



Gage County Board Minutes

The Gage County Board of Supervisors met on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, at 8:58 a.m. with Terry Jurgens, Emily Haxby, Don Schuller, Erich Tiemann, Eddie Dorn and Dave Swavelly present, and Gary Lytle absent.

Notice of said meeting was posted at the County Clerk's Office and published prior to the meeting in compliance with State Statutes.

Let the record show that all proceedings are electronically recorded.

Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Chairman Tiemann announced that a complete copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted at the back of the Board of Supervisors Room.

Consent Agenda included the following items: 1. General Agenda; 2. Minutes from previous meeting and committee meetings; 3. claims audit in the amount of \$2,783,692.96 except #24060005 Beatrice Lawn Care, Inc. in the amount of \$500.00 #24060145 to R.L. Tiemann Const., Inc. in the amount of \$127,196.67 to be voted on separately; 4. approve correspondence received and place on file; 5. Approve District Court Summary Fee Report & Register of Deeds Fee Report for the month of May, 2024; 6. Utility Permit #1306 to Windstream Nebraska, LLC. Windstream will be installing new fiber line for residence at 9545 East Ash Road. Windstream will start at pedestal S4490B in the North grader ditch, bore a 2" diameter x 48" deep line under Ash Road to the South grader ditch, terminate bore at pole, plow from pole to residence driveway. Then turn into residence property, all other work will be done on private property. Located south of Section 11, and North of section 14, T-6-N, R-7-E, Nemaha Twp.

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount Allowed</u>
Courthouse Employees	Salaries	163,135.46
Advanced Correctional Healthcare	Jail on-site medical svcs	7657.84
All Copy Products	Treas copier lease	90.00
Applied Connective Technologies	IT svcs, email setup	11,322.50
Axon Enterprise, Inc.	Taser supplies	1891.35
Beatrice Lawn Care, Inc.	Shf ground sterilant	500.00
Beatrice Public Schools	Juv svc crime comm grants – Feb/Mar	7343.83
Capital Business Systems	Co Ct copier lease	497.49
Capital City Transfer Svcs., Inc.	Autopsy expns x 2	711.00
Clatonia Rescue Squad	Qrtrly EMS svcs	4500.00
Correctional Risk Services	Inmate medical	5953.13
Cortland-Lancaster Rural Fire	Qrtrly EMS svcs	1500.00
Culligan of Lincoln	Water cooler	137.50
Dept of Correctional Svcs. #460	Jail medical	70.67
Diode Technologies	Labor, parts, supplies	394.49
Eakes Office Solutions	Offc supplies	1545.72
Echo Electric Supply	Bulbs, ballast	104.42
Sandra Eltiste	Prior svc retirement	12.00
Extreme Motorsports	Signs	180.00
First Wireless	Radio equip., svc agrmnts	2755.20
Gage County	Fund trnsf–Gen to RBS,Ins,CoBldg,Ec Dev	2,231,050.88
Gage County Treasurer	Sec 1 st Insuff fnd fees	191.00
Green Way Lawn Services, LLC	Mowing	580.00
HD Supply Facilities Maint. LTD	Restroom supplies	949.76
Holiday Inn Kearney	Lodging	229.90
Holiday Inn Express Columbus	Lodging	1284.00
Hometown Leasing	Prob copier leases	472.70
Jerry Shelton, Atty	Atty fees	1852.50
Jim's Carpet & Supplies	Ext offc covebase	32.25
Justice Data Solutions	Shf/Jail software maint.	3500.00
Joyce Kassing	Prior svc retirement	20.00
Kratz Law Office, LLC	Atty fees	1638.75
Kraviec, Maurstad Law, PC LLO	Child Suppt Enf Atty	2398.05
LaQuinta Inn & Suites, Kearney	Lodging	624.75
Legal/Liability Risk Mgmt Inst.	Law Enf continuing ed	175.00
Lincoln Journal Star	Publications	5313.49
Maximus U.S. Services, Inc.	Prepare 2021 Cost Allocation Plan	2600.00

