

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MEETINGS

July 28, 2024

The Red Willow County Board of Commissioners and the Board of Equalization met in the Commissioners' Room in the courthouse on July 28, 2024. A notice of the meetings was published in the McCook Gazette and posted on the County's website. The combined agenda was e-mailed to each commissioner and the news media, uploaded on the County's website, and kept current and available to the public at the County Clerk's Office.

At 8:30 a.m. Chairman Ted Gans called the Board of Commissioners meeting to order with the following members present: Commissioners Ted Gans, Randy Dean and Charles Fritsche. Gans informed the public about the location of the posted Open Meetings Act.

A motion was made by Dean, seconded by Fritsche, to approve the agendas as presented. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

The Board reviewed and accounts payable and payroll claims.

At 9:00 a.m. Chairman Gans offered the floor for Citizens' Comments. Several people were present to discuss West Central Nebraska Development District later in the meeting.

A motion was made by Dean, seconded by Fritsche, to approve the following items on the consent agenda: 1) minutes from the previous Board of Commissioners and Board of Equalization meetings, 2) accounts payable and payroll claims in the amount of \$531,466.01, 3) Annual Certification Report for Highway Buy-Back Funds, 4) Agreement with McCook Humane Society. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

Chairman Gans recessed the Board of Commissioners meeting for the Board of Equalization.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MEETING:

Chairman Randy Dean called the Board of Equalization meeting to order at 9:19 a.m. with the following members present: Commissioners Ted Gans, Randy Dean and Charles Fritsche. Dean informed the public about the location of the posted Open Meetings Act.

Lori Stevens, Assessor, presented a homestead exemption extension request from Mary Ortiz. A motion was made by Gans, seconded by Fritsche, to approve the request from Ortiz. Roll Call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

Stevens presented the annual report on cemetery ownership within the County. There are still nineteen cemeteries in the county, with no change of ownership.

Stevens also presented her three-year plan of assessment. Her office will work on rural home values, evaluate commercial properties, and review McCook properties.

Chairman Dean adjourned the Board of Equalization meeting at 9:26 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING: (Reconvened)

Chairman Gans reconvened the Board of Commissioners meeting at 9:26 a.m.

Stevens joined the Board to discuss her budget. The Board changed several line items for a savings of \$2,000.00.

Tasha Wolf, Brandi Hagemann, Ruby Collins, and Theresa Thomas from the Extension office joined the Board to discuss their budget. The Board made no changes at this time but warned that another look may be needed.

Treasurer Crystal Dack was present to discuss her budget. The Board had questions about the salaries.

Brian Wells, Custodian, joined the Board to discuss his budget. The Board questioned him about his part-time employee. Wells gave them an update on the elevator replacement project.

The Board discussed membership in West Central Nebraska Development District. They offer assistance to members with grant writing, comprehensive plans, and nuisance abatement along with other services. Dale Cotton, Veronica Waddel, Bill Mathies, Benny Lashley, Donnie Schamel, Paul Schaffert and Cindy Sabin were present to speak against nuisance abatement in the county. The Board assured them that grant writing and comprehensive plans were the services the County was interested in, not nuisance abatement.

A motion was made by Dean, seconded by Gans, to table this issue until later in the budget process.
Roll Call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

The following correspondence was reviewed and placed on file: 1) Village of Bartley Community Redevelopment Authority Annual Report, 2) Nebraska Department of Water, Energy and Environment – Dam Inspection.

