Chase County Commissioners

September 26, 2023

The regular meeting of the Chase County Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Jacci Brown at 8:00am on Tuesday, September 26, 2023 in the meeting room of the Chase County Courthouse. The meeting had been advertised in the Imperial Republican and the agenda was kept current and available in the office of the county clerk. The agenda and open meeting act were posted. Also in attendance were Commissioners Billie Muehlenkamp and Kurt Bernhardt, and county clerk Wendy Moe.

County road superintendent Dick DeWester was present for open forum to give commissioners road department updates.

Travis Petsche from Applied Connective joined the meeting to provide an update to the board. It has been about six months since the County onboarded with Applied Connective, he wanted to meet with the board to give an overview of services provided and inquire as to whether the county had any concerns.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2023 Commissioners Meeting. Motion seconded by commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2023 Budget Hearing. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Correspondence from the State of Nebraska Department of Natural Resources concerning storage appropriations for the Champion Mill Lake was reviewed.

Claims were reviewed. Commissioner Brown moved to approve claims as submitted. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

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| PE=payroll exp, TE=travel exp, SU=supply,  |
| SE=service, CC=court cost, RP=repairs,  |
| PT=parts, L=labor, UT=utility, AP=Appt. Counsel,  |
| PS=Prior Service EQ=Equipment JD=Juv Div |
| ADAMS DRUG INC | SU | 4.79 |
| AFLAC | PE | 361.13 |
| AFLAC (AFTER TAX) | PE | 17.75 |
| AMERITAS LIFE INS | PE | 38.45 |
| AMERITAS LIFE INS | PE | 8956.36 |
| BLACK HILLS ENERGY | UT | 136.05 |
| BCBS OF NEB | PE | 24886.56 |
| BRICO PEST CONTROL | SE | 30.00 |
| CARTER, KARON DENISE | SE | 800.00 |
| CHARM-TEX, INC. | SU | 109.00 |
| CHASE CO TREAS/CAFETERIA | PE | 133.33 |
| CHASE CO COMM HOSP | SE | 960.00 |
| CHASE CO FAIR | SE | 500.00 |
| CHASE CO TREAS | SE | 983.62 |
| COLONIAL LIFE | PE | 66.82 |
| DAN'S R US SANITATION | SE | 155.96 |
| DAS STATE ACCTG | SE | 268.07 |
| DOLLAR GENERAL | SU | 191.70 |
| EAKES | SU | 296.21 |
| EFTPS | PE | 15149.30 |
| ELMSHAEUSER,STEVEN | AP | 275.00 |
| ESKEW, BILLY | SE | 1373.40 |
| FVFC | SU | 3608.18 |
| GREAT PLAINS COMM. | UT | 346.74 |
| HOMETOWN LEASING | SE | 541.80 |
| IDEAL LINEN | SU | 435.89 |
| IMPERIAL REPUBLICAN  | SE | 1190.56 |
| JAEGER JOEANNA K | TE | 35.50 |
| KING INSURANCE PARTNERS, LLC | SE | 3604.92 |
| MCI (SHRF BILLS) | UT | 75.67 |
| NACO (REGS.) | TE | 350.00 |
| NE CHILD SUPP PMT CNTR | PE | 320.00 |
| NE SECRETARY OF STATE | TE | 60.00 |
| NE STATE INCOME TAX | PE | 2038.36 |
| PANKONIN AG SERVICES INC. | SE | 900.00 |
| PETTY CASH - TREAS | SU | 25.40 |
| PHILLIPS 66 COMPANY | SU | 164.63 |
| SCHOENHOLZ, HEATHER (LPN) | SE | 124.63 |
| SWPPD | UT | 222.74 |
| US BANK CORP PMT  | SE | 1050.68 |
| WC DIST ASSESSORS ASSOC | TE | 100.00 |
| Net Payroll | 42674.27 |
| **General Fund Total** | **113563.47** |
| AFLAC | PE | 110.18 |
| AMERITAS LIFE INS | PE | 5.95 |
| AMERITAS LIFE INS | PE | 1161.52 |
| BLACK HILLS ENERGY | UT | 81.24 |
| BUSSELL LAND LLC | SU | 200.00 |
| CHASE CO TREAS/CAFETERIA | PE | 40.00 |
| CHASE CO COMM HOSP | SE | 107.00 |
| CHASE CO TREAS | SE | 1.89 |
| DAN'S R US SANITATION | SE | 56.45 |
| EFTPS | PE | 3729.45 |
| FANNING FARM REPAIR | PT/L | 3591.44 |
| FVFC | SU | 835.81 |
| GB AUTO SERVICE INC. | PT/L | 625.00 |
| GOINGS FAMILY LMTD | SU | 4917.50 |
| HUSKER STEEL | SU | 1476.00 |
| IMPERIAL REPUBLICAN  | SE | 238.35 |
| NE CHILD SUPP PMT CNTR | PE | 225.00 |
| NE STATE INCOME TAX | PE | 998.84 |
| PETTY CASH - TRANSIT | SU | 5.70 |
| S & S LOCK AND KEY | SE | 64.00 |
| SAPP BROS PETRO | SU | 11686.73 |
| SMITH, BONNIE | SU | 1780.00 |
| SPORER LAND DEVELOPMENT, INC | SU | 446.20 |
| US BANK CORP PMT  | SE | 15.50 |
| VENANGO FARMS, LLC | SU | 4720.00 |
| Net Payroll | 20407.04 |
| **Road Fund Total** | **57526.79** |
| HICKMAN, NORMA J. | SE | 300.00 |
| **Tourism Fund Total** | **300.00** |
| GREAT PLAINS COMM. | UT | 386.52 |
| **E911 Fund Total** | **386.52** |
| AIRGAS USA, LLC | SU | 1575.13 |
| ARELLANO, JASON M | SE | 56.00 |
| BITTNER,WILLIAM | SE | 7.20 |
| BROWNING, EMILY,E | SE | 27.60 |
| BURKE JOSH | SE | 20.60 |
| CASTILLO-ARVIZO, RAQUEL | SE | 69.80 |
| CHASE CO TREAS | SU | 14.49 |
| FVFC | SU | 387.57 |
| GREENE, AARON PATRIC | SE | 14.20 |
| GREENE, TIMMIE D. | SE | 44.40 |
| HAYES, SABRINA | SE | 56.80 |
| HIYKEL, FAY D. | SE | 40.70 |
| HUBL,BROOKE | SE | 14.20 |
| HUNT, GARY K. | SE | 168.00 |
| KLEIN, TYLER | SE | 7.50 |
| KLEIN,LEANNE L. | SE | 63.20 |
| KLENTZ, MELISA K. | SE | 56.00 |
| KUNTZELMAN, ELDON | SE | 81.40 |
| LOEFFLER, CRAIG A. | SE | 14.20 |
| MARIS, JAYDEN | SE | 9.40 |
| MILLER, JOHN W. | SE | 13.10 |
| MILLER, ROXANE K. | SE | 13.10 |
| MUTHS, JOLENE D. | SE | 56.00 |
| OSTMEYER, CHAD | SE | 14.20 |
| PRYOR, ALLISON A. | SE | 11.20 |
| RICHARDSON, RANAE | SE | 119.20 |
| **Ambulance Fund Total** | **2955.19** |
| **Grand Total All Funds** | **174731.97** |

