

## COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

January 22, 2024

The Pierce County Board of Commissioners met pursuant to adjournment on Monday, January 22, 2024, at 9:10 A.M. with the following members present: Tom Kuether, Brad Albers and Carl Martinson. Co. Clerk Shannon Wragge, Co. Attorney Ted Lohrberg, Clerk of District Court Vickie Prince, Co. Assessor Jean Lubke, Michelle Reikofski, Michelle Cederburg and News Reporter Randee Falter were present.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance as shown by the Certificate of Publication on file in the County Clerk's office. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice of the meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public. Chairman Kuether called the meeting to order at 9:10 A.M. and presided. Chairman Kuether stated that the Open Meetings Act is posted on the north wall of the board room with more copies available at the County Clerk's office.

Motion by Martinson, seconded by Albers, to approve the agenda. Roll call vote: Aye: Kuether, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

The minutes of January 8, 2024 were approved as printed.

Extension Agent Ann Fenton was present to update the Co. Board and present the 2023 Annual Report and asked for the approval for the appointment of Mary Kruger (2<sup>nd</sup> term) and Melinda Stelling (1<sup>st</sup> Term) to the extension board for a 3-year term.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Martinson, to approve the 2023 Annual Report as presented from the County Extension Office and to appoint Mary Kruger (2<sup>nd</sup> term) and Melinda Stelling (1<sup>st</sup> Term) to the Pierce County Extension Board for a 3-year term, January 2024 to January 2027. Roll call vote: Aye: Kuether, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Martinson, to Authorize & Approve Chairman to sign Pay Application #3 for \$19,475.00 for the McLean South-JEO Project 211865 with Theisen Construction Inc. Roll call vote: Aye: Kuether, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Martinson, to Approve Underground Crossing of a County Road for Lumen, Omaha, NE, with a 1" fiber optic line on roads around McLean in Section 19, Township 28 North, Range 3 West (867 Rd, 553 Ave and 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave going west of McLean), Pierce County, NE. Roll call vote: Aye: Kuether, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Martinson, to amend the motion made on January 8, 2024 to approve the proposal letter with Cruise & Associates, Norfolk, NE, to complete the 22/23 fiscal year audit as Cruise and Associates is now unable to fulfill the proposal. Roll call vote: Aye: Kuether, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Martinson, to approve the proposal agreement letter with GBE CPA, Seward, NE, to complete the 22/23 (\$36,500+\$8,000), 23/24 (\$28,500+\$6,000) & 24/25 (\$30,000+\$6,000) Fiscal Year regular+single audits with a 3-Year Agreement. Roll call vote: Aye: Kuether, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Extension Educator Ann Fenton was present with Extension Educator Julie Schultz to introduce her to the County Board since she is now working out of the Pierce Extension office.

Madison County Hwy Supt. Dick Johnson was present to visit with the County Board on the funding for the RAISE (Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability & Equity) Grant the City of Norfolk and Madison County will be pursuing and wanting Pierce County Board to form a partnership with them to build up roads and infrastructure in Madison and Pierce County. No decision was made until an interlocal is available and cost share amount is known for each subdivision.

Michelle Cederburg was present to ask the protocol with opening of roads as her road had only been opened one time on Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, but has since closed back up and they were paying a farmer to open up the mile they live on so they can get out. Board asked her to be patient and the roadworkers were going to go to District 2 area to help open and widen as drifts were so large.

Hwy Supt. Brian McDonald was present and discussion was held on the County Bridge Match Reimbursement Program and current road and bridge projects.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Martinson, to approve the Agreement with NE Dept of Roads on the completion of the construction of Project No. STWD-CBMP (6) for the County Bridge Match Program and Resolution #2024-2 as follows:

### RESOLUTION #2024 - 2

WHEREAS, Pierce County and State entered into an agreement entitled "County Bridge Matching Program Agreement", for Structure Number C007001905 (the Project), Program Agreement Number BL2215 signed by State on the 11th day of April, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Pierce County has now completed the construction of the Project that was identified in the Program Agreement; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution is to formally notify State of the proper completion of the Project according to the terms of the Program Agreement.

