – Seeley, Moody. Nays – none. Absent – Purdum. Motion carried.

Resolution #2022-26, ARPA grant application with the Thedford Art Guild was tabled until the correct documentation is provided.

Chairman Moody recessed the regular meeting to open the public hearing for T-Mobile at 10:00 a.m.



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Rich Kotite, agent for T-Mobile spoke by Zoom and explained the application. The tower is already an existing tower that is co-owned by Consolidated Telephone and Custer Public Power. Verizon already has equipment located on this tower. T-Mobile proposes to put additional antenna and equipment on the tower below Verizon equipment. Additional ground equipment will be installed at the base of the tower. The T-Mobile equipment will have 5G capability and offer high speed data. Benefits of allowing T-Mobile to co-locate on the existing tower would be to offer competitive cell phone service. T-Mobile will follow safe industry standards with their equipment.

Local landowner, Norma Butler questioned if this would increase wireless radiation from the cell phone tower. Mr. Kotite answered yes, but it would still be well below the standards. Norma questioned who determines the guidelines. Mr. Kotite answered that the FCC sets the standards. Any health complaint issues would need to be directed to the FCC. The question was also asked if T-Mobile could state how much radiation emissions would be released. Mr. Kotite responded that he didn't know. Mr. Kotite advised that if anyone had questions, they could review the FCC website about details on emission standards.

No further questions from the board or public at this time.

Chairman Moody closed the public hearing and reconvened the regular meeting at 10:10 a.m.

Motion made by Seeley and second by Moody to approve the special use permit application from T-Mobile to co-locate on the existing 330' cell phone tower located in Pt. SE1/4 of Section 33, Township 24 North, Range 28 West. Roll call vote: Ayes – Seeley, Moody. Nays – none. Absent – Purdum. Motion carried.

No other public comment.

County Attorney Kurt Arganbright arrived in the meeting after close of County Court and reviewed the questions the board had on various issues.

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

Meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the Thomas County Board of Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 8:30 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 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