

**CHADRON, NEBRASKA**

**November 04, 2009**

**DAWES COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION**

The Public convened meeting of the Dawes County Board of Equalization in regular session was commenced at the hour of 8:00 A.M. on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2009 in the Commissioners Room pursuant to public notice as required by law and or posted. The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Blausey. Roll was called and the following Commissioners were present: Commissioners' Blausey, Wess and Johnson. Also present was Cheryl Feist, Dawes County Clerk; Lindy Coleman, Assessor; Megan Failla and Bill Cebula and Jake and Vikki Wasserburger. Per LB 898 the Chairman announced the location of posted information concerning the Open Meetings Act located in the Commissioners room. Copies of the Act are available upon request by anyone attending the meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present. Motion by Wess, seconded by Johnson, approving the Agenda as presented. Roll call vote, Ayes: Wess, Johnson and Blausey. Nays: None. Motion carried. Minutes of the October 07, 2009 meeting were reviewed. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Wess, approving minutes as published. Roll call vote, Ayes: Johnson, Blausey and Wess. Nays: None. Motion carried. Motion by Wess, seconded by Johnson, to enter executive session to discuss a personnel matter. Roll call vote, Ayes: Blausey, Wess and Johnson. Nays: None. Motion carried. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Wess, to reconvene to regular session at 8:13 A.M. No action was taken during executive session. Lindy Coleman presented tax correction #4425-4428 for the Board's review. Motion by Wess, seconded by Johnson, approving tax correction #'s 4425-4428 as submitted. Roll call vote, Ayes: Johnson, Blausey and Wess. Nays: None. Motion carried.

There being no further business to be conducted by the Dawes County Board of Equalization a motion to adjourn at 8:16 A.M. was made by Commissioner Wess, seconded by Johnson. Roll call vote, Ayes: Blausey, Wess and Johnson. Nays: None. Motion carried. The next Dawes County Board of Equalization will be on December 02, 2009 at 8:00 A.M. A current Agenda to the Board of Equalization proceedings is kept on file in the County Clerks office during normal business hours for inspection, but the Agenda will normally close by 4:00 P.M. on the Friday preceding the Board meeting on Wednesday. The Agenda may be modified to include items of emergency nature. The meetings of the Dawes County Board of Equalization are open to the public.

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**BOARD OF**

**DAWES COUNTY**

**Cheryl Feist**

**EQUALIZATION**

**Dawes County Clerk**

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**CHADRON, NEBRASKA**

**November 04, 2009**

**DAWES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

The Public convened meeting of the Dawes County Commissioners meeting in regular session was commenced at the hour of 8:20 A.M. on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2009 in the Commissioner Room and published pursuant to public notice as required by law. The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Blausey. Roll was called and the following Commissioners were present: Commissioners' Blausey, Wess and Johnson. Also present was Cheryl Feist, Dawes County Clerk; Megan Failla; Bill Cebula; Jake and Vicki Wasserburger. Per LB 898 the Chairman announced the location of posted information concerning the Open Meetings Act. Copies of the Act are available upon request by anyone attending the meeting. Commissioner Wess asked his phone number be published so individuals having questions concerning Commissioner District 2 could contact him. That phone number is (308) 430-3953. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Wess, approving the Agenda as presented. Roll call vote, Ayes: Wess, Johnson and Blausey. Nays: None. Motion carried. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Wess, approving the October 20, 2009 minutes as published. Roll call vote, Ayes: Johnson, Blausey and Wess. Nays: None. Motion carried. Claims were reviewed. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Wess, approving all claims as submitted. Roll call vote, Ayes: Blausey, Wess and Johnson. Nays: None. Motion carried. Correspondences included: Tony Serbousek, E911 re: communication updates; SWANN re: BOD meeting minutes; Region 23 re: announcement of meeting and a report from the County Clerk re: Maximus reimbursements and printers in the Communications Department.

