

# Hitchcock County Board Minutes



Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

Trenton, Nebraska  
September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020

A meeting of the County Board of Commissioners of Hitchcock County, Nebraska was held at the Hitchcock County Courthouse Commissioner’s Room, 229 East D Street, Trenton, Nebraska on Tuesday, the 8<sup>th</sup>, day of September, 2020 commencing at 9:00 o’clock a.m. Present were Chair Paul Nichols, Commissioners Scott McDonald and Ron Wertz, and County Clerk Margaret Pollmann. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Hitchcock County News, the designated method for giving notice. Board agendas are posted on the County’s website [www.hitchcockcounty.ne.gov](http://www.hitchcockcounty.ne.gov). Notice of the meeting was given to the Chair and all members of the Board. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public. The Open Meetings Act was available for review and Chair indicated the location of such copy in the room where the meeting was being held.

Chair Nichols called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Member McDonald moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of the following items: Approval of the September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 agenda; Approval of the August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020 meeting minutes. Member Nichols seconded the motion and after consideration the following members voted in favor of the motion: Nichols, McDonald, and Wertz. Motion carried.

The Board finds that the total amount of claim #20091066 is over \$50,000. Said claim was based upon multiple purchases pertaining to repairing and maintaining separate and distinct portions of various county roads located in several different areas of the County (some of the road repairs being in District #1, some in District #2, and some in District #3 as reflected on the vendor’s invoice). Because each specific road improvement/repair/maintenance project was estimated to be less than \$50,000, competitive sealed bidding was not obtained. Furthermore, due to the nature of necessary repairs(s) pertaining to each of said projects, obtaining three informal quotes was impracticable.

Member Nichols moved to approve the following claims. Member Wertz seconded the motion and after consideration, the following members voted in favor of said motion: McDonald, Nichols, and Wertz. Motion carried.

**GENERAL FUND:**

General Fund Payroll -----	\$ 14,196.49
Capital Business Systems, lease -----	\$ 47.75
Central NE Cremation & Mortuary Service, coroner costs -----	\$ 1,290.00
Community 1 <sup>st</sup> Bank, FICA/OASI/Fed. -----	\$ 4,242.45
Community Hospital, inmate medical -----	\$ 313.95
Kimberly Cook, mileage/communications -----	\$ 193.45
Kerwin Propp, decal installation -----	\$ 215.00
Dept. Rev., Property Assessment Division, registration -----	\$ 180.00
Dollar General, supply -----	\$ 33.50
Eakes Office Solutions, supply/equipment -----	\$ 549.57
Farmers Coop, fuel/repair -----	\$ 844.38
Lindemeier Law Office, ct. appt. counsel -----	\$ 425.83
Nancy Frecks, mileage/communications -----	\$ 25.17
Sur Enterprises, supply -----	\$ 1,031.68



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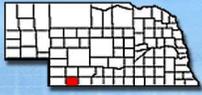
Government Forms & Supplies, supply -----	\$ 110.96
Great Plains Communications, service -----	\$ 1,198.73
Hasler Fee, postage meter -----	\$ 50.00
Hitchcock Co. Court, court costs -----	\$ 51.00
Holiday Inn – Kearney, lodging -----	\$ 199.90
JD Skiles Co., repair -----	\$ 485.13
MASA, suppl. ins. -----	\$ 7.00
Messersmith Water Treatment, supply -----	\$ 29.60
Daniel D. Miller, CPA, budget assistance -----	\$ 2,750.00
MIPS, Inc., data process. -----	\$ 1,983.82
NE Dept. Rev., state tax -----	\$ 632.03
Pathology Services, PC, inmate medical -----	\$ 58.99
Prairie States Comm., repair -----	\$ 361.95
Quill Corporation, supply -----	\$ 10.26
Retirement Plans Division, Ameritas, retirement -----	\$ 2,080.73
SW Public Power Dist., utility -----	\$ 41.56
Ashley K. Spahn, ct. appt. counsel -----	\$ 313.35
US Bank, transcripts -----	\$ 8.00
Verizon Wireless, service -----	\$ 261.61
Village of Trenton, utility -----	\$ 2,829.70
Walmart, supply -----	\$ 406.89
Ryan R. Wilcox, public defender contract -----	\$ 3,000.00
Wireless Inet, service -----	\$ 150.00
Paul Nichols, mileage -----	\$ 274.85

