

MCPHERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS and
BOARD OF EQUALIZATION ANNUAL REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
PROCEEDINGS
JANUARY 10, 2024

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners and Board of Equalization met as per adjournment of December 11, 2023, for the annual Reorganizational meeting and regular monthly meeting. Notice of meeting having been published in the Stapleton Enterprise, issue dated January 4, 2023. Chairman Arensdorf called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Board members Jeffrey Arensdorf, Brett Nason and John Bryant were present. Also present were the Highway Superintendent Tom Werblow, County Attorney Whitney Schroeder, County Sheriff Tom Burch, and County Clerk Kathy Hoberg. Road employee Ed Black was also present. The Chairman noted the Public Meetings Law which is posted on the North wall of the meeting room. Bryant moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting as presented. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant, Nason and Arensdorf. Voting Nay: None.

Nason made a motion to appoint John Bryant as McPherson County Board Chairman and Jeff Arensdorf as Vice-Chairman for 2024. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason made a motion to approve the following claims as presented. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

GENERAL		AMOUNT
Payroll	Wages	26,776.38
Ameritas	Retirement	1551.91
Applied Connective	IT Consultant	798.60
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	7676.16
John Bryant	Mileage	163.75
Richard Cook	Mileage/Convention	81.44
Custer Public Power	Lights/Electricity	633.36
Judy Dailey	Retirement	48.00
DAS St. Accounting	Computer Expense	172.00
D12 Industries	Tower Inspection	1050.00
Eakes Office Plus	Office Supplies	207.74
Great Plains		531.85
Communication	Telephone/Internet	57.96
Great Plains		57.96
Communication	Emergency Mngmt	
Katherine Hoberg	Mileage	52.4
Ideal Linen	Supplies	132.84
IRS	SS/Medicare	1,998.04
Kerri Kramer	Mileage	176.85
LaQuinta Inns & Suites	Convention	719.70
Chelsey McNutt	Park Supplies	36.42
Menards	Supplies	33.98
MIPS	Data Processing/Computer	1,085.78
Brett Nason	Mileage	231.87
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel/Supplies	638.00
Whitney Schroeder	Child Suppt. Enforce	125.00
Stapleton Enterprise	Printing/Publishing	216.56
US Bank	Office/Janitor Supplies	356.74
Viaero	Sheriff Phone	83.09
Village of Stapleton	Trash Disposal	3,000.00
ROAD		AMOUNT
Payroll	Wages	11,045.00
Ameritas	Retirement	678.04
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	2549.22
Croell Inc.	Gravel	17,763.99
Great Plains Comm	Phone/Internet	106.97
Highmark Electric	Shop Lights	2,346.54
Inland Truck Parts Co.	Equipment Repairs	2,090.80
IRS	County Share SS/Med	842.57

JM Parts & Equipment	Supplies	82.39
McPherson Co.		
Inheritance	Reimbursement Payments	2,076.35
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel/Supplies	5,109.55
Powerplan	Machinery & Equipment	526.43
TC Engineering	Highway Supt	750.00
Titan Machinery	Equipment	113.29
Troyer Enterprises	Supplies	67.12
FAIR		
Ideal Linen	Supplies	38.61
SENIOR MEAL PROGRAM		
Prairie Hills Café	Senior Meals	2,840.00

Nason made a motion to appoint Rich Cook as **McPherson County Weed Superintendent** for 2024, continuing with the current wage of \$14.00 per hour. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

At 9:30 AM, Ryan Dickinson of Dickinson Land Surveyors, Ogallala Nebraska, was present and addressed the board concerning the position of County Surveyor. Bonnie Edwards of North Platte has retired and recommended Dickinson Land Surveyors. After speaking with Mr. Dickinson and reviewing his information packet, Nason moved to approve and adopt **RESOLUTION # 2024-1** Appointing Dickinson Land Surveyors of Ogallala, NE, to the position of **McPherson County Surveyor** for 2024. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Ed Black addressed the board about the need for a new dump truck. The 1998 Freightliner has been deemed beyond repair. Nason moved to declare the **1998 Freightliner Dump Truck**, surplus property, to be sold on Big Iron. Included in the motion are 4 V-Plows which are no longer in use. The plows will also be declared surplus property and sold on Big Iron. Arensdorf seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Nason Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Arensdorf made a motion to advertise for sealed bids and purchase a new dump truck. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. The commissioners will send the specs to Tom Werblow, who will compose a request for bids to be published. The county will look at applying for grants for the purchase.

The 2023 schedule for Road Overseer was set as follows:

Jan-Feb-March – Jeff Arensdorf **April- May- June** – John Bryant **July-Aug-Sept** – Brett Nason **Oct- Nov- Dec** – Jeff Arensdorf. Motion made by Nason, seconded by Arensdorf. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason made a motion to adopt and approve **RESOLUTION #2024-2**, McPherson County Road and Labor Prices for the year 2024, adding a cost-of-living increase of 2% for Road Employees with 2 or more Years' experience and no change for Prices Set to Charge. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

RESOLUTION #2024-2

MCPHERSON COUNTY ROAD AND LABOR PRICES FOR THE YEAR 2024

PRICES SET TO PAY...WITH BOARD APPROVAL

COUNTY EMPLOYEE

PERSON, SINGLE HANDED.....	\$18.00 PER HOUR
TRACTOR OR BLADE OPERATOR	\$18.00 PER HOUR
PERSON, SINGLE HANDED	
(TWO YEARS' COUNTY EMPLOYMENT)	\$20.90 PER HOUR
TRACTOR OR BLADE OPERATOR	
(TWO YEARS' COUNTY EMPLOYMENT)	\$20.90 PER HOUR
FARM TRACTOR AND IMPLEMENT WITH	
OPERATOR.....	\$90.00 PER HOUR
FARM TRACTOR WITH OPERATOR	
(100 H.P. OR MORE FOR SNOW REMOVAL	\$110.00 PER HOUR

PRICES SET TO CHARGE.... WITH PRIOR BOARD APPROVAL...MINIMUM OF ONE HOUR

PATROL WITH OPERATOR.....	\$200.00 PER HOUR
WHEEL LOADER WITH OPERATOR.....	\$200.00 PER HOUR
JOHN DEERE TRACTOR WITH OPERATOR.....	\$120.00 PER HOUR

**(WITH THE EXCEPTION THAT IF HIRED FOR ANY GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIZED PROJECT, THE PRICE
WOULD HAVE TO BE NEGOTIATED BEFORE STARTED.)**

Motion made by Arensdorf and seconded by Nason to adopt and approve **Resolution #2024-3** appointing Tom Werblow as **McPherson County Highway Superintendent**, with a total salary of \$9000.00, for the year 2024. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason made a motion to set the **One-and- Six Year Road Plan Hearing** for 10:00 AM on Wednesday, February 14, 2024. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. Bryant moved to approve the January Road Plan as presented by Arensdorf. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant, Nason and Arensdorf. Voting Nay: None.

Nason moved to appoint Tom Werblow, Ed Black, and John Bryant to the Safety Committee for 2024, with John Bryant Chairman. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf, and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Motion made by Nason seconded by Arensdorf to adopt and approve **Resolution #2024-4** designating the following **Depositories for McPherson County** in 2024. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. Adams Bank & Trust, First National Bank, Nebraskaland National Bank, Western Nebraska Bank of North Platte, Community First Bank of Stapleton, The Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust of Lincoln, Union Bank & Trust, Lincoln, NE, Hershey State Bank and Pinnacle Bank.

Arensdorf moved to approve and adopt **Resolution #2024-5** giving the McPherson County Treasurer the **Authority to Invest Funds** for the year 2024. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Arensdorf moved to adopt and approve **Resolution #2024-6** appointing Whitney Schroeder as the **McPherson County Attorney** for the year 2024. The hourly wage being increased to \$12.00 per hour for 100 hours per pay period, plus expenses, with the same insurance benefits which are offered to all full-time McPherson County Employees. Seconded by Nason. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason moved to approve, in one motion, the following appointments. Arensdorf seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None:

John Bryant and Alternate Brett Nason to the **911 Advisory Board** for 2024.

John Bryant as Representative to the **Lexington Area Solid Waste Management Board** for 2024. Jeff Arensdorf as alternate.

Brett Nason as Representative to the **West Central Area Aging Board, Region II Developmental Disabilities Board, and Region II Behavioral Health Board** for 2024.

Jeff Arensdorf as Representative to the **West Central Development District Board** for 2024. John Bryant alternate.

Nason moved to approve in one motion, pending their approval, the following appointments.

Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None:

Scott Hoberg, Luke Connell, and Matt Burch to the **Planning Commission** for a 3-year term to expire in 2027.

Jeff Arensdorf and Sheila Neal as Member and County Member to the **Sandhills RC&D Board** for 2024.

Jeff Arensdorf as Representative and Lana Watson as Alternate to the **West Central District Health Department Board** for 2024.

Tabled until the February Commissioner's meeting were the matters of replacing Randy Fisher on the **Board of Adjustments**, 3-Year term to expire in 2026, and replacing Lindsey Bernal on the **Fair Board**, 3-Year term to expire in 2027.

The following appointments were approved in one motion made by Arensdorf and seconded by Nason. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

County Physician- West Central District Health Department in compliance with §71-1626.

Official Means of Publication - The Stapleton Enterprise and www.mcphersoncounty.ne.gov

Collateral Receipts-yes

Burial Fees-\$1500.00

Meeting Dates and Time for 2024- 2nd Wednesday of each month at 9:00 AM

Miller Park Caretaker-Chelsey McNutt at \$1150.00 per year.

McPherson County Emergency Manager- Tom Burch at \$1600.00 per year.

McPherson County Zoning Administrator- Kathy Hoberg at \$1800.00 per year.

Courthouse Custodian - Chris Burch, increasing the wage to \$13.00 per hour for 100 hours per pay period. There are no insurance benefits offered with this position.

McPherson County Board of Equalization Chairman and Vice-Chairman for 2024 - Jeff Arensdorf, Chairman. John Bryant, Vice-Chairman.

The commissioners reviewed and signed the Quarterly Fee Reports from the County Sheriff and the County Clerk.

The commissioners reviewed and approved the 2024 Nirma Insurance Schedule for McPherson County. The 1998 Freightliner Dump Truck will be removed from the policy.

The commissioners reviewed Fund Balance reports from the Treasurer.

After review, Nason made a motion to approve and sign a **Memorandum of Understanding Between the Nebraska Department of Veteran's Affairs and McPherson County**. Arensdorf seconded.

Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 AM. The board will meet again for their next regular monthly meeting on February 14, 2024.

