



# Hitchcock County Board Minutes



Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

Trenton, Nebraska  
September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013

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 the 16<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2013 commencing at 9:00 o’clock a.m. Present were Chair Scott McDonald, Commissioners Ronald Wertz and Paul Nichols and County Clerk Margaret Pollmann. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Hitchcock County News. Board agendas are posted on the County’s website [www.hitchcockcounty.ne.gov](http://www.hitchcockcounty.ne.gov). Notice of the meeting and availability of the agenda were 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 Meetings Act was available for review and Chair indicated the location of such copy in the room where the meeting was being held.

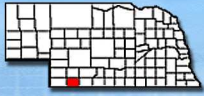
Chair McDonald called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated the location of such copy in the room where the meeting was being held.

Member Wertz moved to approve the consent calendar consisting of the following items: 1. Approval of September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013 agenda; 2. Approval of the September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013 meeting minutes. Member Nichols seconded the motion and after consideration the following members voted in favor of said motion: Wertz, McDonald and Nichols. Motion carried.

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

## GENERAL FUND:

General Fund Payroll -----	\$36,816.06
AFLAC, suppl. ins. -----	\$ 806.96
Ameritas Life Ins., vision ins. -----	\$ 240.04
AS Central Finance, data process. -----	\$ 245.75
B&D Office City, supply -----	\$ 16.74
NC & BS, health ins. -----	\$28,110.21
Capital Business Systems, equip. lease -----	\$ 134.00
Capital Business Systems, equip. lease -----	\$ 28.00
Tonya Carlson, blood draw -----	\$ 75.00
Colonial Life & Accident, suppl. ins. -----	\$ 617.47
Community Hospital, blood tests -----	\$ 568.00
Culbertson Public Library, budgeted funds -----	\$ 100.00
Dundy Co. Court, transcript -----	\$ 5.00
Eakes Office Products, supply -----	\$ 20.98
Farmers Coop, fuel/supply -----	\$ 1,552.32
Farmers State Bank, FICA/OASI/Fed. -----	\$11,358.05
Farmers State Bank, direct deposit fees -----	\$ 91.20
Green Law Offices, ct. appt. atty. -----	\$ 284.86
Hitchcock Co. Court, costs -----	\$ 34.00
Holiday Inn – Kearney, lodging -----	\$ 467.70



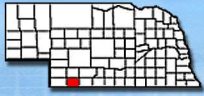
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Todd Hovey, blood draw -----	\$ 150.00
Keith County Clerk, registrations -----	\$ 120.00
Madison National Life, life ins. -----	\$ 93.10
Mid-American Benefits, admin. fees -----	\$ 165.00
MIPS, Inc., data process. -----	\$ 1,034.97
Mousel, Brooks, Garner & Schneider, reimb. transcripts -----	\$ 30.00
NACO, registration -----	\$ 45.00
NCSEA, registration -----	\$ 75.00
NE Dept. Rev., state tax -----	\$ 1,309.34
New York Life, life ins. -----	\$ 75.00
Plains Equipment Group, lawnmower -----	\$ 2,509.75
Retirement Plans Division Ameritas, retirement -----	\$ 5,961.63
Schmick's Market, supply -----	\$ 661.32
Scoop Media, publications -----	\$ 635.13
SW 4 Ext. Unit, mileage/communications/misc. -----	\$ 1,694.87
Stratton Public Library, budgeted funds -----	\$ 100.00
Trails West Texaco, supply/fuel -----	\$ 17.25
Trenton Public Library, budgeted funds -----	\$ 100.00
Underground Vaults & Storage, storage -----	\$ 1.50
Village of Trenton, utility -----	\$ 3,146.49
Ron Wertz, mileage -----	\$ 142.95
Wireless Inet, service -----	\$ 71.37
Scott McDonald, mileage -----	\$ 262.73

