Gage County Board Minutes

The Gage County Board of Supervisors met on September 18, 2024, at 8:46 a.m. with Terry Jurgens, Emily Haxby, Don Schuller, Erich Tiemann, Eddie Dorn, Dave Swavely and Gary Lytle present.

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 \$1,847,036.20 which does not include claim # 24090237 to Johnny's Welding in the amount of \$144.00 and claim # 24090244 to R. L. Tiemann Const. in the amount of \$99807.85, 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 August, 2024; 6. Approve sheriff's distress warrant report 7. Approve striking personal property taxes where a distress warrant has been issued for at least 2 (two) years and remains uncollected; 8. Approve receiving treasurer's list of delinquent taxes on parcels of real estate in the County, which remain unsold for want of bidders and directing the County Treasurer to issue county tax sale certificates; 9. Approve the County Treasurer to use the single bank pooled collateral program as an authorized method to secure public funds; 10. Approve specifications and call for bids on 2024-2025 snow removal for the courthouse, Sheriff/Jail, Veterans Office, Former Buss Stop location and parking lots. Bids to be opened October 2, 2024 at 9:15 a.m.; 11. Utility Permit #1314 to Windstream Nebraska, LLC. Windstream will be repairing a fiber line along Hoyt Road between S. 66th to S. 80th. From existing Pedestal 488WE, Windstream will plow new fiber in the South grader ditch along Hoyt in the outer 3' of the ROW for 275'. Windstream will then expose existing cable and splice with new fiber. Located North of Section 4, T-4-N, R-7-E, Logan Twp.

General Fund	Description	Amount Allowed
Courthouse Employees	Salaries	172,586.84
Advanced Correctional Healthcare	Inmate medical	7660.84
Amazon Capital Svcs.	DC offc supplies	68.71
Applied Connective Technologies	Security svcs	1150.00
Axon Enterprise, Inc.	Taser certification	14,400.00
Beatrice Board of Public Works	Utilities	7032.00
Beatrice Comm. Hospital	CPR/AED trng	25.00
Beatrice Daily Sun	Publications	6111.25
Beatrice Iron & Metal	Supplies	54.60
Beatrice Mechanical Svc.	Jail cooler repair	147.24
Beatrice Public Schools	Juvenile Div svcs	6857.32
Black Hills Energy Det 8852	Utilities	133.29
Black Hills Energy Shf 1674	Utilities	42.09
Blue Valley Door Co.	Svc call	105.00
Charter Comm. Spectrum 2019	Prob. internet	209.97
City of Beatrice	Qrtrly EMS svc, gbg svc	45,362.20
Clearfly Communications	Phones	2766.89
Clerk of District Court	Court costs	477.34
Consolidated Management	Meals at trng	139.70
Correctional Risk Svcs.	Inmate medical	540.00
Crowne Plaza – Kearney	Lodging	449.85
Culligan of Lincoln	Water cooler	182.50
Datashield Corp.	Doc shredding	40.40
Deluxe Corp.	DC supplies	778.28
Diode Technologies	Monitoring	90.89
Dr. Eric Thomsen	Mntl hlth hrng	190.00
Eakes Office Solutions	Supplies	4206.91
Echo Group	Bulbs	165.92
Electronic Contracting	Inspection	433.00
Sandra Eltiste	Prior svc retirement	12.00