Mead Lumber	Lumber	45.98
Microfilm Imaging Systems	Court scanning equip rent	457.00
Midwest Process Services	Civil process fees	423.40
MIPS, Inc.	Computer programs, data processing	5131.09
Murray Law, PC LLO	Atty fees	2676.00
NACO	1 st half mbrshp dues	2917.40
NE Weed Control Assn.	Trng regis.	150.00
Nebraska.gov	Treas swipe device	1469.38
Nelson, Clark & Timan, PC	Public Defender	6346.15
Norris Public Power Dist.	Utilities	42.29
Paper Tiger Shredding, Inc.	Doc shredding	126.40
Pickrell Rural Fire Dist.	Qrtrly EMS svc.	1500.00
Pictometry Intl. Corp.	Pictometry Connect renewal	1250.00
Platte Co. Detention Facility	Jail school tuition	175.00
Primary Election Pay	Poll worker, elec help, equip haulers, etc.	10,542.86
Priority Printing	Emer Mgmt env.	67.45
Quill – Prob.	Offc supplies	751.63
Quill – Treas	Offc supplies	335.73
Kristine Riekenberg	Bill of Exceptions	326.40
Sack Lumber	Utility flag markers	22.47
SE Nebr. Communications	Falls City Prob. phones	108.98
Security Services	Monitoring alarms	68.50
Soap Opera Laundry	Mop, rag cleaning	42.00
Stanard Appraisal Services	Appraisal maint.	4940.00
Summit Food Svc.	Jail meal svc.	7839.27
T.O. Haas Tire	Veh repairs, oil changes	645.97
The Voice News	Publications	1413.95
T.K. Elevator Corp.	Elevator maint.	256.76
U-line, Inc.	Plastic storage totes	549.86
UN of NE Medical Center	Toxicology testing	101.00
U.S. Bank – Purchase cards	Supplies, fuel, meals, equip., etc.	2107.53
U.S. Post Svc. – Postmaster	Clk & Treas PO boxes	704.00
Verizon Wireless – GCSO	Shf. cell phones	480.12
Verizon Wireless – EMS 6384-1	Emer Mgmt ipad, hot spots	328.02
Verizon Wireless – Prob.	Cell phones	393.84
Westlake Ace Hardware	Supplies, plants, batteries	528.78
Windstream – Wilber Prob.	Phones	54.41
Windstream – Ext 4344	Phones	596.82
Windstream – 4377 Vets	Phones	120.73
<u>Road Fund</u>		
Highway Department Employees	Salaries	40,212.40
All Copy Products, Inc.	Copy overage	41.84
Bauer Built Tire	Tires	13,488.32
Beatrice Concrete Sand & Gravel	Rock & gravel	54,259.10
Bomgaars	Parts, tools, supplies	472.78
City of Wymore	Utilities	76.30
Diversified Drug Testing	Drug/alcohol testing	265.00
Eakes Office Solutions	Offc supplies	492.57
Filtercare of NE, LLC	Filters	15.65
Gage Co. Register of Deeds	Filing easement PDJ Farms	22.00
Jim Hawk Truck Trailers	Hand cleaner	65.40
MIPS, Inc.	Hwy program	192.32
NE Machinery Co.	Parts	5910.19
Pavers, Inc.	Asphalt cold mix	1455.83
PDJ Farms, LLC	1 Temp. & 1 Perm. easement	295.22
Powerplan	Labor	1123.50
R.L. Tiemann Construction, Inc.	Twp gravel & hauling	127,196.67
RDO Truck Center, LLC	Parts, labor	1324.57
Rewound Power Motors	Parts	11.50
Rock On, Inc.	Hauling material	13,280.74
Rose Equipment, LLC	Parts, labor	385.55
Siems Farms, Inc.	2 perm & 3 temp. easements	1817.57
T.O. Haas Tire	Tires, repairs, changeovers	702.41
Tractor Supply Co.	Spades, scoops	239.96
Truck Equipment Svc.	Parts	3070.15
Verizon Connect Fleet USA, LLC	Veh GPS	255.05
Westlake Ace Hardware	Light, supplies	53.08

