



# Saline County Board Minutes



## SALINE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The regular meeting of the Saline County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:33 a.m. on Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 by Chairperson, Marvin A. Kohout. Present were Kohout, Stephanie A. Krivohlavek, Janet J. Henning, Phil Hardenburger and Russ Karpisek, Commissioners, County Clerk Daryl Fikar and Administrative Assistant Tim McDermott. County Attorney Tad Eickman was present between court commitments.

Notice of said meeting was posted in the County Clerk's Office, on the Saline County Website, and published in all three county newspapers prior to the meeting, in compliance with State Statutes.

Let the record show that all proceedings are electronically recorded.

Kohout advised those present of the open meetings law posted at the back of the room.

Henning moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Krivohlavek. Voting aye were Karpisek, Kohout, Hardenburger, Henning and Krivohlavek, nays none, motion carried.

Krivohlavek moved to approve the minutes of the March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 regular meeting, seconded by Krivohlavek. Voting aye were Kohout, Karpisek, Henning, Krivohlavek and Hardenburger, nays none, motion carried.

Under citizens forum, Jeff Koll asked about an item that he discussed at the March 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, regarding wind tower number 16. He inquired whether any of the commissioners had investigated, as he had informed them that he does not believe that this specific tower is in an area that is included in the conditional use permit for the windfarm. None of the commissioners had any additional information. Hardenburger noted that he was under the impression that the issue had been settled during the previous meeting.

Gary Veprovsky spoke next, commenting that he has observed cabling being buried on land owned by Allen Kreuzer, which is not included in the area covered by the conditional use permit. He had brought this subject up at the previous meeting, and asked whether the commissioners had any further information. Commissioner Krivohlavek informed Mr. Veprovsky that, should they want the commissioners to investigate any subject, then an item needs to be placed on the agenda. Fikar informed Koll and Veprovsky that they could visit with the County Clerk's Office to place an item on the agenda.

Under correspondence, Fikar reported receiving, from Blue Valley Community Action, their March 17<sup>th</sup> agenda, their February 18<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes and their March report to the Board of Directors. He also received notice that the March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Southeast Nebraska Development District has been cancelled, that the March 19<sup>th</sup> Aging Partners meeting in DeWitt would not take place and that the March 19<sup>th</sup> 5 Rivers RC&D meeting would take place via teleconference.

Under report of officials, Henning reported that she attended the LEPC meeting at Homestead National Monument on March 5<sup>th</sup>, a Region V meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup> and the Reading Classic on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Coming up, she has a Public Health Solutions meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup>.

Hardenburger reported that he had attended an Ag. Society meeting on March 11<sup>th</sup> and reports that the Blue Valley Community Action meeting scheduled for tonight has been cancelled, and a 5 Rivers RC&D meeting scheduled for the 19<sup>th</sup> would now be a teleconference.

Kohout reported attending the "Know Your Numbers" meeting with representatives of Madonna on March 12<sup>th</sup>, he has investigated several road complaints, he attended the Employee Recognition Banquet on March 7<sup>th</sup>, a Diversion program meeting, an Employee Wellness Committee meeting, he attended the storm spotter training at Homestead National Monument, the SE District NACO meeting and has a Planning and Zoning meeting tonight.

Krivohlavek reports that she attended the Employee Recognition Banquet, the Wilber-Clatonia School Board meeting and she reports receiving notice that the Governor will permit state and local governmental boards, commissions, and other public bodies to meet by videoconference, teleconference, or other electronic means through May 31, 2020.

Karpisek reported that he attended the Employee Recognition Banquet and that the Southeast Nebraska Development District meeting he was scheduled to attend has been cancelled.



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County Attorney Eickman reported that, even though the federal court system has been shut down, the local courts are still operating, and will operate unless the Chief Justice of the Nebraska Supreme Court gives permission to shut down.

