

**CHADRON, NEBRASKA**  
**January 26, 2016**  
**DAWES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

The Public convened meeting of the Dawes County Commissioners in regular session was commenced at the hour of 8:57 A.M. on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2016 and published pursuant to public notice as required by law. The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Stewart. Roll was called and the following Commissioners were present: Commissioners Stewart, Johnson and Rivera. Also present were Cheryl Feist, County Clerk; Adam Edmund, Deputy County Attorney; Deb Cottier, NNDC; Justin Haag, Tourism Board and Kizah Johnson, Custodial Assistant. 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. Motion by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Rivera, approving the Agenda. Roll call, Ayes: Johnson, Rivera and Stewart. Nays: None. Motion carried. Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the January 12, 2016 minutes with the following correction to wit: add second by Commissioner Rivera re: recoding of Brennan Electric bill. Commissioner Rivera seconded the motion. Roll call vote, Ayes: Rivera, Stewart and Johnson. Nays: None. Motion carried. Claims were reviewed by all Board Members. Commissioner Johnson moved to approve all claims as submitted with exception of claim #16010252 in the amount of \$3163.50 payable to River A Holdings. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion. Roll call vote, Ayes: Stewart, Johnson and Rivera. Nays: None. Motion carried. Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Stewart, moved to approve claim #16010252 payable to River A Holdings in the amount of \$3163.50. Roll call vote, Ayes: Johnson and Stewart with Rivera abstaining from the vote. Nays: None. Motion carried. Annette Trylick and George Ledbetter joined the meeting. The Board acknowledged receipt of the NCAP newsletter. Kizah Johnson, Custodial Assistant, introduced herself to the Board. The Board thanked her for coming into the meeting to introduce herself. Public Comment ensued with Deb Cottier, NNDC, sharing information about TIF (Tax Increment Financing). The Board learned TIF is a method of financing the public costs associated with a private development project. Essentially, the property tax increases resulting from development, are targeted to repay the public infrastructure investment required by a project. TIF provides a means of encouraging private investment in deteriorating areas by allowing local governments to use future property tax revenues to finance the current infrastructure costs needed to attract development. Economic impact estimates indicate the potential for more than \$1,000,000.00 in gross revenues captured on an annual basis, plus an increase in sales and lodging taxes if TIF financing is approved for the Holiday Inn Express. The County and School budgets will see no impact on budgets because of TIF financing. The repayable loan portion from LB840 Funds will be paid back upon completion of the project and will go back into the LB840 economic development fund. For the forgivable portion of LB840 Funds, established performance criteria must be met by Holiday Inn Express. Commissioner Rivera expressed concern over a letter of support developed by the Tourism Board and sent to the City of Chadron supporting TIF financing for the Holiday Inn Express. The procedure used by the Tourism Board wasn't approached correctly thus negating the letter sent by the Tourism Board. Justin Haag, Tourism Board President, indicated the letter sent via email was discussed and approved by a majority of the Tourism Board. Rescinding the letter would be a mistake according to Haag. Deputy Attorney, Adam Edmund, suggested future endorsements by the Tourism Board be addressed by the entire Board. George Ledbetter indicated the letter itself was discussed at an ensuing meeting and no motion was made to rescind the letter. Alan Soester also addressed the Board during Public Comment. He suggested stringers from the Bethel Bridge could be used on the Lemmon Bridge project. He also expressed concern if a culvert is used on the Lemmon Bridge project it will not go north and east naturally. He reported the fill needs put back on Lemmon Road and the culvert installed by the Roads Department a few years ago is leaking and can't be used.

At 9:47 A.M. Mike Kesselring, The Drifter Cookshack, approached the Board to request SDL(Special Designated Liquor License) approval for the 2016 Post Playhouse fundraiser to be held on March 12, 2016 at the Fort Robinson Buffalo Soldiers Barracks. Kerri Rempp, The Chadron Record, joined the meeting in progress. Commissioner Rivera, seconded by Johnson, moved to approve the SDL application of The Drifter Cookshack to serve alcohol at the Post Playhouse fundraiser to be held on

March 12, 2016 at the Fort Robinson Buffalo Soldiers Barracks. Roll was called, Ayes: Rivera, Stewart and Johnson. Nays: None. Motion carried. The Board recessed at 9:55 A.M. and reconvened to regular session at 10:03 A.M.