Zoellner Ford of Beatrice	Part	70.36
<u>Visitor's Promotion Fund</u>		
Beatrice Area Chamber of Commerce	Lodging tax	10,022.16
<u>Register of Deeds Preservation & Modernization Fund</u>		
MIPS, Inc.	Deeds online w/ numerical indexes	220.08
<u>Insurance Fund</u>		
Gage County Health Insurance	Employee health ins claims paid	13,677.25
<u>Diversion Program Fund</u>		
Beatrice Public Schools	Diversion prog fees	1444.00
<u>Community & Economic Development Fund</u>		
NGage – Gage Area Growth Ent.	Co. share of NGage expenditures	35,011.59
<u>General Fund</u>		
Ameritas	County share of Employees Retirement	11,786.02
Security First Bank	Co. share of Empl. Soc. Sec. & Medicare	11,913.17
Gage County Clerk – Health Plan	Co. share of Empl. health insurance	26,532.08
<u>Road Fund</u>		
Ameritas	County share of Employees Retirement	2,714.34
Security First Bank	Co. share of Empl. Soc. Sec. & Medicare	2,947.97
Gage County Clerk – Health Plan	Co. share of Empl. health insurance	9,011.75

Motion made by Dorn, seconded by Swavely to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion made by Dorn, seconded by Swavely to approve claim #24060005 to Beatrice Lawn Care, Inc. in the amount of \$500.00 and claim #24060145 to R.L. Tiemann Const. in the amount of \$127,196.67, bringing the total amount of claims paid through June 11th to \$2,911,389.63. Motion carried 5-0-1 with Tiemann abstaining due to conflict of interest.

Terry and Bev Acton of Holmesville and 3 of their grandchildren, Reece, Lauren and Graham, appeared under public comments. Terry said they were very pleased to announce that they will be hosting the 27th annual Cattleman's Ball next year on June 6th and 7th, 2025, at a location ½ mile east of the intersection of 94th and B Line Roads, on the south side of the road. He said the Cattleman's Ball of Nebraska is a charity whose mission is to raise money for cancer research, to promote beef and a healthy diet, and to showcase rural Nebraska. Bev added that 90% of the profits go to the Fred & Pamela Buffet Cancer Center in Omaha, and 10% comes back to the community through grants available to those who volunteer to help with the event. She said that you don't have to be a rancher or even know how to dance to attend the event. The Ball offers shopping, dining, a popular country music entertainer, demonstrations, art and special activities. On Friday, June 6th, they will host a golf tournament at Beatrice Country Club and on Sat., June 7th, there will be a running event. They anticipate approximately 4,500 people to attend, along with the hundreds of people helping to host. They are the main hosts, but there are several committees under them in charge of finance, activities, food, entertainment, promotion, etc. They said they have also been in touch with Emergency Management, the County Road Dept., and Law Enforcement. They invited all people to attend the Ball and said they look forward to a wonderful event.

Tom Bliss and Oliver Borchert-Williams with Southeast Nebraska Development District (SEND) spoke to the board about projects in Gage County. Tom thanked the board for their continued support of the SEND organization. He stated that they have generated \$6.12 million in grants and loans to respective communities, assisted 59 homeowners with owner-occupied rehab and the construction of new housing, as well as 19 small businesses in Gage County. They were able to secure a \$1 million grant through the pandemic loan pool to build 2 duplexes in Beatrice, and they are setting aside money for childcare and food systems as well. Oliver touched on the BEAD (Broadband Equity Access and Deployment) program, saying that \$405 million in grants will be distributed by the Broadband Office for the unserved and underserved. There will also be \$800,000 from USDA to provide Broadband Technical Assistance. He also said he worked with Supervisor Haxby to develop a "tool kit" for counties to expand their local capacity to engage with Broadband service providers. Tiemann thanked SEND as they were the only Development Dist. early on with a broadband team put together and their assistance with Oliver working behind the scenes with Haxby in negotiating the UBC contract ended with a fantastic agreement for local residents. Tom added that they have been working with several villages to find innovative approaches to addressing needs such as with street projects and making polling

