



# Gage County Board Minutes

The Gage County Board of Supervisors met on December 24, 2024, at 8:45 a.m. as per public notice given on the county website and in the Beatrice Daily Sun on December 12, 2024, copy of the proof of publication being on file in the County Clerk's Office. The agenda for all meetings is kept continually current and is available for public inspection at the County Clerk's Office during normal business hours and was communicated in the advance notice of the meeting. The Board of Supervisors has the right to modify the agenda to include items of an emergency nature only, at such public meeting. All of the proceedings hereafter shown were taken while in the convened meeting which was open to the attendance of the public.

Supervisors Emily Haxby, Don Schuller, Erich Tiemann, Eddie Dorn, and Gary Lytle present. Terry Jurgens and Dave Swavely absent.

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 \$1,170,673.25 35 except claim #24120281 to R.L. Tiemann Const. Inc., in the amount of \$27,658.78 to be voted on separately below; 4. approve correspondence received and place on file; 5. approve and place on file Sheriff statement on collection of distress warrants for November, 2024; 6. approve Sheriff office fees for copies, inspections, etc.

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount Allowed</u>
Courthouse Employees	Salaries	168,105.92
Advanced Auto Dealers	Shf website maint.	29.00
All Copy Products	Treas copier lease, Ext Offc copy overage	151.42
AT&T Mobility Accounts	Shf cell phones	612.49
Auto Zone	Shf veh repair	32.68
Beatrice Area Solid Waste Agency	Waste disposal	27.00
Beatrice Board of Public Works	Utilities	4366.61
Black Hills Energy Det 8852	Utilities	260.62
Black Hills Energy Shf 1674	Utilities	549.22
Blue Valley Door Co., Inc.	Equip., labor	278.48
Centec Cast Metal Products	Vets Offc bronze grave markers	739.10
Charter Comm. Spectrum 2019	Prob phones	409.96
City of Beatrice	Utilities, qrtrly EMS svc	45,362.20
Coast to Coast Computer Prod.	Toner	259.99
Community Memorial Healthcare	Pre-empl. Exam	146.00
Community Physicians Clinic RHC	Pre-empl. Exam	121.00
Culligan of Lincoln	Water cooler	275.00
Eakes Office Solutions	Offc supplies	90.77
Fankhauser, Nelsen, Werts, et al	Atty fees	8692.50
First Wireless	Shf tower rental	440.00
Gage Co. Sheriff	Shf fees/mlg	634.00
Gleason Dental Clinic	Inmate medical	1930.00
Great Plains Uniforms	Shf uniforms	743.90
Green Way Lawn Svc.	Mowing/fert.	1015.00
HD Supply Facilities Maint., Ltd.	Restroom supplies	465.00
ISolved Benefit Svcs.	Admin fees	144.50
Jurors	Jury fees	1519.64
Kratz Law Office	Atty fees	1406.00
Kraviec Maurstad Law Office	Child Suppt Enf Atty, pstg	2423.28
Chaunnell Kuntz	Witness fees	58.19
Mead Lumber	Supplies	268.28
MIPS, Inc.	Jury list processing	655.31
NE Health & Human Svcs	St. Inst.	360.00
NE Law Enf. Training Center	Cont. ed.	142.00
NE Weed Control Assn.	Conf. fee	150.00
NE Notary Assn.	Shf 2 notaries	309.98
Nelson, Clark & Timan	Public Defender, Atty fees	6697.65
Noakes Heating & Air	Labor	168.00

Northeast Auto	Veh lease	550.00
Otoe Co. Detention Center	Boarding inmates	260.00
Paper Tiger Shredding	Doc shredding	161.90
Physicians Lab	Autopsy expns	2750.00
Quadient Leasing	Pstg Equip lease	2907.96
Quill – Treas	Offc supplies	784.46
Region V Systems	EPC billing	3210.00
Sapp Bros	Shf/Jail fuel	4363.27
Secretary of State	Cert copies	40.00
Sheridan Ind.	Ext Offc janitorial svc	120.00
Slims Body Shop	Ins deductibles	2000.00
Soap Opera Laundry	Mop/rag cleaning	21.00
Soldiers & Sailors Account	Vets aid	2000.00
Stanard Appraisal Svcs	Appraisal maint.	6277.50
Staples Contract & Commercial	Offc supplies	54.98
Seth Stevison	Witness fees	22.68
Summit Food Svc.	Jail meals	5865.84
The Radar Shop	Recertify 2 Shf radios	988.00
MobileXUSA	Inmate medical	185.00
Twin Rivers Chry	Battery, keyfobs	333.43
Univ of NE Medical Center	Investigative expns	101.00
Village of Clatonia Rescue	Qtrly EMS svc.	4500.00
Washington Co. NE Shf.	Boarding inmates	65.00
Washington Co. KS Shf.	Boarding inmates	81,000.00
Westlake Ace Hardware	Supplies	699.69
Windstream, Fillmore Co Prob	Phones	464.02
Windstream, Gen 1484	Phones	619.28
Windstream, Shf	Phones	265.73
Woods & Aitken	Prof legal svcs	4851.87
Zoellner Ford	Shf oil change	82.70