At 10:04 A.M. Larry Hankin, Highway Superintendent, met with the Board. Also present were Mark Betson, Wayne Fisher, Gary Fisher, Alan Soester and Lon Lemmon. Mr. Hankin reported all crews are plowing and conducting equipment maintenance. Blading is done in Districts 1 & 2 and District 3 is burning brush piles on the Old Highway and by the Airport Bridge. He also reported State Statute has lowered the drug pool testing criteria to 25% of the pool being tested instead of 50% with alcohol remaining at 10% of the pool. The Board indicated they want the drug pool left at 50% of the pool. He reported he plans to purchase two (2) Dozer Blades at \$2500.00 each and two (2) V-plows at \$1500.00 each. He reminded the Board two (2) new pickups were budgeted for. The Board instructed him to pursue bids. The 770BH Motor Grader motor needs replaced. Mr. Hankin received two (2) proposals to replace the motor to wit: \$20,000.00 for a new motor or a used motor for \$4,000.00 and an additional \$2500.00 to install, however; the last option would probably be closer to \$10,000.00. No action was taken by the Board re: 770BH Motor Grader. Mr. Hankin indicated the Form 10 re: Bethel Bridge project has been approved by the Nebraska Board of Standards/Classifications. Bethel was shut down yesterday and the project is starting. Lemmon Bridge discussion ensued with structure options. A box culvert with overflow to the South was discussed but no action taken. The Board suggested Mr. Hankin work with Dave Muck to come up with some structure ideas and report back. The Highway Superintendent studied closure of Road No. 7 described as commencing at the Northwest corner of Section 10, Township 32 North, Range 51 West of the 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., Dawes County, Nebraska then running south on the section line between Sections 10 and 11 a distance of approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile to the point when it intersects the North of County Road known as Old Highway 20. The Road was opened in March of 1886, studied for closure in 1986 but remained open. There is little vehicular use and the County doesn't maintain the Road. There aren't any land lock issues. Mr. Hankin recommended the Board proceed with closure of said road. Resolution No. 08-2016 was introduced by Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Rivera, upon recommendation of Lawrence Hankin, Dawes County Highway Superintendent the following road(s) or portion of road(s) be vacated and abandoned to wit: Portion of Road No. 7, commencing at the Northwest corner of Section 10, Township 32 North, Range 51 West of the 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., Dawes County, Nebraska then running south on the section line between Sections 10 and 11 a distance of approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile to the point when it intersects the North of County Road known as Old Highway 20. A Public Hearing will be held on February 23, 2016 commencing at 10:00 A.M. Roll call vote, Ayes: Stewart, Johnson and Rivera. Nays: None. Motion carried. The next order of business was the 2015 Annual Road Report. Bridge replacement/Repairs were discussed, approximately 31 miles of road were graveled last year and more crushed rock is needed. The FEMA project is completed re: flooding and the Disc Mower needs replaced. The Board briefly discussed the possibility of contracting out the mowing but no decision was made. Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Rivera, moved to approve and accept the 2015 Annual Road Report as presented. Roll call vote, Ayes: Johnson, Rivera and Stewart. Nays: None. Motion carried. The Board recessed at 10:36 A.M. and reconvened to regular session at 10:46 A.M.