Katherine E. Hoberg
McPherson County Clerk

John E. Bryant
McPherson County Board Chairman

Publish: January 18, 2024

MCPHERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S AND
BOARD OF EQUALIZATION PROCEEDINGS
FEBRUARY 14, 2024

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners met as per adjournment of **January 10, 2024**, for their regular monthly meeting. Notice of meeting having been published in the Stapleton Enterprise, issue dated February 8, 2024, and at www.mcphersoncounty.ne.gov. Chairman John Bryant called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Board members John Bryant, Jeff Arensdorf and Brett Nason were present. Also present were Highway Superintendent Tom Werblow, County Attorney Whitney Schroeder, County Sheriff Tom Burch, County Clerk Kathy Hoberg, and road department employee Ed Black. Chairman Bryant noted the Open Meetings Law which is posted on the North wall of the courtroom. Arensdorf moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting as presented. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason made a motion to approve the following claims as presented. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

GENERAL	AMOUNT
Payroll	Wages 28,036.87
Ameritas	Retirement 1637.00
Applied Connective	IT Consultant 798.60
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance 7676.16
John Bryant	Mileage 123.95
Central Plains Valuation	Appraisal Fees 1365
Custer Public Power	Lights/Electricity 708.05
DAS St. Accounting	Computer Expense 344.00
Eakes Office Plus	Office Supplies 54.50
Great Plains	
Communication	540.29
Great Plains	
Communication	57.96
Katherine Hoberg	
Mileage	53.6
Ideal Linen	Supplies 132.84
IRS	SS/Medicare 2,094.46
Lincoln County	
Treasurer	Extension Contract 1,778.40
Loup Basin RC&D	Mileage/Weeds 200.00
McPherson County	
Court	Court Costs 34.00
Mid-States Org. Crime	
Info	Sheriff Dues 100.00
MIPS	Data Processing/Computer 1,396.73
NE Assn Co. Clerks	Dues 50.00
NE Assn Co. Treasurers	Dues 50.00
NE Assn Co. Assessors	Dues 75.00
NE Clerks of Dist Court	Dues 50.00
NE State Patrol	Computer Expense/Sheriff 75.00
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel/Supplies 511.61
Sandhills RC&D	Dues 100.00
Whitney Schroeder	Mileage 104.52
Stapleton Enterprise	Printing/Publishing 614.66
Thomas County Library	Bookmobile 2,431.93
US Bank	Office/Janitor Supplies 1,029.06
Viaero	Sheriff Phone 83.10
Village of Stapleton	Trash Disposal 3,000.00

ROAD		AMOUNT
Payroll	Wages	12,495.00
Ameritas	Retirement	775.91
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	2549.22
Croell Inc.	Gravel	3,355.20
Fastenal	Shop Supplies	35.60
Front Street Auto Glass	Equipment Repairs	133.50
Great Plains Comm	Phone/Internet	106.99
Inland Truck Parts Co.	Equipment Repairs	5,204.31
IRS	County Share SS/Med	953.50
JM Parts & Equipment	Supplies	719.87
McPherson Co.		
Inheritance	Reimbursement Payments	2,076.35
Mills Hardware	Shop Tools	1,396.99
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel/Supplies	4,294.42
NE Truck Center	Equipment Repairs	234.31
NMC Exchange LLC	Equipment Repairs	212.56
North Platte Hardware	Shop Supplies	35.98
RS Hydraulic Solutions		
LLC	Equipment Repairs	261.82
Stapleton Enterprise	Publishing	50.00
T&S Repair LLC	Equipment Repairs	4,934.78
TC Engineering	Highway Supt	750.00
Troyer Enterprises	Supplies	37.85
US Bank	Shop Supplies	12.89
FAIR		
Ideal Linen	Supplies	38.61
SENIOR MEAL PROGRAM		
Prairie Hills Café	Senior Meals	3,820.00

Josh Streiff was present and addressed the board concerning a meeting of the school board and the Nebraska Association of School Boards which was held on January 25th at the High School. The school board would like the commissioners to collaborate with them in a community engagement program through NASB. The county is researching legal aspects of engaging in the program. This will be discussed again at the March Board meeting.

At 9:30 AM the commissioners held an interview with Kenneth C. (K.C.) Bang of Decatur NE. who had applied for the County Sheriff's position. Mr. Bang has been a Certified Law Enforcement Officer with the State of Nebraska since 1984. After discussion, Bryant made a motion to hire Kenneth C. Bang for the position of McPherson County Sheriff. Arensdorf seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Bryant, Arensdorf and Nason. Voting Nay: None.

Robert Watson was present and discussed the Soddy Road Project with the commissioners and Highway Superintendent Tom Werblow. The board is collecting information about the best way to proceed with pulverizing the asphalt and the best material to mix with the asphalt prior to laying it down as a road base. There were several members of the public present. Rudy Haynes, Pamela Haynes, Josh Streiff, Jack Tucker, John Tucker, Kasey Dailey, and Ed Black, each gave input and asked questions.

At 10:00 AM, a **One-and Six-Year Hearing** was held. Tom Werblow presented each board member with a copy of the One-and Six -Year Road Plan. Werblow explained each page of the plan which describes each project within the county. There were members of the public present, but no public input to the hearing. Nason moved to approve and adopt **RESOLUTION #2024-7** Adopting the 2023-2024 One-and Six-Year Road Improvement Program. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

The Board had previously published and posted a **Notice to Bidders** requesting **sealed bids** for a Dump Truck. The board received one sealed bid which was opened and read at 10:30 AM. The bid was beyond the age and specifications of the Notice to Bidders. Bryant made a motion to deny the bid. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant, Nason and Arensdorf. Voting Nay: None.

Ed Black reported that the road department has been dragging and grading roads. Ed also gave an update on repairs which have been completed on the Western Star Semi Truck. Bryant made a motion to approve the February Road Plan as presented by Arensdorf. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant, Nason and Arensdorf. Voting Nay: None.

The board discussed a renewal to the JD Link subscription on the John Deere 770G Grader. The subscription was renewed. There were no fees for the renewal.

There was a Safety Committee Meeting held. Those present were, Tom Werblow, John Bryant, Brett Nason, Jeff Arensdorf, Kathy Hoberg, Kasey Dailey, and Ed Black. Tom Werblow gave flyers and information about *Safe Operation of All-Terrain Vehicles*.

The county attorney and the commissioners discussed the Zoning issues on Blocks 5 and 6. They feel there is progress being made to resolve the issue and this is appreciated by the board.

Arensdorf made a motion to approve the following appointments. Nason seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Scott Hoberg and Matt Burch, Planning Commission-Approved

Lana Watson, West Central District Health Dept-Approved

Sheila Neal, Sandhills RC&D-Approved

Ed Black to replace Randy Fisher on the Board of Adjustments -Approved

To be appointed or replaced in March:

Ryan Schultis, Fair Board- Appointed pending his approval.

Luke Connell, Planning Commission – Appointed pending his approval.

Replace Lindsey Bernal and Cindy Gregg on the Fair Board

The board received and reviewed the Fund Balance Reports from the Treasurer.

Those still needing to file the Statement of Financial Interests with the Secretary of State were reminded that March 1st is the deadline for filing.

The commissioners were reminded that there will be a West Central District meeting held in Ogallala on March 28th at 9:00 AM.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 AM. The board will meet again for their next regular monthly meeting on March 13, 2024.

Katherine E. Hoberg
McPherson County Clerk

John E. Bryant
McPherson County Board Chairman

MCPHERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S PROCEEDINGS

MARCH 13, 2024

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners met as per adjournment of February 14, 2024, for their regular monthly meeting. Notice of meeting having been published in the Stapleton Enterprise, issue dated March 7, 2024. The Meeting Agenda having been posted in the courthouse and on the county website at www.mcphersoncounty.ne.gov. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chairman Bryant who noted the Open Meetings Law, which is posted on the North wall of the court room. Members Brett Nason, John Bryant and Jeff Arensdorf were present. Also present were the Highway Superintendent Tom Werblow, County Sheriff Tom Burch, road employee Ed Black, County Treasurer Kerri Kramer, and County Clerk Kathy Hoberg. Nason made a motion to excuse the County Attorney who was attending a training meeting. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Nason moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting as presented. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. Arensdorf made a motion to approve the following claims as presented. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

GENERAL		AMOUNT
Payroll	Wages	26,871.08
Ameritas	Retirement	1558.31
Applied Connective	IT Consultant	4075.35
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	7676.16
Brouillette,Troshynski	Court App Atty	477.00
Richard Cook	Weed Expenses	277.74
Custer Public Power	Lights/Electricity	565.83
Great Plains		540.29
Communication	Telephone/Internet	
Great Plains		57.96
Communication	Emergency Mngmt	
Highmark Electric	Courthouse Upkeep	272.93
Katherine Hoberg	Mileage	53.60
Ideal Linen	Supplies	132.84
IRS	SS/Medicare	2,005.30
Chelsey McNutt	Park Maintenance Contract	287.50
MIPS	Data Processing/Computer	1,085.78
NE Assn County Officials	Workshop	100.00
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel/Supplies	398.00
Whitney Schroeder	Mileage	104.52
Stapleton Enterprise	Printing/Publishing	422.71
US Bank	Office/Janitor Supplies	223.82
Viaero	Sheriff Phone	83.10
Village of Stapleton	Trash Disposal	3,000.00
West Central Dist		
Assessors	Dues	25.00
ROAD		AMOUNT
Payroll	Wages	10,823.00
Ameritas	Retirement	663.05
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	2549.22
Croell Inc.	Gravel	8,390.42
Croell Inc.	Asphaltic	1,655.15
Dawson Tire & Wheel	Equipment Repairs	1,345.59
Great Plains Comm	Phone/Internet	106.99
Inland Truck Parts Co.	Equipment Repairs	464.49
IRS	County Share SS/Med	825.60
McPherson Co.		
Inheritance	Reimbursement Payments	2,076.35
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel/Supplies	3,491.18
NMC Exchange LLC	Equipment Repairs	51.66
Stapleton Enterprise	Publishing	12.46
TC Engineering	Highway Supt	750.00

FAIR

Ideal Linen	Supplies	38.61
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**SENIOR MEAL
PROGRAM**

Prairie Hills Café	Senior Meals	3,860.00
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Rich Cook was present and presented the board with his annual Weed Evaluation Report. The commissioners confirmed the appointment of Ryan Schultis to the Fair Board. The board will post a Notice of Vacancy for two positions on the Fair Board. Luke Connell has not yet accepted an appointment to the Planning Commission. The commissioners will continue to attempt to contact him before the next meeting.

Ed Black was present and reported that the road department has been hauling rock, repairing roads, and patching asphalt on North Ringgold Road. Nason made a motion to contract with Level LLC for hauling 10 loads of rock to McPherson County. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. The need for a new dump truck was discussed. The board only received one response to the request for sealed bids published in January and posted in February. The bid was declined; therefore, the board will begin to look for a Dump Truck in the open market. The commissioners discussed the option of applying for a Hanich Trust Grant to help with the expense of the truck.