McDermott reported that he attended the “Know your numbers” meeting with Madonna on March 4<sup>th</sup>, the LEPC meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup>, the Employee Wellness Committee meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup>, the Southeast Nebraska NACO meeting on March 12<sup>th</sup>, a meeting with Public Health Solutions via Zoom on March 13<sup>th</sup>, he reports that the CURB Coalition meeting scheduled for March 16<sup>th</sup> had been cancelled, he has the “Real Colors” function on March 18<sup>th</sup> and the Wellness Committee protest meeting on March 30<sup>th</sup>.

At 9:57 a.m., Scott Keene with Piper Jaffray & Co. gave a presentation concerning the refinancing of the existing county bonds. He reports that, due to the COVID-19 virus situation, the bond market is in a state of flux. He recommends that the County consider refinancing the bonds, once the market settles down. According to the numbers that he presented, over the life of the bonds, the County could save in excess of \$1,200,000 between the 2012 and 2015 series bonds.

At 10:08 a.m., Henning moved to approve resolution #2020-011, releasing pledged security, cusip #3130A9ZG9, valued at \$60,000 to Farmers and Merchants Bank. The motion was seconded by Krivohlavek. Voting aye were Henning, Hardenburger, Kohout, Krivohlavek and Karpisek, nays none, motion carried.

Henning moved to approve resolution #2020-012, releasing pledged security, cusip #3130A9ZG9, valued at \$100,000 to Farmers and Merchants Bank. The motion was seconded by Karpisek. Voting aye were Krivohlavek, Karpisek, Henning, Hardenburger and Kohout, nays none, motion carried.

Henning moved to approve resolution #2020-013, releasing pledged security, cusip #804491FC7, valued at \$485,000 to First State Bank Nebraska. The motion was seconded by Krivohlavek. Voting aye were Hardenburger, Kohout, Krivohlavek, Karpisek and Henning, nays none, motion carried.

Henning moved to approve resolution #2020-014, approving pledged security, cusip #804491FC7, valued at \$335,000 with First State Bank Nebraska. The motion was seconded by Krivohlavek. Voting aye were Karpisek, Henning, Hardenburger, Kohout and Krivohlavek, nays none, motion carried.

Henning moved to approve the Clerk of the District Court report of fees for February, totaling \$32,601.82. The motion was seconded by Krivohlavek. Voting aye were Kohout, Krivohlavek, Hardenburger, Karpisek and Henning, nays none, motion carried.

Henning moved to approve the Sheriff’s report of fees for February showing: writ fees \$1,743.00, mileage \$1,124.25, vehicle inspections \$450.00, gun permits \$115.00, totaling \$3,432.25. The motion was seconded by Karpisek. Voting aye were Karpisek, Henning, Kohout, Krivohlavek and Hardenburger, nays none, motion carried.

Henning moved to approve the County Clerk’s report of fees for February, totaling \$15,768.25, seconded by Karpisek. Voting aye were Kohout, Krivohlavek, Hardenburger, Karpisek and Henning, nays none, motion carried.

At 10:17 a.m., Kohout announced that the Board would recess, to reconvene in the Saline County District Courtroom for the COVID-19 discussion.

At 10:41 a.m., In the District Courtroom, Kohout announced that the Board would reconvene.

A verbal presentation was made, via conference call, by the Health Director of Public Health Solutions, Kim Showalter. She gave a short history of the COVID-19 virus, its’ make-up, symptoms of infection, reasons for its’ spread, who is most susceptible and ways to prevent or obstruct its’ growth. After discussion, Krivohlavek moved that the Board vote to close the courthouse to the public, due to the COVID-19 virus, effective at 8:00 a.m. on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020, until further notice. She also moved that the Emergency Management Director, John McKee, send a message, via Alert-Sense to all enrolled citizens. The motion was seconded by Henning. Voting aye were Henning, Kohout, Krivohlavek and Hardenburger, voting no, Karpisek. Motion carried.

At 12:49 p.m., Kohout announced that the Board would recess, to reconvene in the Commissioners meeting room.

Karpisek announced that he would need to leave the meeting.



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At 1:04 p.m., Kohout announced that the Board would reconvene.

