

# Sioux County Board Minutes



Sioux County Board of Commissioners

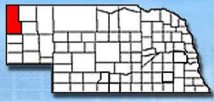
Harrison, Nebraska

June 1, 2022

The Sioux County Board of Commissioners met at the Sioux County Courthouse meeting room June 1, 2022 at 9:15 a.m. with the following present: Commissioners J.W. Geiser, Hal Downer and Josh Skavdahl. Also present was County Clerk Michelle Zimmerman. The pledge of allegiance was recited. Mike Kesselring opened the meeting in prayer. Reference was made to the Open Meeting Laws posted in the meeting room. Motion made by Downer, seconded by Geiser to approve the minutes of the May 2 and 16, 2022 meetings. On roll call vote Downer, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried. The board met with elected and appointed officials.

The Board approved the following claims: GENERAL FUND: PAYROLL, 45,529.27; AFLAC, employee cafeteria plan, 321.95; Ameritas Life Insurance, employee optical insurance, 191.20; Ameritas Life Insurance, county share retirement, 2,844.76/employee share, 1,936.76; Aging Office of Western Nebraska, 2022 assessment, 728.00; Sarah Bannan, mileage, 65.52; Blue Cross/Blue Shield, insurance, 19,263.60; Bytes Computer Solutions, e-mail, IT services, 178.00; Centurylink, internet, 32.50/ phone 234.80; Crawford Clipper, notices, 515.18; DAS State Accounting, data processing, 218.84; Deep Creek Outfitters, LLC, supplies, 3,235.00; Government Forms & Supplies, supplies, 43.41; Dalora Sue Gullikson, election worker, 68.93; gWorks, subscription, 9,950.00; Ruth Hamaker, election judge, 127.50; Robyn Hospodka, election judge, 130.00; Steve Johnson, mileage, 58.50; Lacy Klein, mileage, 81.90; Lotton's, fuel, service; 152.93; Billy Mack, deductible reimbursement, 1,250.00; MASA Global, insurance, 125.00; MIPS, Inc., data processing, 2,615.92; Mobius Communications, phone service, 233.74; Brad Munson, grounds, 500.00; NACO, workshops, 75.00; NACEB, dues, 100.00; NACO, dues, workshop, 1,637.49; NE Assn of County Clerks, workshop, 125.00; NE Dept. of Revenue, state tax, 1,109.35; NE Total Office, supplies, 69.07; NEA, electricity, 1,312.35; Jennifer Nixon, mileage, 152.10; Outlaw Printers, supplies, 371.44; Debby Petersen, election judge, 130.00; James Phipps, deductible reimbursement, 232.00; Pritchard & Abbott, Inc, mineral appraisal, 280.00; Quadiant Finance, postage, 500.00; Quality Inn, room, 69.00; Quill Corporation supplies, 260.02; Irene Richey, yrs of service, 19.00; Pine Ridge Service Center, fuel, 952.33; Security First Bank, county share social security, 2,529.69/employee share social security, 2,529.69/county share medicare 591.63/employee share medicare, 591.63/ withholding, 2,297.00; Sharon Semroska, election worker, 53.72; Sioux Co. Insurance Trust Fund, employee cafeteria plan, 458.33; Daniel Skavdahl, mileage, 429.39; Skavdahl, Edmund & Stecher, office rent, 200.00/clerical, 150.00/ phone, 21.61/dues, 1,175.00/fees, 60.00/room, 390.90/postage, 67.99; Staples, supplies, 830.94; Joe Stecher, mileage, 429.39/room, 390.90/meals, 18.78; TGS Manufacturing, supplies, 1,421.50; Transfer to Courthouse Building Fund, 120,000.00; Transfer to Noxious Weed Fund, 7,000.00; Transfer to Road Fund, 50,000.00; Transunion Risk & Alternative, subscription, 120.00; John Trimble, election judge, 137.34; U-Save, fuel, 131.62; UNL Extension, mileage, 74.72; Viaero Wireless, phone, 89.61; Village of Harrison, utilities, 337.84; Vistabeam, internet, 73.95; Rodney Walsh, election judge, 205.84; Michelle Zimmerman, mileage, 390.78/ election meals, 177.27/meals, 14.00.

