

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
January 10, 2024
9:30 a.m.

A reorganizational 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, January 10, 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 Mackeprang presiding.

County Clerk Fischer 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 Bloomfield Monitor 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.

The minutes of the December 20 and 27, 2023 meetings were read and approved by Chairman Mackeprang.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Sokol, Jr. 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 \$306,052.75 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Chairman Mackeprang moves the Knox County Board of Supervisors recess at 9:55 a.m. on January 10, 2024.

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

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 9:55 a.m., as provided by Sec. 23-156, Sec. 23-272, 23-274 Revised Statutes of Nebraska 1943.

Chairman Mackeprang appointed County Clerk Fischer as Temporary Chairperson of the Knox County Board of Supervisors due to the reorganization process.

Temporary Chairperson/County Clerk Fischer called for nominations three times from the floor for the 2024 Chairman of the Knox County Board of Supervisors. Supr. Mackeprang nominated Supr. Sokol, Jr.; Supr. Liska nominated Supr. O'Connor.

Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Borgmann that nominations cease for the 2024 Chairman of the Knox County Board of Supervisors and that votes be cast for the position. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Votes were cast by the Board members and were: Supr. Sokol, Jr. – 4 and Supr. O'Connor – 3. Supr. Sokol, Jr. assumed the duties of the 2024 Chairman of the Knox County Board of Supervisors.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. called for nominations three times from the floor for the 2024 Vice-Chairman of the Knox County Board of Supervisors. Supr. Liska nominated Supr. O'Connor.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Borgmann that nominations cease, rules be suspended and to cast a unanimous ballot for Supr. O'Connor for Vice-Chairman of the Knox County Board of Supervisors for 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Supr. O'Connor assumed the duties of the Vice-Chairman of the Knox County Board of Supervisors for 2024.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. announced the 2024 Committees as follows: **CATASTROPHIC LEAVE COMMITTEE** – the recipient employee's department head, Chairman James Sokol, Jr., Supervisor Kevin Mackeprang, County Clerk Joann Fischer, Sheriff Don Henery, Highway Superintendent Kevin Barta and an Outside Employee - Road Department; **CLAIMS COMMITTEE** – Supervisors Danny Schlote, James Sokol, Jr. and Patrick Liska; **COUNTY GENERAL ASSISTANCE** – Supervisors in Respective Districts; **COUNTY MACHINERY CARE COMMITTEE** – Supervisors Martin O'Connor, Patrick Liska, David Pierce, and Highway Superintendent Kevin Barta; **COURTHOUSE & GROUNDS COMMITTEE** – Supervisors Kevin Mackeprang, David Pierce, and James Sokol, Jr., County Clerk Joann Fischer, Senior Office Clerk Rhonda Surface, and Custodian Beth Rudloff; **COURTHOUSE SECURITY COMMITTEE** – Sheriff Don Henery, County Attorney John Thomas, Deputy County Attorney Hanna Knox Jensen and Emergency Manager Kelsy Jelinek; **COURTHOUSE SUPPLY APPROVAL OFFICER** – County Clerk Joann Fischer; **EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK & PERSONNEL SYSTEM REVIEW COMMITTEE (Created 6/27/2019)** – Chairman James Sokol, Jr., Supervisor Kevin Mackeprang, County Clerk Joann Fischer, Deputy County Clerk Krista Nix, Senior Office Clerk Rhonda Surface, Deputy County Attorney Hanna Knox Jensen, Sheriff Don Henery, Mechanic Jeremy Crosley, Hwy. Supt. Office Manager Katie Fritz, County Assessor Monica McManigal and County Treasurer Lori Ebel; **FINANCING, BANKING & INSURANCE COMMITTEE** – Supervisors Martin O'Connor, James Borgmann and David Pierce, and County Treasurer Lori Ebel; **PRINTING COMMITTEE** – Supervisors James Sokol, Jr., James Borgmann and Patrick Liska; **PURCHASING COMMITTEE** – Supervisors Martin O'Connor, James Borgmann and Kevin Mackeprang; **ROAD & BRIDGE COMMITTEE** – Supervisors James Sokol, Jr., Patrick Liska and David Pierce, and Highway Superintendent Kevin Barta; **SAFETY COMMITTEE** – Supervisors Danny Schlote and Patrick Liska; Emergency Manager Kelsy Jelinek and County Clerk Joann Fischer – Co-Coordinator; Hwy. Supt. Kevin Barta; Road employees Mike Beckman, Mike Jelinek and Chris Rohrer; Custodian Beth Rudloff, Sheriff Don Henery; and Katie Fritz-Secretary; **SAFETY COORDINATORS** – Emergency Manager Kelsy Jelinek and County Clerk Joann Fischer; **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES COMMITTEE (ADA)** – Supervisor Kevin Mackeprang, Highway Superintendent Kevin Barta; and County Clerk Joann M. Fischer – Coordinator; **BLOOMFIELD AIRPORT JOINT ZONING BOARD** – Supervisor Kevin Mackeprang; **CREIGHTON AIRPORT JOINT ZONING BOARD (Created 5/14/1992)** – Supervisor James Borgmann; **GOLDENROD REGIONAL HOUSING AGENCY** – Supervisor James Sokol, Jr.; **HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (HIPAA) COORDINATOR** – County Clerk Joann M. Fischer and Deputy County Clerk Krista Nix; **KNOX COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY** – Supervisors James Borgmann and Kevin Mackeprang; **KNOX COUNTY**

VISITORS' COMMITTEE – Supervisor Martin O'Connor; **MISSOURI SEDIMENTATION ACTION COALITION BOARD** – Mark Simpson; **911 EMERGENCY SERVICE BOARD** – Supervisors James Borgmann, Patrick Liska and David Pierce, and Emergency Manager Kelsy Jelinek; **NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT BOARD** – Supervisor Kevin Mackeprang and Spirited Citizen Jean Henes (reappointed 1/10/2024); **NORTHEAST NEBRASKA AREA AGENCY ON AGING** – Supervisor David Pierce; **NORTHEAST NEBRASKA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (NENEDD) BOARD** – Supervisor James Borgmann and Mike Crosley; **NORTHEAST NEBRASKA RC&D** – Supervisors James Sokol, Jr. and Kevin Mackeprang; **NORTHSTAR SERVICES BOARD** – Supervisor Danny Schlote; **RECREATION RIVER COOPERATING AGENCY** – Supervisor Martin O'Connor; **REGION IV MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICE DISTRICT** – Supervisor Kevin Mackeprang; **REGION IV MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL** – Supervisor Kevin Mackeprang; **STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS (SLFRF)** – Deputy County Clerk Krista Nix.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Schlote to authorize County Treasurer Ebel to invest all funds of the County for the calendar year 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

