

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
December 27, 2023
9:30 a.m.

A regular meeting of the Knox County Board of Supervisors was held in the Boardroom at the Knox County Courthouse in Center, Nebraska on the date of Wednesday, December 27, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. Present were Supervisors Martin J. O'Connor District #1, Patrick J. Liska District #2, David L. Pierce District #3, James Sokol, Jr. District #4, Kevin D. Mackeprang District #5 and Danny R. Schlote District #6. Absent was Supervisor James J. Borgmann District #7. Chairman Mackeprang presiding.

Supr. Pierce led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Mackeprang announced to the public that a copy of the Public Open Meeting Act was posted in the Boardroom.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Wausa Gazette newspaper, as shown by the Affidavit of Publication attached to these minutes.

Notice of this meeting was simultaneously given to all members and a copy of their acknowledgment and receipt of notice and agenda is attached to these minutes. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was opened to the attendance of the public.

Chairman Mackeprang approved the minutes of the December 12, 2023 meeting as read.

Correspondence reviewed was: 1.) Nebraska DEE letter regarding modified construction and operating application for the Joseph Kuhlman feeding operation; 2.) Policy Brief on Consumption Tax from Open Sky Policy Institute.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Liska that all claims, audited and approved for payment by the Claims Committee, be allowed subject to delinquent personal taxes. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 and #6. Nays none. Absent was District #7. Motion carried. Claims totaling \$414,706.44 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the December 11 - 22, 2023 Receipts Revenue List. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 and #6. Nays none. Absent was District #7. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the County Treasurer's Certificate of Pledged Securities. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 and #6. Nays none. Absent was District #7. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Sokol, Jr. to place on file the Resolutions by Board of Directors of Depository Banks and Securities. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 and #6. Nays none. Absent was District #7. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Sokol, Jr. to authorize Chairman Mackeprang to sign the Memorandum of Understanding between the Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs and Knox County of Amendment One extending the agreement for use of the VETRASpec license for an additional two years for the Knox County Veterans' Service Office. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 and #6. Nays none. Absent was District #7. Motion carried.

Review of Check #23120058 issued to Landmark Surveying at the December 12, 2023 meeting was made as to contracted charges for section corners. County Clerk Fischer explained the process, that the Project Hwy 12 tie-outs were completed, and the County received \$4,300 from the Nebraska Department of Transportation for twenty-five tie outs prior to construction and eighteen re-established tie outs after construction with seven section corners not disturbed but inspected. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Schlote to approve Claim #23120058 in the amount of \$5,000.00 issued at the December 12, 2023 meeting. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 and #6. Nays none. Absent was District #7. Motion carried.

Chairman Mackeprang moves the Board recess at 10:02 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:19 a.m. with all members present except Supervisor James J. Borgmann District #7.

County Treasurer Ebel updated the Board on the recent request from Nebraska Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System (Nebraska CLASS) to be considered by the County for investment of County funds in their company. No action was taken.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Discussed recent rain and snow received in a storm on Christmas; 2.) NIRMA approved ASSIST grant applications in the amount of \$542.46 for hi-visibility apparel and \$2,100 for a post driver; 3.) The One-and-Six-Year Road Hearing will be held at 10:30 a.m. on February 7, 2024; 4.) The gravel bid opening will be held at 10:30 a.m. on March 20, 2024 and the oil bid opening will be held on April 3, 2024 at 10:30 a.m.; 5.) Shed safety inspections will be held on January 26, 2024; 6.) Update on County-Township Allocation; 7.) Four-inch to six-inch sized rocks were found on the Rec Road. The rocks were moved to the side and there are four piles to pick up. It is unknown where the rock came from; 8.) The Board reviewed the resolution adopted by the Santee Sioux Nation that was submitted with the Santee Sioux Nation Transportation Program Bridge Application requesting funds for the BIA for construction of five new bridges and four existing bridges within the Santee Sioux Reservation; 9.) Discussed how much money should be invested in the truck tractor that pulls the belly dump tractor. While the truck is mechanically sound, it is receiving damage from pulling the trailer and materials; 10.) Discussed purchasing for the Bridge Crew a Makita cordless rebar tying tool kit at \$2,629 and a Bartell Morrison Truss concrete power super screed. The cost of the Bartell Morrison screed ranges from \$13,438.45 for a thirty-foot screed to \$28,194.08 for an eighty-foot screed. Discussion was held on the width of new bridges being constructed and what size of screed to consider purchasing. Also, discussion was held on a diesel hammer to be used on the bridge crane; 11.) Mechanic Crosley rebuilt v-plow skis/runners on a plow at the Crofton Yard; 12.) Discussion was held on the good job done by the new Road employees during the recent snowstorm; 13.) Supr. Schlote said a tow chain broke and needs to be replaced with either a heavier chain or a tow strap; 14.) McCormick Tree Service has been contacted to cut large cottonwood limbs along a County Road in Central Township; 15.) Asphalt chucks will be hauled to the Creighton Yard where they will be crushed; 16.) Discussion was held on outside employees clocking in and out for lunch while others are not taking a lunch time causing overtime pay. Discussion will be held between the Supervisors and their respective employees about the matter.