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: PAYROLL: 34,200.93; AFLAC, employee cafeteria plan, 776.61; Ameritas Life Insurance, optical insurance, 215.26; Ameritas Life Insurance, county share retirement, 2,289.99/employee share retirement, 1,526.66; Bauerkempers, Inc., repairs, 64.00; Blue Cross/Blue Shield, insurance, 16,835.19; Centurylink, internet, 65.36; Contractors Materials, supplies, 963.00; Dooley Oil, fuel, 7,239.20; EJS Supply, supplies, 279.29; Fastenal Company, parts, 147.02; Frank Parts, supplies, 93.48; Groskopf Mfg, supplies, 6,464.59; Herren's, repairs, 12,934.32; Horse Creek



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Tire, Inc., supplies, 65.63; Lotton's, fuel, service, 482.51; Mark Hydraulic, Inc., supplies, 24.96; MASA Global, insurance, 87.50; Morrill Hardware, parts, 40.06; Morrill Supply, repairs, 108.43; NE Dept. of Revenue, employee withholding, 785.00; Nebraska Machinery, repairs, 4,633.44; Nebraskaland Tire, tire, 304.25; NEA, electric, 77.44; Panhandle Coop, supplies, 599.10; Pomp's Tire & Retreading, tires, 5,766.90; Powerplan, repairs, 7,136.50; Pine Ridge Service Center, fuel, repairs, 6,763.57; RTS Shearing, gravel crushing, 38,558.40; Security First Bank, county share social security, 1,864.67/employee share social security, 1,864.67/county share medicare, 436.09/employee share medicare, 436.09/withholding, 1,496.42; Skeeter's Napa, supplies, 492.23; TDS Environmental Services, garbage, 30.00; U Save Mart, fuel, 406.97; Upper Niobrara White, NRD, 95.40; Village of Harrison, utilities, 96.65; Village of Morrill, electric, 90.71; Watson MFG, Inc., parts, 46.00; Scott Wilkens, gravel, 32,000.00.

VISITOR PROMOTIONS FUND: Chadrad Communications, ad, 150.00.

VISITOR IMPROVEMENT GRANT FUND: Chadrad Communications, Inc., ad, 150.00.

LIBRARY FUND: PAYROLL: \$1,807.36; Amazon, supplies, 2,130.70; Ameritas Life Insurance, county share retirement, 122.00/employee share retirement, 81.33, Centurylink, phone/internet, 167.54; Crawford Clipper, ad, 7.82; Herren's, supplies, 37.77; NE Dept. of Revenue, employee withholding, 56.05; NEA, electricity, 176.92; Sarah Sanderson, supplies, 15.00; Security First Bank, county share social security, 112.06/employee share social security 112.06/county share medicare, 26.21/employee share medicare 26.21/withholding, 100.00; Village of Harrison, water, 55.00.

COURTHOUSE BUILDING FUND: Berggren Architects, window project, 9,034.69.

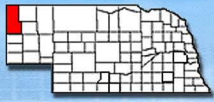
NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL FUND: PAYROLL: 4,296.05; Ameritas Life Insurance, employee optical insurance, 33.10; Ameritas Life Insurance, county share retirement, 289.98/employee share retirement, 193.32; Blue Cross Blue Shield, insurance, 2,156.78; Centurylink, internet, 65.37; Crawford Clipper, ad, 99.00; Heritage Seed, chemicals, 5,043.45; Herren's, supplies, 157.01; Lotton's Service & Repairs, fuel, 50.00; MASA Global, insurance, 12.50; NE Dept. of Revenue, employee withholding, 45.44; Nick Sanderson, mileage 58.50; Security First Bank, county share social security, 237.56/employee share social security, 237.56/county share medicare, 55.56/employee share medicare, 55.56/withholding, 163.87.

