

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
February 21, 2024
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, February 21, 2024 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, Danny R. Schlote District #6 and James J. Borgmann District #7. Absent was none. Chairman Sokol, Jr. presiding.

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

Chairman Sokol, Jr. 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 Verdigre Eagle 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 Sokol, Jr. approved the minutes of the February 7, 2024 meeting as read.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Borgmann that all claims, audited and approved for payment by the Claims Committee, be allowed subject to delinquent personal taxes. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Claims totaling \$375,330.01 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

The public comment session was opened at 9:52 a.m. Chairman Sokol, Jr. informed the Board members that they should not park on the south side of the Courthouse from the alley to the highway as this area is designated parking for the public. Employees are also required to leave this area open for the public.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of February 2 – 16, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the County Sheriff's Report on Collection of Taxes from October 30, 2023 through January 25, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Liska to place on file the County Treasurer's Report of Collection of Delinquent Personal Property Taxes FY 2022 & Prior. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on deductible reimbursement for those employees who have family coverage and have participated in the onsite wellness. The protocol for reimbursement has been that the employee and the spouse would have to participate in the onsite wellness and would be reimbursed up to \$250 of deductible paid between \$250 and \$500. Spouse coverage, child(ren) coverage or family coverage requires that two deductibles be met yearly. One instance was where the employee had not met a deductible, but the family members had, the employee and spouse had participated in the onsite wellness, and whether deductible reimbursement could be done. The Board said that the \$250 reimbursement should be allowed if the two deductibles had been made and participation in the onsite wellness did take place.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 10:05 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:25 a.m. with all members present.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Schlote to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 02** for the adoption of the construction plans of the One Year Map and Six Year Map from the Public Road Hearing held on February 7, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 02

In pursuant with Section 10 of LB 1302, Knox County did hold its Public Road Hearing on February 7, 2024. Enclosed under separate cover is a One Year Map and Six Year Map with current project listings and future listings, also proof of publication. The Knox County Board of Supervisors wishes to adopt these construction plans as compiled by Knox County Highway Superintendent, Kevin R. Barta, at this time.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Martin J. O'Connor /s/
Martin J. O'Connor, District #1

Patrick J. Liska /s/
Patrick J. Liska, District #2

David L. Pierce /s/
David L. Pierce, District #3

James Sokol, Jr. /s/
James Sokol, Jr., District #4

Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/
Kevin D. Mackeprang, District #5

Danny R. Schlote /s/
Danny R. Schlote, District #6

James Borgmann /s/
James J. Borgmann, District #7

ATTEST: (Seal)
Joann M. Fischer /s/
Knox County Clerk

Hwy. Supt. Barta continued with the following: 2.) The Road Employee job evaluations will be held on March 6, 2024 beginning at 1:00 p.m.; 3.) Discussed was a bridge project in conjunction with Holt County; 4.) Shaw Bridge update; 5.) Discussed small bridge repair projects; 6.) The new dump truck should be done in three weeks; 7.) Equipment repairs were discussed; 8.) An asphalt conference will be held in Kearney in the near future; 9.) The bridge conference will be held in March; 10.) The Makita rebar tying tool kit was received. Research on purchasing a power screed is ongoing.

Clerk of District Court Fischer updated the Board on the new audio/video equipment installed in the Courtroom by the State and paid for by the State's ARPA funds. Discussed was the transfer of ownership of the equipment at no cost. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to authorize Chairman Sokol, Jr. to sign the Statement of Acceptance of Possession and Future Responsibility where Knox County accepts ownership of the new Courtroom audio/video equipment from the State and that all future maintenance/repair/replacement/disposal outside of technical

support contract falls entirely to Knox County with no further monetary involvement on the part of the State. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Extension Educator Hanefeldt and Extension Zone Coordinator Amy Copp presented the annual Extension report. Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the 2023 Annual Extension Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to approve Administrative Plat Application #P2401 Paul and Helen Bailey lot split of Lot 1, Lazy River Acres 2nd Addition, a Replat of Block F, and a part of Cottonwood Drive, Lazy Rivers Acres. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to place on file the January Zoning Permits Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 3.) Clarification was needed on Section 4.11.06 (3) of the Knox County Comprehensive Plans. That section pertains to the area on the north side of the Rec Road with the minimum lot size to be one-half acre, that the lot size south of the Rec Road to change from three acres to two acres, and that the minutes of the November 15, 2023 meeting includes a clerical error in the discussion portion of the hearing as to the lot size approved for the north side of the Rec Road. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to correct a clerical error in the November 15, 2023 meeting minutes where during discussion at a public hearing regarding the update to the Knox County Comprehensive Plans that the minimum lot size to be changed was listed as changing from one-half acre to one acre when the correction should be that it was changing the minimum lot size on the north of the Rec Road from one acre to one-half acre, and further noting that the remainder of discussion on the updated Comprehensive Plans shown in the November 15, 2023 meeting minutes remains as stated. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 4.) Update of the Safety Committee Meeting held before this meeting; 5.) The Planning Commission will be reviewing amendments to the zoning regulations that may address solar regulations.

County Attorney Thomas and Deputy County Attorney Jensen met with the Board on the recent homicides and possible litigation and costs.

