

## COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

July 24, 2023

The Pierce County Board of Commissioners met pursuant to adjournment on Monday, July 24, 2023, at 9:10 A.M. with the following members present: Tom Kuether, Brad Albers and Carl Martinson. Co. Clerk Shannon Wragge, Hwy Supt. Brian McDonald, Zoning Adm. Heather McWhorter, Co. Attorney Ted Lohrberg, Co. Treasurer Christine Bahr, Clerk of District Court Vickie Prince, Ben Fuller, Randy Wolken, Jean Retzlaff 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 Albers, seconded by Martinson, to approve the agenda. Roll call vote: Aye: Kuether, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

The minutes of July 10, 2023 were approved as printed.

Co. Treasurer Christine Bahr was present and discussion was held on the Distress Warrant Report to be submitted by County Sheriff to County Treasurer by August 1. The Distress Warrants were submitted to Treasurer by the Sheriff.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Martinson, to approve the Distress Warrant Report as being submitted in a timely manner. Roll call vote: Aye: Kuether, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Ben Fuller with Summit Carbon Solutions was present to give the Board an update of the carbon pipeline coming into Pierce County. The approval of the 41 undercrossings and 82 driveway permits were tabled until a later date.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Martinson, to recommend approval to the NE Liquor Control Commission for the request of a special designated liquor license for Keystone Bar, Plainview, for a event on Saturday, August 12, 2023, from 3:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. at the Pierce County Fairgrounds Pavilion. Roll call vote: Aye: Kuether, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Martinson, to approve the 2023 Inventories for all county offices and the road departments as submitted. Roll call vote: Aye: Kuether, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Hwy Supt. Brian McDonald was present and discussion was held on the 1 & 6 Year Road Project for 23/24 FY, Bloomfield Rd, Pierce-Neligh Rd Project, Willard Bridge and other problem roads and bridges that need attention.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Martinson, to authorize Clerk to advertise for microsurfacing repair of the Bloomfield Rd. Roll call vote: Aye: Kuether, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on farmers planting within the county right-of-way and trees hanging over the county roadways.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Martinson, 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-\$180.50; Donald Blecha-prior service-\$45.00; BC/BS of NE-health insurance-\$47,167.75; CVSOAN-registration-\$60.00; Dollar General-supplies-\$53.60; Egley, Fullner, Montag, Morland, Easland-court appt attorney-\$870.38; Elite Office Products-supplies-\$20.46; Expressions Floral & Gift Shoppe-supplies-\$37.28; Farm & Home Publishers-supplies-\$420.00; FP Finance-meter rent-\$154.09; Graham Tire Norfolk-tires-\$552.00; Jack's Uniforms-supplies-\$472.70; Kate Jorgensen-public defender-\$4,166.67; Madison Co Clerk-zoning cost share for 2022/2023 FY-\$59,978.56; Midwest Bank-co share-\$4,617.32; NE NE Health & Human services-boarding-\$180.00; Norfolk Transmission-repairs-\$374.55; One Office Solution-supplies-\$31.05; Osmond Mini Mart-gas-\$228.04; Pierce Pharmacy-prisoner medical-\$99.93; Physicians Laboratory-autopsy-\$200.00; Pierce County Leader-publishing-\$245.46; Pierce County Treasurer-interest-\$249.15; City of Pierce-utilities-\$2,376.99; PIP Marketing Signs Print-supplies-\$316.02; Prime Stop-gas-\$222.02; Quill-office supplies-\$76.16; Region IV-services-\$2,340.25; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas Life Ins. Corp-co. share-\$4,083.30; Robert Seegebarth-prior service-\$33.00; State of NE-computer service-\$58.88; Terminix-services-\$96.16; Tiger Town-prisoner food-\$1,436.05; Tom's Service-gas & repairs-\$1,130.18; Verizon Wireless-service-\$426.05; VISA-supplies-\$245.00; Western Oil Inc-gas-\$247.81; Payroll-\$62,359.27 - As per statute SS 23-122: 3 County Commissioners-\$3,250.00/Mo.; 4 County Officials-\$5,416.64/Mo.; 3 County Deputies-\$4,062.50/Mo.; 1 County Deputy-\$3,629.17/Mo.; 1 County Official-\$6,366.67/Mo.; 1 County Official-\$5,933.33/Mo.; 1 Sheriff's Deputy-\$28.43/Hr.; 1 Sheriff's Deputy-\$26.68/Hr.; 1 Sheriff's Deputy-\$25.25/Hr.; 1 Sheriff's Deputy-\$24.25/Hr.; 1 Veteran's Service Officer-\$18.00/hr; 1 FT Custodian-\$18.25/hr; 1 PT Custodian-\$18.00/hr; 1 PT Custodian-\$16.30/hr; 1 FT Clerical-\$21.00/hr; 1 FT Clerical-\$19.50/hr; 2 FT Clerical-\$18.00/hr; 2 FT Clerical-\$17.00/hr; 1 FT Clerical-\$15.50/hr; 1 FT Clerical-\$14.50/hr; 1 PT Clerical-\$20.00/hr; 1 PT Clerical-\$16.00/hr; 2 PT Clerical-\$10.75/hr; 1 FT Dispatcher-\$21.00/hr; 1 FT Dispatcher-\$19.25/hr; 1 FT Dispatcher-\$18.00/hr; 1 FT Dispatcher-\$17.00/hr; 1 PT Dispatcher-\$20.50/hr; 1 PT Dispatcher-\$20.00/hr.