## **ROAD FUND:**

Road Fund Payroll -----	\$ 15,033.91
Steve Adams, repair -----	\$ 400.00
B&H Paving, chip sealing -----	\$116,184.00
Bosselman Energy, Inc., chemicals -----	\$ 7,691.33
Community 1 <sup>st</sup> Bank, FICA/OASI/Fed. -----	\$ 4,686.37
D&S Hardware, repair -----	\$ 25.20
ED Enterprises, Inc., repair/supply -----	\$ 232.67
Farmers Coop, fuel/sign posts -----	\$ 3,532.55
Great Plains Communications, service -----	\$ 255.01
NE Dept. Rev., state tax -----	\$ 789.30
Powerplan JD Financial, repair -----	\$ 13,142.18
Retirement Plans Division, Ameritas, retirement -----	\$ 2,236.88
Retriever, Inc., repair -----	\$ 116.00
Rippen Oil LLC, fuel/supply -----	\$ 190.80
SW Public Power Dist., utility -----	\$ 31.47
Stratton Auto Parts, supply -----	\$ 11.58
Village of Culbertson, utility -----	\$ 53.88
Village of Stratton, utility -----	\$ 103.23
Village of Trenton, utility -----	\$ 143.03

## **ROAD & BRIDGE BUYBACK FUND:**

Stewart Construction, Inc., bridge demolition-----	\$ 2,975.00
T&K Ventures, bridge demolition-----	\$ 8,030.00



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The Railroad Yard, Inc., rail car culvert ----- \$ 11,350.00

**REGISTER OF DEEDS P&M FUND:**

MIPS, Inc., data process. ----- \$ 130.97

**E-911 PSC FUND:**

Centurylink, service ----- \$ 16.36

Great Plains Communications, service ----- \$ 73.52

**911 EMERGENCY SERVICES FUND:**

Centurylink, service ----- \$ 5.16

Great Plains Communications, service ----- \$ 23.22

Board acknowledged receipt of a surplus property affidavit relating to a 1995 Ranco bottom dump trailer.

County Attorney D. Eugene Garner joined the meeting.

Tyson Bardsley with Oak Creek Engineering joined the meeting. It was the consensus of the board to submit Final Pay Application #5 including Change Order #1 on Structure Number C004402305P (Bobtail Creek).

Dave Wilke with Wilke Contracting Corp. presented a Construction Contract for repairs to Structure C004405505P. Discussion was held and Attorney Garner advised.

Member Nichols moved to enter into a Construction Contract with Wilke Construction Corp. for repairs to Structure C004405505P. Member McDonald seconded the motion and after consideration, the following members vote in favor of the motion: Wertz, McDonald, and Nichols. Motion carried. Chair Nichols executed the same.

Building Maintenance Manager Karen Wertz advised as to a courtroom video conference screening quote from VK Electronics.

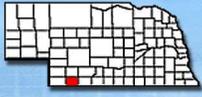
Jacob Hurla with Community Building Solutions joined the meeting and presented a preliminary facility analysis for upgrades to lighting and windows in the courthouse structure.

Highway Superintendent Phillip Dixon joined the meeting. Discussion held on the One & Six Year Plan and various road and bridge projects.

Member Nichols offered Resolution #20-15 and moved for its' adoption. Member McDonald seconded the motion and after consideration the roll was called thereupon and the following members voted in favor of the motion: McDonald, Wertz, and Nichols. Said resolution having been consented to by a majority of all members elected to said County Board, was by the Chair declared passed and adopted. A true, correct and complete copy of said resolution is as follows:

**RESOLUTION**

**SIGNING OF THE  
COUNTY ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF PROGRAM COMPLIANCE FORM 2020**



# Hitchcock County Board Minutes



Resolution No. 20-15

**Whereas:** State of Nebraska Statutes, sections 39-2115, 39-2119, 39-2120, 39-2121, and 39-2510(2), requires an annual certification of program compliance to the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards; and

**Whereas:** State of Nebraska Statute, section 39-2120 also requires that the annual certification of program compliance by each county shall be signed by the County Board Chairperson and shall include a copy of a resolution of the governing body of the county authorizing the signing of the certification form.