At 10:47 A.M. Andy Curd approached the Board. Also present were Russ Milton, Phillip Curd, Annette Trylick, Mark Betson, Wayne Fisher and Gary Fisher. Mr. Curd presented an analysis of property tax flow and how TIF financing will affect taxes. Mr. Curd reported the Holiday Inn Express is getting an \$81,000.00 gift for up to twelve (12) years. The hotel doesn't promote growth and constitutes competition amongst local hotels. Mark Betson indicated for the record Crawford has went from two motels to one motel so obviously there isn't enough motel business in the area to support another one. Russ Milton reported his average year round occupancy rate is 57% and is opposed to another hotel coming to town on his tax dollar. Andy Curd indicated it is wrong to use tax dollars to subsidize a new business coming to town. He has nothing against the Holiday Inn Express coming to Chadron but feels they should pay the costs associated therewith on their own. Annette Trylick suggested TIF money be used to promote Tourism in the area. Philip Curd said the use of TIF money against existing businesses is unfair and Gary Fisher reported TIF affects City, County and Schools. These entities should be allowed to vote on whether or not they want to forfeit their share of tax money to support TIF projects.

At 11:15 A.M. Kristina Harter, Tourism Director, met with the Board. Also present were George Ledbetter, Justin Haag and Annette Trylick. Ms. Harter requested an increase on her Tourism Board First Bankcard due to costs involved in promoting tourism. George Ledbetter reported they have twice paid an over limit fee and feels an increase is necessary to meet her expenditures. Commissioner Rivera, seconded by Johnson, moved to increase the Tourism Board First Bankcard limit to \$1,000.00 and directed the County Clerk to notify First Bankcard of this change. Roll call vote, Ayes; Johnson, Rivera and Stewart. Nays: None. Motion carried. The next order of business was two travel board appointments. Annette Trylick indicated for the record if the Board supports the TIF financing she cannot remain on the Tourism Board due to conflict of interest. Kristina Harter reported interviews were held for the At-Large member and the Tourism Board is recommending Bev Dyer for the At-Large opening on the Board. Commissioner Johnson moved to appoint Bev Dyer to the Tourism Board. Commissioner Rivera seconded the motion. Roll was called, Ayes: Rivera, Stewart and Johnson. Nays: None. Motion carried. The lodging appointment will be addressed at the February 09, 2016 Commissioner meeting. Possible By-Law changes for the Tourism Board were also discussed but no action taken. After much discussion and input from the community, Commissioner Rivera moved to send correspondence not supporting TIF financing for the Holiday Inn Express. The motion died for lack of a second.

At 11:34 A.M. Bonnie Beckstrom, Community Services Director, NCAP, met with the Board. NCAP is applying for a Nebraska Homelessness Assistance Grant in the amount of \$25,000.00 and needs local government approval to do so. The grant will be divided between Dawes, Box Butte and Sheridan counties. They hope to serve 15-20 individuals with the funding which runs 07/01/2016 through 06/30/2017. Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Rivera, moved to approve Nebraska Community Action Partnership's application for the NHAP (Nebraska Homelessness Assistance Program) grant in the amount of \$25,000.00. Roll call vote, Ayes: Stewart, Johnson and Rivera. Nays: None. Motion carried. An amendment of application for group contract with Blue Cross Blue Shield was reviewed by the Board. Commissioner Johnson, seconded by Rivera, moved to remove Tracy Cloyd, HR Director, from PHI (Protected Health Information) and dental information access with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska. Roll call vote, Ayes: Johnson, Rivera and Stewart. Nays: None. Motion carried. Resolution No. 09-2016 was introduced by Commissioner Rivera, seconded by Johnson, adding Farmer's State Bank to the listing of authorized depositories for 2016. Roll call vote, Ayes: Rivera, Stewart and Johnson. Nays: None. Motion carried. The last order of business before the Board was renewal of Heartland Express dues. Commissioner Johnson moved to pay 2016 dues in the amount of \$896.04. Commissioner Rivera seconded the motion. Roll was called, Ayes: Johnson, Nays: Rivera and Stewart. Motion carried.