The Board acknowledged that the current salary of Veterans' Service Officer Gary Jones was set at \$24.50 per hour and was set in June 2023.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to designate all 2024 Notices of Meeting be posted on the Knox County Website being www.co.knox.ne.us; the Notice of Meeting for the first regular meeting of each month be published in the Bloomfield Monitor newspaper; the Notice of Meeting for the second regular meeting of each month be published in the Verdigre Eagle newspaper; and, the Notice of Meeting for the third regular meeting of each month and special meeting/quorum meeting notices will be published in both the Bloomfield Monitor and Verdigre Eagle. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 10:28 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:57 a.m. with all members present.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) NIRMA will be conducting a safety training on March 13 and CPR training on May 31, 2024; 2.) New signs have been placed on the County sheds in Niobrara and Crofton; 3.) Update on Shaw Bridge; 4.) Discussion was held on the Crofton Rec Road and an estimate of approximately \$13.5 million to add turn lanes and resurfacing. Deputy County Attorney Jensen updated the Board on the County Attorney's Office sending packets to Nebraska Congressman Smith, State Senator DeKay and the Nebraska Game and Parks referencing the agreement between the State and Knox County regarding who will pay for repairs, upgrade and maintenance.

Economic Development Director Hanvey and Bobbi Pettit and Lowell Schroeder with FIVE RULE Rural Planning met with the Board regarding planning and consultant services, recruiting grants and projects for Knox County communities, conducting studies, and community development. The cost would be approximately \$64,000. The Board took no action.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Liska to approve Tony and Amy Hoffman dba CJ's at the Lake as a Nebraska Cooperative Government lottery sales outlet within Knox County and falls under Knox County's KENO. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the Receipts Revenue List from December 26, 2023 through January 8, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the Semi-Annual Report by the Knox County Treasurer of Collections, Disbursements and Balances for Six Months ending December 31, 2023, and further certifying that there were no unpaid claims against Knox County as of December 31, 2023. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the Clerk of District Court December 2023 Fee Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the Knox County Credit Card Accounts Report dated January 1, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on requesting a transfer from the County's 90 Degree Benefits' health insurance claim checking account to the County Wellness Fund. Premiums are deposited into the checking account and due to low health claims, there is an excess at this time that can be transferred back to Knox County. The transferred amount will be deposited with the County Treasurer to be placed in the County Wellness Fund and further invested in an interest-bearing account with NPAIT. The transferred amount can be used for future premiums, for "laser" employee deductibles and/or can be transferred back to the checking account if there are large claims in the future. Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to authorize a transfer of \$400,000 from the 90 Degree Benefits' health insurance claims/County of Knox Employee Benefit Account and such transfer to be deposited with the Knox County Treasurer to be deposited into the County Wellness Fund. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Extension Educator Hanefeldt met with the Board to discuss filling the District 7 position on the Extension Board. Megan Dufek of Creighton is interested in the position and lives in Supervisor District 7. Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Pierce to appoint Megan Dufek to the Knox County Extension Board. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to place on file the County Sheriff's Quarterly Report of Fees Collected October 1 through December 31, 2023. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to accept and place on file the Knox County Credit Card Accounts report as of January 1, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to set the 2024 mileage rate at the IRS mileage rates being 67 cents per mile and County Sheriff paper serving mileage rate at 70 cents per mile. 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. Schlote, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to place on file the December 2023 Permits reports and the Annual 2023 Permits report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Officials' updates were given by the following: 1.) Supr. O'Connor updated the Board on a recent session attended at the December 2023 NACO Conference in Kearney that covered meeting protocol. Public comment should be a designated time and listed on the meeting agenda. Beginning at the next meeting, a public comment section will be added to the meeting agenda from 9:45 a.m. through 10:00 a.m. Also, it was suggested that if a department head wants to discuss personnel in closed session, the employee(s) should be present to ask them if they want the discussion held in open session or closed session; 2.) County Deputy Attorney Jensen informed the Board that the County Attorney's Office has an intern on Fridays who is a student at Bloomfield High School; 3.) Sheriff Henery presented the Knox County Sheriff's Office 2023 Year End News Report.

Legislative update was given by Sheriff Henery regarding bills including LB996 that says cities and villages can be charged for prisoner costs.

GENERAL FUND. Adjusted Salaries, 100,282.70; Applied Connective Technologies, IT/Phone, 5,006.93; Bloomfield Pharmacy, meds, 9.80; Blue360 Media, law books, 184.45; Bohemian One Stop, gas, 25.20; CenturyLink, long distance, 1.39; Clerk of District Court, court costs, 298.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,159.19; Cmart LLC, gas, 76.68; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance county pays, 42,963.51; Eakes Office Solutions, copier agreement/supplies, 1,294.85; First National Bank Omaha, gas/car wash; 65.79; Grager's, jail food, 704.70; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet/internet at Lindy tower, 2,753.17; Heartland Heating & Air Conditioning, quarterly bill, 3,420.00; Hefner Hardware, keys, 16.95; Kathy Wagner, reimburse insurance, 87.11; Knox County Sheriff, service fees, 29.81; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance county pays, 295.91; Loffler, copier agreement, 355.03; Madison County Sheriff, service fees, 29.65; Megan Hanefeldt, mileage, 72.04; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 40.50; MIPS, computer program/statements/checks. 1,128.98; Moody Motor Company, repairs, 89.14; N&B Gas Company, propane, 985.60; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 2,104.14; Northeast Nebraska News Co., publishing, 218.38; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 108.00; Platte Valley Communications, tower repairs, 1,195.00; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance county pays, 2,241.00; Postmaster, postage, 1,047.00; Quill Corporation, supplies, 205.77; R&K Motor Parts, brakes, 53.99; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 6,724.49; Sanne Repair, repairs, 9,861.91; US Cellular, cell phones, 355.50; Verdigre Farm Service, gas, 201.18; Verizon, hot spot, 40.01; Village of Center, water/sewer/garbage, 516.00.

