

January 3, 2024

The Keith County Board of Commissioners met for their reorganizational meeting at the Courthouse in Ogallala. Chairman Ervin asked those attending to join in a moment of silence in support of the leaders and troops serving our country, followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Roll call was answered by Chairman Joan Ervin and Commissioners Lane Anderson, Toney Krajewski, Dale Schroeder and Corey Crandall. Ervin acknowledged the Open Meeting Act was posted and the meeting notice had been published. Also attending the meeting were County Clerk Sandra Olson and County Attorney Randy Fair. Anderson moved to approve the agenda, Krajewski seconded the motion. Crandall, Schroeder, Krajewski, Anderson and Ervin voting aye; none voting nay; motion carried. Schroeder moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, Crandall seconded the motion. Anderson, Crandall, Schroeder and Ervin voting aye; Krajewski abstain; none voting nay; motion carried. Crandall moved to approve the payment of claims, Schroeder seconded the motion. Krajewski, Anderson, Schroeder, Crandall and Ervin voting aye; none voting nay; motion carried.

General Fund

Lane Anderson, Mileage, \$65.50; ASAP, Snow removal, \$75.00; Banner Health, Medical, \$1,864.20; Bomgaars, Ice melt, supplies, \$384.22; Cash-Wa, Board for prisoners, \$626.30; Comfort Inn, Lodging, \$119.95; Crowne Plaza, Lodging, \$269.90; DAS State Acctg - Central Finance, Lease, \$844.80; Datashield, Shredding, \$105.36; Davis Design, Assessment, \$1,933.75; Dept CH, Shipping, \$882.67; Draucker Funeral Home, County burial, \$2,250.00; Law Office of Steven E. Elmshaeuser, Services, \$4,787.50; FR Customs LLC, Radio repair, \$102.50; Government Forms and Supplies, Books, paper, \$1,568.30; Amanda Harger, Meals, \$22.13; High Plains Retail Group, Ammo, \$599.70; Holiday Inn, Lodging, \$839.65; Holiday Inn Express, Lodging, \$344.85; Humphreys Auto Supply, Air filter, \$25.99; Keith County Housing Dev. Corp., Housing Study, \$2,000.00; Keith County News, Publishing, \$1,040.67; Kent's Towing, Tow/repair, \$550.00; Gary Krajewski, Services, \$2,176.30; Lindemeier Law, Services, \$218.94; Jamie Moore, Lodging, \$321.00; NACO, Registration fee, meal, \$175.00; NACVSO, Dues, \$50.00; Olson's Pest Control, Pest control, \$95.00; Quality Farm & Ranch, Supplies, \$676.52; "R" Tire & Alignment, Tires, \$689.08; Sterling Commissary, Commissary, \$5.60; T&K Tire, Tire repair, \$658.17; Zelle, Contract, \$1,596.77

Road & Bridge Fund

ATC Communications, Service, \$86.97; Big Springs Equipment, Parts, \$159.69; Consolidated, Service, \$102.30; Hydrotex, Lube, \$468.99; Liberty Operations, Carwash tokens, \$300.00; Newman Signs, Signs, \$3,723.73; R&D Welding, Supplies, \$83.20

Visitors Fund

Bear Graphics, Key chains, bags, \$2,460.23; Keith County Chamber, Contract, etc., \$8,866.70; Keith County News LLC, Meeting notices, \$7.28; Midwest Electric, Service, \$76.82; Miles Partnership, Tourism guide, \$5,000.00; NPPD, Service, \$98.82

Visitors Improvement Fund

Firespring, Web hosting, \$195.00; Keith County Chamber, Contract, grant, \$12,375.00; Move Creative, Lake McConaughy app, \$825.00; Alvin Siffring, Lease agreement, \$300.00; Brian Vasa, Lease agreement, \$650.00

CBSA Health Insurance Claim Fund

KC CBSA/Health Insurance Fund, Health claims, \$32,094.15; Meritain Health, Administration fees, \$44,421.64

Diversion Fund

NSP Foundation, Floor jacks, \$699.90

Emergency Phone 911 Fund

ATC Communications, Data circuits, \$118.14; Consolidated, Address maintenance, \$36.00; Glenwood, Exchange, tower rent, \$459.30

The Board heard the reports of Zoning Administrator Cody Fenwick, Highway Superintendent Thomas Wilbur, Emergency Manager Dave Kling and Building and Grounds Director Chris Marlton.

Fenwick presented the Board with the resolution for the Nuisance Abatement Program that the Board approved on December 6, 2023 for signatures. This resolution will be filed in the Resolution Book as number 2024-1.