Commissioners reviewed annual inventories submitted by officials. Commissioner Bernhardt moved to approve inventories as submitted. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried. Inventories signed by commissioners.

Commissioners reviewed the annual audit report submitted by Auditor Donald Wilson. Commissioner Brown moved to approve the report as submitted. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried. The audit report has been completed and is on file in the office of the County Clerk.

Surplus property requests were reviewed. Commissioner Bernhardt moved to surplus a 2005 Dell Printer from the Election inventory, to be recycled through a company of official’s choosing. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Brown moved to dispose of L shaped wood desk in the clerk’s office, to be disposed of in the trash. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Muehlenkamp moved to dispose of two mast trousers, two thumpers and one water rescue rope from the Wauneta EMS inventory. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to approve Resolution 2023-19 concerning Road Department Employee Wages. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried. A complete copy of resolution is on file in the office of the county clerk.

After discussion and review of transit employee’s current wages, Commissioner Bernhardt moved to give a $1.00/hour raise to all Transit employees. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve and sign the Budget Message for the FY23-24 Budget Document. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried. Chairman Brown signed the Budget Message.

At 9:30 Chairman Brown opened the public hearing for the Imperial Beef CUP. Brad Foote and Dale Schilke joined the meeting for the public hearing. Chairman Brown reviewed the Zoning Board’s Recommendation from the Hearing held on September 18, 2023. The zoning board recommended that the Imperial Beef Conditional Use Permit be denied.

Brad and Dale presented drawings and images of the building project in question. The project has been mostly completed although not all of the proper permits were obtained leading up to this point. Commissioner Bernhardt indicated that as a board, the commissioners need to follow proper procedure and adhere to the county’s guidelines and the zoning committee’s recommendations.

Brad indicated that he would gladly go back to the zoning committee to start over with this process to get the proper permits.

Chairman Brown closed the public hearing at 9:40am.

Commissioner Brown indicated that she believes the board is obligated to apply a fine as this project was carried through without proper permits in place. Other members of the Board were in agreement.

Commissioner Brown moved to accept the zoning board’s recommendation to deny the CUP for Imperial Beef. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to assess a fine of $500 per week until proper approval is met from both the zoning board and the board of commissioners. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Sheriff Mueller and Treasurer Rebecca Bernard joined the meeting for agenda item of Unpaid Leave of Absence for personnel. The main question needing to be addressed was if an employee is granted an unpaid leave of absence, will they be able to maintain their benefits, namely health insurance; and what are the options for repayment? Commissioners indicated that in prior instances, employees on unpaid leave have been allowed to maintain their health insurance. The county will pay the premiums during the employee’s absence. Upon return to work fulltime, the employee will then have the option to reimburse the full premium amount as a lump sum or make it up with a set time repayment agreement to the County.

Agenda item of Wauneta Mower to be left as unfinished business as informal bids presented did not meet the needed specifications. More informal bids will be sought.

With no further business to come before the board Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 10:30am.

 **CHASE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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Billie Muehlenkamp – Commissioner District #1

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Jacci L. Brown – Commissioner District #2

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Kurt Bernhardt – Commissioner District #3

ATTEST:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Wendy Moe, Chase County Clerk