**Be it resolved** that the County Board Chairperson of Hitchcock County is hereby authorized to sign the attached County Annual Certification of Program Compliance form.

Adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020 at Trenton, Nebraska.

County Board Members

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Nichols

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ron Wertz

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott McDonald

County Board Member Nichols moved the adoption of said resolution. Member McDonald seconded the motion. Roll Call: 3 Yes – 0 No – 0 Abstained – 0 Absent. Resolution adopted, signed and billed as adopted.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret M. Pollmann, Hitchcock Co. Clerk

Chair Nichols and Highway Superintendent Phillip Dixon executed the Annual Certification of Program Compliance To Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards 2020.

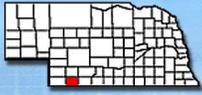
Member McDonald offered Resolution #20-16 and moved for its' adoption. Member Nichols seconded the motion and after consideration the roll was called thereupon and the following members voted in favor of the motion: McDonald, Wertz, and Nichols. Said resolution having been consented to by a majority of all members elected to said County Board, was by the Chair declared passed and adopted. A true, correct and complete copy of said resolution is as follows:

## **RESOLUTION CERTIFYING PROPER COMPLETION OF PROJECT**

**Hitchcock County, Nebraska  
Resolution No. 20-16**

**WHEREAS**, Hitchcock County and State entered into an agreement entitled “County Bridge Matching Program Agreement”, for the structure number C004402305 (the Project), Program Agreement number BL2024 signed by the State on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, Hitchcock County has now completed the construction of the Project that was identified in the Program Agreement; and



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**WHEREAS**, this Resolution is to formally notify State of the proper completion of the Project according to the terms of the Program Agreement.

**BE IT RESOLVED:** by the Board of Commissioners of Hitchcock County:

- (1) The Project for Structure No. C004402305, has been properly constructed by County and its contractor, in accordance with the terms of the Program Agreement.
- (2) The bridge was constructed in strict compliance with
  - (a) the plans and specifications including any State-approved change orders,
  - (b) all applicable design standards, and
  - (c) the conditions and requirement of the Program Agreement.
- (3) County understands that it is the owner of the bridge, and that it is solely responsible for the design, inspection, construction, reconstruction, repair, and operation of the bridge and roadway and is responsible for meeting any environmental or other post-construction permit or legal commitments applicable to the project.
- (4) The project costs were fair, reasonable and necessary for the proper construction of the project.

NDOT Project Number: STWD-CBMP(4)

NDOT Control Number: 00974C

NDOT LPA Control Number: 00974C(aa)

NDOT Project Name: County Bridge Match Program

Adopted this 8<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020 at Trenton, Nebraska,

The Board of Commissioners of Hitchcock County

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Nichols

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald Wertz

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott McDonald

Board/Council Member McDonald  
 Moved the adoption of said resolution.  
 Member Nichols Seconded the Motion  
 Roll Call 3 Yes 0 No 0 Abstained 0 Absent  
 Resolution adopted, signed and billed as adopted.

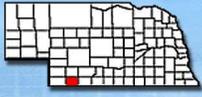
ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret M. Pollmann  
Hitchcock County Clerk

SEAL

Member Wertz offered Resolution #20-17 and moved for its' adoption. Member Nichols seconded the motion and after consideration the roll was called thereupon and the following members voted in favor of the motion: McDonald, Wertz, and Nichols. Said resolution having been consented to by a majority of all members elected to said County Board, was by the Chair declared passed and adopted. A true, correct and complete copy of said resolution is as follows:

**RESOLUTION #20-17**



# Hitchcock County Board Minutes



WHEREAS, it appears from the records of the office of the Hitchcock County Treasurer that certain parcels of real estate in the County of Hitchcock, State of Nebraska, on which taxes are delinquent were not sold for want of bidders at the last annual tax sale held in such county.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CHAIRMAN AND THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HITCHCOCK COUNTY, NEBRASKA;

Pursuant to NEB. REV. STAT. §77-1809 the County Treasurer shall issue Tax Sale Certificates to the County upon such parcel(s) of real estate upon which there are delinquent taxes.