Cons Co Count	Count anata	1021.00
Gage Co. Court	Court costs	1921.00
Green Way Lawn Svc.	Mowing	435.00
Harman Wright Mortuary	Autopsy expns	575.00
HD Supply Facilities Maint.	Wax	574.96
Homestead LEPC	Dues	217.99
ISolved Benefit Svcs.	Admin fees	144.50
Jerry Shelton, Atty	Atty fees	2059.75
Jurors – Co. Ct.	Jury fees	1469.90
Joyce A. Kassing	Prior svc retirement	20.00
Ken's Pest Control	Pest control	400.00
Kraviec, Maurstad Law	Child Suppt Enf. Atty, postage	2452.07
Lammel Plumbing	Repairs, supplies	345.99
Lepant Law Office	Atty fees	2884.95
Mahloch Law Office	Atty fees	312.00
Marshall & Swift Boeckh, LLC	Assr resid cost handbook	389.95
Mead Lumber Co.	Supplies	568.52
		457.00
Microfilm Imaging Systems	Microfilming	
Mid-States Org. Crime Info. Center	Supplies	2131.64
Midwest Process Svcs	Civil process fees	392.60
MIPS, Inc.	Data processing	5216.49
NE Health & Human Services	St. Inst.	5550.00
Nelson, Clark & Timan	Public Defender	6346.15
Noakes	Repairs, supplies	918.39
Norris Public Power	Utilities	50.70
O'Reilly Auto	Repairs	102.71
Paper Tiger Shredding	Doc shredding	124.75
Physicians Lab	Autopsy expns	6260.00
Pinpoint Comm.	Vets internet	482.05
Precision Signs & Graphics	LE graphics	17.50
Priority Printing	Supplies	656.92
Quadient Leasing	Pstg meter lease	2907.96
Quill – Det.	Offic supplies	259.16
Quill – Ext.	Offc supplies	151.57
Quill – Prob.	Offic supplies	227.37
Kristine Riekenberg	Mntl hlth hrng	190.00
Sack Lumber	Supplies	124.56
Sapp Bros. Petroleum	Shf/Jail fuel	4637.70
SE NE Comm.	Prob phones	110.65
Security Services	Monitoring	68.50
Sheridan Ind.	Ext Offic janitorial svcs	120.00
Soap Opera Laundry	Mop/rag cleaning	19.25
Stanard Appraisal Svcs.	Appr. maint.	27,429.50
Summit Food Svc.	Jail meals	6432.43
T.O. Haas		
	Veh repairs, tires, etc.	2595.68
Thomson Reuters	Software	2784.69
TK Elevator	Maint.	265.63
Total Security Solutions	Panels	2392.00
UNL – Haskell Ag Lab	Forum	115.00
US Bank	Supplies, fuel, meals	2420.25
U.S. Post Svc	P&Z PO box	120.00
Verizon Wireless GCSO	Cell phones	480.12
Verizon Wireless EMS 6384-1	Cell phones	328.10
Veterans Info. Svc.	Annl dues	65.00
Washington Co. Shf.	Board inmates	13,950.00
Westlake Ace Hardware	Supplies	430.39
Windstream Fillmore Co Prob	Phones	458.57
Windstream Gen Info	Phones	4023.37
Zultys	Prob phones	472.38
Road Fund		
Highway Department Employees	Salaries	40,194.19
All Copy Products	Copy overage	59.20
Barco Municipal Prod.	Signs	1493.42
Beatrice Area Solid Waste Agency	Waste disposal	40.00
Beatrice Board of Public Works	Utilities	444.06
Beatrice Concrete Sand & Gravel	Rock & gravel	16,343.26
Beatrice Iron & Metal	Supplies	964.99
Cather & Sons	Asphalt	4791.74
	r	

City of Beatrice	Gbg svc	74.24
City of Wymore	Utilities	85.82
Farmers Coop	Propane	39.10
Filtercare of NE	Filters	51.00
Jim Hawk Truck Trailers	Part	66.86
Johnny's Welding	Supplies	144.00
Landmark Implement	Filters	940.11
Larry's Tire & Svc	Mounts, repairs, alignments	723.96
Mid-States Org Crime Info Ctr	Video surv.	2131.64
MIPS, Inc.	Data processing	192.32
O'Reilly Auto	Parts	1454.73
Powerplan	Parts, labor	3394.05
R.L. Tiemann Const.	Twp gravel & hauling	99,807.85
RDO Truck Center	Parts	1211.63
Rewound Power Motors	Parts	79.92
Sapp Bros Petroleum	Fuel, oil	22,617.42
T.O. Haas Tire	Tires	1019.04
Truck Equip. Svc.	Supplies	118.38
U.S. Bank	Supplies	639.46
Verizon Connect Fleet	Veh GPS	706.93
Village of Odell	Utilities	49.50
Zoellner Ford	Part	110.00
Register of Deeds Preservation & Mo	odernization Fund Deeds online	220.08
Insurance Fund		
Gage County Health Insurance	Employee hlth ins claims paid	24,531.82
Lucent Health Solutions	Admin. fees	37,591.98
D' ' D E 1		,
Diversion Program Fund	D'	2202.00
Beatrice Public Schools	Diversion Program	2203.00
Covid American Rescue Plan Fund AMG Nebraska ISP, LLC	NextLink grant pmt. Brdband internet proj.	1.225.000.00
12.10 1 (01.01.01.01.01.01.01.01.01.01.01.01.01.0	remain grand print area and internet proje	1,220,000.00
General Fund		
Ameritas	County share of Employees Retirement	12,552.65
Security First Bank	Co. share of Empl. Soc. Sec. & Medicare	12,545.59
Gage County Clerk – Health Plan	C 1 CE 11 1.1 .	27,634.59
	Co. share of Empl. health insurance	. ,
Road Fund	Co. snare of Empl. health insurance	,,
Road Fund	•	
Ameritas	County share of Employees Retirement	2,713.10
	•	