sites ADA compliant. Tiemann said that since Tom has been with SENDD they have done a “180” in their services which were lacking in the past, and he appreciates the projects they are behind in the villages in the county. Haxby stated that she is very grateful to have had Oliver’s help with the grant process, saying the \$405 million amount is because of his efforts – they expected it to be about half that amount.

Lytle joined meeting at 9:15 a.m.

Committee reports were given by Dave Jones on Bldg. & Grounds, Tiemann on Equalization, Jurgens on Finance/Insurance, Lytle & Lisa Wiegand on Emergency Management and P&Z, and Haxby on Road & Bridge. Topics of discussion were water outage, camera issues, need for appraisal of all county property including commercial, increase in liability ins. costs, Emergency Management training at Beatrice Fire, Clatonia meeting attended regarding possible subdivision, P&Z mtg with public hearing to be on 6/18/24, bridge patch work on bridge east of 1st and Dorsey, and noxious weed notices.

Sen. Myron Dorn was in attendance at the meeting. Jurgens asked him about legislation for funding private schools and petitions being circulated. Dorn said the previous bill regarding funding private schools was ended and will not be on the General Election ballot because a new bill that he voted to support, LB1402 by Sen. Linehan, gets rid of the previous bill and sets an amount of \$10 million to be taken out of State General Funds. Unlike the previous bill, you cannot contribute to this amount to receive a tax deduction. Also, the \$10 million amount is capped at that amount for years going forward so there will never be an increase in the amount and there is no sunset (ending) date. Dorn said that public schools don’t want any money going to private schools so they’re circulating petitions to put that on the ballot.

Short break at 10:04 a.m. Back in session at 10:13 with all members present except Jurgens.

Motion made by Swavely, seconded by Lytle to move into closed session at 10:14 a.m. for litigation update and FOP negotiations. Motion carried 6-0.

Motion made by Dorn, seconded by Swavely to come out of closed session at 12:31 p.m. Motion carried 6-0.

Tiemann asked for a motion to approve retaining NIRMA’s attorney and paying deductible in litigation. Tiemann asked County Attorney Roger Harris to explain what we would be retaining the attorney for. Harris said that the litigation is in reference to a lawsuit that Pinpoint Holdings, Inc. filed against Gage County and members of the Board dealing with a permit for fiber optic cable installed in a Right-of-way. NIRMA has assigned Attorney Jeff Kilpatrick, who deals with this kind of thing, to represent the county and the county would be responsible for paying the \$10,000 deductible. Harris recommended the Board, both in terms of time and expertise, retain NIRMA’s attorney for that deductible of \$10,000 in this case.

Motion made by Haxby, seconded by Schuller to approve retaining NIRMA’s attorney to represent the county in the Pinpoint Holdings suit filed against Gage County and members of the Board, and to pay the deductible of \$10,000. Motion carried 6-0.

Chairman declared Board of Supervisors meeting adjourned at 12:36 p.m. until June 26, 2024.

Board minutes can also be viewed on the Gage County website at www.gagecountyne.gov.

/s/ Dawn Hill
Dawn Hill
Gage County Clerk

/s/ Erich Tiemann
Erich Tiemann, Chairman
Gage County Board of Supervisors

I, Dawn Hill, County Clerk of Gage County, do hereby certify that the above records are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Witness my hand and official seal this 11th day of June, 2024.

(SEAL)

/s/ Dawn Hill
Dawn Hill
Gage County Clerk