Bryant moved to approve the March Road Plan as presented by Arensdorf. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant, Nason and Arensdorf. Voting Nay: None.

Caden Frank from the NASB was present and addressed the board concerning a request for community- oriented collaboration between the County Board and the School Board. The collaboration request includes creating public outreach and community engagement strategies concerning the needs of the school and county. The process requires a Community Engagement Service Agreement between the County Board and the NASB. The County Attorney will review the Agreement prior to acceptance or denial by the board. Nason made a motion to table the matter until April, giving the County Attorney time to review the Agreement. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Chuck Burr, Caitlin Jacobson and Berva Arensdorf were present and presented the board with information about the Lincoln, Logan, McPherson County Extension program.

Representatives from Murphy Tractor were present and introduced Jordan Gardner, the new Territory Sales manager for our region.

There was a Safety Committee Meeting held. Those present were, Tom Werblow, Jeff Arensdorf, Brett Nason, John Bryant, Ed Black, Kasey Dailey, Tom Burch, and Kathy Hoberg.

Werblow presented flyers and information about *Machining Centers and Cutting with Oxygen-Acetylene*.

The board received a Fund Balance Report from the Treasurer.

The commissioners discussed sending a request to the state to increase the speed limit on Highway 97 from Tryon to Mullen from 60 to 65. Mullen is discussing the same request from Mullen to Tryon. Nason moved to make the request. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 AM. The Board will meet again on April 10, 2024, for their next regularly scheduled meeting.

Katherine E. Hoberg
McPherson County Clerk

John E. Bryant
McPherson County Board Chairman

MCPHERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND
BOARD OF EQUALIZATION PROCEEDINGS
APRIL 10, 2024

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners met as per adjournment of March 13, 2024, for their regular monthly meeting. Notice of meeting having been published in the Stapleton Enterprise, issue dated April 4, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chairman Bryant. Members John Bryant and Jeff Arensdorf were present. Also present were the County Sheriff KC Bang, Deputy Tom Burch, Road Worker Ed Black, Highway Superintendent Tom Werblow, County Attorney Whitney Schroeder, and County Clerk Kathy Hoberg. Chairman Bryant noted the Open Meetings Act which is posted on the North wall of the courtroom. Bryant made a motion to excuse Commissioner Brett Nason. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant and Arensdorf. Voting Nay: None. Arensdorf moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting as presented. Bryant seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. Arensdorf made a motion to approve the following claims as presented. Bryant seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

GENERAL	AMOUNT
Payroll	26,614.30
Ameritas	1614.48
Applied Connective	826.60
Blue Cross Blue Shield	12793.6
Brouillette, Troshynski	476.00
John Bryant	105.19
Custer Public Power	627.7
DAS ST Accounting	172
Eakes Office Plus	368.71
Election Systems & Software	948.1
Great Plains Communication	539.37
Great Plains Communication	57.96
Katherine Hoberg	86.71
Ideal Linen	132.84
IRS	1,985.65
Kerri Kramer	117.92
MIPS	1,085.78
Brett Nason	91.12
Neal Oil & Auto	776.90
Platte Valley Communications	2,365.00
Whitney Schroeder	125.00
Stapleton Enterprise	510.76
US Bank	795.47
Viaero	83.10
Village of Stapleton	3,000.00

ROAD	AMOUNT
Payroll	11,032.00
Ameritas	677.16
Blue Cross Blue Shield	2549.22
Croell Inc.	23,302.46
Croell Inc.	4,355.45
Dawson Tire & Wheel	75.90
Earl's Auto Glass LLC	275.00
Great Plains Comm	106.47

Inland Truck Parts Co.	Equipment Repairs	1,827.54
IRS	County Share SS/Med	841.59
Level LLC	Contractural Hauling	2,372.50
McPherson Co. Inheritance	Reimbursement Payments	2,076.35
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel/Supplies	5,247.30
NMC Exchange LLC	Equipment Repairs	383.89
TC Engineering	Highway Supt	750.00

FAIR

Ideal Linen	Supplies	38.61
Custer Public Power	Lights	450.49
Arlan Paxton	Fair Expenses	411.00

SENIOR MEAL PROGRAM

Prairie Hills Café	Senior Meals	3,450.00
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Rich Cook was present and discussed an Interlocal Agreement between McPherson County and Logan County for Veteran's Service.

The agreement will provide for the cooperative provision of services to veterans in the respective counties. The purpose of the cooperative agreement shall be to permit the Logan County Veteran's Service Officer to serve as the McPherson County Veteran's Service Officer. This agreement shall commence July 1, 2024, for a term of one year. McPherson County shall pay Logan County the sum of \$1649.00 per year for the initial term of this agreement.

Cindy Gregg was appointed to the Fair Board for a three-year term to expire in 2027. The Commissioners are still looking for someone to fill one remaining vacancy on the board.

Bryant made a motion to appoint County Sheriff KC Bang as McPherson County Emergency Manager, effective April 1, 2024. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant and Arensdorf. Voting Nay: None.

At 9:30 AM, Bryant moved to recess the Board of Commissioner's Meeting and resolve itself as Board of Equalization. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant and Arensdorf. Voting Nay: None. Chairman Arensdorf called the meeting to order. Those present were, Board members Jeff Arensdorf and John Bryant, County Attorney Whitney Lindstedt, Highway Superintendent Tom Werblow, Sheriff KC Bang, Deputy Tom Burch, Treasurer Kerri Kramer, and Clerk/Assessor Kathy Hoberg.

The board reviewed the 421 Permissive Exemption applications for 2024.

There were five applications reviewed. The assessor recommended approval of all applications. Bryant moved to approve all the applications as presented. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant and Arensdorf. Voting Nay: None.

The Board of Equalization was adjourned at 9:45 AM and the regular session of the Board of Commissioners commenced.

At 10:00 AM the board discussed the proposed collaboration between the McPherson County Board of Commissioners and the McPherson County Board of Education. The Board of Commissioners was asked by the Board of Education to review and sign a **Community Engagement Service Agreement** with the Nebraska Association of School Boards. "The NASB provides services to Nebraska public leadership to strengthen community development and offers a Community Engagement Service in which to engage stakeholders in a community's vision to support quality of life." The agreement would have been for a term of one year, unless extended by agreement of the parties, with an estimated fee of \$2500.00 not including reasonable travel expenses. The agreement was discussed at length with the county attorney. The Board does offer their full support to the school, and projects that will benefit the school district and McPherson County. However, because the school board has signed a Community Engagement Service Agreement with the NASB, the commissioners feel it would be a duplication of services to enter into this agreement. Motion made by Bryant to reject this proposal. Motion seconded by Arensdorf. Voting Aye: Bryant and Arensdorf. Voting Nay: None.

The commissioners discussed roads with Ed Black. Ed reported that the road department has been filling holes, adding cover, and repairing roads.

John Bryant acknowledged the receipt of a check in the amount of \$100,000.00, which is part of a grant from the Robert F. Hanich Trust. This check is the fourth installment of a grant of \$500,000.00, which is to be used on the *Soddy Road Safety Improvement Project*.

The commissioners voiced their appreciation and gratitude to Adams Bank & Trust for the grant. The Soddy Road Project is much needed and the grant greatly benefits McPherson County.

Arensdorf made a motion to accept the April Road Plan, presented by Bryant, with the addition of adding an auto gate and raising the road on Gragg Drive. Bryant seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

The commissioners reviewed a proposal submitted by Figgins Construction for repairs and armor coating on Soddy Road. There was no action taken on the proposal.

There was a Safety Committee Meeting held. Those present were Tom Werblow, Jeff Arensdorf, John Bryant, Whitney Schroeder, Ed Black, KC Bang, Tom Burch, and Kathy Hoberg. Werblow gave flyers and information about *Crack Sealing Safety and Asphalt Patching Safety*.

The commissioners reviewed the Fund Balance Report from the Treasurer.

The board received and signed Quarterly Fee Reports from the Clerk and the Sheriff.

Arensdorf made a motion to approve and sign a Road Crossing Permit submitted by Custer Public Power, for placing a Three-Phase power line beneath 4th & Brooks in Tryon. Bryant seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Bryant made a motion to move the date of the June commissioner's meeting from Wednesday, June 12th, to Monday, June 10th. This will allow the commissioners to attend the Budget Workshop and Board Workshop in Kearney from June 12-14. The clerk will also attend the Budget Workshop and Clerk's Workshop in Kearney on these dates. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant and Arensdorf. Voting Nay: None.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 11:00 AM. They will meet again at 9:00 AM, on May 8, 2024, for their next regular monthly meeting. This meeting will be held at the McPherson County Courthouse and is open to the public.

Katherine E. Hoberg
McPherson County Clerk

John E. Bryant
McPherson County Board Chairman

Publish: April 18, 2024

MCPHERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND
BOARD OF EQUALIZATION PROCEEDINGS
May 8, 2024

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners met as per adjournment of **April 10, 2024**, for their regular monthly meeting. Notice of meeting having been published in the Stapleton Enterprise, issue dated May 2, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chairman Bryant, who noted the Open Meetings Law, which is posted on the North wall of the meeting room. Members John Bryant, Brett Nason and Jeff Arensdorf were present. Also present were Sheriff K.C. Bang, County Attorney Whitney Schroeder, Highway Superintendent Tom Werblow, County Clerk Kathy Hoberg and Road Workers Ed Black and Kasey Dailey. Arensdorf moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting as presented. Bryant seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf and Bryant. Nason abstained as he was absent from the last meeting. Voting Nay: None. Nason made a motion to approve the following claims as presented. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

GENERAL		AMOUNT
Payroll	Wages	26,678.83
Accredited Security	Law Equipment	914.00
Ameritas	Retirement	1618.84
Applied Connective	IT Consultant	812.60
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	10234.88
Brouillette,Troshynski	Court App Atty	51.00
John Bryant	Mileage	123.95
Richard Cook	Mileage	115.24
Custer Public Power	Lights/Electricity	581.24
DAS ST Accounting	Computer Expenses	172.00
Eakes Office Plus	Office Supplies	66.40
Election Systems & Software	Election Supplies	1841.04
Great Plains Communication	Telephone/Internet	540.03
Great Plains Communication	Emergency Mngmt	57.96
Gworks	Assessor Website	5000.00
Katherine Hoberg	Mileage/Supplies	160.80
Ideal Linen	Supplies	132.84
IRS	SS/Medicare	1,990.58
Kerri Kramer	Mileage	132.79
Loup Basin RC&D	Postage	31.67
MIPS	Data Processing/Computer	1,152.78
NE Assn of County Treasurers	Workshop	150.00
NACO	Budget Workshop	250.00
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel/Supplies	206.80
Whitney Schroeder	Mileage	104.52
Stapleton Enterprise	Printing/Publishing	619.66
Thomas County Library	Bookmobile	1,140.40
Trugreen	Grounds Supplies	314.00
US Bank	Office/Janitor Supplies	1,136.44
Viaero	Sheriff Phone	232.24
Village of Stapleton	Trash Disposal	3,000.00

ROAD		AMOUNT
Payroll	Wages	11,032.00
Ameritas	Retirement	677.16
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	2549.22
Croell Inc.	Gravel	18,026.07
Great Plains Comm	Phone/Internet	106.47
IRS	County Share SS/Med	841.59
JM Parts and Equipment	Equipment Repairs	268.41

McPherson Co. Inheritance	Reimbursement Payments	2,076.35
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel/Supplies	4,517.13
Powerplan	Equipment Repairs	336.20
TC Engineering	Highway Supt	750.00
Troyer Enterprises	Equipment Repairs	95.31

FAIR

Ideal Linen	Supplies	38.61
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SENIOR MEAL PROGRAM

Prairie Hills Café	Senior Meals	3,660.00
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The board discussed roads with Ed Black and Kasey Dailey. The road department has been repairing holes and damage to roads. The Blue Dodge pickup has timing issues and will not start. The pickup has 320,000 miles on it and will not be repaired. Nason made a motion to declare the 1996 Dodge 2500 pickup as surplus property to be sold. Arensdorf seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Arensdorf moved to accept the May Road Plan as presented by Bryant. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

A Safety Committee meeting was held. Members present were John Bryant, Brett Nason, Jeff Arensdorf, Whitney Schroeder, Tom Werblow, Ed Black, Kasey Dailey, K.C. Bang, and Kathy Hoberg. Tom Werblow presented information and gave flyers about Electrical Safety at Work and Home.

