



Brown County Board Minutes



(ALL MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING)

December 21, 2021

The Brown County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, December 21, 2021, at 5:15 P.M., in the Brown County Courthouse meeting room with members Chairman Buddy Small, Reagan Wiebelhaus and Dennis Bauer present. Also present were Brown County Clerk (BCC) Travis Hobbs, Brown County Attorney (BCA) Andy Taylor, Brown County Treasurer (BCT) Deb Vonheeder and Brown County Highway Superintendent (BCHS) Kenneth Turpin.

Chairman Small acknowledged the Open Meeting Act posted near the entrance to the Meeting Room.

Those in attendance rose and stated the Pledge of Allegiance.

Small moved to approve minutes from the December 7, 2021 Commissioner meeting as written and officially recorded in Commissioner Book 22. Bauer seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried.

Kevin Petross, Miller & Associates Consulting Engineers, P.C. associate, presented the Board with a recommendation of one of two bids received for the 2022 Meadville Road Overlay – Brown County, Nebraska Project No. 179-P4-010. Western Engineering Company Inc., Harlan, Iowa, submitted a bid of \$2,550,520.00 and Werner Construction, Inc., with a bid of \$2,711,250.50. Miller & Associates recommended to accept the bid submitted by Western Engineering Company Inc.

Bauer moved to accept the bid of \$2,550,520.00 from Western Engineering Company Inc., Harlan, Iowa, according to the specifications presented. Small seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried.

BCHS Turpin gave a Road Department report.

BCT Deb Vonheeder informed the Board that the payment expected from The Nature Conservancy of \$140,000.00 was received and deposited in the Inheritance Tax fund.

Brown County Emergency Manager Traci Ganser and BCHS Turpin updated the Board on the GIS tab/Orion systems.

Ganser stated that she was able to use hazard mitigation funding to pay for Orion Management Software. This system would provide the emergency management and road department the tools needed to map operations and disaster management.

Jason Vaisvilas with KBR Rural Public Power requested an underground utility easement down Ponderosa Road.

Wiebelhaus moved to approve the right of way easement as presented. Bauer seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried.

The Board discussed bids for the County Assessor and County Attorneys offices.

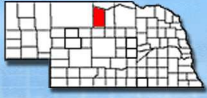
The Board opened a single bid presented by Greg's Heating and Air, Bassett, Nebraska of \$4,917.00 for the County Attorney's office and \$13,324.00 for the County Assessor's Office with a total cost of \$18,241.00.

Wiebelhaus moved to accept the total bid of \$18,241.00 as submitted by Greg's Heating and Air, Bassett, Nebraska and authorize Chairman Small to sign. Bauer seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried.

BCA Taylor discussed the Lawn Care Contract between Brown County and Paulson Lawn Care Services. No change to the contract from last year. The current contract runs out on December 31, 2021.

Bauer moved to approve Resolution #2021-64 contract as presented with Paulson's Lawn Services and authorize Chairman Small to sign. Wiebelhaus seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried.

The Board discussed setting salaries for the January 2023 – January 2027 official terms.



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Small moved the following: Brown County Assessor & Brown County Treasurer \$60,000.00, Brown County Clerk \$63,000.00, Brown County Sheriff \$69,100.00, Brown County Attorney \$87,100.00 with an annual \$1500.00 raise for the years 2024, 2025 and 2026, Brown County Commissioners \$30,000.00 with an annual \$750.00 raise for the years 2024, 2025 & 2026. Bauer seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried.

BCA Taylor and Graig Kinzie discussed the Resolution regarding grant funding for community fishing pond project.

Wiebelhaus moved to approve Resolution #2021- 65 regarding Brown County requesting, holding and distributing grant funds from the Brown County Community Foundation Fund associated with the Community Fishing Pond Project. Bauer seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried.

BCC Hobbs presented the Board with a sign permit renewal for a sign, Permit #802002437NB, KBR Solid Waste, land located on the North side of Highway 20 East of Ainsworth, Land owned by Nebraska Public Power District.

Bauer moved to approve the Sign Permit #802002437NB and authorize Chairman Small to sign. Wiebelhaus seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried.

Small discussed the 2022 Automated Clearing House (ACH) document submitted by Homestead Bank. The ACH is a yearly document relating to direct deposits.

Wiebelhaus moved approve the 2022 ACH submitted by Homestead Bank and authorize Chairman Small to sign. Bauer seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried.

Wiebelhaus moved to approve the claims as presented. Bauer seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried.

Public comments were heard.

Bauer moved to enter closed session to discuss legal consequences of the County grievance procedure, closed session is necessary to protect the integrity of individuals. Wiebelhaus seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried.

Chairman Small repeated the reason for entering closed session. The Board entered closed session at 6:07 P.M.

Wiebelhaus moved to come out of closed session. Small seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried. The Board came out of closed session at 6:20 P.M.

The meeting adjourned at 6:27 P.M.

The next regular meeting of the Brown County Commissioners will be Tuesday, January 4, 2022 at 5:15 PM, Brown County Courthouse, Ainsworth, Nebraska.

This meeting's public notice was published in the Ainsworth Star-Journal, aired on KBRB Radio, and posted at the Brown County Clerk's office, where all agendas and minutes are kept current for public inspection at any time.