Schroeder moved to allow the Dell C2660dn color printer be removed from inventory and disposed as requested by Sheriff Jeff Stevens, Crandall seconded the motion. Krajewski, Anderson, Crandall, Schroeder and Ervin voting aye; none voting nay; motion carried.

Jody Haythorn appeared before the Board and told them that they were proposing another solution for the County Right of Way the county was wanting to vacate. Haythorn told the Board two (2) property owners along this right of way had no interest in making this right of way private. Haythorn said that part of the right of way was paved just a bit beyond these two properties along a section line and they were proposing that right of way along these two (2) properties be public and the rest of the right of way be private. A resolution regarding this proposal will be on next week's agenda.

Ervin stated she would entertain a motion to nominate a Chairman of the Board for 2024. Krajewski moved to nominate Joan Ervin as Chairman of the Board for the year of 2024, Schroeder moved to nominate Lane Anderson. After discussion Schroeder moved to cease nominations, Krajewski seconded the motion. Crandall, Anderson, Krajewski, Schroeder and Ervin voting aye; none voting nay; motion carried. Roll call vote for Chairman of the Board was as follows: Schroeder – Anderson, Crandall – Anderson, Anderson – Anderson, Krajewski – Ervin, and Ervin – Ervin. Anderson will serve as the 2024 Chairperson. Crandall asked it to be noted that he voted the way he did because he believed everyone should have a chance to be the Chairperson.

Crandall moved to nominate for Dale Schroeder Vice Chairman, Ervin seconded the motion. Krajewski, Schroeder, Ervin, Crandall and Anderson voting aye; none voting nay; motion carried.

Krajewski moved to allow the IRS rate of mileage to be paid by the County at \$0.67 effective January 1, 2024 subject to IRS guidelines, Ervin seconded the motion. Schroeder, Crandall, Ervin, Krajewski and Anderson voting aye; none voting nay; motion carried. Ervin moved to set the mileage rate for County Sheriffs serving papers to be \$0.70 effective January 1, 2024 subject to IRS guidelines, Crandall, seconded the motion. Krajewski, Schroeder, Crandall, Ervin and Anderson voting aye; none voting nay; motion carried.

Krajewski moved to continue the policy and allow a maximum of \$2,250.00 for cremation only for county burials, Crandall seconded the motion. Ervin, Schroeder, Crandall, Krajewski and Anderson voting aye; none voting nay; motion carried.

Ervin moved to adopt the following holiday schedule for County employees, Schroeder seconded the motion. Crandall, Krajewski, Schroeder, Ervin and Anderson voting aye; none voting nay; motion carried. All days declared by law or by proclamation of the governor are declared to be holidays. The Courthouse will be closed for the following holidays:

January 15	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 19	President's Day
March 29	Good Friday (Close at noon)
May 27	Memorial Day
June 19	Juneteenth Day
July 4	Independence Day
September 2	Labor Day
October 14	Columbus Day
November 11	Veteran's Day
November 28	Thanksgiving (Close at noon on Nov. 27) Remain closed on Nov. 28 & 29
December 25	Christmas Day (Closed Dec. 24 & 25)
January 1	New Year's Day

Crandall moved to designate the Keith County News as the official newspaper for the County and the County website as an additional method of posting meeting notices, Schroeder seconded the motion. Ervin, Krajewski, Schroeder, Crandall and Anderson voting aye; none voting nay; motion carried.

Crandall moved to retain the following as depositories for County funds subject to paperwork being filed: Adams Bank & Trust, Pinnacle Bank, Sandhills State Bank, Western Nebraska Bank and NPAIT, Krajewski seconded the motion. Schroeder, Ervin, Krajewski, Crandall and Anderson voting aye; none voting nay; motion carried.

Crandall moved to adopt the resolution authorizing Keith County Treasurer Ronda Johnson the authority to deposit the funds of the County in any of the authorized depositories, Schroeder seconded the motion. Ervin, Krajewski, Schroeder, Crandall and Anderson voting aye; none voting nay; motion carried. This resolution will be filed in the Resolution Book as number 2024-2.

Krajewski moved to approve the Board representatives as follows with Ervin replacing Schroeder on the West Central Weed Management Area and EMS added in with the EOC Board liaison, Ervin seconded the motion. Schroeder, Crandall, Ervin, Krajewski and Anderson voting aye; none voting nay; motion carried.