There was no public comment on agenda items. Comment on non-agenda items was given by Supr. Schlote who said he had received compliments that the Board had approved continuance of public transportation services with Cedar County Transit.

Committees' update was given by Deputy County Attorney Jensen of the Courthouse Security Committee that NIRMA approved an ASSIST grant application she submitted in the amount of \$6,250 to be used towards the cost of updating the Courthouse security cameras.

Officials' updates were given by the following: 1.) Sheriff Henery updated the Board on the generator that had quit shortly after electricity was lost in the area recently due to an accident. The 911 calls had to be rerouted to another County for nearly two hours until the power was restored. Discussion ensued on the generator shutting down due to low levels of coolant as a result of a water pump replacement, changing to a different type of generator and consideration of potential issues in the future; 2.) Sheriff Henery informed the Board that he has contacted the Nebraska Game and Parks about the State taking over the Lindy Tower so more service can be provided to the Weigand area; 3.) County Assessor McManigal discussed with the Board the formula used for computing ag land valuation for a school bond; 4.) Discussion was held on the varying sessions held at the NACO Conference held recently in Kearney; 5.) Deputy County Clerk Nix updated the Board on a telephone call with Eide Bailley Company for auditing services. The base rate would be \$40,000 to \$45,000, a single audit would cost a base of \$10,000 and the audit would be conducted remotely only. More research of other companies will be done; 6.) Supr. Pierce thanked everyone for "walking" him through the first year of his term.

GENERAL FUND. Adjusted Salaries, 91,341.12; Blue360 Media, law book, 184.45; Clerk of District Court, court costs, 112.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,172.17; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 12.51; Crowne Plaza Kearney, lodging, 5,532.95; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, backup/radios, 633.00; Dollar General, jail supplies, 90.25; Eakes Office Solutions, copier agreement, 133.02; Ecowater, bottled water/salt, 391.00; First National Bank Omaha, postage/gas/meals/supplies, 3,895.92; Floor Maintenance & Paper Supply Co., janitor supplies, 451.60; Heartland Fire Protection, recertification, 214.00; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., generator diesel, 89.25; Knox County Sheriff, service fees, 50.88; Knox County Treasurer, transfer from General Fund to Road Fund, 143,951.92; Marty O'Connor, mileage, 264.61; Monroe Systems for Business, toner, 278.46; Pitney Bowes, meter lease, 159.57; Quill Corporation, supplies, 13.79; Reserve Account, postage, 10,000.00; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 6,665.16; Verdigre Eagle, supplies, 656.00; Verdigre Farm Service, gas, 139.27; Verdigre FFA Alumni, table fees, 65.00; Vic's Service, tires/gas, 526.38; Village of Center, water/sewer/garbage, 516.00.

ROAD FUND. Adjusted Salaries, 37,415.35; Art's Garbage, garbage, 18.00; Black Hills Energy, heating fuel, 93.25; Bloomfield Auto Parts, repairs, 128.23; Bohemian One Stop, gas, 525.60; Burns Lumber Co., shop supplies, 118.58; Carlson Home & Auto Inc., tire repairs, 221.64; Cedar Knox PPD, electricity, 185.27; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,877.10; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 414.78; Hrbek Construction, dirt/haul, 1,313.00; J&J Sanitation, garbage, 49.00; Lance Rudloff, CDL renewal, 60.00; Lawson Products, shop supplies, 110.16; Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fees, 705.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 150.34; Pease General Store, shop supplies, 70.38; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,596.83; Russ Crosley, garbage, 46.00; Santee Utility Commission, garbage, 65.00; Schaefer Grain & Feed Co., road salt, 2,152.92; Spencer Quarries Inc., red rock, 1,049.30; Steffen's Service Station, gas, 301.58; Vakoc Excavating LLC, gravel/haul, 61,100.13; Vic's Service LLC, tires/repairs, 846.85; Village of Center, water/sewer, 38.00.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. MIPS Inc., jury list, 318.50; Postmaster, postage, 456.00.

VISITOR'S PROMO FUND. Salaries, 1,670.26; Miles Partnership, publishing/printing, 7,300.00; Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, visitor's guide, 465.00.

VISITOR'S IMPROVEMENT FUND. First National Bank Omaha, internet, 86.95.

COVID AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND. Scott Ober Construction, garage door, 1,194.12.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 1,774.27; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 137.90; First National Bank Omaha, gas/meals/postage, 258.45; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 113.41.

INHERITANCE FUND. Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fees, 14,254.74.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. First National Bank Omaha, fair supplies, 484.27.

TOTALS

General Fund	\$273,540.28
Road Fund	112,652.29
Child Support Fund	774.50
Visitor's Promo Fund	9,435.26
Visitor's Improvement Fund	86.95
Covid ARPA Fund	1,194.12
C & C Development Fund	2,284.03
Inheritance Fund	14,254.74
911 Emergency Fund	484.27
Total	\$414,706.44

Chairman Mackeprang adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 11:21 a.m. on Wednesday, December 27, 2023 until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 10, 2024 for a reorganizational meeting.

I, Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk, do hereby certify that the County Board minutes are correct to the best of my knowledge.

ATTEST:

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk

By _____
Kevin D. Mackeprang, Chairman
