

Pursuant to notice given in the minutes of the meeting of December 3rd, 2019 and published in the December 12th, 2019 issue of the Polk County News, the Board of County Commissioners convened at 9:30 a.m. with all members present. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Chairman Westring informed those in attendance that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the wall of the Commissioner's room.

Claims were audited and a motion was made by Westring that claims be allowed and warrants drawn against the various funds in the amounts listed below. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Westring, aye; Boruch, aye; Boss, aye.

GENERAL FUND

General Fund	Salaries	\$62,321.61
Annie Jeffrey Memorial Co. Health	Service	\$310.50
Black Hills Energy	Service	\$818.30
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	\$12,362.41
Bob Barker Company Inc.	Supplies	\$153.14
Bryan Medical Center	Service	\$45.00
Burg Auto Repair Inc.	Service	\$297.35
Central Valley AG	Supplies	\$1,089.31
City of Osceola	Utilities	\$82.87
CMRS-POC	Postage	\$2,500.00
Cubby's, Inc.	Fuel	\$484.05
Dubas Funeral Home	Service	\$2,200.00
Eakes Office Solutions	Supplies	\$258.43
Economy Hometown Market	Supplies	\$218.63
Ken Ekeler	Service	\$70.00
Fillmore County Sheriff	Service	\$79.00
Fort Dearborn Life Insurance Co.	Life Insurance	\$164.23
Frontier Cooperative	Fuel	\$1,023.46
Greenwall Law Office	Service	\$8,312.50
Jackson Services Inc.	Service	\$137.44
Mebulbs	Supplies	\$257.08
Microfilm Imaging Systems, Inc.	Service	\$128.00
Myron Corp.	Supplies	\$156.39
NE Health & Human Services	Service	\$90.00
Nebraska Supreme Court	Service	\$6,609.53
NSA/POAN Law Enforcement Conference	Dues	\$400.00
Office.NET	Supplies	\$424.69
Jennifer Osborne	Mileage	\$36.54
Osceola Food Mart	Supplies	\$100.84
Osceola Tire & Service	Service	\$515.45
Philips Lifeline	Service	\$772.00
Pinnacle Bank Visa	Supplies	\$193.03
Pinnacle Bank Visa	Supplies	\$414.91
Pinnacle Bank Visa	Supplies	\$73.68
Pinnacle Bank Visa	Supplies	\$8.00
Pioneer Telephone	Service	\$50.72
Pioneer Telephone**	Service	\$34.04
Polk County Tax Deposit Account	Social Security	\$4,566.28
Polk County Health Ins. Deductible	Health Insurance	\$5,425.70
Polk County Court	Fees	\$66.00
Polk County News LLC	Service	\$347.72
Protex Central Incorporated	Service	\$796.00
Retirement Plans Division	Retirement	\$4,262.98
Shelby Auto Clinic	Service	\$63.17
Shelby Lumber Co. Inc.	Service	\$1,176.09
Stephens Law Offices P.C.	Service	\$3,458.00
Stromsburg Soft Water Co. Inc.	Service	\$36.00
Barb Swanson	Reimbursement	\$139.06
Jaci Swantek	Reimbursement	\$9.28
The Offroad Co.	Supplies	\$41.95
Thomson Reuters-West	Service	\$1,485.48
Tooley's Osceola Pharmacy	Supplies	\$228.20
Verizon Wireless	Service	\$34.16
Verizon Wireless	Service	\$190.06
Windstream Nebraska	Service	\$2,475.62

York News Times	Service	\$19.95
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ROAD FUND

Road Fund	Salaries	\$24,824.06
Black Hills Energy	Service	\$152.88
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	\$5,115.48
Central Valley AG	Fuel	\$529.25
Dale R Johnson Enterprises	Supplies	\$28,361.19
Del-Ray Quality Alt. & Starters	Service	\$148.60
Ericson Cash Hardware	Supplies	\$14.85
Filter Care	Supplies	\$42.05
Fort Dearborn Life Insurance Co.	Life Insurance	\$82.56
Frontier Cooperative Company	Supplies	\$951.16
Island Supply Welding Company	Supplies	\$139.39
Johns Deere Financial	Service/Supplies	\$157.98
MARC	Supplies	\$498.75
NMC, Exchange LLC	Service	\$3,071.26
Osceola Food Mart	Supplies	\$3.20
Osceola Tire & Service	Service	\$21.00
Overland Ready Mixed	Gravel and Borrow	\$9,655.56
Overland Sand & Gravel	Gravel and Borrow	\$1,257.63
Pioneer Telephone	Service	\$10.68
Polk County Tax Deposit Account	Social Security	\$1,863.66
Polk County Treasurer	Title Fee	\$10.00
Polk Light & Water	Utilities	\$127.04
Polk Service & Repair, Inc.	Supplies	\$17.00
Rally Auto Parts	Service/Supplies	\$770.80
Retirement Plans Division Ameritas	Retirement	\$1,621.64
Sapp Bros. Petroleum, Inc.	Supplies	\$13,071.92
Shelby Lumber Co.. Inc.	Supplies	\$26.25
Verizon Wireless	Service	\$69.24
Village of Shelby	Service	\$90.95
Windstream Nebraska Inc.	Service	\$244.70

