

SALINE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The regular meeting of the Saline County Board of Commissioners was called to order at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 14, 2023, by Chairperson Phil Hardenburger. Present were Hardenburger, Marvin A. Kohout, Janet J. Henning, Russ Karpisek and Stephanie A. Krivohlavek Commissioners, County Clerk Anita K. Bartels and County Attorney David C. Solheim.

Notice of said meeting was posted in the County Clerk's Office and published in all three county newspapers on March 8, 2023, in compliance with State Statutes.

Hardenburger advised those present of the open meetings act posted at the back of the room and that all proceedings are electronically recorded.

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

Henning moved to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2023 meeting, seconded by Krivohlavek. Voting aye were Henning, Karpisek, Kohout, Krivohlavek and Hardenburger, nays none, motion carried.

Under Citizens Forum, Gary Veprovsky and Lester Ralston addressed the Board.

Under Correspondence, Bartels reported receiving a check in the amount from the National Opioid Settlement Trust in the amount of \$4,239.48; from the City of Crete the March 7th agendas for the City Council and the Personnel, Legislative Development, Public Works, Finance and Public Safety Committees; from SENDD a notice the March 16th meeting has been postponed to March 23, 2023; from the Saline County Historical Society the minutes of their March 4, 2023 meeting and communications with Melanie Kunc from the Extension Office regarding their need for additional storage space.

Karpisek reported having correspondence with constituents regarding road conditions and a wind study.

Under Report of Officials, Karpisek reported he has a SENDD meeting on March 23rd.

Krivohlavek reported on attending County Government Day and gave a reminder of the Aging Services Shamrock Shuffle and the Saline County Area Transit Soup and Sandwich lunch both on Saturday, March 18, 2023.

Kohout reported he was interviewed by Channel 10/11 regarding the Public Advocacy Commission involvement in past Saline County trials; attending County Government Day; a zoom meeting with Hometown Housing; a Tobias wind meeting; Southeast District meeting and he has been asked to testify in the Legislature on Inheritance Tax.

Henning reported on meetings with CASA and Region V Services.

Hardenburger reported on a zoom meeting with Hometown Housing, attending County Government Day; an Ag Society meeting; a meeting with Brad Swiggart on self insured employee health insurance; the Southeast District meeting and an upcoming Hometown Housing meeting on Friday the 17th.

Henning moved to approve recognizing March 21st as Down Syndrome Awareness Day, setting the courthouse exterior lights to yellow and blue, seconded by Krivohlavek. Voting aye were Karpisek, Kohout, Krivohlavek, Hardenburger and Henning, nays none, motion carried.

Henning moved to approve the February 2023 Clerk of District Court fees in the amount of \$22,110.18, seconded by Krivohlavek. Voting aye were Krivohlavek, Hardenburger, Henning, Karpisek and Kohout, nays none, motion carried.

Henning moved to approve the February 2023 Clerk fees in the amount of \$10,572.00, seconded by Karpisek. Voting aye were Hardenburger, Henning, Karpisek, Kohout and Krivohlavek, nays none, motion carried.

Henning moved to approve the February 2023 Sheriff fees in the amount of \$2,606.28, seconded by Krivohlavek. Voting aye were Henning, Karpisek, Kohout, Krivohlavek and Hardenburger, nays none, motion carried.

By teleconference, Ebony Cooksey with Nextlink Internet, presented to the Board, information on their fiber installation project at Western for rural broadband. This project would be funded under the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program Grant – FCC RDOF Rural Digital Opportunity Funding. Ebony is seeking Saline County support for this project. This would not be financial support, rather a letter of support to submit with the grant application. No action was taken, pending the collection of information from the newly created State office on rural broadband.

At 10:47 a.m. the Board recessed;

At 10:56 a.m. the Board reconvened;

Planning & Zoning Administrator Lyle Weber, reported the existing turbines were built without sound limits. He has contacted 4 companies, 2 of which asked how much money do you have to spend and then they will state what they can do with that amount. He contacted Olsson Associates in Nebraska, who contract their wind studies with an out of state company called Epsilon Associates. Epsilon gave an estimate of \$10-\$15,000 if they used the model working from their office and starting at \$50,000 if they were on site. A Lancaster County Consultant Dominique Cheede informed Weber, there is really no way to accurately measure wind sound due to changing weather conditions, blade style and size of the turbine. Cheede did suggest if a study would be done, to conduct the study on 4 of each turbine size and the cost would be \$3,500 - \$4,000 per turbine site. Weber stated there are 3 different sizes of turbines, making the total count of turbines to be tested would be 12. Cheede suggested time to leave the measure device in place would be at least 2 weeks. Weber informed the Board he does not have the funds available in the Planning & Zoning budget to cover this cost.

Since it was unknown if the company who installed the Milligan 1 turbines conducted a sound study, the Board requested Weber contact Milligan 1 to obtain a copy of the study if available.

Karpisek moved to table action on the availability of funds for a sound/decibel study on wind turbines until the next meeting, giving Weber time to check if there is a study available from Milligan 1, seconded by Krivohlavek. Voting aye were Kohout, Krivohlavek, Hardenburger, Henning and Karpisek, nays none, motion carried.