Mike Kesselring and Kerri Rempp gave an update on tourism. Tourism data shows that spending in Dawes and Sioux Counties increased 72.6% from 2020 to 2021. This accounted for an additional 10 jobs. The tourism website lists available jobs. Mike Kesselring asked the board to make the roads safe to visitors. Motion made by Downer, seconded by Geiser to approve tourism grants to Sioux County Fair and White River Wacipi. On roll call vote, Geiser, yes; Downer, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.

Jerry Berggren with Berggren Architects had a phone conference with the Board to discuss the Courthouse window project. Documents will be ready for approval at the June 21 meeting. Clerk Zimmerman will be working with Janet Jeffries regarding tax credits.

Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to increase the employee insurance deductible to \$1,600.00 On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to appoint Michelle Zimmerman budget making authority for fiscal year 2022-2023. On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.



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Lacy Klein, County Treasurer submitted financial reports to the Board.

Sheriff McCumbers submitted financial reports to the Board and updated them on recent activities. State grant money will pay Garrette Naillon's tuition at the academy. All rifles were updated to modern equipment. Bob Ruwart does not know where the Dodge pickup that McCumbers ordered is. It should be there this week. The time frame to order a new pickup is 18 months currently. McCumbers stated that May hasn't been a very busy month.

Jenny Nixon reported on upcoming summer youth projects and ag workshops scheduled for June. Nixon also submitted financial reports.

The Board recessed for lunch.

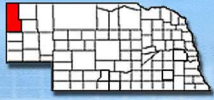
USDA Assistant Regional Director John Steuber met with the board and a large number of community members to discuss the USDA predator control contract. Steuber told the crowd that there is no new funding for predator control currently. All money right now is being used for control of pigs. Nebraska has county and federal funding, so the counties have had to come up with a larger part of funding. Counties need to look for other funding sources to offset the costs. Steuber wanted to make sure that Dawes and Sioux Counties want to continue with the program. Once agreements are signed, they can get an announcement out and get someone hired. There is not a pilot right now, but they are hoping to hire one. Tim Brewer and Matt Anderson will help cover the county for the time being. County Attorney Edmund asked if the contract is the same as in the past, and if there is a proration due to not having someone hired for Sioux County currently. Steuber said that there has been an adjustment in the billing. Edmund stated that we need to keep the program going, whether it is USDA or private. Steuber said they are not trying to get out of the contract, they will move forward with hiring someone if they can. Gale Henry would like to see someone hired full-time with benefits. Richard Edwards stated that the game and parks and the department of agriculture need to kick in money to control predators. Senator Steve Erdman will continue to work in the legislature for predator control and funding. Senator Tom Brewer spoke regarding need for the game and parks having more responsibility in predator control. Governor Ricketts will be in Chadron on Wednesday, June 8, and those in attendance were urged to attend and let the governor know these concerns.

Members of the public speaking were Richard Edwards, Gale Henry, Dawes County Commissioner, Vic Rivera, Senator Steve Erdman, Senator Tom Brewer, Tim Brewer, Don Freyda, Matt Anderson, Dave Paris, Craig Hoffman, Allen Jordan and Bob Burford. Vic Rivera asked what will be done for Dawes and Sioux County now. Steuber stated that if the agreement is signed, they will get someone hired.

The contract for services will be reviewed at the June 21 commissioners meeting.

Road Superintendent Phipps requested permission for Brad Thayer to carry over 20.5 hours of vacation time. Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to approve the request. On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried. Phipps updated the board on road issues being addressed.

Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to set July 19 and 20 as protest hearing dates. On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.



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The Sioux County Commissioners and courthouse staff would like to offer their sincere sympathy to Dawes County for their recent loss of Commissioner Levi Grant.

There being no further business to come before the Board Geiser moved Downer seconded to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m. The Sioux County Board of Commissioners will meet July 1, 2022.

/s/Joshua Skavdahl  
Chairman of the Board

/s/Michelle J. Zimmerman  
Sioux County Clerk