Road Fund

Highway Department Employees	Salaries	43,129.57
Beatrice Board of Public Works	Utilities	471.84
Beatrice Concrete Sand & Gravel	Rock & gravel	30,524.25
Black Hills Energy Hwy 8861	Utilities	166.48
Blue Valley Door Co.	Svc call	28.44
City of Beatrice	Gbg svc	74.24
City of Wymore	Utilities	100.11
Fastenal Company	Supplies, parts	107.39
First Wireless	Repeater rental	350.00
Light & Siren	Safety lights	1106.73
R.L. Tiemann Construction, Inc.	Twp gravel & hauling	27,658.78
Sapp Bros. Petroleum	Fuel	25,484.95
Truck Center Companies	Hubcaps	59.70
Village of Odell	Utilities	49.50

Visitor's Improvement Fund

Beatrice Area Chamber of Commerce Leadership Beatrice Class #18		20,000.00
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Register of Deeds Preservation & Modernization Fund

Bear Graphics, Inc.	Binders for Cadastral Records	772.75
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Insurance Fund

Gage County Health Insurance	Employee health ins claims paid	63,991.57
Mutual of Omaha	Empl. Vol ins policy premiums	551.71

Transportation Development Grant Fund

Felsburg, Holt & Ullevig	Proj #124320-01, Housing & Urban Dev.	10,112.46
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Community/Economic Development Fund

NGage (Gage Area Growth Ent.)	Budget request, Co. share	29,924.76
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Inheritance Fund

Gage County	Trnsfr to Transportation Dev. Grant Fund	500,000.00
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General Fund

Ameritas	County share of Employees Retirement	12,206.07
Security First Bank	Co. share of Empl. Soc. Sec. & Medicare	12,183.59

Gage County Clerk – Health Plan	Co. share of Empl. health insurance	28,284.43
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Road Fund

Ameritas	County share of Employees Retirement	2,911.22
Security First Bank	Co. share of Empl. Soc. Sec. & Medicare	3,158.84
Gage County Clerk – Health Plan	Co. share of Empl. health insurance	9,011.75

Motion made by Dorn, seconded by Schuller to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Dorn, seconded by Schuller to approve claim #24120281 to R.L. Tiemann Const. Inc., in the amount of \$27,658.78, bringing the total amount of claims paid through December 24, 2024 to \$1,198,332.13. Motion carried 4-0-1. Tiemann abstaining due to conflict of interest.

Margaret Haith, 104 W. Granville, Beatrice, NE was present for public comment. She began with a joke, but would like to see the P&Z regs, just as the state of Nebraska is different so are the areas of the county for planning & zoning. How do you have them consistent?

Committee reports were given by Dave Jones on Building & Grounds; Millard on Law Enf & Emergency Mgmt; Haxby on Rd. & Bridge; Tiemann on Finance & Human Resources. Topics discussed included gravel availability and delivery, and bridge match grant.

Discussion took place on the Extension office agreement. Do we implement the change to state employee vs county employee since the current employee has resigned?

Tiemann asked if anyone wanted to have a closed session before addressing FOP's Final Contract Offer or if it could be discussed in open session. Co. Atty Harris recommended having a closed session first, then discuss in open session.

Motion by Dorn, seconded by Schuller to move into closed session for negotiations @ 9:06 a.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Schuller, seconded by Dorn to come out of closed session at 10:22 a.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Tiemann asked for a motion to approve or disapprove the FOP's Final Contract Offer. He stated that the FOP contract has been discussed at length and they try to be as fair as possible with all employees of the County. We want to be both a good steward of the County taxpayers' money, a good place to work, and a good employer. But people want services, Law Enforcement is a necessary service, and services are not free. We appreciate it and often take it for granted, but it is an expensive service. Along with that, we have to negotiate with our different departments and make decisions on wages. We've reviewed the final offer that the FOP presented. Tiemann asked for a motion before further comment, then we can have further discussion by the Board after the motion.

Motion by Lytle, seconded by Haxby to disapprove the FOP's Final Contract Offer. Haxby stated that the Board needs to get a final offer ready to be voted on at the next meeting. Tiemann stated that Law Enforcement & Corrections had a 20% increase last year and are looking for a near 20% increase again this year – most people aren't seeing a 20% increase in their wages. The public are the ones paying our bills – how do we justify this to them and/or the other county departments who aren't getting it. Tiemann also said that CIR is intended to make things fair. Haxby added that we not only have to look at the pay, we have to consider the budget and whether this would require increasing the tax asking to pay for this, or what other services are we going to have to cut to make it up. Tiemann said the Law Enforcement Committee of Haxby, Dorn and Lytle have worked on this incredibly hard and have gotten close to settling or at least narrowed the gap, and that's everyone's intention so that we don't end up going to a CIR situation. It's been said today and previous days, make the investment in the employees and not in legal fees. He said we want it to end well for everyone and we want the intentions of the way these things are set up to work and not to, I guess my opinion is, not to be manipulated. Tiemann asked for any additional comments. Hearing none, he called for the vote on the motion put forward to disapprove the FOP's Final Contract Offer. Motion carried 5-0. Lytle reiterated that this was the FOP's last offer, now this Board intends to, in good faith, put together a last and final offer that will be presented to the FOP. The Board has to vote on that final offer so it will be on the January 8, 2025 agenda for a Board vote.

Chairman declared Board of Supervisors meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m. until January 8, 2025.

Board minutes can also be viewed on the Gage County website at [www.gagecountyne.gov](http://www.gagecountyne.gov).

/s/ Dawn Hill

/s/ Erich Tiemann

Dawn Hill  
Gage County Clerk

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 24<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2024.

(SEAL)

/s/ Dawn Hill  
Dawn Hill  
Gage County Clerk