

MCPHERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS and
BOARD OF EQUALIZATION ANNUAL REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
PROCEEDINGS
JANUARY 10, 2024

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners and Board of Equalization met as per adjournment of December 11, 2023, for the annual Reorganizational meeting and regular monthly meeting. Notice of meeting having been published in the Stapleton Enterprise, issue dated January 4, 2023. Chairman Arensdorf called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Board members Jeffrey Arensdorf, Brett Nason and John Bryant were present. Also present were the Highway Superintendent Tom Werblow, County Attorney Whitney Schroeder, County Sheriff Tom Burch, and County Clerk Kathy Hoberg. Road employee Ed Black was also present. The Chairman noted the Public Meetings Law which is posted on the North wall of the meeting room. Bryant moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting as presented. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant, Nason and Arensdorf. Voting Nay: None. Nason made a motion to appoint John Bryant as McPherson County Board Chairman and Jeff Arensdorf as Vice-Chairman for 2024. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. Nason made a motion to approve the following claims as presented. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

| GENERAL | | AMOUNT |
|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Payroll | Wages | 26,776.38 |
| Ameritas | Retirement | 1551.91 |
| Applied Connective | IT Consultant | 798.60 |
| Blue Cross Blue Shield | Health Insurance | 7676.16 |
| John Bryant | Mileage | 163.75 |
| Richard Cook | Mileage/Convention | 81.44 |
| Custer Public Power | Lights/Electricity | 633.36 |
| Judy Dailey | Retirement | 48.00 |
| DAS St. Accounting | Computer Expense | 172.00 |
| D12 Industries | Tower Inspection | 1050.00 |
| Eakes Office Plus | Office Supplies | 207.74 |
| Great Plains | | 531.85 |
| Communication | Telephone/Internet | |
| Great Plains | | 57.96 |
| Communication | Emergency Mngmt | |
| Katherine Hoberg | Mileage | 52.4 |
| Ideal Linen | Supplies | 132.84 |
| IRS | SS/Medicare | 1,998.04 |
| Kerri Kramer | Mileage | 176.85 |
| LaQuinta Inns & Suites | Convention | 719.70 |
| Chelsey McNutt | Park Supplies | 36.42 |
| Menards | Supplies | 33.98 |
| MIPS | Data Processing/Computer | 1,085.78 |
| Brett Nason | Mileage | 231.87 |
| Neal Oil & Auto | Fuel/Supplies | 638.00 |
| Whitney Schroeder | Child Suppt. Enforce | 125.00 |
| Stapleton Enterprise | Printing/Publishing | 216.56 |
| US Bank | Office/Janitor Supplies | 356.74 |
| Viaero | Sheriff Phone | 83.09 |
| Village of Stapleton | Trash Disposal | 3,000.00 |
| ROAD | | AMOUNT |
| Payroll | Wages | 11,045.00 |
| Ameritas | Retirement | 678.04 |
| Blue Cross Blue Shield | Health Insurance | 2549.22 |
| Croell Inc. | Gravel | 17,763.99 |
| Great Plains Comm | Phone/Internet | 106.97 |
| Highmark Electric | Shop Lights | 2,346.54 |
| Inland Truck Parts Co. | Equipment Repairs | 2,090.80 |
| IRS | County Share SS/Med | 842.57 |

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|----------|
| JM Parts & Equipment McPherson Co. | Supplies | 82.39 |
| Inheritance | Reimbursement Payments | 2,076.35 |
| Neal Oil & Auto | Fuel/Supplies | 5,109.55 |
| Powerplan | Machinery & Equipment | 526.43 |
| TC Engineering | Highway Supt | 750.00 |
| Titan Machinery | Equipment | 113.29 |
| Troyer Enterprises | Supplies | 67.12 |
| FAIR | | |
| Ideal Linen | Supplies | 38.61 |
| SENIOR MEAL PROGRAM | | |
| Prairie Hills Café | Senior Meals | 2,840.00 |

Nason made a motion to appoint Rich Cook as **McPherson County Weed Superintendent** for 2024, continuing with the current wage of \$14.00 per hour. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

At 9:30 AM, Ryan Dickinson of Dickinson Land Surveyors, Ogallala Nebraska, was present and addressed the board concerning the position of County Surveyor. Bonnie Edwards of North Platte has retired and recommended Dickinson Land Surveyors. After speaking with Mr. Dickinson and reviewing his information packet, Nason moved to approve and adopt **RESOLUTION # 2024-1** Appointing Dickinson Land Surveyors of Ogallala, NE, to the position of **McPherson County Surveyor** for 2024. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Ed Black addressed the board about the need for a new dump truck. The 1998 Freightliner has been deemed beyond repair. Nason moved to declare the **1998 Freightliner Dump Truck**, surplus property, to be sold on Big Iron. Included in the motion are 4 V-Plows which are no longer in use. The plows will also be declared surplus property and sold on Big Iron. Arensdorf seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Nason Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Arensdorf made a motion to advertise for sealed bids and purchase a new dump truck. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. The commissioners will send the specs to Tom Werblow, who will compose a request for bids to be published. The county will look at applying for grants for the purchase.