This resolution rescinds any and all former resolutions of this Board concerning this matter, which may be in conflict herewith.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 8<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.

Voting for the motion: McDonald, Wertz and Nichols

Voting against the motion: None

Abstaining: None

Absent: None

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
HITCHCOCK COUNTY, NEBRASKA

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Paul Nichols, Chair

ATTEST:

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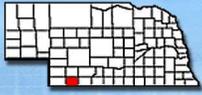
Margaret M. Pollmann, Co. Clerk

Member Nichols offered Resolution #20-18 and moved for its' adoption. Member McDonald seconded the motion and after consideration the roll was called thereupon and the following members voted in favor of the motion: Wertz, McDonald, and Nichols. Said resolution having been consented to by a majority of all members elected to said County Board, was by the Chair declared passed and adopted. A true, correct and complete copy of said resolution is as follows:

## RESOLUTION NO. 20-18

**WHEREAS**, the County of Hitchcock is the owner and holder of five (5) certificates of Tax Sale, to wit: County Tax Sale Certificate #COTS3217, COTS4517, COTS5217, COTS5517, COTS7217 on parcels of real estate, issued to the County of Hitchcock for all delinquent regular taxes thereof, and which, having been regularly advertised and offered for sale at tax sale and remaining unsold for want of bidders, was sold to the County of Hitchcock and a Certificate of Tax Sale issued thereon under provisions of *NEBRASKA REVISED STATUTES, §77-1809*; and

**WHEREAS**, time for redemption has elapsed since the issuance of such respective certificate of tax sale and by reason thereof the right of redemption of the owner or claimant of such respective tract has expired;



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**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Hitchcock County Attorney be, and he is hereby directed as promptly under the circumstances as it is reasonably possible to do, to institute action to foreclose the lien on all taxes delinquent, whether regular or special, on all real estate within Hitchcock County, Nebraska, which, having been heretofore advertised and offered for sale and remaining unsold for want of bidders were sold to the County of Hitchcock, and Certificates of Tax Sale issued thereon.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this 8<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.

Voting for the motion: McDonald, Wertz, Nichols

Voting against the motion: None

Abstaining: None

Absent: None

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
HITCHCOCK COUNTY, NEBRASKA

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Paul Nichols, Chair

ATTEST:

SEAL

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Margaret M. Pollmann, County Clerk

The Exempt Property Publication was reviewed and Chair Nichols signed the same. Clerk to submit for publication in the Hitchcock County News on September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Chair opened the 2020/2021 Budget Hearing on the Hitchcock County budget as published. Budget preparation assistant Daniel D. Miller, CPA was present and offered a brief synopsis on the 2020/2021 budget document. It was the consensus of the board to increase line item #0100-641-2-1300 in the Building and Grounds Budget from \$55,000 to \$65,000 for possible courthouse lighting and window renovations. Publication of said change will occur within 20 days of September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

The use of Inheritance Tax funds is crucial to the implementation of the budget and allows for the reduction of property taxes, purchase of capital items, and the payment of unforeseen expenses.

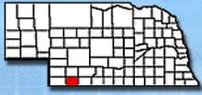
Chair asked for those in favor of the proposed budget. No comments were offered. Chair asked for those in opposition of the proposed budget. No comments were offered. Chair asked for any comments from a neutral position. No comments were offered. Chair asked for any further comments or questions. There were none. Chair closed the public hearing at 12:10 p.m. this date.

