

Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

Trenton, Nebraska
September 3rd, 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 Tuesday the 3rd, day of September 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. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication on August 29th, in *Scoop Media 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 August 19th, 2024 meeting minutes; Approval of the September 3rd, 2024 agenda. Member McDonald seconded the motion and after consideration, the following members voted in favor of the motion: McDonald, Nichols, and Wertz. Motion carried.

Wayne Merrill discussed the considered closure of a portion of Road 708 with the Board.

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 -----	\$14,868.39
Capital One, repair/supply -----	\$ 895.09
Community 1 st Bank, FICA/OASI/Fed. -----	\$ 4,276.87
Kimberly Cook, mileage/communications -----	\$ 575.56
Crowne Plaza, lodging -----	\$ 299.90
Eakes Office Solutions, supply -----	\$ 397.72
Hitchcock Co. Sheriff, VIN checks -----	\$ 20.00
Hitchcock Co. Treasurer, patrol vehicles titles -----	\$ 20.00
JD Skiles Co., Inc., repair -----	\$ 25.88
MASA, suppl. ins. -----	\$ 6.25
Mid-American Research Chemical, supply -----	\$ 514.84
Daniel D. Miller, CPA, PC, budget assistance-----	\$ 3,100.00
Mousel, Brooks, Schneider & Mustion, ct. appt. counsel -----	\$ 570.75
NE Dept. Rev., state tax -----	\$ 683.43
Neopost Postage, postage meter scale rental -----	\$ 50.00
Parde Electric LLC, supply -----	\$ 164.88
Retirement Plans Division Ameritas, retirement -----	\$ 2,163.30
Terra Riggs, mileage -----	\$ 168.04
Shauna Schutz, reimb. supply -----	\$ 239.09
SW Public Power Dist., utility -----	\$ 41.93
Ashley K. Spahn, ct. appt. counsel -----	\$ 150.00
US Bank, fuel -----	\$ 272.51
Village of Trenton, utility -----	\$ 5,377.76
Ryan R. Wilcox, public defender contract -----	\$ 3,500.00
Hometown Leasing, equip. lease -----	\$ 112.46

ROAD FUND:

Road Fund Payroll -----	\$11,342.56
Capital One, supply -----	\$ 74.63
Community 1 st Bank, FICA/OASI/Fed. -----	\$ 2,957.59
Eakes Office Solutions, supply -----	\$ 4.90

Modern Farm Equipment Corp., repair -----	\$ 1,341.29
MASA, suppl. ins. -----	\$ 6.25
NE Dept. Rev., state tax -----	\$ 449.37
NE Safety Center, miner training -----	\$ 1,260.00
Retirement Plans Division Ameritas, retirement -----	\$ 1,609.34
Uline Shipping Supply Specialists, supply -----	\$ 280.10
US Bank, signs -----	\$ 173.72
Village of Stratton, utility -----	\$ 127.41
Village of Trenton, utility -----	\$ 304.60
DLL Enterprises, surveillance cameras -----	\$ 3,027.00
7-D Lockshop, locks -----	\$ 42.64

911 EMERGENCY SERVICES FUND:

Geo-Comm, Inc., GIS map data maint. -----	\$ 1,573.44
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911 PSC FUND:

Geo-Comm, Inc., GIS map data maint. -----	\$ 4,982.56
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Sheriff Jason Swartz offered a departmental update. The Board acknowledge the Sheriff’s Department’s Surplus Property Affidavit for a desk.

The following inventories were acknowledged: District #1, #2, and #3 Road Department, Extension, Sheriff, and Buildings and Grounds.

Dennis Egle joined the meeting.

The 2024 Exempt Property Publication was reviewed. Chair executed the same.

Attorney D. Eugene Garner joined the meeting.

Chair opened the 2024/2025 Budget Hearing on the Hitchcock County budget as published in *Scoop Media News* on August 29th, 2024. Budget preparation assistant Daniel D. Miller, CPA was present and 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. Patron Dennis Egle inquired as to various aspects of said budget document and discussion was held. It was noted that no additional parties were present. Chair closed the public hearing at 10:18 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 #24-16 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: 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.

RESOLUTION #24-16
Hitchcock County
Resolution of Adoption and Appropriations

WHEREAS, a proposed County Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, prepared by the Budget Making Authority, was transmitted to the County Board on the 3rd day of September, 2024.

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, 2024, to June 30, 2025, 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, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025.

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 3rd day of September 2024.

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 2024/2025 County budget at 10:20 a.m. The floor was then opened for public comment on the proposed budget statement. Budget preparation assistant Daniel D. Miller, CPA gave a brief synopsis of the final tax request. It was noted that no additional parties were present. Chair closed the public hearing at 10:23 a.m. this date.

Member Nichols offered Resolution #24-17 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: 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.

**RESOLUTION SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST
RESOLUTION NO. 24-17**

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 2024-2025 property tax request be set at:
General Fund \$2,064,574.00
2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by 4.66%.
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 0.234573 per \$100 of assessed value.

4. HITCHCOCK County proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be 0.240526 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 -0.28 percent.

6. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 15, 2024.

Motion by Nichols, seconded by Wertz to adopt Resolution #24-17.

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

VOTING AGAINST THE MOTION: None.

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

Dated this 3rd day of September 2024.

The Resolution is hereby adopted.

Paul Nichols, Chair

ATTEST:

Margaret M. Pollmann

Lance Harter with Oak Creek Engineering met with the Board regarding an update for design of Structure C004404510 and 04515 replacements and offered a design service proposal for Structure No C004413405 replacement. Various road and bridge projects were discussed.

Treasurer Jackie Drain advised as to tax sale issuance and offered the July 2024 pledged security report. Attorney Garner advised as to supreme court decisions relating to county tax sales/deeds.

Member Wertz offered Resolution #24-18 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, 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.

RESOLUTION #24-18

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 3rd day of September, 2024.

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

Member McDonald moved to adjourn at 11:30 a.m. and to meet for the next regular meeting on Monday, September 16th, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. Member Wertz 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:

Paul Nichols, Chair
Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

Margaret M. Pollmann, County Clerk