

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

May 2, 2023

The Brown County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at 1:15 PM., in the Brown County Courthouse meeting room with members Chairman Buddy Small, Dennis Bauer and Jeremiah Dailey present. Also present were Brown County Clerk (BCC) Travis Hobbs, Brown County Attorney (BCA) Andy Taylor, Brown County Deputy Emergency Manager (BCDEM) Jessica Pozehl, Brown County Sheriff (BCS) Brent Deibler 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 April 18, 2023, Commissioner meeting as written and officially recorded in Commissioner Book 23. Bauer seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried.

At 1:15 PM Susan Cook, National Park Service Superintendent and Travis Connot, Program Manager for Resource Management with National Park Service, appeared telephonically and discussed a grant available for Counties to apply for. The grant would be for cedar tree removal, fire mitigation, within the Niobrara Scenic River corridor. The Park Service will write the grant and work with a designated person from the County to work with the Park Service on the project.

At 1:30 PM Theresa Parr, The Wandering Well, Hastings Nebraska appeared telephonically to discuss a special designated liquor license request for a wedding to be held May 20, 2023, in rural Brown County at the Dan & Shirley Carson ranch.

Dailey moved to approve the request for a special designated liquor license and authorize Chairman Small to sign. Bauer seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried.

At 1:45 PM Judy Walters, Veteran Service Committee member discussed a request for Jack Anderson to replace Tom Collin on the Veteran Committee.

Small moved to approve Jack Anderson as a member of the Veterans Committee. Bauer seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried.

Walters discussed the appointment of a new Veteran Service Officer. The Veteran Committee has interviewed and offered the job to Jacob Graff.

Small moved to approve Jacob Graff as Brown County Veterans Service Officer. Bauer seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried.

Brown County Deputy Clerk, Becky Hardy presented the Board with 2023-2024 Blue Cross Blue Shield renewal plan and rates. There was a 3.98% increase in the premiums.

Small moved to keep the plan, contributions, and percentages for the Blue Cross Blue Shield 2023-2024 plan year the same as the previous year and the cash in lieu percentage to remain the same. Bauer seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried.

At 2:00 PM Caleb Johnson discussed a resolution to establish other debt service fund, Ambulance building bond and other capital projects fund.

Small moved to approve Resolution 2023- 20 establishing two new funds to administer and account for funds received and expenses related to the construction and operation of the new ambulance building, as well as funds used to pay for the bond debt incurred pertaining to the new ambulance building. Bauer seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried.

BCS Deibler discussed the Law Enforcement contract with the city.

Bauer moved to sign Resolution 2023-22 the Law Enforcement Contract as presented and authorize Chairman Small to sign. Dailey seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried.

BCS Deibler discussed obtaining a credit card for the Sheriff office from Union Bank and Trust.

Small moved to approve the Visa Credit Card application with Union Bank and Trust. Dailey seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried.

BCC Hobbs stated that with any credit card issued under the county it is imperative for the Official to maintain detailed receipts to be compared and attached to the monthly credit card statements.

The Board discussed declaring May as Mental Health awareness month.

Dailey moved to approve Resolution 2023-21 declaring May as Mental Health Awareness month. Bauer seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried.

BCHS Turpin updated the Board on road department projects.

The Board acknowledged the receipt of a letter from Nebraska Department of Transportation regarding information for the upcoming Highway 7 project.

Small moved to approve payment of the claims and the Brown County Clerk's monthly fee report for April of \$3,394.74. Bauer seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried.

No public comments were made.

Small moved to enter executive session to discuss road department job performance evaluations to prevent needless harm to any person's reputation. Bauer seconded. Roll Call: All three Ayes, motion carried. Small repeated the reason for entering executive session.

Executive session was entered at 3:00 PM.

The Board came out of executive session at 3:45 PM.

Member Dailey left the meeting.

Bauer moved to accept the raise recommendations from BCHS Turpin, effective April 28, 2023. Small seconded. Roll Call: Bauer Aye, Small Aye & Dailey Absent, motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:47 PM.

The next regular meeting of the Brown County Commissioners will be Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at 1:15 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.