Assistant Highway Superintendent Bill Slezak presented a request to occupy right of way from Unite Private Networks to bury fiber optic cable in a 1.5” conduit in the S ¼ of section 28-8-4. Henning moved to approve the application, seconded by Hardenburger. Voting aye were Krivohlavek, Hardenburger, Henning and Kohout, nays none, motion carried.

Slezak then updated the Board on various road and bridge projects going on around the county, noting that he and the Highway Superintendent have both had conversations with EDF concerning their displeasure at the condition of county roads that they have been using to construct the windfarm.

Henning moved to approve resolution #2020-015, transferring \$1000.00 from the General Fund to the Juvenile Services Aid Program Fund, to be reimbursed when funds are available. Hardenburger seconded the motion. Voting aye were Henning, Krivohlavek, Kohout and Hardenburger, nays none, motion carried.

Henning then moved to approve resolution #2020-016, approving pledged security, cusip #68905WDT6, valued at \$100,000.00 with Farmers & Merchants Bank. The motion was seconded by Hardenburger. Voting aye were Kohout, Hardenburger, Henning and Krivohlavek, nays none, motion carried.

Henning then moved to approve resolution #2020-017, approving pledged security, cusip #25928NEH4, valued at \$100,000.00 with Farmers & Merchants Bank. The motion was seconded by Hardenburger. Voting aye were, Henning, Krivohlavek, Kohout and Hardenburger nays none, motion carried.

Henning moved to approve the claims as presented, seconded by Krivohlavek. Prior to voting, McDermott explained that the claim to Cheever Construction is a payment against the hold-back amount for the addition project. He noted that there remains \$5,000 in that account to ensure the completion of a door project on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. Voting aye were Henning, Krivohlavek, Kohout and Hardenburger, nays none, motion carried.

## GENERAL FUND

General Payroll	Salaries	110,985.40
A&F Const	Dirt	15.00
American Legion	Emp Dinner	1,144.00
Anderson, Rebecca	Atty	630.00
Barnas	Spls	81.77
Bartels, Anita	Mil	48.19
Beatrice Mech	Air Rpr	180.70
Berggren	Architects	10,608.84
Black Hills	Util	2,971.40
Capital Business Sys	Equip Rent	122.00
City of Wilber	Util	9,796.66
CLS Mitigation	Court Costs	13,456.88
Crete Ace Hdw	Spls	47.33
Crete Med Ctr	Med	280.00
Culligan	Spls	246.50
Douglas County	Court Costs	7.75
Eakes	Off Spls	1,635.22
Ecolab Pest Elim	Pest Control	183.57
Farmers Coop	Fuel/Equip Rpr	584.37
First Concord	Ins	467.50
Fort Western	Uniforms	349.98
Frey, Janis	Reimb	12.00
Galls	Uniforms	39.00
Gropp Law	Reimb	233.30



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Gropp, Scott	Cntrct	7,346.00
GT Distr	Uniforms	413.00
Henning, Janet	Mil	32.20
Jefferson County Em Mgmt	Reimb	3,700.00
Jirovec, James	Hlth	394.00
Johnson, Dan	Mil	46.00
Kiner Supply	Spls	231.22
Kohout, Marvin	Mil	170.18
Kracke, Vergene	Reimb	52.53
Luse, Sandra	Reimb	91.56
Lytle, Anthony	Reimb	11.90
Manning, Leanne	Mil/Reimb	42.00
McDermott, Tim	Mil/Reimb	279.86
Michael's Appliance	Frig Rpr	231.18
Microfilm Imaging Sys	Equip Rent	150.00
MIPS	Data Proc	7,476.83
Mueller, Nathan	Mil/Reimb	584.29
Murray, Joseph	Court Costs	800.00
NE Sheriff Assoc	Dues	435.00
Nemaha County Sheriff	911 Sys	114.59
O'Keefe Elevator	Maint	308.88
Officenet	Off Spls	170.33
Pallas, Cathy	Reimb	199.83
Physicians Lab	Testing	170.00
Pictometry	Imagery License	26,303.84
Sack Lumber	Spls	35.13
Saline County Atty Petty Cash	Court Costs	561.90
Saline County Court	Court Costs	269.00
Saline County Dist Court	Court Costs	165.00
Saline County ROD	Filing Fees	16.00
Saline County Sheriff	Court Costs	602.75
Sapp Bros	Fuel	1,695.04
Schwarz Paper	Spls	391.88
Scusa, Tammy	Uniforms	96.50
Secretary of State	Off Spls	20.00
Seward County Ind	P&P	4,354.38
Seward Electronics	Radio Rpr	440.94
Shop Qwik	Fuel	49.75
Siemens Ind	Svc Agrmt	1,134.00
Speece-Lewis	Cntrct	863.33
State of Nebraska	Data Proc	147.60
Stehlik, Eric	Mil	189.75
Stougard, Anita	Mil	61.54
Summit Food	Spls	8,648.91
Tech Masters	Bldg Impr	1,403.23