## ROAD FUND:

Road Fund Payroll -----	\$ 6,913.11
AFLAC, suppl. ins. -----	\$ 722.27
Ameritas Life Ins., vision ins. -----	\$ 41.76
BC&BS, health ins. -----	\$ 7,836.16
Colonial Life & Accident, suppl. ins. -----	\$ 36.32
DFR, Inc., service -----	\$ 14.00
Phillip Dixon, hwy. supt. -----	\$ 725.00
Farmers Coop, fuel -----	\$ 6,844.14
Farmers State Bank, FICA/OASI/Fed. -----	\$ 1,728.25
Glass Express, repair -----	\$ 90.00
Hitchcock Co. Treasurer, truck title -----	\$ 10.00
Lakeside Sand & Gravel, gravel -----	\$ 4,631.64
League Builders, supply -----	\$ 5.98
Madison National Life, life ins. -----	\$ 29.40
McCook Daily Gazette, publication -----	\$ 51.01
Mentzer Oil Co., fuel -----	\$ 3,388.70
Michael Todd & Co., signs -----	\$ 1,393.65
Mid American Benefits, admin. fee -----	\$ 45.00
NE Dept. Rev., state tax -----	\$ 137.66
NE Machinery Co., repair -----	\$ 21,142.26
PowerPlan John Deere Financial, repair -----	\$ 319.20
R&W Repair, same -----	\$ 35.00
Retirement Plans Division Ameritas, retirement -----	\$ 1,170.36
Richards Gravel Pit, gravel -----	\$ 3,391.50



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Schamel's Auto Supply, repair -----	\$ 83.40
Stratton Auto Parts, repair/supply -----	\$ 63.76
Village of Culbertson, utility -----	\$ 32.72
Village of Trenton, same -----	\$ 130.43

### INSTITUTIONS FUND:

Bridge of Hop Advocacy Center, budgeted funds -----	\$ 2,000.00
Domestic Abuse/Sexual Assault Services, same -----	\$ 2,500.00
Family Resource Center, same -----	\$ 900.00
McCook Humane Society, same -----	\$ 500.00
Prairie Plains CASA, same -----	\$ 1,000.00

### NOXIOUS WEED FUND:

Weed Fund Payroll -----	\$ 793.51
BC & BS, health ins. -----	\$ 687.58
Farmers State Bank, FICA/OASI/Fed. -----	\$ 213.57
Keith County Clerk, registration -----	\$ 20.00
Madison National Life, life ins. -----	\$ 4.90
Mid American Benefits, admin. fee -----	\$ 7.50
NE Dept. Rev., state tax -----	\$ 19.79
Retirement Plans Division Ameritas, retirement -----	\$ 126.09
Scoop Media, publication -----	\$ 132.00
Trails West Texaco, fuel -----	\$ 236.36
Wireless Inet, service -----	\$ 13.08

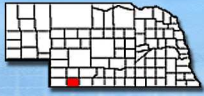
Member Wertz moved to approve the claim of Scott's Sinclair in the amount of \$414.00 for fuel in the Road Fund. Member Nichols seconded the motion and after consideration the following members voted in favor of said motion: Nichols and Wertz. Member McDonald abstained. Motion carried.

Judy McDonald, Cindy McCorkle, and Marie Smith joined the meeting. Also joining were Phyllis Daugherty, Linda Cook, Irene Felker, Linda Kerchal and Gene Garner. Mrs. McDonald requested that the board revisit Cindy McCorkle and Marie Smith's salaries and to bring them in line with other deputies. Attorney Garner advised as to NEB. REV. STAT. §11-126 relating to deputies and bonds. Chair McDonald stated that in his opinion, equalization amongst county employee salaries was needed. Commissioner Nichols pointed out that courthouse employees work 35 hours per week. Discussion was held on overtime issues and Mrs. McDonald's request for salary increases.

The 2013/2014 budget hearing commenced at 10:05 a.m. this date. Budget preparation accountant Daniel D. Miller, C.P.A. was present. The board noted that no patrons were present. Mr. Miller advised as to the 2013/2014 property tax request, levy and various budgetary items of interest. Discussion was held on the Assessor's budget, elected official and deputy salaries, part time and full time employee designations, duties of administrators and administrative exemptions. It was the consensus of the board to move \$8,000 from Miscellaneous General to the County Assessor's budget line items as follows: 1-0201 - \$2,000; 1-0305 - \$1,000; and 1-0405 - \$5,000.