The following claims were allowed:

GENERAL FUND Net Salaries 156,127.65 AFLAC 1,873.46 Retirement Plans Division Ameritas 22,483.76 Black Hills Energy 96.21 Brighthouse Financial 50.00 City Of McCook 760.00 City Of McCook 8,947.25 Colonial Life 184.14 Credit Management Services 161.74 Justin M Daake 5,019.00 DAS State Accounting 178.75 Jasmine Dimas 680.00 Douglas County Sheriff 8.73 Eakes Office Solutions 239.94 Election Systems & Software Inc 115.00 Empower Retirement 1,200.00 Great Plains Communications Inc 970.10 Tammie Hilker 270.00 Marathon Engineering Corp 5,448.00 Masa Global Building 280.00 MNB Bank 42,639.28 MNB Bank - HSA 250.00 MNB Bank 49.07 Nebraska Department Of Revenue 6,273.67 Principal Voluntary Child Life 6.00 Principal Voluntary Employee Life 196.92 Principal Voluntary Spouse Life 86.48 Quadient Finance Usa, Inc 402.55 Quality Urgent Care 475.00 Red Willow County Self Insurance 4,850.00 Region 51 EMA 75.00 Red Willow County Clerk 746.67 Red Willow County Sheriff 42.50 Tami Teel 195.00 Principal Vision Plan 366.00 Total 261,747.87 ROAD FUND Net Salaries 35,963.63 AFLAC 114.40 Retirement Plans Division Ameritas 5,130.40 Black Hills Energy 148.08 EIA LLC 9,812.21 Empower Retirement 100.00 Great Plains Communications Inc 41.32 Lingo Communications 36.34 Masa Global Building 84.00 MNB Bank 10,723.73 Mittens 2,335.94 Nationwide Retirement Solutions 400.00 Nebraska Department Of Revenue 1,558.86 Paulsen Inc 37,975.32 Principal Voluntary Child Life 5.00 Principal Voluntary Employee Life 258.81 Principal Voluntary Spouse Life 3.99 Red Willow County Self Insurance 1,200.00 Ruggles Truck & Trailer Sales LLC 12,661.00 State Of Ne - Dept Of Labor 44.77 Tim Bradley Electric LLC 816.03 20/20 Technologies LLC 3,640.00 Twin Valleys Public Power District 91.77 Principal Vision Plan 73.41 Woods Aitken LIP 876.00 Total 124,095.01 FAIR FUND Net Salaries 9,422.10 Retirement Plans Division Ameritas 1,129.92 Masa Global Building 14.00 MNB Bank 2,690.11 Nebraska Child Support 410.00 Nebraska Department Of Revenue 428.10 Principal Voluntary Child Life 5.00 Principal Voluntary Employee Life 39.50 Principal Voluntary Spouse Life 7.95 Red Willow County Self Insurance 200.00 Principal Vision Plan 52.10 Total 14,398.78 SELF-INSURANCE FUND Lucent Health Solutions LLC 32,886.39 Lucent Health Solutions LLC 58,652.93 Principal Life Insurance Company 9,050.25 Total 100,589.57 ARENA FUND Net Salaries 5,052.32 Retirement Plans Division Ameritas 737.13 MNB Bank 1,313.58 Nebraska Department Of Revenue 149.26 Red Willow County Self Insurance 200.00 Red Willow County Road Dept 1,225.76 Principal Vision Plan 26.05 Total 8,704.10 HEALTH FUND Net Salaries 11,958.58 AFLAC 302.43 Retirement Plans Division Ameritas 1,427.11 Credit Management Services 557.83 Empower Retirement 150.00 Masa Global Building 14.00 MNB Bank 3,159.26 Nebraska Department Of Revenue 442.06 Principal Voluntary Child Life 5.00 Principal Voluntary Employee Life 13.25 Red Willow County Self Insurance 400.00 Red Willow County Clerk 50.00 Principal Vision Plan 39.49 Total 18,519.01 WASTE FUND Net Salaries 2,107.59 Retirement Plans Division Ameritas 85.50 Great Plains Communications Inc 230.68 MNB Bank 497.94 Nebraska Department Of Revenue 19.24 Uline 470.72 Total 3,411.67 Grand Total 531,466.01.

A motion was made by Fritsche, seconded by Dean, to adjourn the meeting at 12:23 p.m. to August 11, 2025.

Ted Gans
Chairman, Board of Commissioners

Randy Dean
Chairman, Board of Equalization

Attest: Penelope Cooper
County Clerk