

Village of Wauneta, Nebraska

Discussions held prior to official meeting (prior to quorum):

Michael Hoback, AMGL, gave a presentation and reviewed the financial statements and audit report for the Village of Wauneta, for the year ending September 30, 2024. Hoback went through the report in detail with the present Board members. Hoback also reviewed several benchmarking ratios to show how the Village of Wauneta compares to towns with comparable populations.

RaNae Richardson and Kerchal gave a report of the January 2025 Wauneta Care and Therapy (WCTC) Financial Reports and Committee Meeting.

Sheriff's Report (February 2025) was reviewed with Deputy Mike Dukes.

Wauneta EMS members (Leanne Klein, Jason Arellano) were present. A new ambulance has been ordered for Wauneta, which is larger than the current units. Klein and Arellano presented requests/quotes for the following upgrades to the Ambulance Building.

- Widen west bay door to accommodate new ambulance, \$15,500.00
- Replace lighting in the Ambulance bay, \$960.00
- Upgrade cabinets in supply room, \$13,299.00
- Repair damage to meeting room (due to roof leak), \$885.00

Official Board Meeting Minutes:

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Wauneta, Nebraska, was convened in open and public session at **7:50 p.m.** on **March 11, 2025**, at the Wauneta Village Office.

Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Vice Chairman Rick Einspahr publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated the location of such copy posted in the room where the meeting was held.

Present: Crystal Walgren, Kathy Kerchal and Rick Einspahr

Absent: Beau Kramer and Page Johnston

Guests: None

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in three locations within the Village of Wauneta, a copy of the proof of posting being attached to these Minutes. Notice of this meeting was simultaneously given to the Chairman and all the Trustees and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of such notice is attached to these Minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice to the Chairman and all the Trustees. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Motion made by Walgren, seconded by Kerchal, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Village Board of Trustees, held on February 11, 2025. Voting Aye: Walgren, Kerchal and Einspahr. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Kramer and Johnston. Motion approved.

Motion made by Kerchal, seconded by Walgren, to approve the minutes of the special meeting of the Village Board of Trustees, held on February 21, 2025. Voting Aye: Walgren, Kerchal and Einspahr. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Kramer and Johnston. Motion approved.

Motion made by Walgren, seconded by Kerchal, to approve Treasurer's Report (February 2025) and approve bills (March 2025) as presented. Voting Aye: Walgren, Kerchal and Einspahr. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Kramer and Johnston. Motion approved.

Water/Sewer:

NE Dept of Revenue	Sales tax – Jan 2025	326.31
SWPPD	Utilities – well 3	245.46
USDA Rural Development	Annual bond payment	9,031.00
USDA Rural Development	Return unused project funds	23,465.00
AMGL	Audit Report 9/30/2024	2,087.50
Advanced Auto	Supplies – gloves	25.47
American Agri Labs	Water test fees	57.56
BW Telcom	Phone & Internet for SCADA System	145.16
Good Times Bar & Grill	Lunch – water main break	57.35
HOA	Service calls – well 2, transducer	1,925.04
Municipal Supply	Supplies, fire hydrant valves	672.32
Nebr Public Health	Water test fees	237.00
SWPP	Utilities – new wells	657.36
Water USDA Loan Reserve	Transfer	400.00
Water/Sewer Building Fund	Transfer	1,342.00
Water/Sewer Insurance Fund	Transfer	925.00
Wauneta Municipal Utilities	Utilities	290.86
Power Tech	Serv/mtno agreement – generators	4,100.00
Wauneta Crossroads	Supplies	4.29

Electric:

NE Dept of Revenue	Sales tax – Jan 2025	4,016.34
US Dept of Energy	WAPA Power – Jan 2025	9,930.37
Village of Wauneta	Payroll p/e 2/13	8,521.06
Village of Wauneta	Payroll p/e 2/28	9,147.36
Merchant Bank	Credit card processing fee	363.16
Village of Wauneta	Payroll – Stipend/HSA	1,998.82
AMGL	Audit Report 9/30/2024	2,085.00
Advanced Auto	Repairs unit #3	1,463.44
American Heritage Life	Accident insurance	75.00
Bomgaars	Grass seed, shop	99.96
Border States Industries	Supplies	614.42
Dutton-Lainson	Meter loop wire	1,833.86
Electric Insurance Fund	Transfer	1,415.00
Frenchman Auto	Battery unit #1	189.95
Healthiest You	Supplemental insurance-Teladoc	37.80
Ideal Linen	Shop towels	42.25
Lincoln National Life	Life, A&D insurance	514.99
Nebr Public Power District	Power – Feb 2025	33,955.97
SWPPD	Subtransmission charge	1,417.98
US Postmaster	Postage	516.00
Wauneta Municipal Utilities	Utilities	738.52
US Dept of Energy	WAPA Power – Feb 2025	8,879.75
Wauneta Crossroads	Fuel, supplies	523.31

Village:

Village of Wauneta	Payroll p/e 2/15	2,438.31
Village of Wauneta	Payroll p/e 2/28	2,683.60
Village of Wauneta	Payroll – stipend/HSA	666.26
AMGL	Audit Report 9/30/2024	2,087.50
Advanced Auto	Repairs, oil	212.73
American Heritage Life	Accident insurance	25.00
BW Telcom	Phone	629.15
Tina Barnard	Cleaning	54.00
Bomgaars	Oil, supplies	285.41
Center Point Large Print	Books	82.00
Chase County Treasurer	Police service contract	3,040.00
Eakes Office	Office supplies	162.65
Einspahr Construction	Fire Hall – replace door locks	205.56
Frenchman Auto	Battery, unit #4	349.90
Great Plains Comm	Phone	58.36
HomeTown Agency	Bond – Skelton	100.00
Lincoln National Life	Life, A&D insurance	34.35
NDEE	Pool permit	40.00
Scotties Potties	Pot cleaning	80.00
Village Insurance Fund	Transfer	3,105.00
W Design Associates	Street superintendent serv	588.85
Wauneta Municipal Utilities	Utilities	2,190.35
Arlan Wine	Retainer	300.00
Dan's R Us	Ambulance Barn – trash	27.35
Imperial NAPA	Fuel additive	119.88
Imperial Republican	Publishing	116.00
Wauneta Chamber	Membership dues	50.00
Wauneta Crossroads	Fuel, supplies	846.64

Highway Acct:

Lakeside Sand & Gravel	Washed Sand	492.96
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ARPA Funds:

MacQueen Equipment	Fire Dept – SCBA	8,931.72
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Other:

Hunter Heating & Cooling	HVAC – Office	14,600.00
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Motion made by Kerchal and seconded by Walgren to approve the proposal from Nebraska Safety & Fire for monitoring equipment for the fire alarm panel (WCTC); \$2,353.00 for the equipment and installation, and a \$45 monthly monitoring charge. Voting Aye: Walgren, Kerchal and Einspahr. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Kramer and Johnston. Motion approved.

Motion made by Walgren and seconded by Kerchal to approve a wage increase for the Nursing Home Administrator (R. Richardson) salary to \$81,000/annually. Voting Aye: Walgren, Kerchal and Einspahr. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Kramer and Johnston. Motion approved.

Motion made by Walgren, seconded by Kerchal, to accept and approve the proposal received from JK Energy Consulting, LLC, to complete a "Cost of Service/Rate Design Study" for the Electric Department.

March 11, 2025

The "Cost of Rate" study is \$8,000.00. Voting Aye: Walgren, Kerchal and Einspahr. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Kramer and Johnston. Motion approved.

Motion made by Walgren and seconded by Kerchal to rescind the previous motion to approve the wage increase for the Nursing Home Administrator Salary. Voting Aye: Walgren, Kerchal and Einspahr. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Kramer and Johnston. Motion approved.

The Board discussed ongoing nuisance properties, including vacant businesses on main street and follow-up letters to be sent to several residential properties.

Clerk's Report was given by Skelton.

Superintendent's Report was given by Lawless.

Discussion held on possible upgrades/improvements to the Community Building, including equipment needs and street front upgrades (paint).

Motion made by Kerchal, seconded by Walgren, to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm. Voting Aye: Walgren, Kerchal and Einspahr. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Kramer and Johnston. Motion approved.

Meeting Adjourned.

Rick Einspahr, Vice-Chairman

Evelyn Skelton, Clerk