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Nickles Painting	Bldg Impr	2,440.00
Thomson Reuters	Sub	137.00
UNL Coop Extension	Reimb	909.17
US Bank Equip	Off Equip	215.00
Vales, Becky	Mil	28.75
Verizon	Phone	214.32
Visa	Trav/Off Spls	50.99
Visa	Spls	139.58
Visa	Pstg	681.05
Visa	Spls	24.80
Visa	Emp Dinner	172.97
Visa	Trng/Spls	180.51
Voss Lighting	Bldg Spls	107.00
Wilber Body	Court Costs	600.00
Windstream	Phone	6,742.84
41 Auto	Equip Rpr	223.38

## **ROAD FUND**

Road Payroll	Salaries	22,754.15
Advanced Auto Glass	Equip Rpr	250.00
B's Enterprises	Signs	8,824.50
Beatrice Concrete	Gravel	4,594.40
Beaver Hardware	Equip Rpr	125.64
City of Crete	Util	502.78
City of Friend	Util	369.27
City of Wilber	Util	216.86
Crete Ace Hdw	Spls	10.11
Crete Auto	Equip Rpr	299.35
Crete Lumber	Spls	15.18
Drake Refrig	Bldg Rpr	223.80
Eric Riley Elect	Elect Rpr	4,755.00
Farmers Coop	Fuel/Equip Rpr	7,362.18
Farmers Union	Equip Rpr	1,155.85
Filtercare	Equip Rpr	149.76
General Fire & Safety	Safety Equip	1,809.20
Johnson Sand	Gravel	6,847.01
Matheson Tri-Gas	Spls	174.86
Murphy Tractor	Equip Rpr	302.32
Norris	Util	433.19
Plains Equip	Equip Rpr	547.08
Praxair	Spls	71.30
Sapp Bros	Fuel	1,233.90
Seward County Ind	P&P	6.75
Sid Dillon	Equip Rpr	308.99
Speece-Lewis	Engineers	14,468.63
Truck Center	Equip Rpr	123.85



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Van Kirk Bros	Culverts Rpl	59,751.17
Village of Dorchester	Util	271.34
Village of Swanton	Util	63.50
Village of Tobias	Util	56.40
Village of Western	Util	61.20
Visa	Trav	401.49
Walker Uniform	Uniforms	52.33
Waste Connections	Garbage	215.64
Western Oil	Tire Rpr	20.00
Wilber Plumbing	Bldg Rpr	211.95
41 Auto	Equip Rpr	60.74

## HIGHWAY BRIDGE BUYBACK FUND

Herbst Const	Culverts Rpl	114,624.18
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### BAILIFF FUND

Bailiff Payroll	Salaries	1,178.57
Eakes	Off Spls	6.51

## EMPLOYEE WELLNESS FUND

Florian, Judy	Refund Test	45.00
Kohout, Marvin	Mil	76.48
McDermott, Tim	Mil	48.30
Visa	Spls	171.41
Visa	Spls	193.20
Workwell	Trng	468.00