Be It Resolved: by the Board of Commissioners of Pierce County:

(1) The Project, for Structure No. C007001905, has been properly constructed by County and its contractor, in accordance with the terms of the Program Agreement.

(2) The bridge was constructed in strict compliance with

(a) the plans and specifications including any State-approved change orders,

(b) all applicable design standards, and

(c) the conditions and requirements of the Program Agreement.

(3) County understands that it is the owner of the bridge, and that it is solely responsible for the design, inspection, construction, reconstruction, repair, and operation of the bridge and roadway and is responsible for meeting any environmental or other post-construction permit or legal commitments applicable to the project

(4) The project costs were fair, reasonable and necessary for the proper construction of the project.

NDOT Project Number: STWD-CBMP(6)

NDOT Control Number: 00974E

NDOT LPA Control Number: 00974E(p)

NDOT Project Name: County Bridge Match Program

PASSED AND APPROVED this 22<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2024

/s/ Tom Kuether, Chairman

/s/ Brad Albers, District #2 Commissioner

/s/ Carl Martinson, District #3 Commissioner

ATTEST: /s/ Shannon Wragge, Pierce County Clerk

Whereas the original for said resolution is on file at the office of the Pierce County Clerk and available for inspection. Roll call vote: Aye: Kuether, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Martinson, to Authorize & Approve Chairman to sign Change Order #1 (add \$3,561.50 to adjust quantities), Pay Application #7 for \$97,913.87 and the Certificate of Substantial Completion for the Osmond South-JEO Project 211903 with Dixon Construction Co. Roll call vote: Aye: Kuether, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the 1992 courthouse phone system that needs updated due to age and not able to get replacement parts. The Board approved Clerk Wragge to ask for ideas/quotes from Pierce Telephone Co. to upgrade system.

Quarterly Courthouse and Jail Inspection was tabled.

Discussion was held on the Time and Attendance Software Program with MIPS. No decision was made.

Discussion was held on contracts and costs for the hiring of individuals and businesses to open up roads due to snow. County Board unanimously agreed to pay a maximum of \$250 per hour for contract labor.

Motion by Martinson, seconded by Albers, to approve the fee reports as submitted by Co. Sheriff Rick Eberhardt for November and December 2023; Vickie Prince, Clerk of District Court and Shannon Wragge, County Clerk for December 2023; approve Treasurer's receipt's for various funds for Christine Bahr, County Treasurer, for December 2023 and placed on file in the County Clerk's office, total \$239,610.77 and to audit and allow the following claims presented for payment and instructed the County Clerk to issue checks for payment of same on the various funds. Roll call vote: Aye: Kuether, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

**GENERAL FUND:** Mark Albin-court appointed attorney-\$410.83; Antelope County Sheriff-paper service-\$126.69; Donald Blecha-prior service-\$45.00; BCBS-health premiums-\$52,612.31; Charm-Tex-supplies-\$82.18; Classic Rentals-service-\$284.28; Cornhusker State Industries-supplies-\$1,934.00; Eakes Office Solutions-supplies-\$38.66; FP Finance Program-meter rent-\$193.96; Harold Hansen-prior service-\$23.08; Intoximeters-supplies-\$1,430.50; Johnson Repair-repairs-\$85.00; Kate M. Jorgensen PC LLO-public defender-\$4,583.33; Lifeguard MD Inc-supplies-\$388.00; Lorenz Automotive-supplies-\$67.91; Verlyn Luebbe-prior service-\$46.16; Madison County Sheriff-prisoner boarding-\$1,550.00; Gwendolyn Mattson-prior service-\$57.70; Microfilm Imaging Systems-scanning services-\$46.00; Midwest Bank-co share-\$4,828.07; NACEB NE Assn of Co Extension Boards-registration-\$40.00; NE Health & Human Services-housing-\$93.00; NE Law Enforcement Training Center-reinstatement fee for continuing education for Sheriff-\$100.00; One Office Solutions-office supplies and copies-\$4,052.45; Osmond Mini Mart-gas-\$179.57; Pierce Automotive Supply-supplies-\$119.49; Pierce County Leader-ads-\$200.76; Quill-office supplies-\$294.07; Region IV Inc-quarterly costs-\$2,340.25; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas Life Ins. Corp-co. share-\$4,197.96; Robert Seegebarth-prior service-\$33.00; Carol Sokol-prior service-\$92.32; State of NE Central Finance-computer service-\$63.75; Tiger Town Food Center-prisoner food-\$580.68; Tom's Service-gas & repairs-\$1,078.78; Verizon Wireless-service-\$424.84; VISA-jail supplies-\$462.14; Western Oil-gas-\$314.70; Julie Wingert-prior service-\$11.54; Payroll-\$64,955.57.