ROAD FUND. Adjusted Salaries, 44,960.36; B's Enterprises Inc., signs, 720.00; Big Red Mini Mart, gas, 81.85; Bohemian One stop, gas, 645.83; Bomgaars, shop supplies/snow fence/tordon/ice melt, 4,898.61; City of Bloomfield, water, 25.00; City of Creighton, water/sewer/garbage, 134.21; C-Mart, gas, 369.33; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 3,163.28; Cornhusker International Trucks Inc., repairs, 747.00; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 18,745.32; Farmer's Pride, diesel, 4,444.77; Freeman Oil Co., diesel, 1,755.00; Great Plains Communications, phone, 196.92; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 2,442.55; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, shop supplies/ice melt, 607.91; Kayton International Inc., hydraulic oil, 120.87; LTL Holdings Inc., gas, 138.60; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 113.24; N&B Gas Company, propane, 1,724.80; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 69.97; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 394.29; K&S Door Co. dba Overhead Door Co., repairs, 238.00; Powerplan, repairs, 723.77; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 806.76; R&K Motor Parts, repairs/tools/filters, 3,700.59; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,849.33; Rohrer Welding, repairs, 468.22; Scott Grim, reimburse insurance, 8.62; State of Nebraska Motor Fuels Division, diesel tax, 1,945.00; Sucha Repair, tire repair/oxygen/acetylene, 704.36; Verdigre Farm Service, diesel/tordon/supplies, 3,625.06; Village of Center, water/sewer, 38.00; Village of Niobrara, water/sewer, 43.25; Village of Verdigre, water/sewer/garbage, 85.00.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Great Plains Communications, phone/internet/fax, 115.61; Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 164.44; Matthew Fischer, mileage, 235.80; Postmaster, postage, 396.00.

VISITOR'S PROMO FUND. Salaries, 1,605.54; Rowan Productions, video, 200.00.

ROD PRES/MOD FUND. MIPS INC., computer program, 389.88.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND. NENEDD, admin fees, 825.24.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 1,936.07; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 137.90; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet/fax, 89.92; Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 5.96; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 44.82; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 113.41.

INHERITANCE FUND. Cedar County Transit, public transit, 2,100.00; Rodney W. Smith, public defender contract, 2,083.33.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 234.36; OPTK Networks, networking, 228.44; Three River Telco, phone, 66.42.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. Great Plains Communication, phone/internet, 406.46; OPTK Networks, networking, 533.04; Three River Telco, phone, 154.99.

TOTALS

General Fund	\$192,249.45
Road Fund	101,735.67
Child Support Fund	911.85
Visitor's Promo Fund	1,805.54
ROD Pres/Mod Fund	389.88
Economic Development Fund	825.24
C & C Development Fund	2,328.08
Inheritance Fund	4,183.33
911 Emergency Fund	529.22
911 Wireless Service Fund	1,094.49
Total	\$306,052.75

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 12:19 p.m. on January 10, 2024 until Wednesday, January 24, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. 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

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
January 24, 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, January 24, 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.

Deputy County Clerk Nix 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 January 10, 2024 meeting as read.

The public comment session was opened at 9:45 a.m. Present was Casey Rossiter with Hartelco of Hartington who thanked the Board members for their support and informed the Board that the State approved a grant for Hartelco in the amount of \$7 million for putting in fiber optic line and to provide internet service in the lake area. They are also working on another grant that could provide service to Kohles Acres and Crofton City plus other spots in the lake area. People not in the grant area are welcome to call Hartelco to see if service can be provided to their homes. The Board congratulated Hartelco for being awarded the grant and look forward to their service.

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 \$417,798.36 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 10:08 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Equalization reconvened at 10:21 a.m. with all members present.

Sheriff Henery discussed with the Board an invoice received from PowerTech for repairs on the 911 generator. The repairs were to fill the generator with coolant after they had replaced a water pump and did not completely fill the necessary amount of coolant causing the generator to quit shortly after the electricity went out due to an accident. Sheriff Henery asked the Board if they wanted a representative from PowerTech to attend a future meeting to discuss the billing. The Board said they would appreciate a representative to attend so they can discuss the invoice and matter with them.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the Receipts Revenue List from January 8 – 19, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to acknowledge the resignation of Leroy Buchholz of Creighton from the Knox County Veterans' Service Committee, to thank Mr. Buchholz for his many years of service, and to appoint Joshua Key of Creighton to fill the unexpired term of Leroy Buchholz on the Knox County Veterans' Service Committee. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

The Board and Officials discussed introduced legislation.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened at 10:49 a.m. the advertised public hearing on a Class C Liquor License application for Lisa Chase-Fowler dba Fowlers Lindy Country Club.

Economic Development Director Hanvey and Bloomfield City Administrator Colette Panning met with the Board on the Five Rule Rural Planning Professional Services Agreement. Discussion was held on expectations of the agreement and services, cost, dues paid annually to Northeast Nebraska Economic Development District, and terms. Director Hanvey said that she is proposing entering into a six-month agreement with Five Rule Rural Planning with a cost of \$16,000 to be paid from the C & C Development Fund. The Board said that the Development Agency Board should be reviewing this agreement and proposal and making the decision on the services/agreement. No action was taken.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the open public hearing at 11:00 a.m. Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to approve a Class C Liquor License application for Lisa Chase-Fowler dba Fowlers Lindy Country Club. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Weed Supt. Banks met with the Board on the following: 1.) Review of annual weed reports due to the State. Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Schlote to authorize Chairman Sokol, Jr. to sign the annual Noxious Weed reports and to place them on file. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Weed Supt. Banks received a grant for Knox County for spraying phragmites in the Lazy River Acres area; 3.) As the Weed Dept. pickup is parked in the back of the Wausa County shed for the winter and is blocked in, Weed Supt. Banks drove his personal vehicle to two meetings and requested mileage reimbursement. The Board approved mileage reimbursement to Weed Supt. Banks and that Weed Supt. Banks should submit an invoice.

Supr. O'Connor discussed with the Board and Officials specialized drugs prescribed through the County's health insurance. Some of the specialized drugs are shipped from other counties through International RX and may require to be kept at a specific temperature which may be a challenge if it takes a long time before it is received. Supr. O'Connor said that there is an option to request the specialized drugs not come from a foreign country. Also, another challenge for employees who are veterans and are covered or had been covered by the County's health insurance is the Federal Government attempting a "claw back" or reimbursement by the County's health insurance company for medical costs paid by the Veterans Affairs currently and for past years.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Discussion ensued on emergency operations and safety concerns regarding the recent snowstorms and frigid temperatures. Some road employees started out to open roads at 3:00 a.m. and others did not return to their respective sheds until 1:00 a.m. Further discussion was held on communication needed when they start out, breakdowns and when other problems arise while out on the treacherous roads, installing CB or business band radios in the motor graders as cell service is sketchy in areas throughout Knox County, and implementing safety measures. Research will be done on radios and costs; 2.) County Shed safety inspections will be conducted on Friday, January 26, 2024; 3.) The new Crofton Truck should be ready in February; 4.) February 7, 2024 will be the bid

opening for construction of the Verdigre North bridge; 5.) Update on the Shaw Bridge project; 6.) Discussed was purchasing a new motor grader.