The commissioners are still looking for a volunteer to fill a position on the Fair Board.

Arensdorf made a motion to approve and sign **RESOLUTION #2024-8** authorizing the McPherson County Treasurer to transfer \$11,073.29 from the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund to the General Fund. This will reimburse the General Fund for expenses paid to assist with the purchase of three generators which were purchased with the American Rescue Plan Act Funds and the General Fund. Nason seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Auditor Don Wilson was present for an audit discussion with the board. Nason made a motion to authorize Chairman John Bryant to sign the Management Representation Letter. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

The board reviewed the Fund Balance Reports from the Treasurer.

Treasurer Kerri Kramer discussed grant writing with the commissioners. Nason moved to approve sending Kramer to a grant writing class offered by *Grant Writing USA*, to be held in Omaha on May 30th and 31st with a fee of \$465.00. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

The board reviewed a list of repairs needed in the courthouse and on the grounds, which was presented by Kerri Kramer. A final list of needed repairs will be compiled, and Kramer will apply for a grant to cover the cost of the projects.

The Assessor presented the board with the 2024 Reports and Opinions of the Property Tax Administrator. McPherson County's Level of Value for 2024 is 100% for Residential and Commercial, and 73% for Agriculture. The Quality of Assessment meets generally accepted mass appraisal techniques and there were no recommendations made by the administrator.

The board was advised by the auditor that the fee charged for RV parking in Miller Park is subject to Lodging and Sales Tax. The required procedures will be implemented.

The commissioners discussed the 2024 rates for Health and Dental Insurance with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska. Health insurance rates will increase 13.9%. McPherson County pays the Health Insurance premium for up to employee/spouse or employee/children coverage. Nason made a motion to increase the deductible amount for McPherson County to \$1100.00 with a co-pay. This will cause a decrease in premium rates for the county. The county will cost-share the deductibles with the employees. Dental Insurance premiums and deductibles are paid fully by the employee. Arensdorf seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM.

The next regular Board of Commissioner's meeting will be held at 9:00 AM on **Monday, June 10, 2024**. This meeting will be held in the McPherson County Courthouse and will be open to the public.

MCPHERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S PROCEEDINGS
SPECIAL MEETING
MAY 15, 2024

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners met as per adjournment of May 8, 2024, for a Special Meeting. Notice of meeting having been posted on the McPherson County website at www.mcphersoncounty.ne.gov and in the McPherson County Courthouse, Neal Oil, The Lodge, and the Post Office, all locations in Tryon, NE. Notice was posted 5 days prior to the meeting. The sole purpose of the meeting was to discuss the purchase of a dump truck. The posted notice invited quotes for 2012 Freightliner Class 8 Dump Truck 10 years old or older. The commissioners had published a Notice to Bidders on January 25, 2024. One bid was received and was opened on February 14, 2024. This bid was rejected.

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 AM by chairman Bryant. Those present were Jeff Arensdorf, Brett Nason, John Bryant, Kathy Hoberg, Kerri Kramer, and Ed Black.

Nason moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting as presented. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

The commissioners reviewed a quote from DTI Trucks in Denver, CO. Nason made a motion to approve and accept the quote for a 2012 Freightliner Dump Truck for \$132,999.00. Payment for the truck will be made from the McPherson County Inheritance Fund. Re-payment to the Inheritance Fund will be made from the Road Fund with 0% interest for a period of seven (7) years. Arensdorf seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. Claim #24050052 for \$132,999.00 was approved with the motion.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:17 AM.

The Board will meet again at 9:00 AM on Monday, June 10, 2024, for their next regular meeting. This meeting will be held at the McPherson County Courthouse in Tryon and is open to the public.

Katherine E. Hoberg
McPherson County Clerk

John E. Bryant
McPherson County Board Chairman

MCPHERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AND BOARD OF EQUALIZATION PROCEEDINGS
JUNE 10, 2024

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners met as per adjournment of **May 15, 2024**, for their regular monthly meeting. Notice of meeting having been published in the Stapleton Enterprise, issue dated June 6, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 9:03 AM by Chairman Bryant, who noted the Open Meetings Law, which is posted on the North wall of the meeting room. Members John Bryant, Brett Nason and Jeff Arensdorf were present. Also present were County Attorney Whitney Schroeder, Highway Superintendent Tom Werblow, County Clerk Kathy Hoberg, Road Workers Ed Black and Kasey Dailey. Arensdorf moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting as presented. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason made a motion to approve the following claims as presented. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

GENERAL		AMOUNT
Payroll	Wages	26,975.85
Ameritas	Retirement	1638.88
Sandra Black	Election Board	36.00
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	11104.88
Custer Public Power	Lights/Electricity	704.03
DAS ST Accounting	Computer Expenses	172.00
Grant Writing USA	Training	465.00
Great Plains Communication	Telephone/Internet	539.37
Great Plains Communication		57.96
Heartland Sprinkler Systems	Emergency Mngmt	90.00
Ideal Linen	Grounds Supplies	
IRS	Supplies	132.84
Keith Co. Communications	SS/Medicare	2,013.31
Karen Licking	Tower Maintenance/Svcs	12,128.02
Lincoln County Treasurer	Election Board	183.00
Chelsey McNutt	Extension Contract	5,335.20
McPherson County Sheriff	Park Contract	287.50
McPherson County Treasurer	Plat Map	26.38
MIPS	Unprocessed Check	146.79
NCRAAO Conference	Data Processing/Computer	1,085.78
Neal Oil & Auto	Assessor Workshop	300.00
Margaret Neal	Fuel/Supplies	380.60
NIRMA	Election Board	217.84
North Platte Hardware	Insurance	13,657.00
Toni Powers	Building Supplies	109.75
Pamela Schmidt	Election Board	51.00
Schroeder & Schroeder Attys	Election Board	188.36
Whitney Schroeder	Dues	200.00
Stapleton Enterprise	Mileage	104.52
Trugreen	Printing/Publishing	1,350.55
US Bank	Grounds Supplies	314.00
Viaero	Office/Janitor Supplies	279.72
Village of Stapleton	Sheriff Phone	121.17
Kelly Ward	Trash Disposal	3,000.00
Western Cartographers	Election Board	200.48
Donald Wilson CPA	Plat Map	21.38
	Audit	5,000.00

ROAD		AMOUNT
Payroll	Wages	13,540.00
Ace Hardware	Supplies	135.97
Ameritas	Retirement	846.45
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	2766.04
Croell Inc.	Gravel	23,025.88
Dawson Tire & Wheel	Equipment Repairs	1,663.63
Galaway Field Repair	Equipment Repairs	637.50
Great Plains Comm	Phone/Internet	106.47
IRS	County Share SS/Med	1,033.44
JM Parts and Equipment	Equipment Repairs	91.24
Level LLC	Hauling	7,280.00
McPherson Co. Inheritance	Reimbursement Payments	1,412.72
McPherson Co. Treasurer	Outstanding Check	45.60
NAPA Auto Parts	Equipment Repairs	112.04
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel/Supplies	5,087.83
Nebraska Truck Center	Equipment Repairs	72.69
NIRMA	Insurance	16,762.00
Seavers Tire & Auto	Equipment Repairs	1,755.12
TC Engineering	Highway Supt	750.00

FAIR

Ideal Linen	Supplies	38.61
Sandhill Catering LLC	Fair Meat	1,000.00

SENIOR MEAL PROGRAM

Prairie Hills Café	Senior Meals	3,410.00
McPherson County Treasurer	Office Supplies - Checks	243.75

County Treasurer, Kerri Kramer discussed the Fund Balance Reports with the commissioners. There was also discussion about the RV Lodging at Miller Park. The county is required to begin collecting sales tax and lodging tax on any fees collected for lodging. Nason made a motion to increase the fee to \$15.00 per day which will cover the cost of electricity, sales tax and lodging tax. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

County Clerk, Kathy Hoberg gave an update on the new process of the BCBS Deductible which was raised to \$1100.00 for the new year, with the county doing an HRA Buy Down on the Deductible.

The board reviewed the 3-Year Plan of Assessment presented by the County Assessor, Kathy Hoberg. Nason made a motion to approve and sign the plan. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf, and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Aflac representative, DeeAnn Cross, was present and met with each employee concerning renewal of their plans. All Aflac enrollment is voluntary and paid 100% by the employee.

Arensdorf made a motion to appoint Marvin Hasenauer to the Veteran's Service Board. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

The Commissioners continue to look for a replacement for Lindsey Bernal on the Fair Board.

At 10:30 AM Nason made a motion to recess the meeting and convene as Board of Equalization.

Arensdorf seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Chairman of the BOE, Jeff Arensdorf, called the meeting to order. The meeting notice had been published in the Stapleton Enterprise; issue dated June 6, 2024. There were no Valuation Protests filed for hearing. The BOE meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM.

The Board of Commissioners meeting re-convened at 10:46 AM.

Arensdorf moved to approve and sign the annual audit report completed by Donald D. Wilson, CPA. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. **The audit report has been completed and is on file in the office of the County Clerk.**

Bryant moved to accept and sign the contract for the Senior Meal Program. Arensdorf seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Bryant, Arensdorf and Nason. Voting Nay: None.