**At 8:38 A.M.** Jay King, Custodian, approached the Board. Mr. King informed the Board the generator housed at the Courthouse is needed as a backup for a communications antenna. He presented two estimates from Service Master to wit: carpet spot removal only-\$65.00 or carpet spot removal and steam cleaning several carpets-\$181.00. The Board approved spot removal and steam cleaning of carpets. Mr. King then presented estimates to remove a tree located by the County Attorney/Public Defender Offices. Bills Tree Service in the amount of \$4800.00 which includes stump removal; Patrones in the amount of \$2985.00 which includes stump removal; S & J Construction in the amount of \$1500.00(tree removal) with an additional \$300.00(stump removal) for a total estimate of \$1800.00 and Tree Doc in the amount of \$1850.00. The Board approved Tree Doc's estimate. Mr. King reported Job Corp still plans on fixing the pothole located at the bottom of the staircase leading to the Treasurer/Sheriff Offices. A temporary patch is in place and employees have been notified to be careful when exiting the staircase.

**At 8:46 A.M.** Public Comment ensued with Bill Cebula presenting information on a recent study he conducted relevant to education property tax increases the past ten (10) years. There has been a 109% increase in education costs. Vicki Wasserburger approached the Board re: maintenance of county roads. Old Highway 20 hasn't been elevated since the Crawford flood, it's simply a canal. She suggested not paving Slim Buttes Road and use money on road maintenance instead. Mansfield Road is also a concern. Commissioner Blausey reported approximately 385 vehicles travel Slim Buttes Road on a daily basis. The county has 700 miles of road to maintain and as such it would require additional staff and equipment to keep all 700 miles of road maintained on a regular basis without raising the levy. He reported native gravel lasts approximately five (5) years and costs \$1.00 per yard as opposed to red rock at \$13.00 per yard.

**At 9:07 A.M.** Harvey Keim, Highway Superintendent, met with the Board. Also present were Jim & Wendy Dickey; Vikki Bolek; Larry Redfern; John Madsen; Pat Drinkwalter; Sharon & Bob Goff; Lloyd Reed; Gene & Xenile Nixon; John Stumph; Dave Connelly; Ray Grantham; Bob & Yvonne Grant; Jim Krotz; Shirley Sellman; Robert White; Pam Mandelko; Geneice Walters; Alan Soester; Stacy & Gerry Swinney; Doug & Marsha Butler; Garold Smith; Steve Anderson; Ava Hawthorne; Jake & Vikki Wasserburger; Stanley Stumpf; Gary D. Fisher; Judy Hawthorne; Wilma Clark; Pat & Jerry Moss; Suzan & Steve Hutchens; Andrew Scherbarth; Sandy Jersild; Lance & Gwen Scherbarth; Pat Cullan; Steve Mader; Russ Finneman; Jake Frost; Mark & Myrna Betson; Adeline Denniston; Jim Lees; Tony Johnson; Bat & Patty Pourier and Jennifer Cleveland, Chadron Record. Mr. Keim reported crews are trying to smooth roads. The signage project is complete. A certificate of compliance was presented noting Resolution No. 2007-24 was previously adopted. Motion by Wess, seconded by Johnson, directing the Chairman of the Board to sign the certificate of compliance. Roll call vote, Ayes: Wess, Johnson and Blausey. Nays: None. Motion carried. He went on to report Dunlap Road was resurfaced in 1999 at a 90%-State/10%County match. In 2003 that split was at 50%-State/50%-County. In addition, each time the road is resurfaced a new agreement is needed. The pipe arch project on Squaw Creek Rd is almost complete and the 7702D Motor Grader had the wiring harness replaced. Mr. Keim indicated additional gravel requests will require more money and staff to haul the gravel. The following comments were shared with the Board by various individuals: **Vikki Wasserburger**-asked about washboard on county roads. Mr. Keim responded there isn't enough man power to cover everything. In addition, there are less road employees now than fifteen years ago. **Russ Finneman**-indicated a crown is necessary when blading roads and blading out is a required procedure. **Pat Drinkwalter**-reported roads are worse now than fifty years ago in Crawford area. **Tony Johnson**-suggested a special meeting is held whereby all citizens could voice their concerns. Lawrence Road has potholes, was bladed recently with no crown. If roads were crowned properly there wouldn't be a problem. Sheridan County roads are in good shape and suggested the Highway Superintendent take a look at how their roads are maintained. He also informed the Board Whitney Lake Road doesn't have a crown so water just sits atop the road. **Patty Pourier**-presented a document surrounding Deadhorse Road maintenance and asked that it be read at the one and six year road hearing. She read the document aloud which included safety hazards, missed mail service, school route issues, emergency rescue and fire protection being able to reach individuals and homes and the economic impact of bad roads. She suggested immediate expectations of 1. First two miles of road from Highway be supplied with spot gravel due to safety concerns. 2. Crown the road so it will drain. 3. timely snow removal and 4. pull up gravel from side of road using an experienced machine operator that is familiar with Deadhorse Road. There were intermediate/Long Term expectations cited as well. A copy of the document is available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Clerk's Office. Mrs. Pourier added maintenance is so bad that construction projects have become necessary and said immediate action is required now. **Bat Pourier**-suggested the Board look at private contractors to get caught up on road maintenance. He went on to say his roads on the reservation are better and they don't have a tax base. Leadership is key and starts at the top. He feels the county has