**COUNTY HIGHWAY FUND:** B's Enterprises Inc-signs -\$5,880.00; Backus Sand & Gravel-gravel-\$15,221.97; Bazille Aggregate Co LLC-gravel-\$1,776.79; Black Hills Energy-utilities-\$42.15; Bloomfield Medical Clinic-personnel medical-\$150.00; Fastwyre-telephone-\$107.01; Jerry's Hilltop-gas-\$55.00; Kelly Supply Co-supplies-\$46.71; Lawson Products-supplies-\$51.45; Manzer Equipment-repair parts-\$145.21; McLean-utilities-\$71.55; Midwest Bank, NA-co share-\$2,303.82; Osmond Mini Mart-gas-\$575.41; Pierce Automotive Supply-repairs-\$473.44; City of Pierce-utilities-\$163.05; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas Life Ins. Corp-co. share-\$2,005.41; Rollin' Coal Trucking-service-\$934.40; Steinkraus Service-gas-\$506.70; Theisen Construction-bridge repair-\$14,000.00; Tom's Service-gas & repairs-\$1,658.86; Wattier True Value Hardware-supplies-\$37.50; Western Oil-gasoline-\$143.74; Payroll-\$31,188.75 - As per statute SS 23-122: 1 PT Co. Hwy. Supt.-\$100.00/Mo.; 1 FT Mechanic-\$28.00/hr; 7 FT Road Workers-\$23.00/hr; 2 FT Road Worker-\$22.00/hr; 1 FT Road Worker-\$21.00/hr; 4 FT Road Workers-\$19.50/hr; 1 PT Road Worker-\$16.00/hr; 1 Weed Sprayer-\$19.00/hr; 1 Weed Sprayer-\$15.00/hr; 1 Bridge Inspector-\$125.00/bridge.

**PIERCE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND:** BC/BS of NE-health insurance-\$2,186.80; Midwest Bank, NA-co share-\$1,121.3; Pierce Co Leader-ads-\$8.16; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas Life Ins. Corp-co. share-\$109.07; Payroll-\$1,615.83 - As per statute SS 23-122: 1 FT director-\$3,776.67/Mo.

**INHERITANCE FUND:** North Central District Health Dept-Miles of Smiles donation-\$3,220.00.

**911 SERVICES FUND:** Plainview Telephone-service-\$63.42.

**911 WIRELESS FUND:** Plainview Telephone-service-\$147.98.

**COURTHOUSE & JAIL SINKING FUND:** Jenkins Electric-repairs on lighting-\$13,061.60.

Discussion was held on the approval of the resolution and employment agreements allowing county board members to receive an hourly rate for roadwork for fiscal year 2023/2024.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Martinson, to approve Resolution #2023-14 as follows:

**RESOLUTION #2023-14**

WHEREAS, the Nebraska legislature has enacted and the Governor has signed legislation relative to the interest of County officers in public contracts, and

WHEREAS, members of the County Board of Commissioners on occasion engage in work for the County beyond their duties and responsibilities as County Commissioners for which they will receive a direct pecuniary fee or commission as a result of such work, and

WHEREAS, members of the Pierce County Board of Commissioners wish to enter into a contract with Pierce County to provide such services for the 2023/2024 fiscal year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Pierce County, Nebraska, that:

1. Any board member may enter into a contract with Pierce County during the 2023/2024 fiscal year for the furnishing of services beyond the statutory responsibilities and duties as County Commissioner.
2. Such commissioner entering into such agreement shall comply with the statutes relating to interest in public contracts, Section 49-14, 103.01, et seq.

**PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

/s/ Tom Kuether, District #1 Commissioner

/s/ Brad Albers, District #2 Commissioner

/s/ Carl Martinson, District #3 Commissioner

ATTEST: /s/ Shannon Wragge, Pierce County Clerk

Motion by Albers, seconded by Martinson, to approve the 2023/2024 employment contract between Pierce County and Tom Kuether, Brad Albers and Carl Martinson, allowing County Board member to receive an hourly rate of \$17.00 an hour, not to exceed \$17.00 for roadwork. Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2023 and whereas the original 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.

Work was done on the 23/24 fiscal year budget.

There being no further business, Chairman Kuether adjourned the meeting at 10:35 A.M. and will meet again at a regular meeting on Monday, August 7, 2023 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

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