Arensdorf made a motion to sign a letter of *Acceptance of Possession* for the newly installed Courtroom A/V System, which was installed by the state. Bryant seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: Nason.

The board received and reviewed letters from Bridge of Hope and Region II which state McPherson County's participation costs for the new budget year.

The board reviewed the new Billing Statement for NIRMA/NIRMA II County insurance. The Total Annual Contribution amount for 2024-2025 will be \$30,419. This represents a 0.18 percent increase from last year.

Roads were discussed with Kasey Dailey and Ed Black. Nason made a motion to approve the June Road Plan as presented by Bryant. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

A Safety Committee Meeting was held. Those present were Tom Werblow, Jeff Arensdorf, Brett Nason, John Bryant, Whitney Schroeder, Kathy Hoberg, Ed Black and Kasey Dailey. Tom Werblow gave flyers and information about *Chainsaw Safety*.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

The next regular Board of Commissioner's meeting will be held at 9:00 AM on **July 10, 2024**. This meeting will be held in the McPherson County Courthouse and will be open to the public.

John E. Bryant
McPherson County Board Chairman

Katherine E. Hoberg
McPherson County Clerk

**MCPHERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S
AND BOARD OF EQUALIZATION PROCEEDINGS**

JULY 10, 2024

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners met as per adjournment of **June 12, 2024**, for their regular monthly meeting. Notice of meeting having been published in the *Stapleton Enterprise*; issue dated July 4, 2024. The agenda for the meeting was posted in the courthouse and on the county website. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chairman Bryant who noted the Open Meetings Law, which is posted on the North wall of the meeting room. Board Members Brett Nason, Jeff Arendorf and John Bryant were present. Also present were Highway Superintendent Tom Werblow, County Attorney Whitney Schroeder, County Treasurer Kerri Kramer, County Clerk Kathy Hoberg, road workers Ed Black and Kasey Dailey, and Sheriff K.C. Bang.

Arendorf moved to approve the minutes of the last Commissioner's Meeting and Board of Equalization Meeting as presented. Nason seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Arendorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason made a motion to approve the following claims as presented. Arendorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arendorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

GENERAL

		AMOUNT
Payroll	Wages	26,165.45
Ameritas	Retirement	1584.18
Applied Connective	IT Services	1597.20
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	11104.88
John Bryant	Mileage	167.50
Comfort Inn Kearney	Clerk Workshop	359.85
Richard Cook	Weed Workshop	178.64
Crowne Plaza Kearney	Board Workshop	279.90
Custer Public Power	Lights/Electricity	772.45
DAS ST Accounting	Computer Expenses	172.00
Eakes Office Plus	Maintenance Agreement	380.35
First Concord Benefits	Ins. Deductible Buy-Down	132.00
Grease Monkey	Vehicle Maintenance	124.98
Great Plains Comm.	Telephone/Internet	539.37
Great Plains Comm.	Emergency Mngmt	57.96
Katherine Hoberg	Mileage	95.10
Ideal Linen	Supplies	132.84
IRS	SS/Medicare	1,932.79
Logan County Treasurer	Veteran's Service Contract	1,649.00
Chelsey McNutt	Equipment Reimbursement	645.96
MIPS	Data Processing/Computer	1,147.99
NACO	Dues	997.08
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel/Supplies	229.90
Ramada Midtown	Treasurer Workshop	321.00
Region II Services	Assessment FY 2024-2025	850.00
Whitney Schroeder	Mileage/Child Suppt	229.52
Stapleton Enterprise	Printing/Publishing	305.18
US Bank	Office/Janitor Supplies	579.60
Viaero	Sheriff Phone	255.34
Village of Stapleton	Trash Disposal	3,000.00
W. Central NE Area Aging	Assessment FY 2024-2025	482.08

ROAD

		AMOUNT
Payroll	Wages	11,429.10
Ameritas	Retirement	703.96
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	2766.04
Croell Inc.	Gravel	22,322.39
Croell Inc. Paving	Asphalt	1,722.60
Fastenal Co.	Shop Supplies	19.59

First concord Benefits	Ins. Deductible Buy-Back	116.00
Great Plains Comm	Phone/Internet	106.47
Inland Truck Parts	Equipment Repairs	6,922.68
IRS	County Share SS/Med	871.97
JM Parts and Equipment	Equipment Repairs	173.27
McPherson Co. Inheritance	Reimbursement Payments	2,515.00
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel/Supplies	5,145.04
NMC Exchange	Equipment Repairs	95.16
T&S Repair	Equipment Repairs	269.02
TC Engineering	Highway Supt	750.00
Troyer Enterprises	Equipment Repairs	2,052.65
FAIR		
Ideal Linen	Supplies	38.61
SENIOR MEAL PROGRAM		
Prairie Hills Café	Senior Meals	2,350.00

At 9:15 AM, Kylie Joyce, from Region II Services was present and gave a presentation to the board. Region II Services supports people with developmental disabilities. They currently serve 17 counties in Southwest Nebraska, and currently serve 155 individuals in this region. Region II Services is certified by the State of Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Developmental Disabilities Division. The Region II governing board is comprised of one county commissioner from each of the 17 counties, formed under an Interlocal Agreement. Brett Nason is currently on the governing board from McPherson County. Region II Services is a political subdivision receiving state, federal, county, and local funds.

At 9:30 AM, Audrey Worthing, representing Congressman Adrian Smith, was present and gave the commissioners an update on committees and subject matters the Congressman is currently involved with. At 10:00 AM, Luke Bonkiewicz was present and gave a NACO update. The new NACO Building in Ogallala should be completed this Fall. There is now a link on the NACO Website called *County Explorer* which contains information and interesting facts about each county in Nebraska. NACO is keeping a close eye on the legislature which is planning to be in Special Session beginning July 25th.

At 10:30 AM, Nason moved to recess the regular meeting and convene as Board of Equalization. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

There were no protests filed for this hearing and there were no members of the public present for comment. Nason moved to adjourn the Board of Equalization meeting. Bryant seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Bryant and Arensdorf. Voting Nay: None.

The regular meeting re-convened at 10:40 AM.

Ed Black and Kasey Dailey reported that the road department has been doing road maintenance throughout the county. There was discussion about Soddy Road, Cemetery Road, Ringgold Road and Prairie Trace Road. Bryant made a motion to approve the Road Plan presented by Nason. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant, Arensdorf and Nason. Voting Nay: None.

There was a Safety Committee meeting held. Those present were, Tom Werblow, Whitney Schroeder, John Bryant, Brett Nason, Jeff Arensdorf, Kerri Kramer, Kathy Hoberg, Ed Black, Kasey Dailey and K.C. Bang. Werblow presented flyers and information on *Machine Safety- Emergency Equipment*.

Sheriff K.C. Bang addressed the board concerning the need for a new patrol vehicle. The commissioners will seek three informal bids with preferred requirements.

The commissioners were given several reports from the Treasurer, including the Fund Balance Listing for 6/30/2024, the Fund Balance Six Month Accumulated Report, and the Fund Balance 12 Month Accumulated Report.

Kerri Kramer gave a report on a recent Grant Writing class she attended. There will be more discussion about Grants and Grant Writing at the Budget Workshop.

The commissioners reviewed and signed the Quarterly Fee Report from the Clerk.

The Budget Workshop has been scheduled for August 14th at 1:00 PM.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM.

The board will meet again at 9:00 AM on August 14, 2024, for their next regular monthly meeting. This meeting will be held in the McPherson County Courthouse and will be open to the public.

MCPHERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S
PROCEEDINGS
AUGUST 14, 2024

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners met as per adjournment of **July 10, 2024**, for their regular monthly meeting and Budget Workshop. Notice of meeting having been published in the Stapleton Enterprise, issue dated August 8, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chairman Bryant who noted the Open Meetings Law, which is posted on the North wall of the meeting room. Members Brett Nason, Jeff Arensdorf and John Bryant were present. Also present were the Highway Superintendent Tom Werblow, Road employee Ed Black, County Clerk Kathy Hoberg, Treasurer Kerri Kramer, Sheriff K.C. Bang, and County Attorney Whitney Schroeder. Arensdorf moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting as presented. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. Nason made a motion to approve the following claims as presented. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

GENERAL

		AMOUNT
Payroll	Wages	27,216.90
Ameritas	Retirement	1655.15
Applied Connective	IT Consultant	784.60
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	11104.88
John E. Bryant	Mileage	123.95
Richard Cook	Weed Expenses	198.99
Custer Public Power	Lights/Electricity	971.41
DAS ST Accounting	Computer Expenses	344.00
DataShield	Onsite Shredding	107.52
Eakes Office Plus	Supplies	66.40
First Concord Benefits	Deductible Buy-Down	32.00
Great Plains Communication		554.29
Great Plains Communication	Telephone/Internet	57.96
Katherine Hoberg	Emergency Mngmt	
Ideal Linen	Mileage	53.60
IRS	Supplies	138.16
Kerri Kramer	SS/Medicare	2,013.23
MIPS	Mileage	239.86
Neal Oil & Auto	Data Processing/Computer	1,104.22
Region II Human Svcx	Fuel/Supplies	325.80
Whitney Schroeder	Annual Shard	1,726.36
Stapleton Enterprise	Mileage	104.52
Trugreen	Printing/Publishing	343.40
US Bank	Grounds Supplies	256.00
Viaero	Supplies/Expenses	1,256.58
	Sheriff Phone	75.73

ROAD

		AMOUNT
Payroll	Wages	13,540.00
Ameritas	Retirement	846.45
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	2766.04
Croell Inc.	Gravel	28,852.54
Croell Inc.	Asphalt	1,313.70
Dawson Tire & Wheel	Equipment Repairs	2,032.87
Fastenal	Supplies	27.53
First Concord Benefits	Deductible Buy-Down	16.00
Great Plains Comm	Phone/Internet	106.97
Inland Truck Parts	Equipment Repairs	128.39
IRS	County Share SS/Med	1,033.44
Level LLC	Hauling	4,745.00

McPherson Co.		
Inheritance	Reimbursement Payments	2,515.00
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel/Supplies	8,067.27
Platte Valley Comm	Radio Repair	97.32
T & S Repair	Equipment Repairs	832.52
TC Engineering	Highway Supt	750.00
Thorson Construction	Building Repair	250.00
Titan Machinery	Equipment Repairs	237.70

FAIR

Tim Davis	Judge Expense	244.97
Rodger Farr	Judge Expense	145.22
Charlene Fichtner	Judge Expense	178.00
Hooker County Tribune	Publishing	75.00
Ideal Linen	Supplies	38.61
Margaret Ann Neal	Judge Expense	103.30
Dennis Pace	Judge Expense	121.80
Robert Ryland	Fair Expense	231.32
Sandhill Catering LLC	Fair Meat	298.36
Billie Jo Schrad-Boyle	Judge Expense	315.50

SENIOR MEAL PROGRAM

Prairie Hills Café	Senior Meals	3,971.00
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Pursuant to §84-1410, members of the public were given an opportunity to speak. The public comment section was limited to 15 minutes total. There were no members of the public who chose to speak. The commissioners reviewed the 2024-2025 Propane Bid Proposals from Neal Oil. Nason moved to accept the proposals for the McPherson County Courthouse and the McPherson County Road Department. Each bid is for an estimated 2,000 Gallons @ \$1.52 per gallon. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason made a motion to approve the 2024-2025 Interlocal Participation Letter for Behavioral Health Programs with Region II Human Services and pay the annual share of \$1726.36. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Arensdorf made a motion to upgrade the County's contract with Great Plains Communications, increasing the Standard Internet Access from 20x20 Mbps to 50x5 Mbps. The approximate cost increase will be \$50.00 or less per month. Nason seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

The Commissioners and the County Attorney received and reviewed the Trustee's Report and Accounting of the Robert F. Hanich Trust.