## AGING SERVICES FUND

Aging Services Payroll	Salaries	2,863.55
Aging Partners Acct	P&P	175.62
Crete Chamber	Dues	125.00
Eakes	Off Spls	134.00
Farmers Coop	Fuel/Equip Rpr	127.45
Food Mesto	Spls	16.61
Friend Comm Health	Meals	72.00
Hoover, Madison	Mil	57.27
Miller Mailing	Pstg	611.75
Purfoods	Meals	842.42
Sack	Bldg Rprs	93.97
Visa	Prgm/Pstg	97.18
Visa	Prgm/Off Spls	374.76
Visa	Prgm/Off Spls	141.65
Wilber Care Ctr	Meals	842.42

## DRUG COURT FUND

Kalkwarf & Smith	Cntrct	1,100.00
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## JUVENILE SVCS AID PROGRAM FUND

Change Co	Off Spls	398.29
Perez Mendez, Ana	Prgm	222.00
Stougard, Anita	Prgm	756.50



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Visa	Spls	100.00
Watson, Syerra	Prgm	117.00
<b>INHERITANCE TAX FUND</b>		
Cheever Constr	Courthouse	31,571.44
Wilber Windows	Garage Rprs	4,875.00
<b>911 EMERGENCY MGMT FUND</b>		
Windstream	Phone	159.28
<b>911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND</b>		
Windstream	Phone	688.87
<b>COMMISSARY FUND</b>		
Barnas	Spls	258.72
Eakes	Spls	249.85
Shared Service Sys	Spls	67.72
Summit Food	Spls	3,520.69
Visa	Spls	2.00
<b>CRIME PREVENTION FUND</b>		
Elite K-9	Decal	48.46
<b>HIGHWAY BOND FUND</b>		
UMB Bank	Interest	64,122.50
<b>ALL FUNDS</b>		
First State Bank	Fed Tax	14,338.05
NE Dept of Rev	State Tax	6,320.86
First State Bank	Soc Sec	28,596.88
Ameritas Life	Retire	23,174.75
Delta Dental	Dental Ins	2,157.93
VSP	Eye Ins	472.56
AFLAC	Ins	1,400.57
MassMutal	Def Comp	3,228.00
Colonial Supp Ins	Ins	272.30
Teamsters	Dues	287.50
Madison Nat'l Life	Life Ins	44.17
Madison Nat'l Life	Dis Ins	259.86
First Concord	Café	2,166.88
New York Life	Ins	118.90
NE Child Support	Garnish	197.08
AZ Child Support	Garnish	86.06
Saline County Court	Garnish	143.47
Credit Mgmt Svcs	Garnish	42.93

At 1:19 p.m., Henning moved to enter closed session, seconded by Hardenburger. Prior to voting, Jeff Koll questioned the reason for closed session. Since the person that placed the item on the agenda was not present, the question was not answered. Voting aye to enter closed session were Kohout, Hardenburger, Henning and Krivohlavek, nays none, motion carried. Kohout announced that, during closed session, the Board would be discussing the item "Litigation Discussion"



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At 1:32 p.m., Hardenburger moved to exit closed session, seconded by Henning. Voting aye were Henning, Krivohlavek, Kohout and Hardenburger, nays none, motion carried. Kohout announced that, during closed session, the board discussed the item “Litigation Discussion”, and no action was taken.

Kohout asked that the item be placed on the March 31<sup>st</sup> agenda.

Hardenburger informed the Board that he had begun, and will continue to research the possibility of creating an economic development district, and a railroad transportation safety district, and would report back to the Board.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:41 p.m. The next regular meeting will be on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. in the Saline County Commissioners’ Room, Court House, Wilber NE.

ATTEST:

Daryl Fikar, County Clerk

Janet J. Henning

Marvin A. Kohout, Chairperson

Stephanie Krivohlavek

Phil Hardenburger

Russ Karpisek, Vice-Chairperson

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I, Daryl Fikar, County Clerk in and for Saline County, do hereby certify that the minutes of the March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 meeting were presented and approved as presented.

Daryl Fikar, County Clerk

Janet J. Henning

Marvin A. Kohout, Chairperson

Stephanie Krivohlavek

Phil Hardenburger

Russ Karpisek, Vice-Chairperson