Officials' updates were given by the following: 1.) County Treasurer Ebel asked when the new motor grader would be purchased as she needs to make arrangements so the funds would be available; 2.) County Clerk Fischer said that February through April are months where there are low revenues and the first half of the 2023 taxes are not due until May 1 that are deposited into the General Fund, so officials with budgets within the General Fund need to keep their expenses low especially during those months; 3.) ARPA Administrator/Deputy County Clerk Nix updated the Board on the cybersecurity grant that Applied Connective Technologies is assisting with; 4.) Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek submitted a "Notice of Interest" for a grant to replace the 911 backup generator. Also, free COVID tests are available in her office.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Pierce to go into closed session at 11:56 a.m. for review of County Burial request #1-2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held for review of County Burial request #1-2024. The Board came out of closed session at 12:02 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to close at 12:02 p.m. the closed session on review of County Burial request #1-2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to approve County Burial request #1-2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 93,471.75; Clerk of District Court, court costs, 37.00; Creighton FCCLA, booth reservation, 40.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,337.14; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, election printing/notices/Board proceedings, 1,040.45; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, backup/radios, 633.00; Des Moines Stamp Mfg. Co., date stamp, 41.00; Dollar General, jail supplies, 115.65; F & M State Bank, research fee/safe deposit rent, 303.00; First National Bank Omaha, postage/gas/mileage/office supplies/jail supplies/dues/external hard drive, 3,349.58; JEO Consulting Group, Inc., hazard mitigation plan, 714.00; Knox County Sheriff, service fees/paper service fees, 57.00; Knox County Treasurer, transfer from General Fund to Road Fund, 143,951.92; KV Electric, LLC, replace emergency light, 134.51; Madison County Sheriff, processing, 6.00; MOCIC, dues, 100.00; Northeast Weed Management Area, dues, 100.00; Quill Corporation, supplies, 567.76; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 6,834.11; RR Donnelley, gun applications, 125.52; University of Nebraska-Lincoln, contract services, 14,129.44; US Cellular, cellphone, 183.98; Verdigre Eagle, supplies/publishing, 1,334.00; Village of Center, water/sewer/garbage, 488.00.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 43,512.32; Art's Garbage, garbage, 18.00; B's Enterprises, Inc., signs, 288.75; Rodney J. Coutts dba Bazile Creek Power Sports, chainsaw fuel/bar oil/ chain/file kit, 112.29; Black Hills Energy, heating fuel, 56.09; Bloomfield Auto Parts, repairs & filters, 698.32; Bruce A. Hagge, prior service, 24.00; Bruce Peters, prior service, 24.00; Carlson Home & Auto Inc., tire repairs, 238.05; Cedar Knox PPD, electricity, 279.09; CHS, diesel, 1,414.25; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 3,342.89; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 317.80; Crofton Lumber, shop supplies, 62.56; First National Bank Omaha, gas, 79.94; Freeman Oil Co., LLC, diesel, 1,462.50; Grossenburg Implement, repairs, filters & shop supplies, 5,301.47; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 2,471.60; J&J Sanitation, garbage, 49.00; Lawson Products, shop supplies, 112.47; Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., fracture critical bridge inspections, 38,630.00; Marc Mastalir, prior service, 21.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 172.82; RDO Truck Centers, repairs, 3,358.22; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 3,008.58; Russ Crosley, garbage, 46.00; Schaefer Grain & Feed Co., road salt, 4,567.50; Scott Grim, prior service, 30.00; Spencer Quarries Inc., red rock, 1,056.44; Truck Center Companies, repairs, 53.54; US Cellular, cellphone, 548.56; Victor Janak dba Vic's Service, LLC, gas, 221.22; Village of Center, water/sewer, 38.00; Kreg W. Mitteis dba Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 991.58.

FLOWAGE EASEMENT ROAD FUND. John Prouty Construction, Inc., dirt contract, 22,699.76.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 81.00; NE Clerks of District Court Assn., dues, 50.00.

VISITOR'S PROMO FUND. Salaries, 1,632.16; Discover Northeast Nebraska, promotion/advertising, 900.00.

COUNTY WELLNESS FUND. Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, wellness test, 30.00; Name Redacted, deductible reimbursement, 250.00; Name Redacted, deductible reimbursement, 250.00.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND. Northeast NE Economic Dev. District, services/mileage, 163.16.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Adjusted salaries, 1,774.27; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 137.90; First National Bank Omaha, supplies, 423.44; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 113.41; US Cellular, cellphone, 58.81.

KENO FUND. Art's Garbage Service, deer dumpsters, 311.00; J&J Sanitation, deer dumpsters, 457.15.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. City of Norfolk, telephone services, 89.48.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. City of Norfolk, telephone services, 208.76.

TOTALS

General Fund	\$275,559.21
Road Fund	112,608.85
Flowage Easement Road Fund	22,699.76
Child Support Fund	131.00
Visitor's Promo Fund	2,532.16
County Wellness Fund	530.00
Economic Development Fund	163.16
C & C Development Fund	2,507.83
Keno Fund	768.15
911 Emergency Fund	89.48
911 Wireless Service Fund	208.76
Total	\$417,798.36

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 12:07 p.m. on Wednesday, January 24, 2024 until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, February 7, 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

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
February 7, 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 7, 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, Danny R. Schlote District #6 and James J. Borgmann District #7. Absent was Supervisor Kevin D. Mackeprang District #5 Chairman Sokol, Jr. presiding.

Deputy County Attorney Jensen 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 Bloomfield Monitor 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 January 24, 2024 meeting as read.

Correspondence reviewed was: 1.) Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition update.

The public comment session was held from 9:45 a.m. through 10:00 a.m. There were no public comments.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. O'Connor 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, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried. Claims totaling \$312,742.59 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Liska to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of January 22 - February 2, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the Clerk of District Court January 2024 Fee Report. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

Sheriff Henery met with the Board on the following: 1.) Follow up on the PowerTech invoice for labor on the generator. The company has not responded so if there is not word soon, a request will be made to have someone come to the Board to discuss the charges; 2.) Update on the Lindy tower problems; 3.) Discussed Statewide radio service.