Nason made a motion to approve and adopt **RESOLUTION #2024-9** Annual Certification of Program Compliance and Annual Certification Form for the Highway Buyback program. Arensdorf Seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf, and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Arensdorf moved to adopt and sign **RESOLUTION # 2024-10** Tax Allocation Miscellaneous Districts. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason moved to adopt and sign **RESOLUTION # 2024-11** 1% Increase Restricted Funds. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Arensdorf moved to adopt and sign **RESOLUTION # 2024-12** Authorization/Reauthorization of Petty Cash Funds. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

There was a discussion about the condition of Soddy Road. Jack Tucker, John Tucker and Rudy Haynes were present and informed the board that they have trucking companies who are voicing concerns and hesitation about hauling equipment and livestock on the road. The commissioners continue to research and look for the best solution for repairing the road. The board is reaching out to other counties and road construction companies questioning their experiences with turning a paved road back to gravel. Jordan Gardner with Murphy Tractor was present and introduced himself to the board.

Bryant made a motion to approve the Road Plan as presented by Nason. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant, Arensdorf and Nason. Voting Nay: None.

There was a Safety Committee Meeting held. Those present were Tom Werblow, John Bryant, Brett Nason, Jeff Arensdorf, Kathy Hoberg, K. C. Bang, Ed Black and Kasey Dailey. Tom Werblow gave flyers and information about Machine Safety - Submersion and Safely Using Loaders.

The board received and reviewed the Fund Balance Reports and Tax Remaining Report from the Treasurer.

Arensdorf made a motion to appoint the State Print Shop for the LB 644 Pink Postcards if necessary. Nason seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

The board reviewed and signed the county office inventories for 2024.

Sheriff K.C. Bang presented the board with bids for a patrol vehicle. The board reviewed listings from Van Horn Ford Chevrolet of Newhall, IA, OpenSource Autos of Mission, KS and Logan County, NE.

Nason moved to accept the bid for a 2018 Dodge Ram from Logan County Sheriff's Office. Included in the sale are a Watchguard Camera, decked storage unit, new Tonneau Cover, grill guard, interior lights/control, gun safe and custom- built cage. The price of the vehicle is \$27,000.00. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

The board reviewed and signed the second quarter fee report from the sheriff.

At 11:10 AM, Bryant recessed the meeting for a lunch break to re-convene at 1:00 PM for the Budget Workshop.

At 1:00 PM, the meeting resumed, and the Budget Workshop began.

Those present were, John Bryant, Brett Nason, Jeff Arensdorf, Kerri Kramer, Kathy Hoberg and Budget Preparer Caleb Johnson. Budgets for each county office were discussed at length.

There being no further business, the Budget Workshop and the meeting were adjourned at 4:30 PM. The board will meet again at 9:00 AM on September 11, 2024, for their regular monthly meeting. This meeting will be held in the courtroom of the McPherson County Courthouse and is open to the public.

John E. Bryant
McPherson County Board Chairman

Katherine E. Hoberg
McPherson County Clerk

MCPHERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AND BOARD OF EQUALIZATION PROCEEDINGS

SEPTEMBER 11, 2024

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners met as per adjournment of **August 14, 2024**, for their regular monthly meeting. Notice of meeting having been published in the Stapleton Enterprise, issue dated September 5, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 9:03 AM by Chairman Bryant, who noted the Open Meetings Law, which is posted on the North wall of the meeting room. Members Brett Nason, John Bryant and Jeff Arensdorf were present. Also present were the County Attorney Whitney Schroeder, Road Worker Ed Black, Highway Superintendent Tom Werblow, and County Clerk Kathy Hoberg.

Arensdorf made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting with one correction necessary for a clerical error. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason made a motion to approve the following claims as presented. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

GENERAL		AMOUNT
Payroll	Wages	26,133.78
Ameritas	Retirement	1582.04
Applied Connective	IT Consultant	784.60
Kenneth Bang	Uniform Allowance	84.00
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	11104.88
Burt County Sheriff's Office	Law Equipment	750
Cloudfire Services	Courthouse Repairs	577.4
Custer Public Power	Lights/Electricity	862.63
Eakes Office Plus	Supplies	24.30
First Concord Benefits	Deductible Buy-Down	104.58
Great Plains		540.35
Communication	Telephone/Internet	
Great Plains		57.96
Communication	Emergency Mngmt	
Hampton Inn Kearney	Assessor Workshop	434.85
Katherine Hoberg	Mileage	75.04
Ideal Linen	Supplies	138.16
IRS	SS/Medicare	1,930.36
Logan County Treasurer	Patrol Vehicle	27,000.00
Chelsey McNutt	Park Contract	287.50
MIPS	Data Processing/Computer	1,104.22
NE Assn County Officials	West Central Meeting	125.00
NE Sheriff's Assn	Workshop	400.00
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel/Supplies	144.49
NE Safety & Fire Equip	Inspection	40.00
Whitney Schroeder	Mileage	104.52
Stapleton Enterprise	Printing/Publishing	389.14
Trugreen	Grounds Supplies	125.00
US Bank	Supplies/Expenses	575.50
Viaero	Sheriff Phone	134.46
Whitetail Screen Print	Sheriff Uniform	136.50

ROAD		AMOUNT
Payroll	Wages	11,032.00
Ameritas	Retirement	677.16
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	2766.04
Croell Inc.	Gravel	19,079.09
Dawson Tire & Wheel	Equipment Repairs	2,713.43
Fastenal	Supplies	40.00
First Concord Benefits	Deductible Buy-Down	16.00
Great Plains Comm	Phone/Internet	106.97

IRS	County Share SS/Med	841.59
JM Parts & Equipment	Supplies	61.04
Level LLC	Hauling	3,872.50
McPherson Co.		
Inheritance	Reimbursement Payments	2,515.00
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel/Supplies	5,638.66
NE Safety & Fire Equip	Inspection	110.00
NE Truck Center	Equipment Repairs	183.32
TC Engineering	Highway Supt	750.00
US Bank	Supplies/Expenses	1,155.16

FAIR

C Cindy Gregg	Fair Expense	170.36
Ideal Linen	Supplies	38.61
Stapleton Enterprise	Publishing	285.00

SENIOR MEAL PROGRAM

Prairie Hills Café	Senior Meals	4,114.00
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The road department is in need of a new Pick-up. Brett Nason presented several bids to the board for review. The board did not accept any of the bids presented, and Nason will continue to search.

The board reviewed a *Request for Road Work* filed by Alyssa Waits for a gravel road at 201 S. Tryon Rd. After discussion, Arensdorf made a motion to approve the request and add it to the Road Plan.

Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: Nason.

The commissioners discussed the condition of South Tryon Road. There have been several incidences of people getting stuck as they attempt to travel from Tryon to North Platte. The road shows as a through road on GPS devices but is not passable for most vehicles. Highway Superintendent Tom Werblow will research and identify the correct signs to be posted, keeping McPherson County in compliance with state regulations. Bryant made a motion to approve the September Road Plan presented by Nason. Arensdorf seconded.

Voting Aye: Bryant, Arensdorf and Nason. Voting Nay: None.

Roads were discussed with Ed Black. The road workers have been doing road and auto-gate repairs and maintenance. Robert Watson with Level LLC was contacted about pulverizing the pavement on Prairie Trace Road. Watson will send a bid for the project prior to the October Commissioner's Meeting.

Ben Dutton from the Lincoln, Logan, McPherson Extension was present and introduced himself to the commissioners. Dutton is the new Lead Educator with the Extension, specializing in Economic Development.

There was a Safety Committee Meeting held. Those present were, Jeff Arensdorf, Brett Nason, John Bryant, Whitney Schroeder, Tom Werblow, Ed Black, K C Bang and Kathy Hoberg. Werblow gave flyers and information about *Machine Safety – Overhead Power Line Contact*.

The Treasurer presented the Fund Balance Reports, Delinquent Tax Listing and Distress Warrant Report to the board.

The Sheriff voiced concerns about the speed limits on the paved roads in the County. Tom Werblow will conduct an Engineering Study on Ringgold Road, Soddy Road, Cemetery Road and Diamond Bar Road. The results of the study will be sent to the County Board.

The Assessor presented the board with the 2024 Permissive Exemption Report which will be published by the Board of Equalization on September 26, 2024.

John Bryant was chosen to be the Board Representative for McPherson County at the Joint Public Hearing to be held September 18, 2024, at 6:00 PM.

The Commissioners discussed a report that McPherson County is listed on the *Center for Immigration Studies*' website, as a Sanctuary County. McPherson County has not passed a resolution making us a Sanctuary County, and there are no plans to do so. The County Attorney will look into the process of removing our county from this list.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 AM.

The board will meet on September 19, 2024, at 9:00 AM, for the Tax Request Hearing, Budget Hearing, and the meeting to adopt the 2024-2025 Budget and set the final tax request. These hearings will be held in the McPherson County Courthouse and will be open to the public.

The next regular board meeting will be held on October 9, 2024, at 9:00 AM. This meeting will be held in the courtroom of the McPherson County Courthouse and will be open to the public.

John E. Bryant
McPherson County Board Chairman

Katherine E. Hoberg
McPherson County Clerk

MCPHERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

HEARING TO SET THE FINAL TAX REQUEST

SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners met as per adjournment of **September 11, 2024**, for a Hearing to Set the Final Tax Request. Notice of hearing having been published in the Stapleton Enterprise, issue dated **September 12, 2024**. The hearing was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chairman Bryant, who noted the Open Meetings Law, which is posted on the North wall of the meeting room. Members Brett Nason and John Bryant were present. Commissioner Jeff Arensdorf was going to be late due to personal business. Also present were the County Treasurer Kerri Kramer and County Clerk Kathy Hoberg. Bryant made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting as presented. Voting Aye: Bryant and Nason. Voting Nay: None. The hearing was held to set the final tax request for the proposed 2024-2025 McPherson County Budget, with a tax request of \$956,042.23 which is \$69,034.89 more than last year.