Hardenburger reported speaking with insurance broker Brad Swiggart, regarding employee health insurance options, including a self-insurance package. He noted if the County would choose to self-insure, there would be reinsurance to cover catastrophic claims. Kohout stated the NACO Board has taken a more positive position on self-insurance and has it as an option on their new package, which the NACO Board will be meeting on at their April 27th meeting.

By consensus an employee health insurance committee is to be formed, to discuss/research/review health insurance options, to become effective July 1, 2023. This committee will consist of Phil Hardenburger, Stephanie Krivohlavek, Dee Drake, Jamie Woltemath, Michaela Nielson and any official or employee wishing to be a part of this committee. Bartels is to contact the County offices, requesting additional members to participate on this committee. A list of interested parties will be presented to the Board at their March 28th meeting.

County Attorney David Solheim presented for approval two Federal Grant applications to fund a Saline County Victims Assistance Program, SFY 2024 JAG and SFY 2024 VOCA. This grant would allow the addition of a victim-witness coordinator to the County Attorney's office. Henning moved to approve the two applications, seconded by Karpisek. Voting aye were Karpisek, Kohout, Krivohlavek, Hardenburger, and Henning, nays none, motion carried.

For Highway Superintendent Bruce Filipi, Bartels read his recommendation to accept the JJK Construction (low bid) in the amount of \$1,087,445.01 for Project C-76(790) Swanton West.

Henning moved to award the bid to JJK Construction, seconded by Kohout. Voting aye were Kohout, Krivohlavek, Hardenburger, Henning and Karpisek, nays none, motion carried.

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

A&F Construction	Bldg Maint	295.00
Rebecca Anderson	Atty Fees	118.75
Anytime Plumbing	Bldg Maint	627.31
Barnas	Supplies	430.22
Johnny Barta	P&Z	33.34
Matt Baumann	Reimb	696.95
Black Hills	Utility	10,559.82
Gerald Brown	P&Z	29.41
Capital Business Systems	Cntrct	140.00
City of Wilber	Utility	8,574.60
Ace Hardware	Supplies	81.18

CAMC	Cntrct	845.84
Culligan	Cntrct	184.25
Dee Drake	Reimb	22.79
Eakes	Supplies	3,226.80
Ecolab	Supplies	487.70
Engineered Controls	Bldg Maint	548.00
Farmers Coop	Fuel	252.47
First Concord	Ins	5,681.74
First Concord	Ins	75.00
First Wireless	Equip	750.00
Friend Community Healthcare	Cntrct	380.00
Galls	Uniform	534.81
Greatamerica Financial	Cntrct	337.63
Heath Sports	Uniform	78.94
David Hermsmeier	P&Z	16.31
Jefferson Co Em Mgmt	Cntrct	4,350.00
Randy Kalkwarf	Reimb	174.74
Jeffrey Koll	P&Z	29.41
Lancaster Co Youth Svcs	Cntrct	1,932.00
Lincoln Radiology	Cntrct	32.34
Mallory Safety	Supplies	517.36
Microfilm Imaging	Cntrct	150.00
MIPS	Cntrct	2,940.33
Monroe Systems	Supplies	208.55
Keith Muller	P&Z	19.59
NACO	Trng	120.00
DHHS	Cntrct	371.00
Nebraska.gov	Cntrct	109.50
NIRMA	Cntrct	1,118.00
NPPD	Utility	259.00
Tyson Osborn	Reimb	40.37
Physicians Lab	Cntrct	55.00
Quill	Supplies	60.94
Sack Lumber	Supplies	233.89
Saline Co Atty	Reimb	47.24
Saline Co Court	Reimb	203.00
Saline Co Dist Court	Reimb	208.00
Saline Co Imprest	Reimb	25,474.01
Saline Co Sheriff	Reimb	522.57
Sapp Bros	Fuel	5,460.82
Sarpy Co Sheriff	Cntrct	8,695.00
Secretary of State	Cntrct	20.00
Seward Co Independent	P&P	3,901.53
Sid Dillon	Equip Rpr	2,925.11
Siemens	Bldg Maint	1,250.80
Rachel Smith	Reimb	57.87
Soarin Group	Cntrct	3,959.40
Stanard Appraisal	Cntrct	6,004.50
Summit	Supplies	9,438.85
Thomson Reuters	Cntrct	155.57
Nelson, Clark & Timan	Atty Fees	323.00
Tk Elevator	Bldg Maint	342.66
Union Bank	Bond Fees	1,374.00
Unite	Comm	6,477.07
Verizon	Comm	171.12
Visa	Trng	107.24
Visa	Supplies	30.02

