

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

August 19, 2024

The Pierce County Board of Commissioners met pursuant to adjournment on Monday, August 19, 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, Zoning Adm. Heather McWhorter, Deputy Co. Clerk Susan Peters, Mike Pommer, Bruce, Zimmerman, Crystal Hestekind, Candace Downey, Bob Lowe, Staci Gaes, Adam Venteicher, Dale Clipston, John Steinkraus, Michelle Reikofski 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 August 5, 2024 were approved as printed.

Discussion was held on levy allocation for the fire districts and agricultural society. The Board stated that since they tried to keep a 4% increase for the County Offices and Road Fund Budgets, they should follow suit with the levy allocations for the Ag Society and Fire Districts. The MFO agreement between the county fire districts states all parties agreed to a levy of .260 mill so therefore that is the max levy the County Board can approve for the fire districts and statute states that rural MFO fire districts need that same levy 1 in 3 years. The first year of the MFO for the county rural fire districts was 22/23 FY which had different levies and the 23/24 FY the levy was kept the same therefore the 24/25 FY can have different levies.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Martinson, to approve Resolution 2024-16 as follows:

RESOLUTION #2024 - 16

WHEREAS, Nebraska State Statute 77-3443(3) requires all political subdivisions subject to county levy authority to submit a preliminary request for levy allocation to the county board; and

WHEREAS, the Pierce County Board of Commissioners is the levy authority for the following Fire District Subdivisions in Pierce County,

WHEREAS, all Fire Districts are given not more than 3.5 cents of the County’s 15 cents for miscellaneous political subdivisions (per \$100 of valuation);

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Pierce County Board of Commissioners/Board of Equalization that the tax allocation for the following subdivisions for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year be limited to and is approved as follows:

<u>SUBDIVISION</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>REQUEST</u>	<u>APPROVED</u>	<u>LEVY</u>
Pierce Rural Fire	General	\$154,351.00	\$158,152.00	2.2818 cents
Plainview Rural Fire	General/Sinking	\$156,487.10	\$147,951.00	2.3082 cents
Osmond Rural Fire	General	\$147,902.70	\$139,835.00	2.2434 cents
Hadar Rural Fire	General	\$42,955.00	\$44,673.00	2.3223 cents

Dated this 19th day of August, 2024, at Pierce County, Nebraska.

Chairman of the Board of Equalization

/s/ Tom Kuether, Chairman

/s/ Brad Albers

/s/ Carl Martinson

ATTEST: /s/ Shannon Wragge, Pierce County Clerk

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.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Martinson, to approve Resolution #2024-17 as follows:

RESOLUTION # 2024 - 17

WHEREAS, Nebraska State Statute 77-3443(3) requires all political subdivisions subject to county levy authority to submit a preliminary request for levy allocation to the county board; and

WHEREAS, the Pierce County Board of Commissioners is the levy authority for the Pierce County Agricultural Society Subdivision in Pierce County,

WHEREAS, the Ag Society is to be given not more than 3.5 cents of the County’s 15 cents for miscellaneous political subdivisions and may be given an additional 3.5 cents for capital construction and maintenance of county fairgrounds per Nebraska State Statutes 2-257 and 2-259 (per \$100 of valuation);

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Pierce County Board of Commissioners/Board of Equalization that the tax allocation for the following subdivision for the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year be limited to .4820 cents for General is approved as follows:

<u>SUBDIVISION</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>REQUEST</u>	<u>APPROVED</u>
Pierce County Ag. Society	General	\$167,000.00	\$128,754.00

Dated this 19th day of August, 2024, at Pierce County, Nebraska.

Chairman of the Board of Equalization

/s/ Tom Kuether, Chairman

/s/ Brad Albers

/s/ Carl Martinson

ATTEST: /s/ Shannon Wragge, Pierce County Clerk

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.

Mike Pommer discussed with the County Board the 24/25 FY budget request and the budget hearings. Because of the possible legislative changes coming for 2025/2026 FY for the counties the board decided to keep the levy the same as last year and to add additional money to cash reserve and road bridge for 24/25 FY. The County will have to be part of the joint public budget meeting planned for Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2024 at 6:15 p.m. at the Plainview Public Library meeting room.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Martinson, to Authorize Clerk to advertise and set the county public hearing date for Tuesday, September 3, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. to receive input regarding 2024-2025 fiscal year budget, followed by a second public hearing at 11:15 a.m. for the adoption of property tax at an amount different than prior fiscal year (per SS 148). Roll call vote: Aye: Kuether, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

District 7 Probation Chief Crystal Hestekind and staff Candace Downey, Bob Lowe, Staci Gaes were present to introduce themselves and give updates on the District 7 Probation office.

Discussion was held on the 1 & 6 Year Rd Plan.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Martinson, to change and approve the 1 & 6 Year Public Hearing to be Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 9:11 a.m. Roll call vote: Aye: Kuether, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Zoning Administrator Heather McWhorter and Bruce Zimmerman were present and answered questions the Board had on the Ashker Lot Split.