SENIOR SERVICES FUND

Marie Brown	Reimbursement	\$44.00
City of Stromsburg	Utilities	\$670.46
Midwest Covenant Home	Expenses	\$13,391.33

INHERITANCE TAX FUND

DAS State Accounting-Central Finance	Service	341.32
Standard Appraisal Service Inc.	Service	14,812.00

911 EMERGENCY SERVICE FUND

Windstream Nebraska Inc.	Service	983.49
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WEED FUND

Black Hills Energy	Service	\$31.57
Frontier Cooperative Company	Fuel	\$187.18
Gary's Plumbing LLC	Supplies	\$32.72
NE Weed Control Association	Dues	\$210.00
Rally Auto Parts	Service/Equipment	\$63.27
Verizon Wireless	Service	\$61.70

The Board approved the collateral pledged by Polk County banks and held in custody by the County Treasurer.

The following fees for the month of November were earned by the various offices and submitted to the County Treasurer. County Treasurer receipts show fees earned were credited to the appropriate county funds.

Jodie L. Roberts, Clerk of Dist. Court	\$775.00
Dwaine W. Ladwig, Sheriff	\$995.42

The still vacant Extension Educator position and the proposal to temporarily make the assistant Extension Educator position fulltime was discussed. A motion was made by Boruch to

made the necessary arrangements with the University of Nebraska to employ a full time assistant Extension Educator in Polk County for approximately one year to allow the University to hire and train an Extension Educator. The additional salary and benefit costs will be reimbursed to the University by Polk County. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Westring, aye; Boss, aye.

The 2020 wages for county employees were discussed. Also participating in the discussion were County Treasurer Swanson, County Assessor Cermak, County Sheriff Ladwig, and County Highway Supt. Theis. A motion was made by Boruch to adopt the following pay scale: experienced road employees, a maximum of \$19.39 per hour; county mechanic, a maximum of \$21.59 per hour; Weed Supt., a maximum of \$19.51 per hour; Highway Supt., a maximum annual salary of \$50,030.60; Bridge Inspector, a maximum annual salary of \$12,767.40; office clerk in the office of Highway Supt., Survey, Weed Supt., and Zoning Administrator, a maximum of \$18.78 per hour; Deputy Clerk, Deputy Treasurer and Deputy Assessor, \$18.78 per hour; office clerks in the office of Clerk, Treasurer, and Assessor, a maximum of \$17.32 per hour; Deputy County Attorney, a maximum annual salary of \$41,600.00; Chief Deputy Sheriff, a maximum of \$26.49 per hour; Sergeant, a maximum of \$25.69 per hour; Investigator, a maximum of \$25.19 per hour; Deputy Sheriffs, a maximum of \$24.19 per hour; dispatcher, a maximum of \$19.56 per hour; Custodian, a maximum of \$17.84 per hour; Zoning Administrator, an annual salary of \$7,320.00; and Health Director, a maximum of \$28.96 per hour. Any other hourly employees' wages may be increased by a maximum of \$1.00 per hour. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye.

The General Assistance applicant scheduled for 9:35 a.m. cancelled their appointment after the 9:30 a.m. Monday, December 16th deadline for altering the Board's agenda.

The second General Assistance applicant scheduled did not keep their appointment with the Board.

Brenda Thomas met with the Board to discuss the valuation and 2019 taxes due on a parcel she recently purchased at a Sheriff's Sale. The statutory process for protesting the valuation of a property begins June 1st and must be completed by July 25th each year. Real estate taxes are paid a year in arrears and the taxes for each year are not billed until December of that year, with a due date of December 31st and delinquent dates of May 1st and September 1st (for each delinquent date it is for one half of the taxes owed). At the time of the Sheriff's sale of the property in September, the 2019 taxes had not been determined. Therefore, the Board cannot provide any tax relief. Mrs. Thomas was encouraged to protest the value of the property in June of 2020 for the 2020 tax year.

At 10:55 a.m., a motion was made by Boss to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Boruch, aye; Westring, aye. Also present were Sheriff Ladwig and the County Clerk. At 11:05 a.m., a motion was made by Westring to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Westring, aye; Boss, aye; Boruch, aye. Chairman Westring stated for the record that no formal action was taken and that only personnel matters were discussed.

Highway Supt. Theis updated the Board on the work being done in the Road Dept. FEMA was missing some info on bridges damaged during the floods and they are also in need of the maintenance schedules for the roads and bridges affected. JEO feels it will be beneficial to mill the existing blacktop on the Polk North project prior to the concrete overlay. The bridge tonnage signs for specialized trucks are being updated around the county as required by the State Department of Transportation. Highway Supt. Theis is also interested in purchasing a new plow truck that can also be used to haul materials during the off season.

Weed Supt. Carlson brought the Board up to date on the activities of the Weed Dept. Approximately 140 acres of river were sprayed and \$20,000 in cost share chemicals were distributed in Polk County by the Platte Valley Weed Management Area to help control noxious weeds along the Platte River. Another small area of phragmites infestation was recently discovered. Work continues on the office files and cleaning of the Weed Shop. Supt. Carlson reported that the side by side is working great for snow removal around the courthouse.