There were three copies of the proposed budget available in the courtroom for public review.

The purpose of the hearing was to hear support, opposition, criticism, suggestions, or observations of taxpayers relating to setting the final tax request. Three copies of the aggregate page, comparing numbers on this year's proposed budget with last year's budget, were also available for review in the courtroom.

There were no members of the public present for review or to participate in the hearing.

The meeting remained open for 15 minutes.

Chairman Bryant adjourned the meeting at 9:15 AM.

ATTEST: _____

McPherson County Clerk

McPherson County Board Chairman

MCPHERSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

BUDGET HEARING

SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners met as per adjournment of The Hearing to set the Final Tax Request, which was held at 9:00 AM on this date. Notice of hearing having been published in the Stapleton Enterprise, issue dated September 12, 2024.

The hearing was called to order by chairman Bryant at 9:15 AM. Bryant noted the Open Meetings Law which is posted on the North wall of the courtroom. Brett Nason, John Bryant and Jeff Arensdorf were present. Also present were the county treasurer and county clerk. The minutes of the September board meeting were examined and approved by motion of the board, at a meeting which was held at 9:00 AM on this date.

The Budget Hearing was held for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions, or observations of taxpayers relating to the proposed 2024-2025 McPherson County Budget.

There were three copies of the proposed budget and an aggregate page available in the courtroom for public review. Board chairman Bryant presented an overview of the 2024-2025 Budget.

There were no members of the public present for review or to participate in the hearing.

This hearing remained open for 15 minutes.

Commissioner Bryant adjourned the meeting at 9:30 AM.

ATTEST: _____

McPherson County Clerk

McPherson County Board Chairman

MCPHERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

SPECIAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners met as per adjournment of the Budget Hearing which was held beginning at 9:15 AM and adjourned at 9:30 AM on this date.

Notice of meeting having been published in the Stapleton Enterprise, issue dated September 12, 2024. The meeting was called to order by chairman Bryant at 9:35 AM. Bryant noted the Open Meetings Law which is posted on the North wall of the courtroom. John Bryant, Brett Nason and Jeff Arensdorf were present. Also present were the County Treasurer Kerri Kramer and County Clerk Kathy Hoberg.

The minutes of the September board meeting, held on September 11, 2024, were approved at a hearing held at 9:00 AM on this date.

Nason made a motion to approve and adopt the 2024-2025 McPherson County Budget and Set the Final Tax Request. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf, and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Arensdorf made a motion to approve and adopt **Resolution # 2024-13 Resolution of Adoption and Appropriations**. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason moved to approve and adopt **Resolution #2024-14 Property Tax Request**, which will cause the tax rate to be **.242605**, which is different than the 2023-2024 rate of **.252940** per \$100 of assessed value. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of the McPherson County Board of Commissioners will increase compared to last year's operating budget by **4.71%**.

Chairman Arensdorf adjourned the meeting at 9:45 AM. The board will meet again on October 11, 2024, at 9:00 AM for their regular monthly meeting. This meeting will be held in the courtroom of the McPherson County Courthouse and is open to the public.

ATTEST: _____

McPherson County Clerk

McPherson County Board Chairman

MCPHERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND
BOARD OF EQUALIZATION PROCEEDINGS

OCTOBER 9, 2024

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners met as per adjournment of **September 19, 2024**, for their regular monthly meeting. Notice of meeting having been published in the Stapleton Enterprise, issue dated October 3, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chairman Bryant, who noted the Open Meetings Law, which is posted on the North wall of the meeting room. Members John Bryant, Brett Nason and Jeff Arensdorf were present. Also present were Highway Superintendent Tom Werblow, Road Department employee Ed Black, County Attorney Whitney Schroeder, and County Clerk Kathy Hoberg. Nason moved to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2024, Special Hearing to Set the Final Tax Request, the Budget Hearing and Special Commissioner's Meeting as presented. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason made a motion to approve the following claims as presented. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf, and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

GENERAL

		AMOUNT
Payroll	Wages	25,785.45
Ameritas	Retirement	1558.53
Applied Connective	IT Consultant	792.60
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	11104.88
Brouillette Troshynski	Court App Atty	514.50
John Bryant	Mileage	105.19
Richard Cook	Weed Expenses	65.66
Custer Public Power	Lights/Electricity	735.77
DAS ST. Accounting	Computer Expenses	172.00
Jodi Dudley	Mileage	52.26
Eakes Office Plus	Supplies	217.43
ES&S	Election Supplies	1273.53
First Concord Benefits	Deductible Buy-Down	32.00
Alexandra Gonzalez	Vehicle Decal Application	1600.00
Great Plains Comm	Telephone/Internet	540.35
Great Plains Comm	Emergency Mngmt	57.96
Katherine Hoberg	Mileage	75.04
Ideal Linen	Supplies	138.16
IRS	SS/Medicare	1,903.71
Lincoln County Treasurer	Extension Contract	1,901.50
Lincoln County Detention	Prisoner Safekeeping	550.00
Loup Basin RC&D	Weed Postage	33.90
McPherson Cty Treasurer	Vehicle Title	10.00
MIPS	Data Processing/Computer	1,104.22
Brett Nason	Mileage	91.12
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel	224.80
Whitney Schroeder	Mileage/Child Support	334.04
Stapleton Enterprise	Printing/Publishing	1,036.70
Thomas County Library	Bookmobile	5,115.86
Trugreen	Grounds Upkeep	80.00
US Bank	Supplies/Expenses	587.45
Verizon	County Court Phone	53.92
Viaero	Sheriff Phone	134.46

ROAD

		AMOUNT
Payroll	Wages	11,032.00
Ameritas	Retirement	677.16
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	2766.04
Croell Inc.	Gravel	13,234.74
Croell Inc.	Asphalt	2,082.20
Dawson Tire & Wheel	Equipment Repairs	820.79
Fastenal	Supplies	49.36

First Concord Benefits	Deductible Buy-Down	16.00
Great Plains Comm	Phone/Internet	106.97
Inland Truck Parts	Equipment Repairs	58.78
IRS	County Share SS/Med	841.59
JM Parts & Equipment	Supplies	180.19
McPherson Co.		
Inheritance	Reimbursement Payments	2,515.00
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel/Supplies	3,003.02
NE Truck Center	Equipment Repairs	1,233.74
T&S Repair LLC	Equipment Repairs	1,116.18
TC Engineering	Highway Supt	750.00
Troyer Enterprises	Supplies	49.63

FAIR

Ideal Linen	Supplies	38.61
US Bank	Supplies	34.76

SENIOR MEAL PROGRAM

Prairie Hills Café	Senior Meals	3,333.00
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Arensdorf made a motion to Approve and Adopt **RESOLUTION #2024-15** Setting Subdivision Levies in McPherson County for 2024/2025.

The motion was seconded by Nason. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. Levies were set as follows:

MCPHERSON COUNTY		MID PLAINS COMMUNITY COLLEGE	
GENERAL FUND	0.139883	GENERAL FUND	0.000000
ROAD FUND	0.100957	CAPITAL	
FAIR FUND	0.001511	IMPROVEMENTS	TOTAL 0.020000
FAIR BUILDING	0.000254		0.020000
TOTAL	0.242605		
MCPHERSON COUNTY RURAL FIRE DISTRICT		EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 16	
GENERAL FUND	0.004763	TOTAL	0.015000
SINKING FUND	0.001449		
TOTAL	0.006212		
TOTAL COUNTY & FIRE	0.248817		
MCPHERSON COUNTY SCHOOL		UPPER LOUP NRD	
GENERAL	0.653088	TOTAL	0.013723
QUALIFIED CAPITAL PURPOSE	0.026704		
SPECIAL BUILDING FUND	0.019205		
TOTAL	0.698997		
ARTHUR COUNTY SCHOOLS		TWIN PLATTE NRD	
GENERAL	0.794089	TOTAL	0.017533
BUILDING FUND	0.011934		
QUALIFIED CAPITAL PURPOSE	0.010229		
TOTAL	0.816252		
STAPLETON PUBLIC SCHOOLS			
GENERAL	0.674334		
BOND FUND	0.048453		
TOTAL	0.722787		

County Roads were discussed with Ed Black. The department continues to haul rock, patch asphalt, repair and maintain roads.

The policy on Road Department holiday pay was discussed. The road employees currently work four ten-hour days each week. Therefore, Bryant made a motion to change the current policy of paying 8 hours for a holiday to 10 hours. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant, Arensdorf and Nason. Voting Nay: None.

There was discussion on how to proceed with the process of pulverizing the asphalt on Prairie Trace Road. Robert Watson was present and presented an estimate of costs to the board. The estimate exceeds the threshold requiring sealed bids. Tom Werblow will compose a request for sealed bids which will be published, and all bids received will be opened at the November 13th meeting.

The commissioners discussed the need for stockpiling clay for use on county roads. Bryant made a motion to have Brett Nason excavate clay on his property for a machine rent charge of \$135.00 per hour, up to \$5,000.00.

Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant and Arensdorf. Voting Nay: None. Nason abstained.

The board is continuing to look for a pick-up for the Road Department. The matter will be discussed again at the November 13th meeting.

Bryant made a motion to accept the October Road Plan as presented by Arensdorf, with one modification. The road located at 701 North Ringgold Road has been completed and will be removed from the Road Plan. Nason Seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant, Nason and Arensdorf. Voting Nay: None.

A Safety Committee Meeting was held. Those present were, Jeff Arensdorf, Brett Nason, John Bryant, Whitney Schroeder, Ed Black, Kerri Kramer, and Kathy Hoberg. Tom Werblow gave flyers and a presentation about ***Fatigue Avoidance and The Three Point Rule***. The committee also reviewed the NiRMA Safety Committee Resource Handbook. McPherson County would like to verify that we are following necessary requirements for Workman's Compensation and Liability issues. Whitney Schroeder contacted Chad Engle with NiRMA, and he is planning to visit with the board and Safety Committee at the December commissioner's meeting.

The commissioners reviewed and signed the Quarterly Fee Report presented by the Clerk.

The board received and reviewed the Fund Balance Report and Delinquent Tax Listing from the Treasurer.

The Commissioners reviewed a Contract for Property Appraisal submitted by the Assessor. This will be for pick-up work only. Nason made a motion to accept and sign the contract. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

The annual NACO Conference will be held December 18-20 in Kearney. Those planning to attend will be John Bryant, Kerri Kramer and Kathy Hoberg.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:34 AM. They will meet again on November 13, 2024, at 9:00 AM. This meeting will be held in the courtroom of the McPherson County Courthouse and will be open to the public.