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

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:23 a.m. with all members present except Supervisor Kevin D. Mackeprang District #5.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) The Board reviewed bid tabulations from the bid opening held recently in Lincoln on the Verdigre North Federal Bridge Project. Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Pierce to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 01** concurring with the selection of the low bid submitted by contractor Dixon Construction Co., Correctionville, IA for construction of the Verdigre North Federal Bridge and authorizing Chairman Sokol, Jr. to sign the contract(s) with the contractor on behalf of the County when received. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 01

WHEREAS, there has been signed by the COUNTY OF KNOX on the 26th day of June, 2014, and the State on the 7th day of July, 2014, an agreement providing for the construction of a Federal Aid County Project at the following location: VERDIGRE NORTH, and

WHEREAS, in the above agreement, the County has pledged sufficient funds to finance its share of the cost of the construction of this project identified as BRO-7054(19), and

WHEREAS, the above mentioned agreement provided that the County will pay costs as set forth in the agreement, and

WHEREAS, the State, on behalf of the County received bids for the construction of this project based on the final plans and specifications on February 01, 2024, at which time 5 bid(s) were received for the construction of the proposed work, and

WHEREAS, the following Contractor(s) for the items of work listed has/have been selected as the low bidder(s) to whom the contract(s) should be awarded:

DIXON CONSTRUCTION CO., CORRECTIONVILLE, IA 51016-0047

GRADING, SEEDING BRIDGE AT STATION 6+28.00, GUARDRAIL, GENERAL ITEMS: \$2,433,664.12

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the above facts, the KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, by this resolution, takes the following official action:

1. If for any reason the Federal Highway Administration rescinds, limits its obligations, or defers payment of the Federal share of the cost of this project, the County hereby agrees to provide the necessary funds to pay for all costs incurred until and in the event such Federal funds are allowed and paid.
2. The Board hereby concurs in the selection of the above mentioned Contractor(s) for the items of work listed, to whom the contract(s) should be awarded.
3. The Board hereby approves of the final plans and specifications that were used in the bidding process for the project.
4. The Board hereby authorizes the Board Chairperson to sign the contract(s) with the above mentioned Contractor(s) for the above mentioned work on behalf of the County using State's standard contract signing process, including when applicable, an electronic or digital signing process such as DocuSign®.

DATED THIS 7TH DAY OF FEBRUARY A.D. 2024

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

James Sokol, Jr. /s/

(Chairperson)

Board Member Patrick J. Liska

moved the adoption of said resolution.

Roll Call: 6 yea, 0 nay, 1 absent

Resolution adopted, signed and billed as adopted.

ATTEST: (Seal)

Joann M. Fischer /s/

(County Clerk)

Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the advertised public hearing at 10:30 a.m. for the One-and-Six Year Road Hearing. Hwy. Supt. Barta presented maps on the bridge and road projects completed in 2023 and future projects, budget review, machinery purchased, and new staff. Township Officers present were Jefferson Township Board member Jim Kotrous, Frankfort Township Board member Duane Guenther, Logan Township Board member Eugene Morrill, Herrick Township Board member Roger Palu, and Spade Township Board member Don Henery. Township Board members discussed problems with old Hwy 108 (Creighton West), truck traffic and the court decision on a township road. Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the One-and-Six Year Road Hearing at 11:01 a.m.

Hwy. Supt. Barta continued with the following: 2.) Business band radio quotes from Platte Valley Communications, Inc. and Tri-State Communications, Inc. were reviewed. No action was taken; 3.) Discussion was held on purchasing a motor grader. The purchase will be made in the next fiscal year; 4.) Shed safety inspection results were reviewed; 5.) Reviewed were bridge build options on upgrading two steel truss bridges with multi-beam bridges. The sites are the Knox County/Antelope County line and south of Crofton; 6.) Road employee job evaluations will be held on March 6, 2024 beginning at 1:00 p.m.; 7.) Weight limit signs will be placed; 8.) Equipment breakdowns were discussed; 9.) Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to go into closed session at 11:42 a.m. so as not to cause injury to individuals when discussing personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held to not cause injury to individuals when discussing personnel. The Board came out of closed session at 12:10 p.m. Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to close at 12:10 p.m. the closed session held on personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

Officials' updates were given by the following: 1.) County Clerk Fischer updated the Board on LB1067 that would repeal inheritance tax with a decreasing percentage over the next years ending in 2028. It is proposed there would no longer be inheritance tax collected by the counties in Nebraska. Reviewed was inheritance tax received in Knox County from July 1, 2018 through December 31, 2023 and how the Inheritance Fund has been used during that time period. County Clerk Fischer was directed to place in the Board Room a letter of opposition to LB1067 with an inclusion of an alternative revenue to loss of inheritance tax. Any official could sign the letter if they chose to; 2.) Deputy County Attorney Jensen informed the Board that the County will be billed for a recent autopsy. Also, Deputy Jensen drafted and sent a letter and packets to Governor Pillen, Senator DeKay, Director of Nebraska Department of Transportation Vicki Kramer, Nebraska Department of Transportation District 3 Engineer Kevin Domogalla, and Nebraska Game and Parks Director Tim McCoy addressing the deteriorating condition of the Weigand Basin-Miller Creek Recreation Road ("Rec. Road"), a cost estimate for improving the safety of the Rec Road with reference to the 1968 Agreement between the State and the County on this road and a request by the County for financial assistance in the reconstruction of the Rec Road; 3.) County Assessor McManigal discussed proposed legislation; 4.) County Treasurer Ebel informed the Board that the delinquent tax list will be published in the designated Knox County newspapers noting there is approximately \$38,000 to be collected which is the lowest amount in many years. Also, all delinquent personal property distress warrants have been collected by the County Sheriff.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 102,204.74; Applied Connective Technologies, IT, 312.50; Bomgaars, supplies, 14.57; Boone County Sheriff, paper fees, 19.40; Carrot-Top Industries, flags, 164.34; CenturyLink, long distance, 1.39; Classic Carpet Care, mop rental, 55.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,143.23; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance county pays, 43,004.59; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, subscription, 45.00; D&L Tire LLC, tires, 517.98; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, teletype, 537.60; Eakes Office Solutions, copier agreement, 370.80; Ecowater, bottled water, 247.00; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet/fax, 2,036.56; Kayton International Inc., skid loader rent, 1,500.00; Kristine Tramp, mileage, 58.96; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance county pays, 295.91; Legendary Graphics, spelling bee trophies, 180.00; Madison County Sheriff, service fees/transport, 70.80; Matthew R. Fischer, reimburse robe cleaning, 30.00; Megan Hanefeldt, mileage, 215.74; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 40.50; MIPS, computer program/signature, 1,036.30; Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition, membership, 1,000.00; N&B Gas Company, propane, 1,586.20; NACT, dues, 50.00; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 2,543.92; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance county pays, 2,241.00; Quill Corporation, supplies, 155.74; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 6,718.08; Security Shredding Services, shredding, 80.00; Steven Banks, mileage, 69.68; Superior Turf Management LLC, lawn contract, 1,125.75; US Cellular, cell phones, 184.01; US Cellular, cell phones, 355.58; Verdigre Eagle, publishing, 17.34; Verdigre Farm Service, gas, 57.93; Washington County Sheriff, paper fees, 19.00; Wintz Funeral Home Inc., county burial, 1,200.00.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 51,343.10; B's Enterprises Inc., signs/chains, 4,840.00; Black Hills Energy, heating fuel, 124.15; Bomgaars, shop supplies/shop tools/tordon, 1,091.62; Carhart Lumber Company, shop supplies, 38.88; City of Bloomfield, water, 25.00; C-Mart, gas, 210.75; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 3,653.68; Cory Zimmerman, snow removal, 525.00; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 18,745.32; Crofton Lumber, shop supplies, 11.98; DWarriner Clearing & Grading LLC, snow removal, 125.00; Freeman Oil Co., diesel, 1,660.50; Grossenburg Implement, repairs, 4,896.91; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 5,494.73; John Kauth, reimburse physical, 105.00; Krotter Home & Auto Center, repairs, 118.98; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 113.24; Linn Post & Pipe Inc, shop supplies, 43.20; N&B Gas Company, propane, 3,495.80; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 98.97; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 555.91; K&S Door Co. dba Overhead Door Co., repairs, 116.65; Powerplan, repairs, 514.49; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 806.76; R&K Motor Parts, repairs/filters, 1,042.07; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 3,284.47; Rick Stewart, snow removal, 270.00; Rose Equipment Inc., repairs, 182.38; Santee Utility Commission, garbage, 65.00; US Cellular, cell phones, 571.65; Vakoc Excavating LLC, gravel/haul, 1,540.26; Verdigre Farm Service, diesel/supplies, 5,777.71; Village of Niobrara, water/sewer, 43.50; Village of Wausa, water/sewer/garbage, 188.45; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel, 284.06.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Eakes Office Solutions, checks, 180.00; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet/fax, 167.04; Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 164.44; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 81.00.

