

# Hitchcock County Board Minutes



Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

Trenton, Nebraska  
September 7, 2021

A meeting of the County Board of Commissioners of Hitchcock County, Nebraska was held at the Hitchcock County Courthouse Community Room, 229 East D Street, Trenton, Nebraska on Tuesday, the 7<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2021 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.

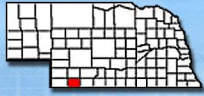
Chair Nichols called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Member Nichols moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of the following items: Approval of the September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Agenda and approval of the August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 meeting minutes. Member Wertz seconded the motion and after consideration the following members voted in favor of said motion: Nichols, McDonald, and Wertz. Motion carried.

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

**GENERAL FUND:**

General Fund Payroll -----	\$16,254.38
Capital One, supply -----	\$ 132.31
Community 1 <sup>st</sup> Bank, FICA/OASI/Fed. -----	\$ 5,139.99
Kimberly Cook, mileage/communications -----	\$ 171.01
Lacey Daniels, mileage/exam fee -----	\$ 174.00
Dollar General, supply -----	\$ 15.60
Eakes Office Solutions, supply -----	\$ 275.73
Nancy Frecks, mileage/communications -----	\$ 82.53
Goodwin Siegfried, LLP, ct. appt. counsel -----	\$ 3,158.75
Great Plains Comm., service -----	\$ 1,203.28
Hitchcock Co. Court, costs -----	\$ 135.00
Hometown Leasing, lease -----	\$ 100.40
K-C Motor Electric, repair -----	\$ 2,342.08
Messersmith Water Treatment, supply -----	\$ 20.75
MIPS, Inc., data process. -----	\$ 2,091.41
NE Dept. Rev., state tax -----	\$ 772.22
Nebraska.gov, transcripts -----	\$ 8.00
Paul Nichols, mileage -----	\$ 337.68
NSA/POAN, regist. -----	\$ 100.00
Chris Ott, permit refund -----	\$ 30.00
Quill Corp., supply -----	\$ 51.48
Redfield Direct, LLC, supply -----	\$ 612.03
Retirement Plans Division, Ameritas, retirement -----	\$ 2,417.58



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SW Public Power, utility -----	\$ 41.19
Ashley K. Spahn, ct. appt. counsel -----	\$ 655.84
Jason Swartz, reimb. uniform -----	\$ 56.50
UNL-WCREEC, registration -----	\$ 90.00
US Bank, postage meter -----	\$ 26.35
Village of Trenton, utility -----	\$ 2,837.98
West Central Dist. Assessor's Assoc., dues -----	\$ 25.00
Ryan R. Wilcox, public defender contract -----	\$ 3,200.00
7-D Lockshop, repair -----	\$ 298.98

### ROAD FUND:

Road Fund Payroll -----	\$15,010.02
Community 1 <sup>st</sup> Bank, FICA/OASI/Fed. -----	\$ 4,515.54
Construction Trailer Specialists, repair -----	\$ 99.56
D&S Hardware, repair -----	\$ 56.99
Dultmeier Sales, repair -----	\$ 51.30
EIA, LLC, gravel -----	\$12,525.90
Great Plains Comm., service -----	\$ 257.11
Heartland New Holland, repair -----	\$ 520.90
Jesse Mallet, gravel -----	\$ 6,281.50
Lakeside Sand & Gravel LLC, gravel -----	\$ 8,561.96
NE Dept. Rev., state tax -----	\$ 777.80
Powerplan JD Financial, repair -----	\$ 1,322.65
Retirement Plans Division, Ameritas, retirement -----	\$ 2,214.38
Richards Gravel Pit, gravel -----	\$ 3,901.50
SW Public Power Dist., utility -----	\$ 32.70
Village of Culbertson, utility -----	\$ 289.56
Village of Stratton, utility -----	\$ 173.60
Village of Trenton, utility -----	\$ 152.29