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

Motion made by Dorn, seconded by Swavely to approve claim #24090237 to Johnny's Welding in the amount of \$144.00. Motion carried 5-0-1 with Jurgens abstaining due to conflict of interest and Haxby temporarily out.

Motion made by Dorn, seconded by Swavely to approve claim #24090244 to R. L. Tiemann Const. in the amount of \$99,807.85, bringing the total amount of claims paid through September 18, 2024 to \$1,946,988.05. Motion carried 5-0-1 with Tiemann abstaining due to conflict of interest and Haxby temporarily out.

Margaret Haith spoke under public comments, asking why the board is not allowed to respond to things brought forward during the public comments.

Committee reports were given by Dave Jones on Bldg. & Grounds, Tiemann on Equalization, Jurgens on Finance/Insurance, Shf. Gustafson and Tiemann on Law Enforcement, and Haxby and Hwy Supt Mark Kuhnke on Road & Bridge. Topics included progress report on courthouse exterior restoration, sprinklers replaced for fire system, snow bids, heat pump went out, update on Pickrell bridge, and discussion on putting out an RFD for a grant writer.

Tourism Coordinator Dakota Hurley presented a Visitor Improvement Grant request for the Welsh Heritage and Culture Center, Inc., dba Great Plains Welsh Heritage Project in the amount of \$25,000.00. Gwen Colgrove with the Welsh Heritage Center spoke about their museum and the expansion needed. They are trying to raise \$175,000 for the project.

Motion made by Schuller, seconded by Lytle to approve a Visitor Improvement Fund Grant to the Welsh Heritage and Culture Center, Inc. in the amount of \$25,000. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion made by Lytle, seconded by Dorn to open public hearing at 9:17 a.m. to hear support and/or opposition on the One- and Six-Year Highway Improvement Plan. Motion carried 7-0.

Mark Kuhnke, Hwy. Supt. explained the 1- & 6 year was being amended to change one job from the 6 year to the 1 year list and added Pickrell East job that was forgotten.

No public present for the public hearing.

Motion made by Lytle, seconded by Swavely to close public hearing at 9:28 a.m. Motion carried 7-0

RESOLUTION#24-12

WHEREAS, the Gage County Highway Superintendent has presented an Amended One and Six Year Highway Improvement Plan to the County Board of said County, and

WHEREAS, said meeting held on August 21, 2024 resolution 24-10 was adopted and

WHEREAS, Resolution 24-10 for Adopted One and Six Year Highway Improvement Plan

required amending and

WHEREAS, the said Board deems it to be the best interest of the County to amend said plan as presented,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Supervisors of Gage County, Nebraska, that said Amended One and Six Year Highway Improvement Plan be and hereby is approved and accepted.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 18th day of September, 2024.

Motion by: <u>Lytle</u> Second by: <u>Swavely</u>

Vote: Aye- <u>7</u> Nay- <u>0</u>

/s/ Erich Tiemann Erich Tiemann, Chairperson

ATTEST:

/s/ Dawn Hill

Dawn Hill, County Clerk

Motion made by Lytle, seconded by Swavely to approve adopting Resolution #24-12, approving the One- & 6-Year Highway Improvement Plan. Motion carried 7-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 24-13

RESOLUTION & STATEMENT OF FACTS

WHEREAS, the Gage County Board of Supervisors has been presented with a request for a special use permit, (SUP) #2024-4 for the reinstatement and transfer of land management for an abandoned pioneer cemetery known as Pleasant Hill Cemetery;

WHEREAS, the Gage County Planning Commission ("Planning Commission") and Gage County Board of Supervisors ("Board") are duly authorized under the Gage County Zoning Regulations and are required to adopt a Statement Factual Findings according to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 23-114.01(6) (Reissue 2012);

