

Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

Trenton, Nebraska  
August 5<sup>th</sup>, 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 5<sup>th</sup>, day of August 2024 commencing at 9:00 o’clock a.m. Present were Chair Paul Nichols, Commissioners Scott McDonald and Ron Wertz, and County Clerk Margaret Pollmann. Christopher Baker was also present. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 in Scoop Media 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 July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 meeting minutes; Approval of the August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 agenda. Member McDonald seconded the motion and after consideration, the following members voted in favor of the motion: Nichols, Wertz, and McDonald. Motion carried.

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

**GENERAL FUND:**

General Fund Payroll -----	\$ 22,780.99
Quality Farm & Ranch Center, supply -----	\$ 135.26
Bud’s Tire Repair, Inc., tires -----	\$ 398.00
Community 1 <sup>st</sup> Bank, FICA/OASI/Fed. -----	\$ 7,363.11
CVSOAN, registration -----	\$ 60.00
D&S Hardware, supply -----	\$ 94.78
Dollar General, supply -----	\$ 5.95
Eakes Office Solutions, supply/copy chg. -----	\$ 546.98
Hitchcock Co. Court, costs -----	\$ 51.00
Hitchcock Co. Sheriff, service fees -----	\$ 113.12
Jacks Uniforms & Equipment, uniforms -----	\$ 387.74
Lincoln Co. Clerk, probation costs -----	\$ 3,557.07
MASA, suppl. ins. -----	\$ 6.25
MIPS, Inc., data process. -----	\$ 2,033.89
Mousel, Brooks, Schneider & Mustion, ct. appt. counsel -----	\$ 1,726.55
NE Generator Service, LLC, emergency generator inspections -----	\$ 1,900.06
NE Dept. Rev., state tax -----	\$ 1,249.36
Paul Nichols, mileage -----	\$ 353.76
Pit Crew, repair -----	\$ 910.99
Red Willow Co. Sheriff, inmate housing/medical -----	\$ 6,567.12
Red Willow County Treasurer, district judge costs -----	\$ 85.21
Lincoln County Treasurer, Emergency Management contract -----	\$ 7,064.75
Retirement Plans Division Amertias, retirement -----	\$ 3,424.60
Safe Life Defense, uniforms -----	\$ 258.00
SW Public Power, utility -----	\$ 41.26
TKO Pest Control LLC, service -----	\$ 85.00
Dennis G. O’Brien, prisoner transport -----	\$ 523.55
Haley Walker, mileage -----	\$ 110.55
Ryan R. Wilcox, public defender contract -----	\$ 3,500.00
Brenda Yeager, mileage -----	\$ 567.49
Mid-State Organized Crim Info Center, membership fee -----	\$ 100.00

**ROAD FUND:**

Road Fund Payroll -----	\$ 15,970.15
Bud's Tire Repair, Inc., repair -----	\$ 50.00
Community 1 <sup>st</sup> Bank, FICA/OASI/Fed. -----	\$ 4,701.07
Modern Farm Equipment Corp., repair -----	\$ 2,198.79
Marubeni America Corp., chemicals -----	\$ 4,553.20
Lakeside Sand & Gravel LLC, gravel -----	\$ 1,926.26
Levi Lucero, chemicals -----	\$ 8,161.85
MASA, suppl. ins. -----	\$ 6.25
Master Tech Truck & Equipment LLC, (2) 2020 Kenworth trucks -----	\$121,434.00
Medical Enterprises Inc., DOT testing -----	\$ 35.00
NE Dept. Rev., state tax -----	\$ 800.63
Retirement Plans Division Ameritas, retirement -----	\$ 2,342.51
SW Public Power, utility -----	\$ 40.78
Van Diest Supply Co., chemicals -----	\$ 2,037.80
Village of Stratton, utility -----	\$ 124.82

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

MIPS, Inc., data process. -----	\$ 255.32
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Member Nichols moved to pay the claim of Maris General Construction LLC as it is a special and unique purchase of a gravel dredge and related equipment in the amount of \$68,500.00. Member Wertz seconded the motion and after consideration, the following members voted in favor of the motion: Wertz, McDonald and Nichols. Motion carried.

Sheriff Jason Swartz met with the board regarding patrol vehicle purchases.

Attorney D. Eugene Garner joined the meeting.

Chair opened the public hearing regarding the vacation or abandonment of a portion of Road 708, beginning 2,640 feet (½ mile) east of the centerline of Road 366 and extending east approximately ½ mile to the west right-of-way line of Road 367, also described as the East one half mile of the South Line of Section 31, T2N, R32W or the East one half mile of the North Line of Section 6, T1N, R32W as published at 10:00 a.m. this date. Present were Levi Lucero and Marjorie Brown.

Chair asked for comments from those in favor of said vacation or abandonment. Levi Lucero advised he was in favor of closing the road noting lack of maintenance and lack of regular public travel. Marjorie Brown inquired as to access if said road was closed.

Attorney Garner inquired as to Mr. Lucero willingness to execute a written easement to an adjacent land owner(s). Mr. Lucero advised he was willing to do so.

