

Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

Trenton, Nebraska
January 2nd, 2024

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 2nd, day of January, 2024 commencing at 9:00 o’clock a.m. Present were Chair Paul Nichols, Commissioners Paul Nichols 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. 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.

The floor was opened for nominations for Chair for calendar year 2024. Member Wertz nominated Paul Nichols. The nomination was seconded by McDonald. There were no further nominations and nominations ceased. The roll was called on the nomination of Paul Nichols for Chair for calendar year 2024 and the following members voted in favor of said nomination: McDonald and Wertz. Member Nichols abstained. Motion carried and Paul Nichols was declared Chair for 2024.

The floor was opened for nominations for Vice Chair for calendar year 2024. Member McDonald nominated Wertz. The nomination was seconded by Nichols. There were no further nominations and nominations ceased. The roll was called on the nomination of Ron Wertz for Vice Chair for calendar year 2024 and the following members voted in favor of said nomination: Nichols and McDonald. Member Wertz abstained. Motion carried and Ron Wertz was declared Vice Chair for 2024.

Member Nichols moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of the following items:

- Approval of the January 2nd, 2024 agenda
- Approval of the December 18, 2023 meeting minutes
- Designating regular meeting days as the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month, unless Monday is a holiday, then Tuesday is the regular meeting day
- Designating Hitchcock County News and the McCook Daily Gazette as official newspapers for 2024.
- Designating the County’s website, <http://www.hitchcockcounty.ne.gov> in addition to publication in official newspapers as a method of providing notices
- Appointment of Paul Nichols as County’s representative on the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Board for 2024
- Appointment of Paul Nichols as County representative on the West Central Nebraska Area Agency Board with Scott McDonald as alternate for 2024
- Appointment of Ron Wertz as County representative to the West Central Nebraska Development District with Scott McDonald as alternate for 2024
- Note perpetual appointment of Scott McDonald to the Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department Board of Directors

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

GENERAL FUND:

General Fund Payroll -----	\$15,417.53
American Electric, repair -----	\$ 92.10
Blue 360 Media, law library -----	\$ 184.45

Community 1 st Bank, FICA/OASI/Fed. -----	\$ 4,452.36
Kimberly Cook, mileage/communications -----	\$ 137.44
DataShield, shredding services -----	\$ 190.25
Dollar General, supply -----	\$ 69.65
Jaclyn Drain, mileage/meals -----	\$ 188.25
Eakes Office Solutions, supply -----	\$ 109.96
Mike Erickson, mileage/meals -----	\$ 186.01
Fairfield by Marriott, lodging -----	\$ 2,518.95
Nancy Frecks, mileage/communications -----	\$ 91.15
Glock Professional Inc., registration -----	\$ 250.00
Hitchcock Co. Sheriff, service fees -----	\$ 43.69
Lindemeier Law Offices, ct. appt. counsel -----	\$ 1,444.21
Marriott Hotels & Resorts, lodging -----	\$ 551.25
MASA, suppl. ins. -----	\$ 6.25
NACO, annual conference registrations -----	\$ 1,050.00
National Assoc. of Counties, dues -----	\$ 450.00
NE Dept. Rev., state tax -----	\$ 645.88
Margaret Pollmann, mileage -----	\$ 167.68
Protex Central, repair -----	\$ 399.00
Regional West Medical Center, coroner fees -----	\$ 489.00
Retirement Plans Division Ameritas, retirement -----	\$ 2,238.23
Scoop Media, publications -----	\$ 299.10
Robert Scott, mileage/meals -----	\$ 183.23
Ashley K. Spahn, ct. appt. counsel -----	\$ 600.00
Ryan R. Wilcox, public defender contract -----	\$ 3,500.00

ROAD FUND:

Road Fund Payroll -----	\$10,436.44
Bud's Tire Repair, repair -----	\$ 202.00
Community 1 st Bank, FICA/OASI/Fed. -----	\$ 2,790.95
Bart Monnahan, repair -----	\$ 112.50
Lakeside Sand & Gravel, gravel -----	\$10,806.72
MASA, suppl. ins. -----	\$ 6.25
NE Dept. Rev., state tax -----	\$ 423.42
Retirement Plans Division Ameritas, retirement -----	\$ 1,489.50
Village of Culbertson, utility -----	\$ 22.50
Village of Stratton, utility -----	\$ 167.40

E911 EMERGENCY SERVICES FUND:

Intrado Life & Safety Solutions Corp., annual fee -----	\$ 129.21
---	-----------

E911 PSC FUND:

Intrado Life & Safety Solutions Corp., annual fee -----	\$ 409.15
---	-----------

Regarding the appointment of County Highway Superintendent, the Board notes the following action taken at it's November 6, 2023 regular meeting: *"Member McDonald moved to direct Chair to execute the Agreement For Professional Services relating to the appointment of Lance Harter as Hitchcock County Highway Superintendent beginning January 1, 2024. Member Wertz seconded the motion and after consideration, the following members voted in favor of the motion. Nichols, McDonald, and Wertz. Motion carried."* The Board further notes that Lance Harter holds License #1426 (License Level A) and shall serve as Hitchcock County Highway Superintendent for the term beginning January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2024.

Member Nichols moved to appoint the following persons to the Hitchcock County Safety Committee for 2024: Chair: Kyle Clapp, Members Marcus Proffit, Mike Erickson, Jared Vrbas, Justin Bright and Scott McDonald. Member Wertz seconded the motion and after consideration, the following members voted in favor of the motion: McDonald, Wertz, and Nichols. Motion carried.

Member Nichols offered Resolution #24-1 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: Wertz, Nichols, and McDonald. 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 on file in the office of the County Clerk and on the County's website www.hitchcockcounty.ne.gov.

RESOLUTION #24-1

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Hitchcock County, Nebraska, that during the year 2024 and for all remainder of the term of Jackie Drain, as County Treasurer and Margaret M. Pollmann, as County Clerk ex officio Clerk of the District Court, or until further directed by the Board, that the following named banks shall be depositories for the funds of Hitchcock County, Nebraska:

Community First Bank	The Culbertson Bank	MNB Stratton, NE
P.O. Box 338	P.O. Box 8	PO Box 367
Trenton, NE 69044-0338	Culbertson, NE 69024-0008	McCook, NE 69001-0367

Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust
721 South 14th Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that since the County Treasurer and County Clerk/Clerk of the District Court have on hand and will have on hand from time to time for deposit, County money which should be deposited for safekeeping in these banks in excess of the paid-up capital stock and surplus of each of the said banks, but shall not at any time have in said banks County funds in excess of 102% of the bonds deposited by each bank as security plus the \$250,000.00 demand deposit and the \$250,000.00 time deposit covered and protected by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation of which the bank is a licensed and qualified member thereof. In the event of demand deposits, for the Hitchcock County Clerk's Imprest Fund being over \$250,000.00 the receiving bank will furnish securities to cover the additional deposits. Provided that the aforesaid banks each and all of them meet the requirement imposed by the laws of the State of Nebraska regarding property bond and securities for the deposits made in said banks.

Passed and approved this 2nd day of January, 2024.

Chair, Hitchcock County Board of
Commissioners

ATTEST:

Margaret M. Pollmann, Co. Clerk

SEAL

VOTING FOR THE MOTION: Scott McDonald, Paul Nichols, Ronald Wertz

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINING: None

VOTING AGAINST THE MOTION: None

Member McDonald offered Resolution #24-2 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: Wertz, Nichols, and McDonald. 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 on file in the office of the County Clerk and on the County's website www.hitchcockcounty.ne.gov.

RESOLUTION #24-2

WHEREAS, it appears that the County Treasurer of Hitchcock County, Nebraska, has on hand, from time to time, excess monies which are not then required for the proper operation of the government of said Hitchcock County;

AND WHEREAS it is for the best interest of said Hitchcock County that such monies be invested in various investments for the benefit and welfare of said County, which investments should be made as provided by the law of the State of Nebraska.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S OF HITCHCOCK COUNTY, NEBRASKA, that the County Treasurer of said Hitchcock County be and she hereby is authorized to invest excess monies of said County, from time to time, in such investments as may be required and permitted by the laws of Nebraska, and to rescind any and all former resolution of this Board concerning this matter, which may be in conflict therewith.

DATED THIS 2nd day of January, 2024.

Chair, Hitchcock County Board of
Commissioners

ATTEST:

Margaret M. Pollmann, Co. Clerk

SEAL

VOTING FOR THE MOTION: Scott McDonald, Paul Nichols, Ronald Wertz

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINING: None

VOTING AGAINST THE MOTION: None

Member McDonald offered Resolution #24-3 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: Wertz, Nichols, and McDonald. 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 on file in the office of the County Clerk and on the County's website www.hitchcockcounty.ne.gov.