Committee updates were given by the following: 1.) Supr. Mackeprang updated the Board on the Building and Grounds Committee meeting held before this meeting. Custodian Rudloff upgraded the restrooms in Annex #1; 2.) Chairman Sokol, Jr. gave information from the Safety Committee meeting held earlier; 3.) County Clerk Fischer informed the Board that a Crofton School Bond election is taking place and County Assessor McManigal presented information on the special ag land valuation formula used on a school bond; 4.) Deputy County Clerk Nix informed the Board that an audit proposal was received and will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 92,557.78; Amber Jansen, mileage, 48.24; Chad Vanness, mileage, 44.22; CMart LLC, gas, 20.10; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,142.81; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, election printing/notices/Board proceedings, 635.04; CVSOAN, dues, 60.00; Dakota Embalming & Transport Service, autopsy, 250.00; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, backup, 472.00; Election Systems & Software Inc, Crofton school bond, 2,764.89; Faith Regional Health Services, autopsy costs, 28.36; F & M State Bank, research fee, 360.00; Farmers Pride, tower propane, 889.39; Gragert's Grocery, jail food, 729.85; Great Plains Communications, tower internet, 676.32; Julie Dather, mileage, 41.54; Knox County Sheriff, paper service fees, 6.00; Knox County Treasurer, transfer from General Fund to Road Fund, 143,951.92; Lois Kumm, jail food, 16.00; Megan Dufek, mileage, 21.44; Megan Hanefeldt, reimburse meal, 441.00; MIPS Inc., tax forms, 350.27; Moody Motor Company, install running boards, 771.00; NACEB, dues, 100.00; Nebraska County Assessors Association, dues, 75.00; Northeast Weed Control Association, dues, 150.00; Nebraska State Patrol, radio licenses, 578.00; North Central Public Power District, tower power, 52.78; Northeast Nebraska News Company, publishing, 519.40; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 524.20; Powertech LLC, generator repair, 1,373.00; Quill Corporation, supplies, 866.69; Rebekah Poppe, mileage, 34.84; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 6,673.05; Sharla Hanzlik, mileage, 16.08; Verizon Wireless, hot spot, 40.01.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 33,629.17; Art's Garbage, garbage, 18.00; B's Enterprises, Inc., signs/bolts/nuts, 5,925.00; Bauer Built Inc, tires, 5,521.92; Big Red Mini Mart, gas, 143.80; Black Hills Energy, heating fuel, 545.41; Bloomfield Auto Parts, shop supplies/filters, 68.12; Bohemian One Stop LLC, gas, 336.44; Cedar Knox PPD, electricity, 359.61; CHS, diesel/propane, 3,609.72; CMart LLC, gas, 58.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,584.71; Cornhusker International Trucks Inc., repairs, 6,792.90; Crane Sales & Service, repairs, 770.11; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 537.37; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 15.28; Dustin Crosley, equipment rental, 300.00; Farmer's Pride, diesel/propane, 9,299.04; Freeman Oil Co., LLC, diesel, 922.95; Hefner Hardware, service call, 90.00; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 8,828.87; J&J Sanitation, garbage, 49.00; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, shop supplies, 228.75; Kayton International Inc., repairs, 131.65; Laffan Medical Clinic, drug test, 150.00; Lawson Products, repairs, 2,058.63; LTL Holdings Inc., gas, 280.43; Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fee, 11,042.84; Medical Enterprises Inc., drug test, 35.00; Northeast Nebraska News, publishing, 7.64; K&S Door Co Inc., repairs, 76.00; People's Grocery, shop supplies, 38.79; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 9.10; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,340.11; Russ Crosley, garbage, 46.00; Santee Utility Commission, garbage, 65.00; Schaefer Grain & Feed Co., road salt, 2,139.90; Sucha Repair, repairs/supplies, 310.90; Victor Janak dba Vic's Service, LLC, gas/tires, 875.86; Village of Verdigre, water/sewer/garbage, 85.00.

FLOWAGE EASEMENT ROAD FUND. Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fees, 1,757.50.

COUNTY WELLNESS FUND. Name Redacted, deductible reimbursement, 250.00; Name Redacted, deductible reimbursement, 231.39; Name Redacted, deductible reimbursement, 250.00.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 3,387.07; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 261.28; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 64.00; Knox County Treasurer, payroll reimbursement to the Visitor's Promo Fund, 3,237.70; Northeast Nebraska News Co., publishing, 49.44; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 242.00; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 222.27.

INHERITANCE FUND. Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fees, 1,520.00.

KENO FUND. Nebraska Department of Revenue, Charitable Gaming Division, license, 100.00.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. City of Norfolk, telephone services, 44.74.

911 WIRELESS SERVICES FUND. City of Norfolk, telephone services, 104.38.

TOTALS

General Fund	\$263,281.22
Road Fund	100,327.02
Flowage Easement Road Fund	1,757.50
County Wellness Fund	731.39
C & C Development Fund	7,463.76
Inheritance Fund	1,520.00
Keno Fund	100.00
911 Emergency Fund	44.74
911 Wireless Service Fund	104.38
Total	\$375,330.01

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 11:46 a.m. on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 6, 2024 for a regular 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 _____
James Sokol, Jr., Chairman
