

The Dawson County Board of Commissioners accepted the bid from Vic Gomez, sales representative from Plum Creek Motors in Lexington, Nebraska, for three new patrol cars for the Dawson County Sheriff's Department at their meeting on Tuesday, April 15, 2014.

The three 2014 Chevy Tahoe vehicles with 4 wheel drives will cost \$82,816.65. Bids were also submitted by Platte Valley Auto, Lexington, Nebraska and Pony Express Chevrolet, Gothenburg, Nebraska.

In other business:

- The commissioners entered into a contractor agreement with Jay Edwards, Edwards Business Solutions, Cozad, Nebraska, to complete the updating of the county's PTO (Paid Time Off) policy and employee handbook. "The first step is revising the PTO policy on a level field across the county" noted Commissioner Chairman Bill Stewart. "This will be followed by handbook being updated and revised and then a signed agreement," continued Stewart. Edwards will be paid \$65.00/hour for his services and coordinate his efforts with Deputy County Attorney Kate Gatewood.

- Eric Ide, Cozad, Nebraska, a member of the Cozad Country Club Board of Directors, approached the commissioners on behalf of the board. He asked to be named on the

application for the club's liquor license, and the board agreed to his request.

- Gravel bids were opened by Roads Administrator Pat Nichols. Overton Sand and Gravel, Overton, Nebraska, was awarded bids to Range 19, 20 and Township 9, Range 22. Paulsen Inc., Cozad, Nebraska, received the bids for Ranges 11, 12, 23, 24, 25 and Township 10, Range 22.

- Dawson County Sheriff Gary Reiber presented the March, 2014, Dawson County Sheriff's Report. Reiber noted that bookings were up from 140 in February to 160 during the month of March. Contract bookings were up with local bookings down. The average inmate population is 72.5. Reiber said that his department received 87 911 calls during Sunday, April 13th's storm.

- Brandon Kjar, Dawson County Jail Maintenance Director and Rick Scheer, representing Control Masters addressed the board concerning HVAC control software upgrades. Since the air conditioning units are being replaced in the Dawson County Jail, Scheer recommended that an iNet structure upgrade be installed at the same time. This upgrade provides two-dimensional animated graphics with automatic paging, e-mailing and texting. Commissioners asked Kjar if he felt the upgrade would be advantageous, and he agreed it would be a good upgrade and the timing is perfect due to the present price incentive being offered by the company. Kjar also noted that other employees could access the system and be able to monitor when water temperatures were going too high or low in the system. The board approved the expenditure of \$7,060.00 to install the system when the air conditioning units are installed in June, 2014.

•Brian Woldt, Dawson County Emergency Management Director, reported that he hasn't received any local bids for updating the county's computer system. RTI, Gothenburg, Nebraska has expressed some interest in taking over the network. Woldt explained that a "Cloud System" has been recommended to him by RTI. The commissioners agreed with Woldt that since the employees will be the ones working with the network that he arrange meetings with all elected and appointed official and the Dawson County Jail employees to elicit responses and report back at the May 15, 2014 meeting.

•Dan Schwartzkopf, representing the Krull Agency gave the commissioners an update on the county health insurance. The county is tracking well with claims at 62.9% with 90 days remaining in the fiscal year. Commissioner Dean Kugler noted that \$2,317,594 is in the reserve fund, enough to carry the county through one and a half years if needed. Schwartzkopf reported that this is a good balance to have on hand for a county reserve fund. He will continue to investigate the best possible insurance options for county employees.