ROD PRES/MOD FUND. MIPS INC., computer program, 389.88.

COUNTY WELLNESS FUND. Name Redacted, reimburse deductible, 250.00; Name Redacted, reimburse deductible, 250.00; Name Redacted, reimburse deductible, 250.00; Name Redacted, reimburse deductible, 250.00; Name Redacted, reimburse deductible, 250.00.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 3,548.87; Amy Pavlik, leadership meals, 126.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 261.28; Five Rule LLC, contract, 8,000.00; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet/fax, 89.94; Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 5.96; Kristin Malek, leadership speaker, 500.00; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 44.82; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 222.27; US Cellular, cell phones, 81.80.

INHERITANCE FUND. Brogan Lamml P.C., court appointed attorney, 743.94; Cedar County Transit, public transit, 2,100.00; Egley, Fullner, Montag, Morland & Easland P.C., court appointed attorney, 797.97; Galyen, Boettcher, Baier P.C. LLO, court appointed attorney, 563.43; Rodney W. Smith, public defender contract, 2,083.33.

KENO FUND. City of Creighton, Keno Proceeds, 204.59.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 234.37; OPTK Networks, networking, 228.44; Three River Telco, phone, 66.42.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 406.46; OPTK Networks, networking, 533.04; Three River Telco, phone, 154.99.

TOTALS

General Fund	\$177,507.14
Road Fund	112,005.17
Child Support Fund	592.48
ROD Pres/Mod Fund	389.88
County Wellness Fund	1,250.00
C & C Development Fund	12,880.94
Inheritance fund	6,288.67
Keno Fund	204.59
911 Emergency Fund	529.23
911 Wireless Service Fund	1,094.49
Total	\$312,742.59

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 12:38 p.m. on Wednesday, February 7, 2024 until Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. 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

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

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
March 6, 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, March 6, 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. Pierce 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 Bloomfield Monitor 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 21, 2024 meeting as read.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, 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 all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Claims totaling \$288,322.36 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

The public comment session was held from 9:50 a.m. through 10:00 a.m. Supr. Mackeprang informed the Board that the City of Bloomfield is drafting a contact list for emergencies, activities, road closures, alerts and other items to be shared with businesses and other constitutes in the community.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 10:00 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:13 a.m. with all members present.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to place on file the Clerk of District Court February 2024 Fee Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of February 17 through March 1, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on contracting for annual audit services. At the November 29, 2023 meeting, the Board approved a contract with Porter & Company of Sioux City IA for auditing services, however, since then Porter & Company contacted the Knox County Clerk's Office and said that they would not be able to provide the audit services due to conflicts with staffing. Research was done and Regier Carr & Monroe of Wichita, Kansas was interested in taking Knox County as a client. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to approve a three-year contract with Regier Carr & Monroe, LLC of Wichita, Kansas for annual audit services beginning the year ending June 30, 2024 with a proposed fee of \$17,000-\$22,000 for the financial statement audit the first year, \$18,000-\$23,000 for the second year and \$18,500-\$23,500 for the third year with additional costs for a single audit and CSLFRF Alternative Compliance Exam if needed. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Discussed purchasing a power screed; 2.) Trucks hauling rock from South Dakota to ~~wind-public power~~ towers in Holt County are still traveling on Knox County roads. Conditions of the roads are holding up to the truck traffic; 3.) Discussed steel products for three small bridge projects; 4.) Discussed replacing a small bridge with culverts; 5.) A NIRMA safety training will be held on March 13 for Road employees; 6.) The truck for District 1 is nearing completion; 7.) The weight limit signs will be taken down as the frost is out of the ground; 8.) Shaw Bridge update. Discussion was held on payment options; 9.) Discussed was a joint bridge project with Antelope County. Each county will pay approximately \$231,000 towards the project with the remainder of the funding to come from the Highway Bridge Buyback Program. Antelope County will take the lead on this project. Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 03** for an interlocal agreement between Antelope County and Knox County to replace County Line bridge #C000220220 that is located approximately 0.9 miles west of the intersection of Highway 14 and County Road 870. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 03

WHEREAS: Antelope County, Nebraska and Knox County, Nebraska desire to replace the county line bridge number C000220220. The site is located approximately 0.9 miles west of the intersection of Highway 14 and County Road 870.

WHEREAS: Antelope County has secured up to \$193,548.00 from the County Bridge Match Program (CBMP) through the State of Nebraska for its replacement. Antelope County has entered into a programming agreement with the State of Nebraska that outlines the conditions of obtaining the funding. These funds will be put toward the cost of replacing the bridge with a new structure. The remaining costs of designing, permitting, and constructing a new bridge will be split equally between Antelope and Knox Counties.