Motion by Martinson, seconded by Albers, to approve the Ashker Lot Split in pt of the W ½ Section 35, Township 25 North, Range 3 West, Pierce Co. NE. Roll call vote: Aye: Kuether, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Adam Venteicher was present to discuss the line between Sections 2/1 in Blaine Township (T25N-R3W). Venteicher needs to place a tube on his property for water flow so he can access his property to the north of creek. The County Board cannot give approval because the tube will be placed on private property and 545 Ave has never existed in the county records therefore Venteicher will only need approval from the Corp of Engineers or NRD.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Martinson, to approve the fee reports as submitted by Rick Eberhardt, County Sheriff, for May & June 2024; Vickie Prince, Clerk of District Court and Shannon Wragge, County Clerk for July 2024; approve Treasurer's receipt's for various funds for Christine Bahr, County Treasurer, for July 2024 and placed on file in the County Clerk's office, total \$322,653.07 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: Antelope Co Sheriff-inmate housing-\$160.00; Applied Connective Technologies-IT services-\$6,284.73; BCBS of NE-premiums-\$56,080.67; Bishop Business-supplies-\$51.36; Classic Rentals-service-\$335.81; Dollar General-jail supplies-\$3.50; FP Finance Program-lease postage meter-\$180.09; Kate M. Jorgensen PC LLO-public defender-\$4,583.33; Kuether Ranch-remodeling-\$200.00; LexisNexis-software-\$177.00; Madison County Clerk-30% of Zoning costs for 23/24 FY-\$62,807.45; Magdanz Inc-supplies-\$471.25; Microfilm Imaging Systems Inc-scanner rent-\$46.00; Midwest Bank-co share-\$4,710.85; MIPS-Website, software & support-\$2,837.18; NACO-registration-\$180.00; NE NE News Co-publication costs-\$929.07; NE State Treasurer Unclaimed Property-outstanding checks-\$1,142.59; POAN Law Enforcement Conference-registration-\$245.00; Osmond Mini Mart-gas-\$166.84; Pierce County Court-court costs-\$250.50; Pierce County Leader-publishing costs-\$559.88; Pierce Pharmacy-prisoner medical-\$39.31; Pierce Telephone Co Inc-service-\$1,920.90; Plainview News-publishing costs-\$350.32; Prime Stop-gas-\$290.14; Prince Auto Repair Inc-repairs-\$73.42; Quill-supplies-\$91.97; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas Life Ins. Corp-co. share-\$4,114.99; Schroeder Land Surveying-surveying-\$205.00; State of NE Central Finance-computer network service-\$46.00; Tiger Town-prisoner food-\$369.78; Tom's Service-gas & repairs-\$305.74; Verizon-telephone-\$427.04; VISA-supplies-\$65.71; Western Oil Inc-gas-\$264.92; Payroll-\$63,588.71.

COUNTY HIGHWAY FUND: AKRS-repair parts-\$12.85; Alpha Workforce Health-testing-\$77.00; Altwine Hardware & Home LLC-supplies-\$44.99; Appera-service-\$125.50; Backus Sand & Gravel-gravel-\$95,501.95; Bauer Built Inc-repair parts-\$3,131.70; Bazile Aggregate Co LLC-gravel-\$9,501.90; Black Hills Energy-service-\$46.01; Chad's Tire Service-repairs-\$286.65; CHI Health Co Care-testing-\$84.00; Classic Rentals-service-\$266.38; Cornhusker Intl Trucks-repairs-\$334.18; Culligan of Norfolk-supplies-\$5.00; Dd Steel-supplies-\$82.19; Fastwyre Broadband-service-\$111.44; Filtercare of NE-

repairs-\$218.45; Heartland Fire Protection Co-service-\$663.10; Jerry's Hilltop-gas-\$53.00; Lawson Products-supplies-\$304.92; Leiting Auto Supply-repair parts-\$67.05; Lorenz Automotive-repair parts-\$578.55; Magdanz Inc-supplies-\$92.18; Matheson Tri Gas Inc-gas-\$104.86; McLean Village-utilities-\$72.45; Meisinger Oil Co-diesel-\$7,873.22; Midwest Bank, NA-co share-\$2,854.30; NACO-registration-\$30.00; NE State Treasurer Unclaimed Property-outstanding checks-\$954.00; NE Machinery Co-repair parts-\$346.16; North Central Public Power-utilities-\$197.32; Osmond Farm Supply Center Inc-diesel-\$2,571.15; Osmond Mini Mart-gas-\$218.25; Pierce Telephone Co Inc-service-\$177.10; Plainview Telephone Co Inc-service-\$97.14; Plainview City-utilities-\$85.45; Power Plan-repair parts-\$5,358.03; R & D Welding-repairs-\$168.22; Randolph Farm Supply-diesel & gas-\$3,848.02; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas Life Ins. Corp-co. share-\$2,457.32; Sapp Bros Norfolk-supplies-\$138.25; Steinkraus Service-gas-\$763.60; Tom's Service-gas-\$258.31; Top Gear Farms LLC-freight-\$114,310.00; True Ag & Turf-repair parts-\$49.63; Wattier True Value-repair parts-\$5.59; Weldon Parts Inc-repair parts-\$27.93; Western Oil Inc-gas-\$511.38; Payroll-\$38,593.51.

VISITOR PROMOTION FUND: NE State Treasurer Unclaimed Property-outstanding checks-\$500.00.

INHERITANCE TAX FUND: NE State Treasurer Unclaimed Property-outstanding checks-\$30.00; North Central District Health Dept-Miles of Smiles-\$3,220.00.

REGISTER OF DEEDS FUND: MIPS-IT service-\$351.12; State of NE Central Finance-computer network service-\$150.00.

PIERCE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND: NE NE News Co-publication costs-\$51.00; Pierce County Leader-publication costs-\$8.00; Plainview News Inc-publication costs-\$9.82.

E911 FUND: Geocomm-mapping-\$1,101.97; NE State Treasurer Unclaimed Property-outstanding checks-\$43.50; Optk Networks-service-\$529.40.

E911 WIRELESS FUND: NE State Treasurer Unclaimed Property-outstanding checks-\$91.36; City of Norfolk-911 service cost share-\$149.12; Pierce Telephone Co Inc-911 service-\$341.15; Plainview Telephone Co Inc-911 service-\$151.00.

There being no further business, Chairman Kuether adjourned the meeting at 10:10 A.M. and will meet again at a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 3, 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