There being no further business before the Board, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 12:19 P.M. The next meeting of the Dawes County Commissioners will be February 09, 2016 beginning at 9:00 A.M. with a Board of Equalization Meeting, followed by the Commissioner Meeting at approximately 9:20 A.M. Both meetings will be held in the former County Courtroom at the Courthouse. A current agenda is available at the Clerk's Office during normal business hours but will close at 12:00 P.M., February 04, 2016. **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:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Cheryl Feist**  
**Dawes County Clerk**

**DAWES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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**January 26, 2016 the following claims were audited, allowed and warrant orders drawn on their respective accounts: Key for Claims: 100=General Fund; 200=Roads Fund; 990=Visitor's Fund; 1100=Reappraisal Fund; 1150=Preservation & Modernization Fund; 1900=Veterans Aid Fund; 2360=Drug Fund; 2500=Grants Fund; 2700=Inheritance Fund; 2910-911=Emergency Communications; 2913=Wireless Communications; 4000=Courthouse Bond Payment Fund.**

<b>FUND</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>TOTCLAIMS</b>
100	ACTION COMMUNICATIONS INC/SHERIFF	\$667.75
100	AFLAC	\$550.07
100	AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP	\$9,143.99

100	AS CENTRAL SERVICES	\$339.80
100	AT&T	\$40.11
100	MARK BETSON	\$22.34
100	BIG BAT'S LLC-SHERIFF	\$692.12
100	BIG BAT'S SHELL-VETERANS	\$98.80
100	BIG BAT'S SHELL-WEED	\$73.07
100	BLUE CROSS & BLUE SHIELD OF NE	\$27,418.76
100	BOX BUTTE GENERAL HOSPITAL	\$2,973.66
100	CASH-WA DISTRIBUTING CO	\$340.34
100	CENTURYLINK	\$357.54
100	CENTURYLINK LONG DIST-ASSESSOR	\$10.70
100	CENTURYLINK LONG DIST-CO ATTORNEY	\$15.49
100	CENTURYLINK LONG DIST-COUNTY COURT	\$19.16
100	CENTURYLINK LONG DIST-DISTRICT CT	\$17.17
100	CENTURYLINK LONG DIST-E 911	\$11.87
100	CENTURYLINK LONG DIST-EXTENSION	\$15.58
100	CENTURYLINK LONG DIST-SHERIFF	\$27.47
100	CENTURYLINK LONG DIST-TREASURER	\$21.38
100	CENTURYLINK LONG DIST-WEED	\$3.70
100	COLONIAL RESEARCH CHEMICAL	\$643.17
100	ALAN P CONNELL	\$10.76
100	CULLIGAN-ASSESSOR	\$23.00
100	CULLIGAN-CO ATTORNEY	\$27.25
100	CULLIGAN-PUBLIC DEFENDER	\$15.75
100	D&S MARKET,LLC	\$1,065.39
100	DATASPEC INC	\$798.00
100	DAVE'S PHARMACY	\$317.02
100	DAWES COUNTY TREASURER	\$368.00
100	EAGLE CHEVROLET BUICK & PONTIAC	\$21.83
100	FIRE & ICE MECHANICAL	\$233.23
100	FIRST BANKCARD/PUBLIC DEFENDER	\$73.06
100	FIRST NATIONAL BANK, NORTH PLATTE	\$15,885.14
100	WAYNE FISHER	\$4.68
100	GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS	\$493.26
100	SAMUEL HOLMGREN	\$27.15
100	IDEAL LINEN SUPPLY,INC	\$18.93
100	WEBB L JOHNSON	\$362.83
100	KONE,INC	\$388.68
100	LANCASTER COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT	\$8.32
100	MATTHEW BENDER & CO,INC	\$73.19
100	DON MANDELKO	\$11.06
100	MATTHEW BENDER & CO,INC	\$483.96
100	MIDWEST SPECIAL SERVICES	\$454.95
100	NACO	\$135.00
100	NACO PLANNING & ZONING	\$30.00
100	NE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SYSTEM	\$93.00
100	NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	\$1,759.46
100	NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE/LEVY	\$25.00