RESOLUTION #24-3

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF HITCHCOCK COUNTY, NEBRASKA:

That the Board of Commissioners of Hitchcock County, Nebraska, for the use and benefit, and in the name of the said County of Hitchcock, will not advertise ANY SUCH KNOWN real estate property descriptions that are deeded to persons who have declared a form of bankruptcy with the United States bankruptcy Court as of the date of publication of delinquent real estate taxes. Publication dates will be February 8, 2024,

February 15, 2024 and February 22, 2024.

LET IT ALSO BE KNOWN that as of this date the Treasurer has not received notification of discharge of any of the bankruptcies not being published.

A list of such legal descriptions being withheld from publication will be on file in the County Treasurer's office, Hitchcock County, Nebraska.

Dated this 2nd day of January, 2024.

Chair, Hitchcock County Board of
Commissioners

ATTEST:

Margaret M. Pollmann, Co. Clerk

SEAL

VOTING FOR THE MOTION: Scott McDonald, Paul Nichols, Ronald Wertz

VOTING AGAINST THE MOTION: None
ABSTAINING: None
ABSENT: None

Member Wertz offered Resolution #24-4 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 on file in the office of the County Clerk and on the County's website www.hitchcockcounty.ne.gov.

RESOLUTION #24-4

WHEREAS, the County of Hitchcock, Nebraska, (hereinafter called COUNTY) is a political subdivision of the State of Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to NEB. REV. STAT. §23-106 (1), the Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners shall manage the COUNTY's funds and COUNTY business, except as otherwise specifically provided; and

WHEREAS, the COUNTY is desirous of adopting a Banking Resolution for banking transactions by and between the COUNTY, acting by and through its various officers and the Community First Bank (hereinafter called BANK) 339 Main Street, PO Box 338, Trenton, Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF HITCHCOCK COUNTY, NEBRASKA:

1. That the BANK is hereby designated as a depository for funds of the COUNTY and also for the funds of other persons or entities coming into the hands of the COUNTY's officials pursuant to their official duties, and that the elected or appointed officials of said COUNTY as specifically designated herein, and each of them, hereby are authorized to open or otherwise maintain such account(s) with the BANK, as said elected or appointed officials deem necessary to carry out their respective official duties on behalf of and for the COUNTY, and to execute such agreements as shall be required by the BANK and subject to rules and regulations of the BANK governing such accounts.
2. That, subject to the special instructions set forth herein, if any, or as otherwise authorized by law, any of the following persons are authorized and empowered to deal generally with the BANK with respect to the following specified accounts:

Jaclyn B. Drain, Hitchcock County Treasurer

- Hitchcock County Treasurer #XXX-XX9
- Money Market #XXXXXX5
- CDBG Housing Fund #XXX-XX9
- Community Development Fund #XXX-XX8
- ARPA Fund #XXXXXXXX6

Margaret M. Pollmann, Hitchcock County Clerk

- Hitchcock County Imprest Fund # XXX-XX8
- Hitchcock County Clerk # XXX-XX3
- Hitchcock County Clerk of the District Court # XXX-XX7
- Hitchcock County Payroll #XXX-XX8

Linda K. Smith, Hitchcock County Court Clerk Magistrate

- Hitchcock County Court # XXX-XX9

D. Eugene Garner, Hitchcock County Attorney

- Hitchcock County Attorney # XXX-XX2

Gerry L. Hunter, Hitchcock County Sheriff

- Hitchcock County Sheriff # XXX-XX4

Robert A. Scott, Hitchcock County Veteran's Service Office

- Hitchcock County Veteran's Aid Fund # XXX-XX6
- Hitchcock County American Legion #XXX-001

Paul A. Nichols, Hitchcock County Commissioner District #1

Ronald L. Wertz, Hitchcock County Commissioner District #2

Scott McDonald, Hitchcock County Commissioner District #3

- Hitchcock County Imprest Fund # XXX-XX8

and to designate from time to time themselves and such other deputy official(s) to (1) sign, on behalf of the COUNTY, checks, drafts or withdrawal orders drawn upon such accounts; and (2) to endorse in the name of the COUNTY and to deposit in such accounts money, checks and other instruments for payment of moneys, which endorsements may be by stamp without designation of the person endorsing, and in connection therewith certify to the BANK the specimen signatures on any signature card.

