

## Deuel County Commissioner Meeting

September 5, 2023

The Deuel County Commissioners met on the above date with the following present: Chairperson Steve Fischer, Commissioner William Klingman, Commissioner Jean Timm, County Attorney Jon Stellar, County Assessor Michele Bartlett, County Treasurer Alicia Adams, Highway Supt. Anthony Armer, Roads Supt. Kelly Kopetzky, Sheriff Scott DeCoste, Sheriff's office administrator Leslie Snell, Sheriff Deputy Jim McCormick, Sheriff Deputy Sean Holloway, Terry Jessen and companion, Jerrod Elms, Rachel Smith, Jim Starostka, Jane Starostka, Zach Ringer, Gary Freeman, Clerk Tammy Sherman. The meeting, notice of which was published in the Chappell Register according to law, was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence. Reference was made to open meeting laws, posted at the entrance of the room. The agenda was approved upon motion of Commissioner Klingman, second of Commissioner Timm; Fischer, aye, Klingman, aye, Timm, aye. The minutes of the August 15th, 2023, meeting was approved upon motion of Commissioner Timm, second of Commissioner Klingman; Fischer, aye, Timm, aye, Klingman, aye.

Public comment. Jerrod Elms addressed the Board with photos he had from Facebook concerning the use of a county vehicle by a county employee for personal business. The Commissioners expressed their appreciation for the comments.

No agenda items for the Board of Equalization.

Jim and Jane Starostka presented an informal petition with 120 signatures of support asking for a change of decision on turning Wheatland Road (Road 165) back to gravel. After a discussion of cost, road subgrade, public comments, types of road construction materials, grant funding, it was decided that September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023, was too soon to start the project of turning the road back to gravel and that the county would take a step back to re-evaluate. Fischer expressed appreciation to the Starostkas for their input into the project. A motion by Commissioner Klingman, seconded by Commissioner Fischer to postpone the graveling of Wheatland Rd (Rd 165), continue patching and work on the condition of the dam on Wheatland Rd (Rd 165). Timm, aye, Klingman, aye, Fischer, aye.

The 2023 County Officers Inventories were presented for review and approval. The inventories are available for inspection at the Clerk's office.

Resolutions were presented from the Rural Fire District #1 and Rural Fire District #2 for levy allocation under the County Budget Authority. The County is still up against the lid to restrict any additional budgeted levy authority to be applied to these districts without causing a reduction in the tax request of these two entities. A motion was made by Commissioner Klingman, seconded by Commissioner Timm, to deny the request for levy authority for Fire District #2, due to levy constraints. Klingman, aye, Timm aye, Fischer, aye. A motion was made by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Timm, to deny the request for levy authority for Fire District #1, due to levy constraints. Klingman, aye, Timm aye, Fischer, aye. This will allow the Fire Districts to obtain the amount they have requested, (as approved through elections held in 2014).

Motion by Commissioner Timm, seconded by Commissioner Fischer to designate the State Printshop/NDAS for the printing of the postcards for budget requests over the allowed limit, as required by LB 644 and 2023 budget requirements. Klingman, aye, Timm, aye, Fischer, aye.

At 9:15 a.m. the Board recessed for a 5-minute break. The meeting resumed at 9:21 a.m.

Rachel Smith from Dickinson & Clark CPAs, PC was present for the budget workshop with each fund and function within the funds being reviewed. Smith will complete the budget and have it ready for the next meeting.

Resolution 2023-11: Signing of the project agreement. Whereas: Deuel County is proposing a transportation project for which it would like to obtain Federal funds; and Whereas: Deuel County understands that it must strictly follow all Federal, State and local laws, rules, regulations, policies and guidelines applicable to the funding of the Federal-aid project; and Whereas: Deuel County and Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) wish to enter into a new Project Program Agreement setting out the various duties and funding responsibilities for the Federal-aid project. Be It Resolved: by the Board of Commissioners of Deuel County that: The Chair of the Deuel County Board of Commissioners is hereby authorized to sign the attached Project Program Agreement between Deuel County and NDOT. Deuel County is committed to providing local funds for the project as required by the Project Program Agreement. NDOT Project Number: HSIP-STWD (203); NSOT Control Number: 01063; NDOT Project Name: Statewide Stop Sign Program. (Hwy. Superintendent Armer advised that the project is redoing all the stop signs in the State of Nebraska. Deuel County will receive approximately \$7,800 in stop sign funding/supplies because of the project.) A motion by Commissioner Timm, seconded by Commissioner Klingman to approve Resolution 2023-11 as presented. Timm, aye, Klingman, aye, Fischer, aye.