WHEREAS: the two counties will split the costs of Preliminary Engineering, Permitting, Construction and Construction Engineering. Each County will pay half of all invoices and contracts associated with the project. Once all expenses have been paid, Antelope County will submit a reimbursement request to the State of Nebraska for reimbursement of funds under the County Bridge Match Program and all reimbursed funds will be split equally between the two Counties.

WHEREAS: Any additional right-of-way required for construction will be obtained by the County in which the needed land is located at the sole expense of that County.

BE IT RESOLVED: That Antelope County, Nebraska is hereby requested to act for Knox, Nebraska and to program for construction, have design plans prepared, and obtain necessary permits for replacement of structure C000220220.

and which includes Preliminary Engineering, permit preparation, and construction engineering the ESTIMATED costs of such improvement:

Preliminary Engineering	\$ 40,000
Permit Preparation	\$ 6,000
Bridge and Road Construction	\$600,000
Construction Engineering	<u>\$ 10,000</u>
Estimated Total Cost to Be split by the Counties	\$656,000
Estimated CBMP Reimbursement to be split by the Counties	\$193,548

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Chairman of the Antelope County Board is authorized to sign any document in furtherance of this agreement on behalf of Knox County and Antelope County and that both entities herby approve the contemplated construction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That sufficient funds of Antelope County and Knox County are now, or will be, available and are hereby pledged in the amount and at the required time to proceed in the 2024-2025 fiscal year or after for project construction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: Antelope County, Nebraska is responsible for approximately \$328,000 of project costs and is entitled to up to \$96,774 in reimbursement from the CBMP. That Knox County, Nebraska is responsible for approximately \$328,000 of project costs and is entitled to up to \$96,774 in reimbursement from the CBMP. Final actual costs for each county will be determined upon completion of construction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That Antelope County secure the services of JEO Consulting Group, Inc. for Preliminary Engineering, permit preparation, and Construction Engineering Services.

Adopted this 5th day of March, 2024, at Neligh, Nebraska.

ATTEST:
Lisa Payne /s/
County Clerk

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ANTELOPE COUNTY, NEBRASKA
Charles Henery /s/
Chairman

BOARD MEMBER Jacob
2nd By: Dittrich
Moved the adoption of said resolution.
Roll Call: 4 Yea 0 Nay 1 Absent
Resolution adopted, signed and billed as adopted.

Adoption this 6th day of March, 2024, at Center, Nebraska.

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

THE BOARD OF COUNTY SUPERVISORS
KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA
James Sokol, Jr. /s/
Chairman

BOARD MEMBER Supr. Pierce
Seconded by Supr. Borgmann
Roll Call: 7 Yea 0 Nay
Resolution adopted, signed and billed as adopted.

Senior Office Clerk Rhonda Surface presented the Employee Handbook and Personnel System Review Committee's recommended revisions to the Employee Handbook. Revisions were recommended to the sections of Compensation and Hours of Work, Uniform Allowance, inclement weather, emergency closings and holidays for the Sheriff's Office and Jail, PTO for deputy sheriffs, benefits, PTO policy for regular full time employees and regular full-time deputy sheriffs, annual cash out of PTO hours, holidays, and receipts of handbooks and revisions. Discussion was held on classification status of appointed officials' positions and how to manage PTO for salaried exempt positions. Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Liska to accept the Employee Handbook and Personnel System Review Committee's recommended revisions of March 6, 2024 to the Employee Handbook through the Receipt section of the revisions, and, more discussion will be held on Classification Status for Appointed Officials' Positions and on how PTO should be handled for Salaried Exempt positions. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Clerk of District Court Fischer showed the Board larger signs for Courtroom protocol that will be placed in the Courthouse, replacing many small one-page notices that lined the walls in the hallway near the Courtroom.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to approve Administrative Plat Application #P2402 Brent Arens for a lot split of Lot 1, Block 1, White Tail Ridge Subdivision. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Legislative update was given by County Clerk Fischer regarding LB1067 on the inheritance tax measure. The Legislature will adjourn April 18, 2024 and discussion on the floor continues on LB1067.

Committee updates were given by the following: 1.) Supr. Pierce represents Knox County on the Northeast Nebraska Area Agency on Aging Board where compliance evaluations were made and followed up on the Santee Nutrition Center and Crofton Golden Age Senior Center. Findings were discussed.

Officials' updates were given by the following: 1.) County Clerk Fischer updated the Board on upcoming NIRMA Active Shooter training for employees. Also discussed was beginning work on the preliminary 2024/2025 budget, revenue and expenditure concerns, and options; 2.) County Treasurer Ebel informed the Board that there are only fifteen parcels that did not sell at the recent public tax sale. The remaining parcels are now open for private sale.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 11:57 a.m. for lunch.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 1:00 p.m. for Road employees job evaluations.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 100,718.19; Applied Connective Technologies, IT, 5,051.73; Bomgaars, supplies, 12.52; Bonnie R Cash, prior service, 9.00; Cathleen Sue Stark, prior service, 12.00; Center Garage, battery, 434.00; CenturyLink, long distance, 1.39; Classic Carpet Care, mop rental, 60.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,398.32; Connie Janecek, prior service, 15.00; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 43,004.59; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, radios, 161.00; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, teletype, 537.60; Diane L. Eckert, prior service, 36.00; Eakes Office Solutions, paper, 569.90; Ecowater, bottled water, 221.00; Elections Systems & Software Inc., layout, 16.89; Elizabeth Doerr, contract labor, 110.00; First National Bank Omaha, gas/supplies/postage/meals/lodging, 3,338.39; Floor Maintenance & Paper Supply Co., supplies, 577.29; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet/fax, 1,522.00; Jacquelyn E Maier, prior service, 21.00; James F. Janecek, prior service, 21.00; Jo Ann Eisenbeiss, prior service, 45.00; John Thomas, reimburse court costs, 164.48; Karen Riesberg, prior service, 21.00; Kristine Tramp, mileage, 132.66; KV Electric LLC, tower repairs, 100.00; Landmark Surveying, survey fees, 1,805.60; Laura Hintz, prior service, 15.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 295.91; Lois Colwell, prior service, 27.00; Megan Hanefeldt, mileage, 38.86; MIPS, computer program, 961.30; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 2,121.11; One Office Solution, postcards, 301.35; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 11.85; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 2,241.00; Quill Corporation, supplies, 184.05; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 6,930.26; Stonacek Funeral Chapel, autopsy, 492.00; The Scarlet Hotel, lodging, 107.00; Tri-State Turf & Irrigation, sprinkler contract, 565.00; University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension, program renewal, 225.00; Village of Center, water/sewer/garbage, 516.00; Virginia Buerman, prior service, 27.00.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 35,214.74; B's Enterprises Inc., posts/asphalt patch, 8,473.00; Bomgaars, shop supplies/shop tools/t-posts/ice melt, 5,627.77; City of Bloomfield, water, 25.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,559.57; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 18,745.32; First National Bank Omaha; shop tools/meals, 2,770.77; Great Plains Communications, phone, 402.57; Grossenburg Implement, repairs/oil/filter, 2,279.57; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 1,943.46; Ken Kuhlman, snow removal, 1,487.50; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance county pays, 113.24; Love Signs, emblem, 215.95; Medical Enterprises Inc., drug test, 75.00; Nebraska Association of County Engineers, Highway Superintendents and Surveyors, registration/dues, 160.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 266.99; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 428.99; Omaha Slings Inc., repairs, 1,570.34; K&S Door Co. dba Overhead Door Co., repairs, 420.75; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 806.76; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,322.99; Rick Stewart, snow removal, 936.32; Steffen's Service Station, gas/diesel, 543.43; Village of Center, water/sewer, 34.00.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Great Plains Communications, phone/internet/fax, 167.04; Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 164.44.