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission and County Board have established the following Statement of Factual Findings:

- 1. An Application was submitted for a Special Use Permit ("SUP") for the reinstatement and transfer of land management for a pioneer cemetery located in an agricultural zoning district on a tract of land in the NE 1/4 of NE 1/4 of Section 36–1–6 in Paddock Township, Gage County, Nebraska.
- 2. On August 15, 2024, the Planning Commission held a public hearing to receive input on SUP #2024-4. The opportunity for public comments was held for testimony in support of, neutral to, and/or in opposition to the SUP.
- 3. On August 15, 2024, the Planning Commission voted 5-0 with 1 abstention to recommend approval of the SUP #2024-4 finding that the location and land use is suitable for the reinstatement of a pioneer cemetery and transfer of land management was appropriate pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 12-812.
- 4. In recommending approval of SUP #2024-4, the Planning Commission found that the Application complied with the guidelines of Article 6.2 of the Gage County Zoning Regulations and Neb. Rev. Stat. § 12-812.
- 5. On September 4, 2024, after proper notice and publication, the Board held a public hearing and public comments were heard in support of, neutral to, and/or in opposition to SUP #2024-4.
- 6. On September 4, 2024, the Board considered whether the Application met all the requirements of the Gage County Zoning Regulations and Neb. Rev. Stat. 12-812 and held a vote to approve or disapprove SUP #2024-4.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GAGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF GAGE COUNTY, NEBRASKA that the special use permit #2024-4 for the reinstatement and transfer of land management for a pioneer cemetery known as Pleasant Hill Cemetery in the NE 1/4 of NE 1/4 of Section 36–1–6 in Paddock Township, Gage County, Nebraska, shall be:

	approved for the reasons stated on the re-	cord.		
	approved with conditions	·		
	disapproved for the reasons stated on the	record.		
Motion made by <u>Jurgens</u> , seconded by <u>Lytle</u> to adopt the foregoing Resolution. All members present as listed and voted as follows:				
Yea: Jurgens, Haxby, Schuller, Tiemann, Dorn, Swavely, Lytle				
1	Nay: None			
		Gage County Board of Supervisors		
Septen Dated:	nber 18, 2024	By: /s/ Erich Tiemann Erich Tiemann, Chairman		

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 18th day of September, 2024.

/s/ Dawn Hill
Gage County Clerk

Motion made by Jurgens, seconded by Lytle to approve adopting Resolution #24-13 approving Special Use Permit #2024-4 for the re-instatement of a pioneer cemetery that was previous abandoned, located in the Northeast ¼ of the Northeast ¼ of Section 36-1-6 of Paddock Township in Gage County, Nebraska known as Pleasant Hill Cemetery. Motion carried 7-0.

Hwy Supt. Mark Kuhnke led discussion about MOU's for Marshall and Washington counties in Kansas regarding shared roads.

Motion made by Lytle, seconded by Dorn to approve MOU's with both Marshall and Washington counties in Kansas. Motion carried 7-0.

RESOLUTION SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST

RESOLUTION NO. 24-14

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1632 and 77-1633 provide that the Governing Body of GAGE County passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request; and

WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governing Body of GAGE County resolves that:

1. The 2024-2025 property tax request be set at:

General Fund \$ 11,217,823.82

0 \$ 0 \$ -

- 2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by 11.66 percent.
- 3. The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property would be 0.262755 per \$100 of assessed value.
- 4. GAGE County proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be 0.266656 per \$100 of assessed value.
- 5. Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of GAGE County will increase last year's budget by 29.54 percent.
- 6. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 15, 2024.

Motion by Lytle, seconded by Swavely to adopt Resolution #24-14

None

<u>Voting yes were:</u> <u>Voting no were:</u>

/s/ Eddie Dorn

/s/ David Swavely

/s/ Gary Lytle

/s/ Don Schuller

/s/ Emily M. Haxby

/s/ Terry Jurgens

/s/ Erich Tiemann

Dated this 18th day of September, 2024.

/s/ Dawn Hill

Gage County Clerk

Motion made by Lytle, seconded by Swavely to approve adopting Resolution #24-14 setting the 2024-2025 tax request at a different rate than the 2023-2024 tax request. Motion carried 7-0.