Highway Supt. Armer updated the board on the happenings in the Roads Department. Armer stated that the bill for the repairs on the loader is \$25,380. The repair shop in Bayard offered \$10,000.00 for the road grader with the engine that needs replaced. It was decided to send this grader and two other vehicles that need retiring out for bids via the Public Surplus marketplace. Kelly's pickup is still being repaired. The 2018 pickup received from the Sheriff's Department is assigned to Shop #2. The road work at the Maverick Convenience Store in Big Springs will be done in two weeks.

Sheriff DeCoste presented a request to use ARPA (Covid) Funds for the purchase of new tablets for the patrol vehicles. He explained that all the correspondence done from the patrol cars is now on tablets. The tablets they are currently using are getting outdated and one of the tablets has not been working. DeCoste got quotes from Bytes Computer IT and Dell Computers. The quote from Dell is less expensive than the quote from Bytes. Five Dell tablets mounted in the patrol cars is estimated to cost \$22,419.23. A motion by Commissioner Timm, seconded by Commissioner Klingman to use ARPA (Covid) Funds to purchase the five tablets and installation for the Sheriff's Department patrol vehicles. Fischer, aye, Klingman, aye, Timm, aye.

Sheriff DeCoste reported on the operations in the Sheriff's department. The department has been busy with citizen assistance. The 2018 Ford F150 pickup has been decommissioned and transferred to the Roads Dept.

At 9:55 a.m. motion by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Klingman to enter executive section for personnel issues with the following present, Fischer, Klingman, Timm and Stellar. Klingman, aye, Fischer, aye, Timm, aye. At 11:12 a.m. a motion by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Timm to resume the regular meeting. Fischer, aye, Klingman, aye, Timm, aye.

With the information that was brought to the attention of the Board, the employee will pay restitution in the amount of \$1364 by end of business day on September 8, 2023, lose use of vehicle for commuting to and from work, a county vehicle can only be used within the county for county purposes. The Board has instructed Co. Attorney Stellar to conduct future investigations. The final decision was tabled until completion of Co. Attorney Stellar's investigation.

A report of fees collected in the amount of \$2,108.48 for the month August 2023 was presented by the County Court's office. The report was reviewed and accepted for filing.

A report of fees collected in the amount of \$1,632.94 for the month August 2023 was presented by the County Clerk's office. The report was reviewed and accepted for filing.

Warrants in the amount of \$92,808.09 were approved upon motion of Commissioner Klingman, second of Commissioner Fischer, (Payroll \$38,134.92 Claims \$54,673.17), Fischer, aye, Timm, aye, Klingman, aye.

**GENERAL**

PAYROLL		26867.33
AMERICAN FAMILY INS	PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	125.43
ANNA COLLINS	SERVICES	550.00
AUDREY M. LONG	COURT ATTORNEY	80.00
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	UTILITIES	117.51
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	468.90
BUSINESS RADIO LICENSING	LICENSE RENEWAL	115.00
C-WEED MANAGEMENT LLC	SERVICES	2700.00
CENTURY LINK	TELEPHONE	85.99
CENTURY LINK	TELEPHONE	112.85
CENTURY LINK COMM	TELEPHONE	21.13
CHAPPELL LUMBER	SUPPLIES	12.87
CHAPPELL MUNICIPAL	UTILITIES	767.03
DAS INTERAGENCY BILLING	SERVICES	457.75
DICKINSON SURVEYORS	SERVICES	288.00
EAKES	SUPPLIES	881.70
ENCORE FUNDING LLC	PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	169.64
FIRST CONCORD	PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	100.00
GOTO COMMUNICATIONS	SERVICES	484.21
HAMILTON TELECOMM	SERVICES	29.00
HOMETOWN LEASING	COPIERS	544.65
HUBER & ASSOCIATES	COMPUTER SERVICES	394.00
IDEAL LINEN SUPPLY	SERVICES	69.74
JIM REICHMAN	SERVICES	850.00
LAURA NARJES	MILEAGE/EXPENSE	213.86
MADISON LIFE INS	LIFE INSURANCE	37.66
MASA MTS	TRANSPORT INS	475.00
MICHELE BARTLETT	MILEAGE/EXPENSE	262.66
MID-AMERICA BENEFITS	PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	104.00
MORRIL COUNTY HOSPITAL	PRISONER CARE	972.45
NACO	CONFERENCE	150.00
NE DEPT OF REVENUE	ASSESSOR/TRAINING	250.00
PELL REPORTING, INC	SERVICES	152.10
PRINCIPAL LIFE INS. CO	LIFE INSURANCE	153.55
REGIONAL WEST MEDICAL	SERVICES	462.05