Chair asked for comments from those against said vacation or abandonment.

Chair asked for comments from a neutral position.

Chair closed the public hearing at 10:12 p.m.

Attorney Garner advised as to the proposed resolution #24-14. It was the consensus of the board to table action on said resolution until the August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 meeting.

Sheriff Jason Swartz met the board to discuss the opportunity to purchase two (2) 2020 Dodge Durango police package vehicles from the Kanas State Patrol, each containing specified law enforcement equipment included and each with 50,000 +/- miles. Informal quotes were previously requested by Hitchcock County Sheriff Jason Swartz but none were provided due to the non-competitive/unique items sought.

Board finds that based upon the unique and non competitive nature of said specially equipped vehicles, informal quotes were requested but no informal quotes for similar equipment were submitted.

Motion by Wertz to purchase two (2) 2020 Dodge Durango police package vehicles with equipment (VIN #'s 1C4SDJFTXLC368208 and 1C4SDJFT8LC443021) from the Kansas Highway Patrol for the total price of \$59,600.00 subject to personal inspection and approval by the Hitchcock County Sheriff or his authorized representative. Member McDonald seconded the motion and after consideration the following members voted in favor of the motion: Wertz, McDonald, and Nichols. Motion carried.

Region 51 Emergency Manager Brandon Myers provided the agencies quarterly report.

The following inventories were acknowledged: Emergency Manager, Weed Superintendent, Treasurer, Veteran's Service Officer, and Attorney.

Mike Erickson advised as to MSHA documents, MSHA training August 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> and Weed Superintendent training August 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup>.

Member Wertz moved to approve the Application To Occupy County Road Right of Way filed by Tom Baker on behalf of Great Plains Energy for an low voltage underground electric line crossing Road 709 in the NW ¼ of Section 31 and the SW ¼ of Section 30, Township 2, Range 32, Hitchcock County, Nebraska. Member Nichols seconded the motion and after consideration, the following members voted in favor of the motion: Wertz, McDonald, and Nichols. Motion carried.

Member Nichols moved to approve the Application To Occupy County Road Right of Way filed by Dennis Reiners for an underground water line crossing Road 703 between Sections 30 and 31, Township 1, Range 33, Hitchcock County, Nebraska. Member Wertz seconded the motion and after consideration, the following members voted in favor of the motion: McDonald, Wertz, and Nichols. Motion carried.

Treasurer Jackie Drain joined the meeting. Attorney Garner advised as to the National Opioids Settlements. Discussion held on the same.

Member Wertz moved to designate the Kroger Company opioid settlement payment to Region II Services. Member McDonald seconded the motion and after consideration the following members voted in favor of the motion: McDonald, Nichols, and Wertz. Motion carried.

Assessor Terra Riggs advised as to the Contract for Professional Services with Pritchard and Abbott. Also discussed was commercial reappraisal.

Member Nichols moved to direct Chair to execute the Contract For Professional appraisal Services for Tax Years 2025 and 2026 by and between the County and Pritchard and Abbott, Inc. Member Wertz seconded the motion and after consideration, the following members voted in favor of the motion: Wertz, Nichols, and McDonald. Motion carried.

Member McDonald offered Signing Resolution #24-15 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: 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 and is on file in the office of the County Clerk and on the County's website [www.hitchcockcounty.ne.gov](http://www.hitchcockcounty.ne.gov).

## **RESOLUTION**

### **SIGNING OF THE COUNTY ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF PROGRAM COMPLIANCE 2024**

Resolution 24-15

**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 39-2110 also requires that the annual certification of program compliance by each county shall be signed by the County Board Chairperson and shall include the resolution of the governing body of the county authorizing the signing of the certification.

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

Adopted this 5<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2024 at Trenton, Nebraska.

County Board Members

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Paul Nichols

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

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

County Board Member McDonald  
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, Hitchcock Co. Clerk

Chair executed the County Annual Certification of Program Compliance To Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards 2024 pursuant to Signing Resolution 24-15.

It was the consensus of the Board to solicit propane quotes for the 2024/2025 winter season.

Member Nichols moved to enter into a Gravel Lease Agreement by and between the County and H Bar, Inc. and to direct Chair to execute the same. Member Wertz seconded the motion and after consideration, the following members voted in favor of the motion: Wertz, Nichols, and McDonald. Motion carried.

Board acknowledged receipt of an Affidavit of Surplus property filed by County Attorney.

Chris Baker requested assistance with demolition of the fairgrounds grandstand and gave a history of efforts regarding restoration and or demolition of said structure. It was the consensus of the board to assist with county employees and equipment the needs of the Hitchcock County Agricultural Society.

Clerk Pollmann advised as to LB 46, a court consolidation bill.

Chair Nichols offered an update regarding Bureau of Reclamation land transfer legislation and final cleanup of the property at 423 East 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in Trenton.

2024/2025 Budget figures were reviewed.

Member Nichols moved to adjourn at 12:54 p.m. and to meet for the next regular meeting on Monday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 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, McDonald, and Nichols. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

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Paul Nichols, Chair  
Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

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Margaret M. Pollmann, County Clerk