

February 25, 2025

The Keya Paha County Commissioners met Tuesday, February 25, 2025. Chairman Frederick called the meeting to order at 10:00 with Commissioners Tiefenthaler and Nilson, Co. Attorney Scott and Clerk Wentworth. Frederick led the pledge of allegiance and noted the open meetings act posted for the public.

The Keya Paha County Employee Handbook was gone over with some minor corrections made. The Clerk will make the correction and put the handbook on the next agenda.

B. Nilson, dispatcher for Keya Paha County met with the commissioners to see if there is progress being made for the dispatch to taken over to enable her to move forward with her retirement. The Commissioners let Nilson know that they have a conference call with the Cherry County Commissioners later in the day and assured her that they are working on it.

The retirement audit was discussed and Scott prepared contracts for the part time positions of zoning administrator, deputy emergency manager and the custodians. The Commissioners reviewed the contract, these contracts will move these positions to contract labor, there will be no taxes withheld. Nilson moved to approve the contracts and move forward presenting them to the individuals holding those positions, Tiefenthaler seconded the motion. Voting: Frederick—yes, Tiefenthaler—yes and Nilson—yes. All voted in favor, motion carried.

A short discussion was held on the comprehensive plan and all agreed that it was premature to begin the update.

The Commissioners reviewed the Request to Occupy County Right of Way from Niobrara Valley Electric. Nilson moved, Frederick seconded to approve the request. Voting: Tiefenthaler—yes, Nilson—yes and Frederick—yes. All voted in favor, motion carried.

The Commissioners and Scott went to lunch.

CLAIMS

GENERAL FUND

Salaries & Ins Reimb		\$	16,367.22
Keya Paha Co Payroll W-H Acct	co-share ret	\$	953.17
Keya Paha Co Payroll W-H Acct	co-share fica	\$	1,210.99
Barbara Nilson	dispatch/electricity	\$	1,408.33
Olson's Pest Techs	contract	\$	75.00
Lloyd Smith	contract	\$	750.00
Anthony Tiefenthaler	mileage	\$	451.50

ROAD FUND

Salaries & Ins Reimb		\$	10,875.99
Bomgaars	supplies	\$	23.78
Keya Paha Co Payroll W-H Acct	co-share ret	\$	632.88
Keya Paha Co Payroll W-H Acct	co-share fica	\$	817.80
Sandhill Equipment	key	\$	5.88

ROAD BOND FUND

Keya Paha Co Treasurer	trans reso 25-02	\$	12,000.00
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WEED FUND

Salaries & Ins Reimb		\$	866.66
Keya Paha Co Payroll W-H Acct	co-share ret	\$	58.50
Keya Paha Co Payroll W-H Acct	co-share fica	\$	63.61

Nilson moved to approve the above claims, Tiefenthaler seconded. Voting: Tiefenthaler—yes, Nilson—yes and Frederick—yes, all voted in favor. Motion carried.

At 1:00 J. Cook updated the commissioners on the road department projects.

T. Wyrick met with the commissioners to update them on the continued request from FEMA for more information from the 2019 flood.

At 2:00 the Commissioners participated in a conference call with the Cherry County Commissioners to discuss the need for dispatch for Keya Paha County. Cherry County currently handles all 911 calls for Keya Paha County. Cherry County also covers everything when our dispatcher is unavailable. Cherry County reported that there will need to be a \$7,500.00 update to a communications tower and \$2,500 annually for recording storage to handle dispatch for Keya Paha County. The Cherry County dispatch manager suggested an additional \$20,000 annually from Keya Paha, since that is what we budget now. Frederick pointed out that the \$20,000 budget includes other things such as electricity, repairs to the towers, and supplies. The current salary was also set to cover dispatching for the road department, which is now handled by our road supervisor. The Keya Paha County Commissioners offered to pay the additional costs to the tower and storage and \$6,000 annually, noting that the current dispatcher reports about 35 calls a month on the sheriff non-emergency line and minimal radio traffic. No agreement was made, this agenda item was tabled and will be discussed at the next meeting with Cherry County.

At 2:45 Chairman Frederick declared the meeting adjourned until the next regular meeting to be held on Tuesday, March 11th 2025 at 10:00 a.m. at the courthouse meeting room. A current agenda is on file in the clerks office and available online at <https://keyapahacountyne.gov>.

Suzy Wentworth, Clerk

John Frederick, Chairman

*****These minutes are not yet approved and may be corrected*****