RICK'S TOWING	SERVICES	150.00
ROBERT HARVOY	COURT ATTORNEY	25.00
SIDNEY REGIONAL MEDICAL	PRISONER CARE	368.38
STEVEN ELM SHAEUSER	COURT ATTORNEY	2090.00
T & A ALIGNMENT	REPAIRS	114.95
T.T.T.-STATE	PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	1226.78
T.T.L. - RETIREMENT	PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	1557.60
T.T.L. - RETIREMENT	COUNTY SHARE	3292.10
TERRY DUFFIELD	SERVICES	550.00
TOWN & COUNTRY SERVICE	REPAIRS	564.82
T.T.L. - SOCIAL SECURITY	PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	2730.88
T.T.L. - SOCIAL SECURITY	COUNTY SHARE	3866.71
T.T.L. - FEDERAL	PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	3078.50
US BANK	TRAINING/SUPPLIES	1486.54
US BANK	FUEL/EQUIP/SUPPLIES	2364.02
VERIZON WIRELESS	TELEPHONE	320.08
VIAERO	TELEPHONE	40.83
VISION SERVICE PLAN	PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	187.05

**ROAD & BRIDGE**

PAYROLL		11267.59
AMERICAN FAMILY ASSUR	PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	30.94
ANTHONY ARMER	CELL PHONE	50.00
BIG SPRINGS EQUIP	REPAIRS	226.48
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	UTILITIES	25.29
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	170.53
CENTURY LINK	TELEPHONE	168.30
CHAPPELL MUNICIPAL	UTILITIES	171.60
FIRST CONCORD	PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	187.49
KELLY KOPETZKY	CELL PHONE	50.00
T.T.L. - STATE	PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	536.56
T.T.L. - RETIREMENT	PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	672.45
T.T.L. - SOCIAL SECURITY	PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	1135.83
T.T.L. - FEDERAL	PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	1202.04
US BANK	EQUIP REPAIRS	2301.45
VILLAGE OF BIG SPRINGS	UTILITIES	30.00
VISION SERVICE PLAN	PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS	42.62

**VISITORS PROMOTION FUND**

BIG SPRINGS & SP ALUMNI	PRINT/FLYERS/POSTAG	1460.78
CHAPPELL GOLF COURSE	ADVERTISING GRANT	1800.00
THE NEW KJV	SERVICES	275.00

**VISITORS IMPROVEMENT FUND**

KONNIE SAUDER	SERVICE/PHONE/INTER	626.68
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**FAIR**

A&A PROTA POTTIES	FAIR EXPENSE	930.00
CHAPPELL MUNICIPAL	UTILITIES	335.09
CHAPPELL SUPER FOODS	FAIR EXPENSE	152.38
FRENCHMAN VALLEY COOP	PROPANE	1512.00
IHEART MEDIA	FAIR EXPENSE	1200.00
L&L SERVICE CO	SERVICES	876.69
MOE'S HEATING & COOLING	ICE MACHINE	<u>1830.00</u>

**TOTAL** \$ 92,808.09

There being no further business, the board adjourned at 11:21 a.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be Tuesday September 19, 2023, upon motion of Commissioner Fischer, second of Commissioner Timm; Fischer, aye, Timm, aye, Klingman, aye.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk, Tammy Sherman