### REGISTER OF DEEDS P&M FUND:

MIPS, Inc., data process. -----	\$ 134.02
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### E911 PSC FUND:

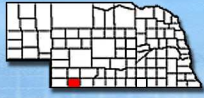
CenturyLink, service -----	\$ 61.43
Great Plains Comm., service -----	\$ 16.50

### 911 EMERGENCY SERVICES FUND:

CenturyLink, service -----	\$ 194.50
Great Plains Comm., service -----	\$ 52.23

Member Nichols moved to approve the Application To Occupy County Road Right of Way filed by Viaero Fiber Networks, LLC for an underground fiber optic cable starting at Highway 6 heading north on County Road 374 for 824'. Member McDonald seconded the motion and after consideration, the following members voted in favor of the motion: McDonald, Wertz, and Nichols. Motion carried.

Member Nichols moved to approve the Application To Occupy County Road Right of Way filed by Viaero Fiber Networks, LLC for an underground fiber optic cable starting at Highway 6 heading north on County Road



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374 for 1,074'. Member McDonald seconded the motion and after consideration, the following members voted in favor of the motion: Wertz, Nichols, and McDonald. Motion carried.

The Exempt Property Publication was reviewed and Chair Nichols signed the same. Clerk to submit for publication in the Hitchcock County News on September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Attorney D. Eugene Garner joined the meeting.

Clerk Pollmann advised as to .Gov email domain registration.

Member Wertz moved to direct chair to execute letter of understanding regarding .Gov domain registration. Member McDonald seconded the motion and after consideration the following members voted in favor of the motion: McDonald, Wertz, and Nichols. Motion carried.

The following inventories were acknowledged by the Board: Extension and Building and Grounds, and Treasurer.

Chair opened the 2021/2022 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 2021/2022 budget document. Three copies of said budget were made available. It was the consensus of the board to decrease line item 100-970-2-2401 in the Miscellaneous General Budget from \$75,000.00 to \$50,000.00 for decreased court appointed counsel costs. An ARPA Fund which was not included in the published notice was added to the proposed budget of disbursements in the total amount of \$536,486.00. The funds necessary for this expenditure will be received pursuant to ARPA. Publication of said changes will occur within 20 days of September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

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 11:29 a.m. this date.

Member Wertz offered Resolution #21-18 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: McDonald, Nichols, and Wertz. 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:

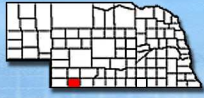
## **RESOLUTION #21-18**

### **Hitchcock County**

#### **Resolution of Adoption and Appropriations**

**WHEREAS**, a proposed County Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022, prepared by the Budget Making Authority, was transmitted to the County Board on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2021.

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



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**SECTION 1.** That the budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022, 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, 2021, and ending June 30, 2022.

**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 7<sup>th</sup> day of September 2021.

**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:

SEAL

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

Chair opened the public hearing to set the final tax request for the 2021/2022 County budget at 11:35 a.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 11:45 a.m. this date.

Member Wertz offered Resolution #21-19 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:

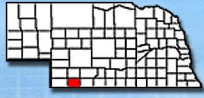
## **RESOLUTION SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST RESOLUTION NO. 21-19**

**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 2021-2022 property tax request be set at \$1,910,078.00.



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2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by -0.19%.
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 \$0.277395 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 \$0.272453 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 decrease the 2020-2021 budget by 5.28%
6. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 13, 2021.

Motion by Wertz, seconded by McDonald to adopt Resolution #21-19.

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

**VOTING AGAINST THE MOTION:** None.

**ABSTAINING:** None

**ABSENT:** None

Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of September 2021.

The Resolution is hereby adopted.

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

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret M. Pollmann

The Sheriff's 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report was on file.

Member Wertz moved to adjourn at 12:14 p.m. and to meet for the next regular meeting on Monday, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 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: Nichols, McDonald, and Wertz. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Nichols, Chair  
Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

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Margaret M. Pollmann, County Clerk