**COUNTY HIGHWAY FUND:** AKRS-repair parts-\$326.95; Appera-service-\$98.12; Backus Sand & Gravel-gravel-\$7,451.54; Bloomfield Medical Clinic PC-physical-\$150.00; Carlson Home & Auto-propane-\$1,221.06; Classic Carpet Care-service-\$169.26; Farmer Pride-diesel-\$5,218.96; Fastwyre-service-\$111.42; Flesner Electric LLC-repairs-\$895.16; Lazy T Tire & Implement-repairs-\$171.50; Leiting Auto Supply-repair parts-\$233.09; Lorenz Automotive-repair parts-\$924.89; McLean Village-utilities-\$75.15; Meisinger Oil Co-diesel-\$1,001.23; Midwest Bank, NA-co share-\$2,488.84; Mitch's Food Center-supplies-\$10.49; N&B Gas Co-propane-\$539.15; NE Machinery Co-repairs & parts-\$4,623.08; NC PPD-utilities-\$232.68; Osmond Mini Mart-gas-\$442.45; Randolph Farm Supply-repairs & parts-\$5,599.03; RDO Truck Centers-repairs parts-\$121.59; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas Life Ins. Corp-co. share-\$2,104.65; Safety Kleen-repair parts-\$267.21; Sapp Bros Inc-supplies-\$640.95; Steinkraus Service-gas-\$410.65; Tom's Service-gas-\$1,431.44; Wattier's True Value-supplies-\$185.36; Western Oil-gas-\$293.66; Payroll-\$34,027.92.

**PIERCE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND:** BCBS-health premium-\$2,186.80; Midwest Bank, NA-co share-\$125.87; NE NE News Co-ads-\$563.84; Pierce County Leader-ads-\$8.50; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas Life Ins. Corp-co. share-\$121.19; Payroll-\$1,795.37.

**REGISTER OF DEEDS FUND:** State of NE Central Finance-computer service-\$150.00.

**911 FUND:** GEOComm Inc-licensing fee & support-\$4,119.50.

**E911 WIRELESS FUND:** Norfolk City-service-\$298.24; Plainview Telephone Co-service-\$151.00.

**HIGHWAY BOND FUND:** Dixon Construction Co-Pay App 7 for Osmond South Project-\$97,913.87; Theisen Construction Inc-Pay App 3 for McLean South Project-\$19,475.00.

Sheriff Rick Eberhardt and Office Manager Alicia Stortz were present to discuss the Time and Attendance Software Program with MIPS and what it entails. No decision was made.

There being no further business, Chairman Kuether adjourned the meeting at 10:46 A.M. and will meet again at a regular meeting on Monday, February 5, 2024 at 9:10 A.M. as County Board of Commissioners, said meeting is open to the public. An agenda for such meeting, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection at the office of the County Clerk.

/s/ Tom Kuether  
Chairman, Pierce County  
Board of Commissioners

/s/ Shannon Wragge  
Pierce County Clerk

I, Shannon Wragge, Pierce County Clerk, do hereby certify that all the subjects contained in the foregoing proceedings are contained in the agenda for the meeting kept continuously current and available for public inspection at my office; that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least 24 hours prior to the meeting; that the minutes of said meeting were in written form and available for public inspection within 10 working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body; that any news media requesting notification concerning said meetings or said County Board were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meetings and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

/s/ Shannon Wragge  
Pierce County Clerk

\*\*\*\*\*