the resources available to do the job right but isn't utilizing them properly. He indicated a good base is necessary in road maintenance. He can't get cattle home due to road conditions and the safety issues that need addressed. He suggested the Board or Highway Superintendent inspect the roads after they are bladed. If the job is done right offer praise, if not, consequences should be in order. **Yvonne Grant**-Roads in her area haven't been mowed yet and Lone Tree Road needs maintenance. **Stacy Swinney**-explained the one and six year road plan is primarily for planned construction projects with general maintenance. He went on to say there is a difference between construction and maintenance. Commissioner's Wess and Johnson informed those present there has been a major shift in the way the Roads Department is ran. Commissioner Wess feels proper procedure should be followed according to the manual. **Gerald Smith**-Asked what the proper procedures are. Commissioner Wess responded by saying each individual hired to the Roads Department is supplied with a manual on standards. Mr. Smith reported he counted twenty-seven potholes on Bethel Road enroute to the meeting. There is no visible crown on Bethel Road. He indicated graders need to be doing the road maintenance when roads are damp, not wet and slow down. **Jake Wasserburger**-Mansfield Road/Old Hwy 20 have no crown so water sits in the middle of the road. **Steve Mader**-Old Hwy 20 has a spot in the road by Arners and he has asked for gravel for years. He has experienced an accident due to road conditions. The graders need to slow down when maintaining the roads. He has to use a 4-wheeler on the road so he doesn't get stuck. He went on to say native gravel will work if roads are crowned properly and maintenance is on a regular basis. **Lloyd Reed**-Lives on Squaw Creek Road. Hough Road had work done leaving only 18' of roadway for vehicles to pass each other which results in one vehicle having to go part way in the ditch. He also reported from the Y on Table Road to Willer's intersection is bad. **Kay Merrill** lives on Bordeaux Road and is attempting to move to Mandelko Road but can't due to road conditions. She presented pictures she recently took of the road. **Judy Hawthorne**-Informed Board fifteen new signs have been posted within a half mile section and feels the money spent on this project would've been better utilized in road maintenance. The old signs have yet to be removed. **Ava Hawthorne**-Reported Hawthorne Road is in bad shape and has resulted in one week of mail service being suspended because mail carriers couldn't get across the road. Commissioner Blausey informed those present another meeting is in order to address road issues. He understands that the road an individual travels on a daily basis is the most important road in the county to them. He went on to direct the Highway Superintendent to call a meeting immediately with his Foreman and Crew Chiefs to start addressing these concerns. The County Clerk was instructed to find a place large enough to accommodate several people and advertise for a special roads meeting. **Xenile Nixon**-Ms. Nixon reported Nixon Road is bad. She went on to say they don't complain but another year like this and the Board will hear from her. **John Madsen**-Maintenance and snow removal need addressed immediately. Mr. Madsen asked how many miles of road were graveled last year in Dawes County. It was learned twenty-two miles were graveled. Another unidentified individual added that plows need to start slowing down when removing snow from the roads. **Myrna Betson**-Responded by saying if Road Crews are only graveled twenty-two miles of road per year, it will be years before the majority of roads are graveled. She added when the Commissioners were the Highway Superintendents the Roads were much better. She suggested the Commissioners take a more active role in the Roads Department. Stacy Swinney informed those present that Commissioners can't have the role of Highway Superintendent due to State Statute and the paperwork required of this position by the State. Commissioner Wess reported the Board has contracted with a local title agent to study what roads are open and what roads are closed. A few individuals expressed gratitude for assistance offered by Road Crew members in pulling them from ditches. The Board recessed at 10:40 A.M. and reconvened at 10:45 A.M. Commissioner Blausey again directed the Highway Superintendent to schedule an immediate meeting with his Foreman and Crew Chiefs to address the road issues. Commissioner Wess added proper crowning of county roads is priority and to make sure the graders understand the proper protocol. Mr. Keim reported he visited with Tony Serbousek about naming a road located east of Chadron near Highway marker 67. There will be no problem to name the road in question