Katherine E. Hoberg
McPherson County Clerk

John E. Bryant
McPherson County Board Chairman

**MCPHERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S
AND BOARD OF EQUALIZATION PROCEEDINGS
NOVEMBER 13, 2024**

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners met as per adjournment of **October 9, 2024**, for their regular monthly meeting. Notice of meeting having been published in the Stapleton Enterprise, issue dated November 7, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 9:04 AM by Board Chairman Bryant, who noted the Open Meetings Law, which is posted on the North wall of the meeting room. Members John Bryant and Brett Nason were present. Also present were the Highway Superintendent Tom Werblow, road worker Ed Black and the County Clerk Kathy Hoberg. Nason moved to excuse Jeff Arensdorf and County Attorney, Whitney Schroeder, due to illness. Bryant seconded. Voting Aye: Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. Bryant moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant and Nason. Voting Nay: None.

Nason made a motion to approve the following claims as presented. Bryant seconded. Voting Aye: Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

GENERAL		AMOUNT
Payroll	Wages	27,227.90
Ameritas	Retirement	1655.90
Applied Connective	IT Consultant	3092.59
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	11104.88
Brouillette Troshynski	Court App Atty	512.50
John Bryant	Mileage	123.95
Custer Public Power	Lights/Electricity	545.90
DAS ST. Accounting	Computer Expenses	172.00
Datashield	Shredding	107.62
Eakes Office Plus	Supplies	55.30
Fairfield Inn	Workshop	123.95
First Concord Benefits	Deductible Buy-Down	32.00
Great Plains Comm	Telephone/Internet	541.06
Great Plains Comm	Emergency Mngmt	57.96
Heartland Sprinkler Systems	Grounds Upkeep	90.00
Katherine Hoberg	Mileage	234.50
Ideal Linen	Supplies	276.32
IRS	SS/Medicare	2,014.06
MIPS	Data Processing/Computer	1,908.22
NACO	Convention/Dues	1,317.08
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel	612.81
North Platte Hardware	Supplies	10.99
Whitney Schroeder	Mileage	104.52
Stapleton Enterprise	Printing/Publishing	1,219.90
Trugreen	Grounds Upkeep	80.00
US Bank	Supplies/Expenses	727.68
Verizon	County Court Phone	53.92
Viaero	Sheriff Phone	134.32
Village of Stapleton	Garbage Disposal	12,000.00

ROAD		AMOUNT
Payroll	Wages	13,780.35
Ace Hardware	Supplies	189.98
Ameritas	Retirement	862.67
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	2766.04
Richard Burnside	Clay	195.00
Croell Inc.	Gravel	11,722.91
Custom Products Corp.	Safety Supplies	111.02
Dawson Tire & Wheel	Equipment Repairs	140.09
First Concord Benefits	Deductible Buy-Down	16.00

Great Plains Comm	Phone/Internet	107.37
Inland Truck Parts	Equipment Repairs	10,587.52
IRS	County Share SS/Med	1,051.83
McPherson Co.		
Inheritance	Reimbursement Payments	2,515.00
Medical Enterprises Inc	Drug Testing	35.00
Michael Todd Industrial	Signs	200.70
Midlands Occupational		
Med	Drug Testing	20.00
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel/Supplies	7,058.10
Paulson Inc	Concrete	1,346.75
Stapleton Enterprise	Publish Bid	324.00
TC Engineering	Highway Supt	750.00
Titan Machinery	Equipment Repairs	515.20
Troyer Enterprises	Shop Supplies	199.62
Dale White	Safety Supplies	410.00

FAIR

Ideal Linen	Supplies	79.90
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SENIOR MEAL PROGRAM

Prairie Hills Café	Senior Meals	4,356.00
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Eric Seacrest, Executive Director of the Mid Nebraska Community Foundation, was present and visited with the board. Mr. Seacrest answered questions and gave pamphlets to the commissioners concerning the Childers Fund. There are funds available to the county through a Betterment Grant Application process.

At 9:45 AM, the board opened one sealed bid which was received for the Prairie Trace Road Project. The bid was submitted by Level LLC, for an amount of \$55,000.00. Nason made a motion to accept the bid. Bryant seconded. Voting Aye: Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

John Bryant, Chairman of the Board, signed road easements for a road located at 201 S. Tryon Road.

Ed Black reported that the Road crew has been doing maintenance on roads and replacing signs. The road employees have also been completing safety upgrades in the shop.

Bryant made a motion to approve the November Road Plan as presented. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant and Nason. Voting Nay: None.

Nason moved to approve, adopt, and sign **RESOLUTION # 2024-17** authorizing John Bryant to sign the Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent. Bryant seconded. Voting Aye: Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason moved to approve, adopt and sign **RESOLUTION # 2024-16** Naming Henderson State Bank as one of the depositories for the funds of McPherson County. Bryant seconded. Voting Aye: Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

The commissioners received and reviewed the Fund Balance Report as presented by the Treasurer. The board signed the Third Quarter Fee Report which was presented by the Sheriff.

A Safety Committee meeting was held. Those present were Tom Werblow, John Bryant, Brett Nason, Ed Black, Kerri Kramer and Kathy Hoberg. Werblow gave flyers and a presentation titled *The Dangers of Cold, Wintry Weather*.

There was a discussion about a dead tree which needs to be removed Southwest of the courthouse. Bryant made a motion to have Brett Nason contact tree removal services regarding the project. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant and Nason. Voting Nay: None.

The commissioners received and read a letter from Prairie Hills Café, informing them that the café will cease serving senior meals effective December 31, 2024. The letter states that the café can no longer keep up with paperwork and mandates required from West Central Area Agency on Aging.

The commissioners acknowledged the letter and would like to thank Prairie Hills Café for their service to the community.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 AM.

The commissioners will meet again on **December 11, 2024**, at 9:00 AM. This meeting will be held in the McPherson County Courthouse in Tryon and will be open to the public.

Katherine E. Hoberg
McPherson County Clerk

John E. Bryant
McPherson County Board Chairman

MCPHERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AND BOARD OF EQUALIZATION PROCEEDINGS
December 11, 2024

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners met as per adjournment of **November 13, 2024**, for their regular monthly meeting. Notice of meeting having been posted in the Stapleton Enterprise issue dated **December 5, 2024**, and the McPherson County Website, www.mcphersoncounty.ne.gov. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chairman Bryant, who noted the Open Meetings Law, which is posted on the North wall of the meeting room. Members John Bryant, Brett Nason and Jeff Arensdorf were present. Also present were the Highway Superintendent Tom Werblow, Sheriff K.C. Bang, County Attorney Whitney Schroeder, and County Clerk Kathy Hoberg. Arensdorf made a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting as presented. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Nason and Bryant. Arensdorf abstained, as he was absent from the last meeting. Voting Nay: None.

After examination, Nason made a motion to approve the following claims as presented. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

GENERAL	AMOUNT
Payroll	25,878.85
Ameritas	1564.84
Applied Connective	806.60
At&T Mobility	54.70
Kenneth Bang	60.81
Sandra Black	48.00
Blue Cross Blue Shield	11104.88
Brouillette Troshynski	488.50
Richard Cook	21.44
Custer Public Power	581.19
DAS ST. Accounting	172.00
Datashield	107.52
Eakes Office Plus	67.52
Election Systems & Software	1776.13
First Concord Benefits	532.00
Great Plains Comm	541.06
Great Plains Comm	57.96
Ideal Linen	138.16
IRS	1,910.85
Caleb Johnson	2,491.96
Rhonda Kemp	192.00
Karen Licking	180.00
Chelsey McNutt	287.50
MIPS	1,104.22
NE Sheriff's Assn	175.00
Neal Oil & Auto	745.30
Margaret Neal	214.84
Toni Powers	42.00
Pamela Schmidt	165.35
Stapleton Enterprise	196.71
US Bank	1,215.47
Verizon	55.55
Viaero	134.32
Village of Stapleton	3,000.00

ROAD		AMOUNT
Payroll	Wages	11,032.00
Al's Towing	Equipment Repairs	938.00
Ameritas	Retirement	677.16
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	2766.04
Croell Inc.	Gravel	8,693.33
Fastenal Company	Equipment Repairs	24.54
First Concord Benefits	Deductible Buy-Down	16.00
Great Plains Comm	Phone/Internet	107.37
Inland Truck Parts	Equipment Repairs	1,256.06
IRS	County Share SS/Med	841.59
McPherson Co.		
Inheritance	Reimbursement Payments	2,515.00
Michael Todd Industrial	Signs	797.48
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel/Supplies	5,470.22
T&S Repair LLC	Equipment Repairs	801.20
TC Engineering	Highway Supt	750.00
Titan Machinery	Equipment Repairs	264.77
US Bank	Supplies	31.62
FAIR		
Ideal Linen	Supplies	41.29
Prairie Hills Café	Fair Supplies	220.00
SENIOR MEAL PROGRAM		
Prairie Hills Café	Senior Meals	3,124.00

Rich Cook was present and presented the board with a Weed Report. Each commissioner was given a written copy of the report, and it was signed by Chairman Bryant.

Morgan Miller was present and presented the board with a Request for Road Work on Miller Drive.

After discussion, Bryant made a motion to add the project to the road plan. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant, Nason and Arensdorf. Voting Nay: None.

At 9:30 AM, Chad Engle from NiRMA was present to discuss the role of the Safety Committee. Everyone present was given a packet outlining *Best Safety Practices for Members*. This provides information to the county regarding safe practices in the courthouse and road shop, as well as employee safety and county liability issues.

A Memorandum of Understanding for 2025 Community-Based Juvenile Services Aid was signed by Chairman Bryant. Motion made by Nason, seconded by Arensdorf. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

John Bryant was designated as McPherson County representative to vote for NACO offices at the Annual Convention. Kathy Hoberg will be the alternate.

Nason made a motion to designate the Stapleton Enterprise and www.mcphersoncounty.ne.gov as the official county newspaper and means of communication for 2025. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Ed Black reported that the road crew has been grading roads, repairing holes and adding rock to roads throughout the county.

Nason moved to approve the Road Plan as presented by Arensdorf with the addition of Miller Road. Bryant seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Nason, Bryant and Arensdorf. Voting Nay: None.

There was a Safety Committee meeting held. Those present were, Tom Werblow, Whitney Schroeder, John Bryant, Brett Nason, Kathy Hoberg, Ed Black, Ron Munson, and Kasey Dailey. Werblow gave flyers and information about *How to Improve Safety with Signs and Top Four Construction Hazards*.

The Commissioners received the Fund Balance Reports from the Treasurer.

The Clerk gave the Commissioners an email which was received from Don Wilson. The email gives the county advance notice that, due to personal reasons, he will not be renewing our audit engagement following the Spring audit. Therefore, the county will begin the search for a new auditor.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 11:25 AM to meet again at 9:00 AM on January 8, 2025, for their **annual re-organizational meeting**. This meeting will be held at the McPherson County Courthouse in Tryon and is open to the public.

John E. Bryant
McPherson County Board Chairman

ATTEST: Katherine E. Hoberg
McPherson County Clerk