Visa	Fuel	50.80
Visa	Supplies	26.59
Visa	Uniform	348.89
Visa	Uniform	65.00
Visa	Equip	418.93
Voss Lighting	Supplies	219.80
Walker	Supplies	36.41
Walker	Supplies	78.83
Joel Weber	P&Z	41.86
Mary Jo Weber	P&Z	62.16
41 Auto	Supplies	1,210.54
AKRS	Supplies	159.30
Beatrice Concrete	Gravel	14,748.02
Beaver Hardware	Supplies	9.18
Black Hills	Utility	2,340.17
City of Crete	Utility	313.41
City of Wilber	Utility	170.22
Ace Hardware	Supplies	60.55
Auto Supply	Supplies	514.96
Eakes	Supplies	438.71
Farmers Coop	Fuel	18,037.43
Farmers Union Coop	Supplies	208.03
Food Mesto	Supplies	12.68
Linde Gas	Supplies	91.57
Matheson Tri-Gas	Supplies	1,571.03
MHC	Supplies	51.42
NE IA Ind	Supplies	465.27
Nebraska.gov	Cntrct	7.50
NMC	Equip Rpr	2,523.18
Orschelns	Supplies	104.98
Pomp's Tire Service	Supplies	90.00
Powerplan	Equip Rpr	1,852.24
CNH	Supplies	102.40
RDO	Supplies	23.50
Sack Lumber	Supplies	6.41
Saline County ROD	Cntrct	16.00
Sapp Bros	Fuel	2,461.01
Scherbarth Ace	Supplies	5.38
Seward Co Ind	P&P	281.78
Speece-Lewis	Eng Fees	54,742.50
Spring Creek Repair	Equip Rpr	663.71
Truck Center	Supplies	169.87
Village of Dewitt	Utility	75.35
Village of Dorchester	Utility	208.17
Village of Swanton	Utility	65.53
Village of Tobias	Utility	57.60
Village of Western	Utility	83.25
Visa	Supplies	36.56
Waste Connections	Utility	236.78
Wilber Plumbing	Supplies	5.97
Young's Welding	Supplies	83.52
41 Auto	Supplies	16.46
Soarin Group	Equip	6,494.00
Visa	Hlth Fair	268.35
Jessica Acosta	Prgm	920.00
City of Crete	Prgm	120.00
Samantha Cosaert	Prgm	285.00

Culligan	Cntrct	58.25
Farmers Coop	Fuel	55.13
Food Mesto	Prgm	69.90
Hosanna	Prgm	160.00
Tia Kreshel	Prgm	420.00
Delaney Mazza	Prgm	246.00
Wilber Care Center	Prgm	750.00
Family Service Assoc	Prgm	4,800.00
Anita Stougard	Prgm	1,065.00
Verizon	Comm	42.78
First Wireless	Equip	7,824.70
Visa	Supplies	212.50
Barnas	Supplies	1,899.57
Bob Barker Company	Supplies	546.34
Eakes	Supplies	806.18
Summit	Supplies	5,500.97
Visa	Supplies	146.50
Union Bank & Trust	Bond Pmt	14,248.55
iSolved Payroll, Taxes & Payments	Payroll & Taxes	229,452.87
Ameritas Life	Retire	27,158.31
Principal Dental	Dental Ins	2,123.34
Madison Nat'l Life	Life Ins	61.63
AFLAC	Ins	1,131.85
VSP	Eye Ins	490.30
Empower	Def Comp	2,217.00
First Concord	Café	1,810.62
Colonial Supp Ins	Ins	164.87
Madison Nat'l Life	Dis Ins	198.03
Teamsters	Dues	275.00
New York Life	Ins	95.64
Globe Life	Ins	213.64
Clear Recovery	Garnish	205.42
Bruce H. Wingerd	Garnish	512.74

At 11:41 a.m. Kohout moved to enter closed session, seconded by Henning. Voting aye were Hardenburger, Henning, Karpisek, Kohout and Krivohlavek, nays none, motion carried.

At 12:09 p.m. Karpisek moved to exit closed session, seconded by Kohout. Voting aye were Henning, Karpisek, Kohout, Krivohlavek and Hardenburger, nays none, motion carried.

Hardenburger announced during closed session no action was taken.

At 12:10 p.m. Hardenburger announced the Board would recess and relocate to the Law Enforcement Center for a quarterly tour.

At 12:20 p.m. Hardenburger announced the Board would reconvene at the Law Enforcement Center.

Law Enforcement personnel John Hensel and Jeff Mulbery gave the Commissioners and County Clerk a tour of the Law Enforcement and Dispatch Centers.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:57 p.m. The next regular meeting will be on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. in the Saline County Commissioners' Room, Court House, Wilber, NE.

ATTEST:

Anita K. Bartels, County Clerk

Janet J. Henning

Stephanie A. Krivohlavek, Vice-Chairperson

Marvin A. Kohout

Phil Hardenburger, Chairperson

Russ Karpisek

I, Anita K. Bartels, County Clerk in and for Saline County, do hereby certify that the minutes of the previous meeting held on February 28, 2023 were approved as presented.

Anita K. Bartels, County Clerk

Janet J. Henning

Stephanie A. Krivohlavek, Vice-Chairperson

Marvin A. Kohout

Phil Hardenburger, Chairperson

Russ Karpisek