Member Nichols offered Resolution #20-19 and moved for its' adoption. Member McDonald seconded the motion and after consideration the roll was called thereupon and the following members voted in favor of the motion: Wertz, McDonald, and Nichols. Said resolution having been consented to by a majority of all members elected to said County Board, was by the Chair declared passed and adopted. A true, correct and complete copy of said resolution is as follows:

## **RESOLUTION #20-19**

### **Hitchcock County**

Resolution of Adoption and Appropriations



# Hitchcock County Board Minutes



**WHEREAS**, a proposed County Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021, prepared by the Budget Making Authority, was transmitted to the County Board on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2020.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Board of Commissioners of Hitchcock County, Nebraska as follows:

**SECTION 1.** That the budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021, as categorically evidenced by the Budget Document be, and the same hereby is, adopted as the Budget for Hitchcock County for said fiscal year.

**SECTION 2.** That the offices, departments, activities and institutions herein named are hereby authorized to expend the amounts herein appropriated to them during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020, and ending June 30, 2021.

**SECTION 3.** That the income necessary to finance the appropriations made and expenditures authorized shall be provided out of the unencumbered cash balance in each fund, revenues other than taxation to be collected during the fiscal year in each fund, and tax levy requirements for each fund.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** on this 8<sup>th</sup>, day of September 2020.

**VOTING FOR THE MOTION:** Nichols, McDonald, and Wertz

**VOTING AGAINST THE MOTION:** None

**ABSTAINING:** None

**ABSENT:** None

The Resolution is hereby adopted.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Nichols, Chair

ATTEST:

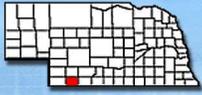
\_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret M. Pollmann, County Clerk

SEAL

Chair opened the public hearing to set the final tax request for the 2020/2021 County budget at 12:11 p.m. Chair asked for those in favor of the proposed final request. No comments were offered. Chair asked for those in opposition of the final tax request. No comments were offered. Chair asked for any comments from a neutral position on the final tax request. No comments were offered. Chair asked for any further comments or questions. There were none. Chair closed the public hearing at 12:15 p.m. this date.

Member McDonald offered Resolution #20-20 and moved for its' adoption. Member Nichols seconded the motion and after consideration the roll was called thereupon and the following members voted in favor of the motion: McDonald, Wertz, and Nichols. Said resolution having been consented to by a majority of all members elected to said County Board, was by the Chair declared passed and adopted. A true, correct and complete copy of said resolution is as follows:

## **RESOLUTION SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST**



# Hitchcock County Board Minutes



## RESOLUTION NO. 20-20

**WHEREAS**, NEBRASKA REVISED STATUTE §77-1601.02 provides that the Governing Body of the Hitchcock County passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request; and

**WHEREAS**, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Governing Body of the County of Hitchcock, resolves that:

1. The 2020-2021 property tax request be set at \$1,944,728.00.
2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by - 3%.
3. The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property, would be \$.279409 per \$100 of assessed value.
4. The County of Hitchcock proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be \$.276878 per \$100 of assessed value.
5. Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of County of Hitchcock will be lower than the 2019-2020 budget by 13%
6. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 15, 2020.

Motion by McDonald, seconded by Nichols to adopt Resolution #20-20.

**VOTING FOR THE MOTION:** Wertz, Nichols and McDonald.

**VOTING AGAINST THE MOTION:** None.

**ABSTAINING:** None

**ABSENT:** None

Dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of September 2020.

The Resolution is hereby adopted.

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Paul Nichols, Chair

ATTEST:

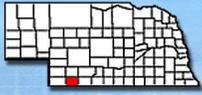
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Margaret M. Pollmann

The following inventories were acknowledged: Treasurer and Extension, Road Districts 1, 2, & 3, Buildings and Grounds, and Emergency Management.

Member Nichols moved to adjourn at 12:26 p.m. and to meet for the next regular meeting on Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. Member McDonald seconded the motion and the roll was called with the following members voting in favor of said motion: Wertz, McDonald, and Nichols. Motion carried.

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# Hitchcock County Board Minutes



ATTEST:

Paul Nichols, Chair  
Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

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Margaret M. Pollmann, County Clerk