3. That notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, the BANK is authorized to honor instruments for the payment from, and to charge the same to, the Hitchcock County Imprest Fund # XXX-XX8 account ONLY upon proper authorized signature(s) of:
A) one (1) County Commissioner, as either chairman or vice-chairman or acting chairman, AND
B) the County Clerk or Deputy County Clerk.
4. That of the COUNTY, checks, drafts or money orders when signed by those persons so designated, whether or not (1) payable or endorsed to the person signing; or (2) paid or applied for the benefit of the persons signing.
5. That this resolution shall be certified to the BANK together with specimen signatures of the persons named herein and said certification shall continue in force until express written notice of rescission or modification has been received by the BANK.
6. That the original signature card(s) pertaining to said accounts of the COUNTY and bearing the true specimen signature(s) of the persons named and otherwise authorized hereby shall be on file with the BANK.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 2nd day of January, 2024.

Voting for the motion: Scott McDonald, Ronald Wertz and Paul Nichols

Voting against the motion: None

Abstaining: None

Absent: None

The resolution is hereby adopted.

Chair, Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Margaret M. Pollmann, County Clerk

SEAL

Member Wertz offered Resolution #24-5 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 on file in the office of the County Clerk and on the County's website www.hitchcockcounty.ne.gov.

RESOLUTION #24-5

WHEREAS, the Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners of Hitchcock County, Nebraska hereinafter (Board) passed Resolution #17-8 on March 6, 2017 offering a conditional Cash-In-Lieu option of group medical insurance policy to those elected officials and Hitchcock County employees choosing to participate, and

WHEREAS, Cash-In-Lieu payment amount(s) shall be established each plan year at the Board's January Reorganizational meeting.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following Cash-In-Lieu payments for the policy year beginning July 1, 2024 shall be added to monthly wages and all withholding requirements will be administered accordingly on the monthly cash option as follows:

- Employee Only \$350.00
- Employee/Child(ren) \$550.00
- Employee/Spouse \$550.00
- Family \$550.00

Passed and approved this 2nd day of January, 2024.

Chair, Hitchcock County Board of

Commissioners

ATTEST:

Margaret M. Pollmann, County Clerk

Voting for the Motion: McDonald, Wertz, and Nichols

Voting against the Motion: None

Abstaining: None

Absent: None

Member Nichols moved to appoint Aaron Kolbet to a three (3) year term (expiring 1-27) on the Hitchcock County Planning Commission. Member Wertz seconded the motion and after consideration, the following members voted in favor of the motion: Nichols, Wertz and McDonald. Motion carried.

Member Wertz moved to appoint Chris Williamson, Alex Pollmann and Chris Baker to three (3) year terms (expiring 1-27) on the Hitchcock County Board of Adjustment. Member Nichols seconded the motion and after consideration, the following members voted in favor of the motion: Nichols, Wertz and McDonald. Motion carried.

Pursuant to NEB. REV. STAT. §23-1114.09 "The salary of one full-time deputy of the various county offices shall not be less than sixty-five percent of the county officer's salary." The Board finds that all Hitchcock County Chief deputy base salaries are in compliance with said statute.

Member McDonald moved to direct Chair to execute the Settlement Agreement by and between the County and the Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Association (NIRMA) regarding a claim occurring on June 29, 2023 (hail damage to Sheriff patrol vehicles). Member Nichols seconded the motion and after consideration, the following members voted in favor of the motion: McDonald, Nichols, and Wertz. Motion carried.

Electricians for the courtroom upgrade project were discussed

Member Wertz moved to direct Chair to execute the Memorandum of Understanding Between Arthur, Chase, Dundy, Furnas, Haues, Hitchcock, Keith, Perkins, and Red Willow Counties For Community-Based Juvenile Services Aid Program. Member McDonald seconded the motion and after consideration, the following members voted in favor of the motion: Wertz, McDonald, and Nichols. Motion carried.

The 2024 Holiday closing schedule was reviewed.

Board acknowledged receipt of the following Conservation Easement Application:

- DRH Farms, Inc. CRP SAFE SU59 in 33-2-35

and the same is hereby referred to the Hitchcock County Planning Commission for review pursuant to NEB. REV. STAT. §76-2,112.

Member Wertz moved to adjourn at 10:25 a.m. and to meet for the next regular meeting on Tuesday, January 16th, 2024 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, Nichols, and McDonald. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Chair
Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

Margaret M. Pollmann, County Clerk