Schafer Road. The Board directed the Clerk to add this to the next agenda. Mr. Keim also reported to put county road names on the Highway will cost approximately \$3-5,000.00. **Steve Anderson**-requested the road graders just slow down. He would prefer to see them work one road a day and do a good job the first time rather than rushing through the road and having to return.

**At 10:55 A.M.** Lois Chizek, Treasurer, presented the 2008 distress warrant listing. Ninety distress warrants have been issued for 2008 but the cumulative amount due including prior years is \$62,350.81.

**At 11:04 A.M.** Lindy Coleman, Assessor; Cheryl Feist, County Clerk and Lois Chizek, County Treasurer, presented a salary proposal for 2011-2014. The information presented was based off what NACO (National Association of County Officials) has recommended for category three of salary recommendations. The category areas are based off population and valuation. Discussion ensued amongst the Board and Elected Officials. Sharon Harrison was also a committee member but was unable to attend the meeting. The Sheriff declined an invitation to be on the committee. It was noted by the committee members they are willing to negotiate with the Board. The County Clerk asked the Board to offer a counter proposal. The Board members will individually submit a proposal which will be discussed at the November 18, 2009 Commissioner meeting. The next order of business was the up- coming holiday schedule. Motion by Wess, seconded by Johnson, approving a half day on December 24, 2009. Roll call vote, Ayes: Johnson, Blausey and Wess. Lindy Coleman, Assessor, asked the Board to consider setting the holiday schedule in January at their annual meeting so employees can plan ahead. The Board agreed this might be the time to set the schedule each year.

**At 11:50 A.M.** Becky Paulsen, Weed Superintendent, Zoning Administrator and Floodplain Manager, met with the Board. She informed the Board she has an application for a building permit. She is currently working on grant proposals and State reports. In other business the Board discussed the procedure for processing NIRMA claims. They noted the county has a NIRMA contact responsible for processing claims. This will be addressed at the November 23, 2009 Officials meeting. Monthly fee reports of the County Clerk, County Treasurer and Sheriff were reviewed and approved by general consent of the Board.