Representative to Area on Aging.....	Dale Schroeder
Alternate Member.....	Toney Krajewski
Chairman Welfare Board.....	Toney Krajewski
Alternate Member.....	Lane Anderson
Region II Human Services.....	Dale Schroeder
Alternate Member.....	Toney Krajewski
Representative to WCNDD Board.....	Lane Anderson
Alternate Member.....	Joan Ervin
Multi-County Health Board.....	Joan Ervin
Alternate Member.....	Corey Crandall
Senior Center Board	
Ogallala and Lemoyne.....	Lane Anderson
Alternate Member.....	Toney Krajewski
EOC/EMS Board Liaison.....	Corey Crandall
Alternate Member.....	Dale Schroeder
County Extension Board Liaison.....	Dale Schroeder
499 & 726 Visitors Board.....	Corey Crandall
Alternate Member.....	Joan Ervin
KCAD Board.....	Corey Crandall
Alternate Member.....	Joan Ervin
Chamber of Commerce Board.....	Joan Ervin
Alternate Member.....	Toney Krajewski
RC&D Board.....	Dale Schroeder
Alternate Member.....	Lane Anderson
West Central Weed Management Area.....	Joan Ervin
Alternate Member.....	Toney Krajewski
Joint Housing Authority.....	Toney Krajewski

Crandall moved to approve the County Committee assignments with the Chairman of these committees as follows, Krajewski seconded the motion. Schroeder, Ervin, Krajewski, Crandall and Anderson voting aye; none voting nay; motion carried.

Physical Plants/Office Space.....	Toney Krajewski
Safety Committee.....	Dave Kling
Road Department.....	Dale Schroeder
Zoning & Planning.....	Joan Ervin
Info/Technology.....	Corey Crandall
Budget.....	All Commissioners
Salaries, Benefits.....	Representative from each office
Board HIPPA Designee.....	Joan Ervin
Courthouse Security.....	Toney Krajewski
Emergency Planning & Training.....	Dale Schroeder

Crandall moved to approve removing Joan Ervin from the Pinnacle Bank signature card for the Clerk's Vendor Account and on the Adams Bank signature card for the Clerk's Payroll Account, Ervin seconded the motion. Krajewski, Schroeder, Ervin, Crandall and Anderson voting aye; none voting nay; motion carried.

Ervin moved to approve adding Chairman Lane Anderson to the Pinnacle Bank signature card for the Clerk's Vendor Account, Schroeder seconded the motion. Krajewski, Crandall, Schroeder, Ervin and Anderson voting aye; none voting nay; motion carried.

Crandall moved to approve adding Chairman Lane Anderson to the Adams Bank signature card for the Clerk's Payroll Account, Krajewski seconded the motion. Schroeder, Krajewski, Crandall, Anderson and Ervin voting aye; none voting nay; motion carried.

Keith County Chamber Tourism Director Shawn Rubek and Lonergan Creek Service Provider for Keith County Chamber Elise Lockhart appeared before the Board. Rubek gave a brief Visitors Committee meeting update and then presented the Board with the Simpleview contract for the website. Rubek told the Board that Simpleview had fixed all issues that County Attorney Randy Fair had with the contract and he was just requesting that the Chairman sign the contract. Ervin moved to authorize Chairman Lane Anderson signing the contract, Crandall seconded the motion. Schroeder, Krajewski, Crandall, Ervin and Anderson voting aye; none voting nay; motion carried. This contract will be filed in the Resolution Book as number 2024-3.

The Board and elected officials discussed the County paying the official's and official's deputies portion of health insurance premiums. Fair told the Board that in some cases employees that were paid hourly were getting close to being paid what some of the official's and deputies make. Fair told the Board that the cost of living that officials received had not been as much as employees. Fair said although the resolution setting officials salaries cannot be changed, the Board could pay the official's and their deputies' portion of health insurance premiums. Official's told the Board that as this was not a large amount it could fit within their budgets. Krajewski moved to pay health insurance premiums for elected official and their deputies beginning January 1, 2024 until the end of their term, Crandall seconded the motion. Schroeder, Ervin, Crandall, Krajewski and Anderson voting aye; none voting nay; motion carried.

Board reports were given and correspondence received. The Board received December's fee reports from the County Clerk's Office and the Clerk of the District Court's Office.

With no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned. The Board will meet again Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. at the Courthouse in Ogallala.

Lane Anderson

Chairman

Sandra K. Olson

County Clerk

Agenda: Kept current in the office of the County Clerk. *Time of specific agenda items will run continuously thru the meeting and may occur earlier or later than estimated.

New Business

8:30 a.m. – Davis Design – Justice Center.

9:00 a.m. – Highway Superintendent Thomas Wilbur – Gravel bids.

9:15 a.m. – Resolution for County Right of Way vacation.

9:30 a.m. – WCNDD Executive Director Amber Kuskie – Nuisance abatement.

Travel resolution.