The 2023 schedule for Road Overseer was set as follows:

Jan-Feb-March – Jeff Arensdorf **April- May- June** – John Bryant **July-Aug-Sept** – Brett Nason **Oct-Nov- Dec** – Jeff Arensdorf. Motion made by Nason, seconded by Arensdorf. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason made a motion to adopt and approve **RESOLUTION #2024-2**, McPherson County Road and Labor Prices for the year 2024, adding a cost-of-living increase of 2% for Road Employees with 2 or more Years' experience and no change for Prices Set to Charge. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

RESOLUTION #2024-2

MCPHERSON COUNTY ROAD AND LABOR PRICES FOR THE YEAR 2024

PRICES SET TO PAY...WITH BOARD APPROVAL

COUNTY EMPLOYEE
PERSON, SINGLE HANDED\$18.00 PER HOUR
TRACTOR OR BLADE OPERATOR\$18.00 PER HOUR
PERSON, SINGLE HANDED
(TWO YEARS' COUNTY EMPLOYMENT)\$20.90 PER HOUR
TRACTOR OR BLADE OPERATOR
(TWO YEARS' COUNTY EMPLOYMENT)\$20.90 PER HOUR
FARM TRACTOR AND IMPLEMENT WITH
OPERATOR.....\$90.00 PER HOUR
FARM TRACTOR WITH OPERATOR
(100 H.P. OR MORE FOR SNOW REMOVAL\$110.00 PER HOUR

PRICES SET TO CHARGE.... WITH PRIOR BOARD APPROVAL...MINIMUM OF ONE HOUR

PATROL WITH OPERATOR.....\$200.00 PER HOUR
WHEEL LOADER WITH OPERATOR.....\$200.00 PER HOUR
JOHN DEERE TRACTOR WITH OPERATOR.....\$120.00 PER HOUR

(WITH THE EXCEPTION THAT IF HIRED FOR ANY GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIZED PROJECT, THE PRICE WOULD HAVE TO BE NEGOTIATED BEFORE STARTED.)

Motion made by Arensdorf and seconded by Nason to adopt and approve **Resolution #2024-3** appointing Tom Werblow as **McPherson County Highway Superintendent**, with a total salary of \$9000.00, for the year 2024. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason made a motion to set the **One-and- Six Year Road Plan Hearing** for 10:00 AM on Wednesday, February 14, 2024. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. Bryant moved to approve the January Road Plan as presented by Arensdorf. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant, Nason and Arensdorf. Voting Nay: None.

Nason moved to appoint Tom Werblow, Ed Black, and John Bryant to the Safety Committee for 2024, with John Bryant Chairman. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf, and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Motion made by Nason seconded by Arensdorf to adopt and approve **Resolution #2024-4** designating the following **Depositories for McPherson County** in 2024. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. Adams Bank & Trust, First National Bank, Nebraskaland National Bank, Western Nebraska Bank of North Platte, Community First Bank of Stapleton, The Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust of Lincoln, Union Bank & Trust, Lincoln, NE, Hershey State Bank and Pinnacle Bank.

Arensdorf moved to approve and adopt **Resolution #2024-5** giving the McPherson County Treasurer the **Authority to Invest Funds** for the year 2024. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Arensdorf moved to adopt and approve **Resolution #2024-6** appointing Whitney Schroeder as the **McPherson County Attorney** for the year 2024. The hourly wage being increased to \$12.00 per hour for 100 hours per pay period, plus expenses, with the same insurance benefits which are offered to all full-time McPherson County Employees. Seconded by Nason. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason moved to approve, in one motion, the following appointments. Arensdorf seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None:

John Bryant and Alternate Brett Nason to the **911 Advisory Board** for 2024.

John Bryant as Representative to the **Lexington Area Solid Waste Management Board** for 2024. Jeff Arensdorf as alternate.

Brett Nason as Representative to the **West Central Area Aging Board, Region II Developmental Disabilities Board, and Region II Behavioral Health Board** for 2024.

Jeff Arensdorf as Representative to the **West Central Development District Board** for 2024. John Bryant alternate.

Nason moved to approve in one motion, pending their approval, the following appointments.

Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None:

Scott Hoberg, Luke Connell, and Matt Burch to the **Planning Commission** for a 3-year term to expire in 2027.

Jeff Arensdorf and Sheila Neal as Member and County Member to the **Sandhills RC&D Board** for 2024.

Jeff Arensdorf as Representative and Lana Watson as Alternate to the **West Central District Health Department Board** for 2024.

Tabled until the February Commissioner's meeting were the matters of replacing Randy Fisher on the **Board of Adjustments**, 3-Year term to expire in 2026, and replacing Lindsey Bernal on the **Fair Board**, 3-Year term to expire in 2027.

The following appointments were approved in one motion made by Arensdorf and seconded by Nason. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

County Physician- West Central District Health Department in compliance with §71-1626.

Official Means of Publication – The Stapleton Enterprise and www.mcphersoncounty.ne.gov

Collateral Receipts-yes

Burial Fees-\$1500.00

Meeting Dates and Time for 2024- 2nd Wednesday of each month at 9:00 AM

Miller Park Caretaker-Chelsey McNutt at \$1150.00 per year.

McPherson County Emergency Manager- Tom Burch at \$1600.00 per year.

McPherson County Zoning Administrator- Kathy Hoberg at \$1800.00 per year.

Courthouse Custodian – Chris Burch, increasing the wage to \$13.00 per hour for 100 hours per pay period. There are no insurance benefits offered with this position.

McPherson County Board of Equalization Chairman and Vice-Chairman for 2024 – Jeff Arensdorf, Chairman. John Bryant, Vice-Chairman.

The commissioners reviewed and signed the Quarterly Fee Reports from the County Sheriff and the County Clerk.

The commissioners reviewed and approved the 2024 Nirma Insurance Schedule for McPherson County. The 1998 Freightliner Dump Truck will be removed from the policy.

The commissioners reviewed Fund Balance reports from the Treasurer.

After review, Nason made a motion to approve and sign a **Memorandum of Understanding Between the Nebraska Department of Veteran's Affairs and McPherson County**. Arensdorf seconded.

Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 AM. The board will meet again for their next regular monthly meeting on February 14, 2024.

Katherine E. Hoberg
McPherson County Clerk

John E. Bryant
McPherson County Board Chairman

Publish: January 18, 2024