There being no further business before the Dawes County Board of Commissioners a motion to adjourn at 12:12 P.M. was made by Commissioner Wess, seconded by Johnson. Roll call vote, Ayes: Blausey, Wess and Johnson. Nays: None. Motion carried. The next regular meeting of the Board will be November 18, 2009 beginning at 8:00 A.M. in the Commissioners Room at the Courthouse. A current agenda for the meeting is kept on file in the County Clerks office during normal business hours for inspection, but the Agenda(s) will close by 4:00 P.M. on the Friday preceding the Board meeting on Wednesday. The Agenda may be modified to include items of emergency nature. The meetings of the Dawes County Commissioners are open to the public. **Disclaimer: A complete text of all Resolutions passed by the Board is available upon request in the County Clerk's office during normal business hours.**

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**COMMISSIONERS**

**DAWES COUNTY**

**Cheryl Feist**

**Dawes County Clerk**

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**November 04, 2009 the following claims were audited, allowed and warrant orders drawn on their respective**

**Accounts:**

<b>FUND</b>	<b>VENDOR NAME</b>	<b>TOTCLAIMS</b>
100	AFLAC	\$373.88
100	ALLTEL	\$97.23
100	AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP	\$5,070.79
100	AXIS CAPITAL INC	\$459.22
100	JOHN CATTIN	\$3,534.00
100	CHADRON COMMUNITY HOSPITAL & HEALTH	\$85.31
100	CHADRON WHOLESALE	\$194.72
100	CLERK OF NEBRASKA COURT OF APPEALS	\$122.00
100	CMRS-FP	\$500.00
100	SCOTT COTTON	\$427.98
100	KARL DAILEY	\$118.25
100	KARL J DAILEY, SHERIFF	\$2,184.00
100	DATA DOCUMENTS LLC	\$512.50
100	DAWES COUNTY INSURANCE ACCOUNT	\$13,041.99
100	DAWES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	\$176.00

100	DAWES COUNTY TREASURER	\$454.50
100	DIXIE EATON	\$25.00
100	DAVE EUBANKS	\$695.00
100	FLEET SERVICES/EXXONMOBIL	\$50.50
100	FIRST BANKCARD/SCOTT COTTON	\$70.38
100	FIRST BANKCARD	\$130.86
100	FIRST BANKCARD	\$156.79
100	FIRST NATIONAL BANK, NORTH PLATTE	\$7,820.60
100	FP MAILING SOLUTIONS	\$110.85
100	JAMIE GOFFENA	\$26.73
100	GRP & ASSOCIATES	\$35.00
100	MAXINE W HOLMES	\$100.00
100	IDEAL LINEN SUPPLY,INC	\$410.27
100	IS COMMUNICATIONS & OPERATIONS	\$12.95
100	JAY KING	\$16.00
100	KOVARIK,ELLISON & MATHIS,P.C.	\$43.50
100	MID-AMERICAN RESEARCH CHEMICAL CORP	\$580.10
100	MIDWEST TRANSPORTATION SPECIALISTS	\$194.10
100	LORRAINE A MILES	\$100.00
100	LORI MISKIMINS-CO CT CLERK MAGISTRA	\$7.32

100	NACO PLANNING & ZONING	\$35.00
100	NE CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT CENTER	\$331.00
100	NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	\$817.68
100	NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	\$76.75
100	NEBRASKA TOTAL OFFICE/TREASURER	\$7.67
100	NORM'S CARQUEST AUTO PARTS	\$16.68
100	NOTARY PUBLIC UNDERWRITERS	\$87.50
100	PARK DIETZ & ASSOCIATES,INC	\$43,171.23
100	PETERSEN DRUG	\$370.30
100	CLINTON PHILLIPS	\$870.00
100	QUILL CORPORATION	\$17.38
100	QWEST	\$707.35
100	QWEST	\$180.44
100	RAPID CITY JOURNAL	\$149.47
100	REGIONAL WEST PHYSICIANS CLINIC	\$60.00
100	SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY SHERIFF	\$23.80
100	SHELL FLEET PLUS-VETERANS	\$143.15
100	HOLLY SHIELD	\$20.00
100	SKAVDAHL & EDMUND	\$1,990.40
100	HARRIS W SNYDER	\$127.50