The budget hearing was closed at 10:59 a.m. this date.

Member McDonald moved to increase the restricted funds authority by an additional 1% for the 2013/2014 budget. Member Wertz seconded the motion and after consideration the roll was called thereupon and the following members voted in favor of the motion. Wertz, McDonald and Nichols. Motion carried.



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Discussion was had regarding inheritance tax funds. The Board finds that use of inheritance tax funds is crucial to the implementation of the budget and allows for reduction of property taxes and purchase of capital assets and other expenditures not allowed under a general tax levy. Hitchcock County was able to reduce property taxes by \$150,000 which is a mill levy of .025527 per \$100 of valuation through the use of inheritance tax, allowed \$240,000 for the purchase of capital items for the Road Fund and \$385,431.18 for other operational expenses that would not otherwise be allowed due to limitations on restricted fund authority.

Member Wertz offered Resolution #13-14 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:

## **RESOLUTION #13-14**

### **Hitchcock County**

#### **Resolution of Adoption and Appropriations**

**WHEREAS**, a proposed County Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2013, to June 30, 2014, prepared by the Budget Making Authority, was transmitted to the County Board on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2013.

**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, 2013, to June 30, 2014, 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, 2013, and ending June 30, 2014.

**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 16<sup>th</sup> day of September 2013.

**VOTING FOR THE MOTION:** McDonald, Nichols and Wertz

**VOTING AGAINST THE MOTION:** None

**ABSTAINING:** None

**ABSENT:** None

The Resolution is hereby adopted.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott McDonald, Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret M. Pollmann, County Clerk

SEAL



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Member McDonald offered Resolution #13-15 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 as follows:

## RESOLUTION #13-15

**WHEREAS**, Nebraska Revised Statute §77-1601.02 provides that the property tax request for the prior year shall be the property tax request for the current year for purposes of the levy set by the County Board of Equalization unless the Governing Body of the County of Hitchcock passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request at a different amount; and;

**WHEREAS**, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interest of the County of Hitchcock that the property tax request for the current year be a different amount than the property tax request for the prior year.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Governing Body of the County of Hitchcock, by a majority vote, resolves that:

1. The 2013-2014 property tax request be set at \$1,979,629.00.
2. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk prior to October 15, 2013.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** THIS 16<sup>th</sup>, day of September, 2013.

**VOTING FOR THE MOTION:** McDonald, Wertz, Nichols

**VOTING AGAINST THE MOTION:** None

**ABSTAINING:** None

**ABSENT:** None

The Resolution is hereby adopted.

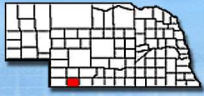
\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott McDonald, Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret M. Pollmann, County Clerk

SEAL

Adam Powers with Wilcox Financial Services joined the meeting and provided information on Coventry's provider network. Extensive discussion held on provider networks, prescription drug benefits, insurance self funding, and effects of the Health Care Reform Act. Mr. Powers advised as to the benefits of the Wellness Partners program which costs \$15.00 per participant. The Board is desirous of offering the same health care coverage to employees as they presently have. Mr. Powers will prepare a quote for health, dental and prescription drug coverage for the board's consideration.



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Attorney Garner advised as to National Insurance Services, which underwrite at least in part one of the county's term life insurance policies, for a business associates agreement relating to HIPPA regulations. Chair executed said agreement.

The exempt property publication was reviewed and Chair executed the same.

A purchase agreement for a 2013 John Deere X320 mower was reviewed and chair executed the same.

Highway Superintendent Phillip Dixon met with the board and discussion was held on armor coat of Rec. Road 44B and a bridge project located 12 miles south of Culbertson. Mr. Dixon advised as to progress in obtaining a responsible charge person for federal aid projects.

The Treasurer was in receipt of \$20.08 from Hughes for Legislature campaign for a voter list and \$131.44 from Mid-American Benefits for claim refund, both credited to the General Fund.

Member Nichols moved to adjourn and to meet for the next regular meeting on Monday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013 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, Nichols, and McDonald. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott McDonald, Chair  
Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

\_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret M. Pollmann, County Clerk