

Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

Trenton, Nebraska
September 18, 2023

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 Monday, the 18th day of September 2023 commencing at 9:00 o'clock a.m. Present were Chair Paul Nichols, Vice Chair Ron Wertz, Commissioner Scott McDonald, 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. 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 5th, 2023 meeting minutes; Approval of the September 18th, 2023 agenda. Member Wertz seconded the motion and after consideration, the following members voted in favor of the motion: McDonald, Wertz, and Nichols. 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 the motion: Nichols, McDonald and Wertz. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND:

General Fund Payroll -----	\$55,053.39
AFLAC, suppl. ins. -----	\$ 972.54
Applied Connective Technologies, IT services -----	\$ 2,582.85
BC&BS, dental ins. -----	\$ 1,413.62
BC&BS, health ins. -----	\$22,456.68
Clerk, District Court, adv. costs -----	\$ 35.00
Colonial Life & Accident Ins. Co., suppl. ins. -----	\$ 39.70
Community 1 st Bank, FICA/OASI/Fed. -----	\$17,994.67
Justin M. Daake, ct. appt. counsel -----	\$ 300.00
Farmers Coop Grain & Supply, repair/fuel -----	\$ 4,492.00
Farrell's Pharmacy, inmate script. -----	\$ 207.00
First Net/AT&T Mobility, service -----	\$ 385.28
Suhr Enterprises, supply -----	\$ 398.69
Goodwin Siegfried LLP, ct. appt. counsel -----	\$ 362.50
Great Plains Communications, service -----	\$ 1,127.07
Herrmann-Jones Funeral Chapel, burial assist. -----	\$ 1,800.00
Hitchcock Co. Court, costs -----	\$ 51.00
Hitchcock Co. Sheriff, service fees -----	\$ 37.65
JA Automotive & Repair LLC, repair -----	\$ 1,285.21
MASA, suppl. ins. -----	\$ 56.25
McCook Gazette, publication -----	\$ 9.67
Scott McDonald, mileage -----	\$ 301.96
Microfilm Imaging Systems Inc., equipment rental -----	\$ 696.00
Mid-American Benefits, admin./SBC fees -----	\$ 203.00
Mid-American Research Chemical, supply -----	\$ 294.85
Daniel D. Miller, CPA, budget prep. -----	\$ 3,000.00
Mousel Brooks Schneider & Mustion, ct. appt. counsel -----	\$ 1,692.85
NE Dept. Rev., state tax -----	\$ 2,988.31
New York Life, life ins. -----	\$ 75.00
Parde Electric LLC, supply -----	\$ 186.06
Quill Corp., supply -----	\$ 1,360.78
Red Willow Co. Treasurer, baliff -----	\$ 1,432.19
Retirement Plans Division Ameritas, retirement -----	\$ 9,141.60

Rippen Oil LLC, repair -----	\$ 111.00
Safe Life Defense, law enf. supply -----	\$ 32.00
Scoop Media LLC, publications -----	\$ 758.58
SW Public Power, utility -----	\$ 41.63
Stratton Auto Parts, repair -----	\$ 7.77
Kenneth M. Adams, pest control service -----	\$ 75.00
Total Turf Co., Inc., grounds care -----	\$ 636.00
Trails West Texaco, supply -----	\$ 124.22
UNL-Haskell Ag Lab, regist. -----	\$ 95.00
US Bank, postage services/supply -----	\$ 287.27
Village of Trenton, utility -----	\$ 2,448.45
VSP Insurance Co., vision ins. -----	\$ 380.31
Ron Wertz, mileage -----	\$ 275.10

ROAD FUND:

Road Fund Payroll -----	\$13,249.03
AKRS Equipment, repair -----	\$ 206.31
AFLAC, suppl. ins. -----	\$ 369.79
BC&BS, dental ins. -----	\$ 320.56
BC&BS, health ins. -----	\$ 5,241.36
Bosselman Energy Inc., chemical supply -----	\$21,087.95
Bud's Tire Service, repair -----	\$ 85.00
Community 1 st Bank, FICA/OASI/Fed. -----	\$ 3,596.38
Dan's R Us Sanitation, service -----	\$ 24.63
Phillip Dixon, hwy. supt. contract/bridge inspections -----	\$ 3,250.00
Farmers Coop Grain & Supply, fuel/oil -----	\$ 8,134.01
Great Plains Communications, service -----	\$ 349.23
JA Automotive & Repair LLC, repair -----	\$ 624.70
Lakeside Sand & Gravel, gravel -----	\$ 3,383.76
League Builders Supply, Inc., supply -----	\$ 20.97
MASA, suppl. ins. -----	\$ 6.25
Mid-American Benefits Inc., admin. fees -----	\$ 24.00
NE Dept. Rev., state tax -----	\$ 564.52
NE Machinery Co., repair -----	\$ 7,241.45
O'Reilly, repair -----	\$ 23.17
Oak Creek Engineering, engineering -----	\$ 6,148.36
Powerplan JD Financial, repair -----	\$ 494.16
Prairie States Comm., Inc., repair -----	\$ 110.75
Retirement Plans Division Ameritas, retirement -----	\$ 1,746.34
Richards Gravel Pit, Inc., gravel -----	\$10,455.00
Rippen Oil LLC, fuel -----	\$ 199.87
SW Farm & Auto Supply, repair/supply -----	\$ 548.09
Stratton Auto Parts, repair -----	\$ 227.82
Titan Machinery, repair -----	\$ 41.02
Village of Culbertson, utility -----	\$ 51.86
Village of Trenton, utility -----	\$ 153.71
VSP Insurance Co., vision ins. -----	\$ 67.55

911 EMERGENCY SERVICES:

Great Plains Communications, service -----	\$ 15.42
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911 PSC FUNDS:

Great Plains Communications, service-----	\$ 48.84
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County Attorney D. Eugene Garner joined the meeting.

