

**PAWNEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**DECEMBER 27, 2023**

The Pawnee County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m., which was open to the public, on Wednesday, December 27, 2023, in the first-floor meeting room in the Pawnee County Courthouse, Pawnee City, Nebraska. Notice of such meeting was published in the Thursday, November 30, 2023, issue of the Pawnee Republican. Present were Ron Seitz, Jan Lang, Lavon Heidemann and County Clerk, Candi Nicholas. Chairman Seitz opened the meeting and announced the open meeting law poster is posted on the east wall of the meeting room. Lang moved and Heidemann seconded to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2023 meeting. Voting: Seitz (yes), Lang (yes), Heidemann (yes). Lang moved and Heidemann seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Voting: Lang (yes), Heidemann (yes), Seitz (yes). Lang moved and Heidemann seconded to approve the claims as presented. Voting: Heidemann (yes), Seitz (abstain), Lang (Lang (yes)).

After review Lang moved and Heidemann seconded to approve the Chairman signing the Noxious Weed Control Plan for 2023. Voting: Seitz (yes), Lang (yes), Heidemann (yes).

At 9:10 there was no public comment.

Judd Allen and Mike Boden, NACO Benefits, met with the Board and gave the annual health insurance renewal quotes. In order to offer a health-savings plan the county would have to go to a \$1600.00 deductible at a minimum.

Pam Bourne, Attorney, met with the Board by telephone and requested closed session to discuss threatened litigation for the protection of the public interest. At 9:36 a.m. Lang moved and Heidemann seconded to go into closed session to discuss threatened litigation for the protection of the public interest. Voting: Lang (yes), Heidemann (yes), Seitz (yes). At 9:44 a.m. Lang moved and Heidemann seconded to exit closed session. Voting: Heidemann (yes), Seitz (yes), Lang (yes). No action taken.

Mark Sunneberg, did not meet with the Board, to discuss closing 617 Avenue south of 705 Road. Rauner indicated that he discussed with Sunneberg to start the road closing process the land owner can petition the Board or the Board can direct the highway superintendent to do a study to close the road.

Emily Sisco, Attorney, and Robert Tichy, County Surveyor, met with the Board to discuss the surveyor contract. The County Attorney will draft a contract between Pawnee County and the appointed County Surveyor for 2024, 2025 and 2026.

Emily Sisco, Attorney, met with the Board and provided them with the Drug Law Enforcement Petty Cash Fund Activity Report ending December 27, 2023, Open/Closed cases as of December 27, 2023 and the quarterly September through December reports.

Chris Rauner, Hwy Supt, met with the Board. Rauner gave the rock report and discussed various roads. There will be a four-county meeting January 3<sup>rd</sup> between Pawnee, Johnson, Nemaha and Richardson to discuss the counties combining to apply for Raise Discretionary Project Grants for projects to use federal funds. C-67(219) Project letting date will be February 6, 2024 at 10:30. The road may be purchasing a F-150 for \$42,816.00 or a F-250 for \$46,937.00 from the state contract number 15819.

Braden Lang, Sheriff & John Samuelson, Chief Deputy, met with the Board to discuss hiring bonus and salary progress. After discussion Heidemann moved and Lang seconded to give a hiring bonus of \$10,000.00 for a reciprocity officer and \$10,000.00 for a certified officer to be paid over the first three years of employment starting after the probationary period and to be paid out every four months. Voting: Lang (yes), Heidemann (yes), Seitz (yes). After discussion Heidemann moved and Lang seconded to give a \$2.00 per hour raise to the chief deputy and deputies effective on the January 6 through January 19 payroll period, which will be the January 25, 2024 payroll date. Voting: Heidemann (yes) Seitz (yes), Lang (yes). Heidemann moved and Lang seconded to raise the part-time deputies to \$30.00 per hour effective on the January 25, 2024 payroll date. Voting: Seitz (yes), Lang (yes), Heidemann (yes).

Sheriff Lang requested closed session to discuss recent events for the protection of the public interest and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. Lang moved and Heidemann seconded to enter into closed session to discuss recent events for the protection of the public interest and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual at 11:49 a.m. Voting: Lang (yes), Heidemann (yes), Seitz (yes). Lang moved and Heidemann seconded to exit closed session at 12:21 p.m. Voting: Heidemann (yes), Seitz (yes), Lang (yes). No action taken.

The following claims were reviewed and signed:

NET PAYROLL 40374.25; FWH 3996.82; SWH 1833.01; FICA 6553.44; MICA 1532.60;  
NATIONWIDE RETIREMENT 1400.00; RETIREMENT 6315.14; DELTA DENTAL 322.82; AMERITAS  
88.95; AMERICAN HERITAGE 98.99; MADISON LIFE 80.32; UNITED HEALTHCARE 11593.32;  
DIRECT DEPOSIT FEE 10.00;

**GENERAL FUND:**

Pam Bennett, mental health board 100.00; Black Hills Energy, heat 162.63; Capital Business Systems, Extension lease 170.00; Donahue & Sisco, December utilities, rent and telephone 183.37; Eakes, Sheriff supplies 23.99; Jere Gravatt, mental health board 100.00; Hampton Inn Kearney, lodging NACO conference Wiers 239.90, Seitz 239.90, Lang 239.90, Nicholas 119.95,

Johnson 359.85; Dylan Handley, mental health board 500.00; Hasselbalch Pharmacy, inmate medical 25.00; Amy Hector, mental health board 200.00; J. F. Ahern, sprinkler repair 2331.00; Johnson County Ambulance Service, inmate medical 704.90; Johnson County Sheriff, inmate lodging 2275.00; Cindy Johnson, mileage Kearney conference 267.24; Mid-American Research Chemical, janitor supplies 1106.32; National Assoc. of Counties, 2024 dues 450.00; Nestor & Mercure, court appt atty 3610.00; NPPD 482.14; Pawnee County Sheriff, service fees 75.81; Pawnee Co. Treasurer, transfer from General Fund to Bridge/Road Fund 95303.64; Quill, Veteran Service supplies 101.03; Region V Systems, mental health 2140.00; Richardson County Sheriff, inmate lodging 1650.00 & medical 54.32; Ron Seitz, mileage Kearney conference 251.21; Seneca Sanitation, garbage 108.00; Pawnee True Value, janitor supplies 18.75 & Sheriff equipment 7.99; U.S. Bank, Treasurer supplies 42.99 postage 1792.34, Sheriff equipment 41.99 postage 32.25 fuel 453.54, dues 387.00 training 280.00 inspection 137.19, Verizon, Sheriff cell phones 362.52; Washington County Sheriff, inmate lodging 130.00;

**ROAD/BRIDGE FUND:**

Black Hills Energy, heat 273.68; Farmer's Cooperative supplies 108.42 & fuel 7487.94; Friedly Oil, repairs 1088.50 & fuel 9188.93; Hampton Inn, Kearney, lodging NACO conference Rauner 359.85; Haug Communications, radio repairs 428.00; Heinen True Value, supplies 108.00; Mainelli, Wagner & Associates, consulting services 7998.20; Martin Marietta, rock 17819.38; NMC, repairs 880.79; NPPD 94.74; Seneca Sanitation, garbage 108.00; Smith Auto, repairs 1950.00; Pawnee True Value, supplies 305.81; US Bank, fuel 219.00;

**STOP PROGRAM FUND:**

At-Scene LLC, subscription 1775.00.

Chairman Seitz adjourned the meeting at 12:21 p.m.

S/Ron Seitz

S/Jan Lang

S/Lavon Heidemann

Attest: Candi Nicholas, Pawnee County Clerk