100	NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DIST-E911	\$21.00
100	NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	\$2,209.08
100	NEBRASKA SUPREME COURT	\$64.50
100	NEBRASKA TOTAL OFFICE/EXTENSION	\$123.44
100	NORTHWEST RURAL PUBLIC POWER DIST	\$41.08
100	OUTLAW PRINTERS,INC	\$146.97
100	PETERSEN DRUG	\$148.30
100	LOREN POURIER	\$13.58
100	QUILL CORPORATION	\$67.55
100	RAPID CITY JOURNAL/ASSESSOR	\$4.97
100	RAPID CITY JOURNAL/COMMISSIONERS	\$150.21
100	REGIONAL WEST MEDICAL CENTER	\$23,264.01
100	SCOTTS BLUFF CO DETENTION CENTER	\$3,661.23
100	SMITH,KING AND SIMMONS,PC	\$20.00
100	SOUTHERN HILLS FIRE & SAFETY	\$379.00
100	JACOB STEWART	\$33.96
100	ROSALENE B TOLLMAN	\$50.68
100	VERIZON WIRELESS/SHERIFF	\$573.20
100	VERIZON WIRELESS-WEED	\$63.14
100	VERIZON WIRELESS	\$147.98
100	VSP VISION PLAN	\$200.01
100	WALMART COMMUNITY	\$34.40
100	WESTERN COMMUNICATIONS, INC	\$462.50
100	KENNETH S WINNER JR	\$23.62
100	XEROX CORPORATION	\$568.06
100	XEROX CORPORATION/VETERANS OFFICE	\$227.22
200	AFLAC	\$254.52
200	AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP	\$1,015.36
200	BIGHORN AUTO SUPPLY	\$46.56
200	BLUE CROSS & BLUE SHIELD OF NE	\$2,077.65
200	BRAD'S TRUCK SERVICE	\$2,221.28
200	CENTURYLINK LONG DIST-DIST #1 ROADS	\$15.96
200	CONTRACTORS SUPPLY, INC	\$984.50
200	DALE'S TIRE AND RETREADING,INC	\$645.00
200	DAWES COUNTY TREASURER	\$55.00
200	EXCEL TRUCK & TRAILER REPAIR,INC	\$357.15
200	FIRST NATIONAL BANK, NORTH PLATTE	\$3,134.29
200	LAWRENCE HANKIN	\$22.80
200	HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS	\$89.00
200	HOTSY EQUIPMENT CO	\$116.40
200	J & A TRAFFIC PRODUCTS	\$1,440.00
200	JENSEN REPAIR	\$368.94
200	JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL-ROADS	\$232.43
200	NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	\$533.65
200	NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	\$126.66
200	NEWMAN SIGNS,INC	\$84.37
200	NMC EXCHANGE LLC/NEBRASKA MACHINERY	\$3,647.50
200	NORTHWEST RURAL PUBLIC POWER DIST	\$162.72
200	PANHANDLE COLLECTIONS,INC	\$203.35
200	RIVER A HOLDING LLC	\$3,163.50

200	SANDVIK MINING AND CONTRUCTION USA	\$1,812.76
200	SOUTHERN HILLS FIRE & SAFETY	\$627.00
200	VSP VISION PLAN	\$113.21
200	WESTCO	\$7,393.76
200	WINTER EQUIPMENT COMPANY,INC	\$257.90
200	XEROX CORPORATION/ROADS	\$75.73
800	ALBERTSON ENGINEERING,INC	\$844.27
990	AFLAC	\$13.45
990	AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP	\$57.17
990	BLUE CROSS & BLUE SHIELD OF NE	\$91.07
990	FIRST NATIONAL BANK, NORTH PLATTE	\$171.51
990	NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	\$29.57
2910	CENTURYLINK	\$117.04
2910	GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS	\$52.34
2910	TONY SERBOUSEK	\$150.00
2910	SLEUTH SOFTWARE	\$4,289.59
2910	WESTERN COMMUNICATIONS, INC	\$1,039.00
2913	CENTURYLINK	\$300.97
2913	GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS	\$134.60