Highway Superintendent Phillip Dixon discussed the 1 & 6 Year Road Plan and various road and bridge projects with the Board.

The 2023 property tax exemption list publication was reviewed. Chair executed the same.

Weed Superintendent/Zoning Administrator/NIRMA Contact Mike Erickson offered department updates.

Chair opened the 2023/2024 Budget Hearing on the Hitchcock County budget as published in the *Hitchcock County News* on September 14, 2023. Budget preparation assistant Daniel D. Miller, CPA was present made a presentation outlining the key provisions of the proposed budget statement, including, but not limited to, a comparison with prior year's budget. Summary copies of said budget were made available.

The floor was then opened for public comment on the proposed budget statement. It was noted that no additional parties were present. Chair closed the public hearing at 10:40 a.m. this date.

Board noted that 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.

Member Wertz offered Resolution #23-15 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, 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 #23-15

Hitchcock County

Resolution of Adoption and Appropriations

WHEREAS, a proposed County Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, prepared by the Budget Making Authority, was transmitted to the County Board on the 18th day of September, 2023.

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, 2023, to June 30, 2024, 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, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024.

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 18th day of September 2023.

VOTING FOR THE MOTION: Wertz, Nichols, and McDonald

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 2023/2024 County budget at 10:48 a.m. The floor was then opened for public comment on the proposed budget statement. It was noted that no additional parties were present. Chair closed the public hearing at 10:50 a.m. this date.

Member Nichols offered Resolution #23-16 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: Nichols, McDonald, 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 SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST
RESOLUTION NO. 23-16**

WHEREAS, NEBRASKA REVISED STATUTE §77-1632 and 77-1633 provide 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 HITCHCOCK County resolves that:

1. The 2023-2024 property tax request be set at:
General Fund \$2,013,476.00
2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by 8.3%.
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 0.239579 per \$100 of assessed value.
4. HITCHCOCK County proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be 0.245514 per \$100 of assessed value.
4. Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of HITCHCOCK County will increase (or decrease) last year's budget by 2.21 percent.
6. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 16, 2023.

Motion by Nichols, seconded by McDonald to adopt Resolution #23-16.

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

VOTING AGAINST THE MOTION: None.

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

Dated this 18th day of September 2023.

The Resolution is hereby adopted.

Paul Nichols, Chair

ATTEST:

Margaret M. Pollmann

Member Nichols offered Resolution #23-17 and moved for its' adoption. Member Wertz seconded the motion and after consideration the roll was called thereupon and the following members voted in favor of the motion: Nichols, McDonald, 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 23-17

SIGNING OF THE PROJECT PROGRAM AGREEMENT

Hitchcock County
Resolution No. 23-17

Whereas: Hitchcock County is proposing a transportation project for which it would like to obtain Federal Funds; and

Whereas: Hitchcock County understands that it must strictly follow all Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, policies, and guidelines applicable to the funding of the Federal-aid project; and

Whereas: Hitchcock County and the Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) wish to enter into a new Project Program Agreement setting out the various duties and funding responsibilities for the Federal-aid project.

Be It Resolved: by the Board of Commissioners of Hitchcock County that:

The Chair of the Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners is hereby authorized to sign the attached Project Program Agreement between Hitchcock County and the NDOT.

Hitchcock County is committed to providing local funds for the project as required by the Project Program Agreement:

NDOT Project Number: HSIP-STWD(203)
NDOT Control Number: 01063
NDOT Project Name: Statewide Stop Sign Program

Adopted this 18th day of September, 2023 at Trenton, Nebraska.

The Board of Commissioners of Hitchcock County

Paul Nichols, Chair

Ronald L. Wertz, Vice Chair

Scott McDonald, Member

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

ATTEST:

Margaret M. Pollmann, County Clerk

(Seal)

Exhibit "A"

Member Wertz offered Resolution #23-18 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: Nichols, McDonald, 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 #23-18

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 18th day of September, 2023.

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

Paul Nichols, Chair

ATTEST:

Margaret M. Pollmann, Co. Clerk

The Sheriff's 2nd quarter report was one file.

Board acknowledged receipt of the County Treasurer's July 31, 2023 and August 31, 2023 Pledged Security Reports.

Member Wertz moved to adjourn at 11:23 a.m. and to meet for the next regular meeting on Monday, October 2nd, 2023 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, Wertz and McDonald. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Paul Nichols, Chair
Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

Margaret M. Pollmann, County Clerk