100	SOURCEGAS	\$349.96
100	SPENCER FANE BRITT & BROWNE LLP	\$1,882.00
100	UNIVERSITY OF NE-LINCOLN CAR RENTAL	\$181.19
100	MICHAEL T VARN, ATTORNEY AT LAW	\$754.99
100	WALMART COMMUNITY	\$195.95
100	WEST GROUP PAYMENT CENTER	\$360.00
100	WESTERN COMMUNICATIONS, INC	\$462.50
200	ABC ELECTRIC OF CHADRON, INC	\$13.09
200	ACCELERATED RECEIVABLES SOLUTIONS	\$243.38
200	AFLAC	\$186.20
200	AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP	\$655.77
200	ARMSTRONG EXTINGUISHER SERVICE INC	\$187.00
200	CAT FINANCIAL SERVICES/12H GRADER	\$1,500.00
200	CATERPILLAR ACCESSACCOUNT CORP	\$3,212.35
200	CITY OF CRAWFORD	\$112.51
200	DAWES COUNTY INSURANCE ACCOUNT	\$1,301.88
200	DAWES COUNTY TREASURER	\$92.50
200	DAWES COUNTY WEED	\$7,019.64
200	FIRST NATIONAL BANK, NORTH PLATTE	\$1,689.36

200	G&H DISTRIBUTING OF RAPID CITY, INC	\$9.82
200	GMC OF CHADRON	\$11.54
200	HARTFORD LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	\$25.00
200	HILLS TIRE & SUPPLY	\$133.45
200	LEVI'S AUTO	\$15.00
200	MANNA SYSTEMS AND CONSULTING	\$691.95
200	MID-AMERICAN RESEARCH CHEMICAL CORP	\$280.00
200	THOMAS MORROW	\$3.00
200	NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	\$323.33
200	NORTHERN TRUCK EQUIPMENT CORP	\$5,894.00
200	QWEST	\$170.93
200	QWEST	\$17.96
200	RAPID CITY JOURNAL	\$73.60
200	RESPOND FIRST AID SYSTEMS	\$341.57
200	ARVID RHOADS	\$2,240.00
200	SOURCEGAS	\$270.25
200	JACOB STEWART	\$37.16
200	SUMMIT SIGNS & SUPPLY, INC	\$960.50
200	SOLID WASTE AGENCY OF NW	\$29.10

	NEBRASKA	
200	WAHLSTROM FORD INC	\$31.28
200	WALMART COMMUNITY	\$72.12
200	WHISLER BEARING CO	\$1,976.23
990	LAMAR OUTDOOR ADVERTISING	\$170.00
2910	AHREN COMMUNICATIONS	\$901.77
2910	BEST BUY BUSINESS ADVANTAGE ACCT	\$1,131.86
2910	DAKOTA BACKUP,LLC	\$360.87
2910	PROFESSIONAL PRIDE	\$785.62
2910	QWEST	\$402.80
2910	TONY SERBOUSEK	\$150.00
2910	WESTERN COMMUNICATIONS, INC	\$890.00
5400	AFLAC	\$15.25
5400	AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP	\$55.23
5400	DAWES COUNTY INSURANCE ACCOUNT	\$60.69
5400	DAWES COUNTY TREASURER	\$13.00
5400	EAGLE CHEVROLET BUICK & PONTIAC	\$4,500.00
5400	FARM PLAN	\$22.83
5400	FIRST NATIONAL BANK, NORTH PLATTE	\$169.33
5400	IDEAL LINEN SUPPLY,INC	\$21.72

5400	NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	\$32.34
5400	NORM'S CARQUEST AUTO PARTS	\$114.74
5400	RESPOND FIRST AID SYSTEMS	\$265.53

**Disclaimer: A complete list of all employees & claims are available at the Dawes Co Clerk's Office.**