GAGE COUNTY RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION AND APPROPRIATIONS #24-15

WHEREAS, a proposed County Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, prepared by the Budget Making Authority, was transmitted to the County Board on the 18th day of September, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of Gage County, Nebraska as follows:

SECTION 1. That the budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, as categorically evidenced by the Budget Document be, and the same hereby is, adopted as the Budget for Gage County for said fiscal year.

SECTION 2. That the offices, departments, activities and institutions herein named are hereby authorized to expend the amounts herein appropriated to them during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.

SECTION 3. That the income necessary to finance the appropriations made and expenditures authorized shall be provided out of the unencumbered cash balance in each fund, revenues other than taxation to be collected during the fiscal year in each fund, and tax levy requirements for each fund.

DATED AND PASSED THIS 18th DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2024.

COUNTY BOARD

/s/ Eddie Dorn /s/ David Swavely /s/ Gary Lytle /s/ Don Schuller

/s/ Emily M. Haxby

/s/ Terry Jurgens /s/ Erich Tiemann

Motion made by Dorn, seconded by Swavely to approve adopting Resolution #24-15 adopting the County Budget for FY 2024-2025. Motion carried 7-0.

Discussion on a claim to NextLink for the broadband internet project using ARPA funds. There were certain stipulations on how ARPA funds could be used and what types of projects qualified. The county chose to focus on county-wide broadband internet service. After putting out a RFP, NextLink was chosen to be the provider. Tiemann stated that NextLink made additional dollar investments above and beyond the grant obligations to reach as many residents as possible. Tiemann read a statement written by Oliver Borchers-Williams, the Director of Broadband Development with SENDD (SE NE Development District). The statement read: As the Gage County - Nextlink partnership officially crosses the finish line today, I would like to take the opportunity to reflect on its monumental significance. This is an incredible feat by the Board and Nextlink alike. By delivering next-generation fiber optic broadband to close to 1,000 rural locations in a timely fashion, this project has transformed the connectivity landscape in the county. For some perspective, nearly one-third of Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program projects awarded in the first two rounds required completion deadline extensions and none served more than 860 locations. What's even more impressive is our earliest discussions regarding an ARPAsupported broadband project in Gage County began shortly after the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act was signed into law in late 2021. While Nebraska is still awaiting approval of its proposal to begin the grant process, many Gage County residents are already able to enjoy the benefits of gigabit connectivity as a result of the Board's initiative. The Gage County-Nextlink partnership is exemplary of the power of county engagement in broadband expansion, and I am honored to have been involved in this project. Congratulations to the Board of Supervisors, Nextlink, and Gage County!

Aaron Clark, Regional Director of Operations for Nextlink, based out of Lincoln. Thank you to the board for your vision and being an example to other counties and communities of what can be accomplished. The contract with the county was to serve 950 locations. We have provided service to 983 locations that are live now with fiberoptic internet service. While we've met the obligation of the grant, we're not stopping there – 5 more sub-phases within the project area will lead to 1,081 total homes serviceable. There has been 2,042,000 feet of conduit installed in the county. Nextlink has applied for and received additional grants and will be servicing 5 more communities – Filley, Pickrell, Barneston, Cortland & Clatonia areas. Every Village in Gage County will have fiber. Tiemann thanked Nextlink for their investment in the county. Senator Dorn congratulated the board on the Broadband project and thanked Supervisor Haxby for her dedication to the project. He also thanked Haxby for her work on the Bead program and getting extra money for the unserved and underserved houses. He also congratulated Nextlink and thanked them for getting those funds out and getting them used in the county.

Break at 10:13 a.m. Back in session at 10:33 a.m. with all members previously listed except Jurgens and Swavely.

Motion made by Lytle, seconded by Dorn to move into closed session at 10:34 a.m. for personnel. Motion carried 5-0.

Haxby left meeting during closed session.

Motion made by Dorn, seconded by Schuller to come out of closed session at 12:21 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.

No action was taken on the Interlocal Agreement between the Gage County Board of Supervisors and the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska for the provision of Cooperative Extension Services.

Chairman declared Board of Supervisors meeting adjourned at 12:24 p.m. until October 2, 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 18th day of September, 2024.

(SEAL)

/s/ Dawn Hill
Dawn Hill
Gage County Clerk