ROD PRES/MOD FUND. MIPS INC., computer program, 389.88.

COUNTY WELLNESS FUND. Name Redacted, reimburse deductible, 250.00.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 3,486.92; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 262.73; First National Bank Omaha, leadership/postage/meals/registration, 1,533.81; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet/fax, 89.94; Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 5.96; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 44.82; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 223.55; Stacy Miller, reimburse props, 71.97; Verdigre Bakery, meals, 131.98.

INHERITANCE FUND. Cedar County Transit, public transit, 2,100.00; Rodney W. Smith, public defender contract, 2,083.33.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. Equature DSS Corporation, contract, 2,097.30; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 234.37; OPTK Networks, networking, 228.44; Three River Telco, phone, 66.42.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. Great Plains Communication, phone/internet, 406.46; OPTK Networks, networking, 533.04; Three River Telco, phone, 154.99.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE HOLDING FUND. Equature DSS Corporation, contract, 4,893.70.

TOTALS

General Fund	\$181,277.24
Road Fund	87,424.03
Child Support Fund	331.48
ROD Pres/Mod Fund	389.88
County Wellness Fund	250.00
C & C Development Fund	5,851.68
Inheritance Fund	4,183.33
911 Emergency Fund	2,626.53
911 Wireless Service Fund	1,094.49
911 Wireless Service Holding Fund	4,893.70
Total	\$288,322.36

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 3:50 p.m. on Wednesday, March 6, 2024 until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. 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

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
March 20, 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, March 20, 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, Danny R. Schlote District #6 and James J. Borgmann District #7. Absent was Kevin D. Mackeprang District #5. Chairman Sokol, Jr. presiding. Supr. O'Connor 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.

The minutes of the March 6, 2024 meeting were read and approved by Chairman Sokol, Jr. with the correction that trucks were hauling rock to public power towers instead of wind towers.

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 Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried. Claims totaling \$694,352.03 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

The public comment session was held from 9:48 a.m. through 10:00 a.m. A question about when a wind project is officially considered to be started was discussed.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of March 2 through March 15, 2024 was placed on file. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 10:00 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:15 a.m. with all members present except Supervisor Kevin D. Mackeprang District #5.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Discussed irrigation lines in a right-of-way; 2.) Verdigre North Bridge update; 3.) Shaw Bridge update; 4.) Discussion on new culverts being put in; 5.) Oil crew has been out pulling areas up; 6.) Patch truck storage tank issues; 7.) New driveway requests; 8.) Fuel contract proposals were discussed from two vendors.

The gravel bid opening was held at 10:30 a.m. Knox County reserves the right to reject any and all bids and further reserves the right to accept any bid that best serves the County's needs. The Board accepted all gravel bids as submitted. Bids received were as follows: FOR BOTH COUNTY ROAD AND CO./TWP. ALLOCATION GRAVEL: **Bazile Aggregate LLC, Plainview NE** – County haul gravel (pit price/per cubic yard) – State Spec (Class A) Road gravel, \$21.73; Mud Rock, \$25.15; **Emme Sand & Gravel Inc., O'Neill NE** – County haul gravel (pit price per cubic yard) – State Spec (Class A) \$18.56; Armor Coat \$18.56; Gravel per yard/delivered price – ALL STATE SPEC (CLASS A) Logan Twp., \$27.70; East Raymond Twp., \$33.10; West Raymond Twp., \$31.25; Walnut Grove Twp., \$26.20; Washington Twp., \$26.40; Western Twp., \$29.40; **Spud Construction Inc.-Sand & Gravel LLC, Clearwater NE** – County haul gravel (pit price/per ton), Ewing Pit – Road Gravel 3/8" x 1" screened rock \$23.95; Road Gravel \$14.95; Armor Coat Gravel \$14.95; Spud Mix \$15.95; Mud Rock \$15.95; Wash Sand \$4.00; Bank Run Sand \$4.00; Bank Run Clay \$4.00; Oakdale Pit – Road Gravel 3/8" x 1" screened rock \$25.95; Road Gravel \$16.95; Armor Coat Gravel \$16.95; Spud Mix \$17.95; Mud Rock \$17.95; Wash Sand \$6.00; Bank Run Sand \$6.00; Bank Run Clay \$6.00; **Cole Sand & Gravel, O'Neill NE** – County haul gravel (pit price per cubic yard) – State Spec (Class A) \$16.85; Mud Rock, \$25.00; Armor Coat \$18.25; **Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, Orchard NE** – County haul gravel (pit price/per yard) – State Spec (Class A) \$14.50; Bank Run \$8.00; Gravel per yard/delivered price for State Spec. (Class A): Addison Twp., \$20.00; Bohemia Twp., \$22.00; Central Twp., \$20.25; Cleveland Twp., \$22.00; Columbia Twp., \$22.50; Creighton Twp., \$20.50; Dolphin Twp., \$21.50; Dowling Twp., \$22.00; Eastern Twp., \$20.50; Frankfort Twp., \$22.50; Harrison Twp., \$19.75; Herrick Twp., \$21.50; Hill Twp., \$19.50; Lincoln Twp., \$24.00; Miller Twp., \$22.00; Morton Twp., \$19.75; Niobrara Twp., \$19.00; North Frankfort Twp., \$25.00; Peoria Twp., \$19.00; East Raymond \$20.00; West Raymond \$22.00; Spade Twp., \$19.25; Sparta Twp., \$19.00; Union Twp., \$18.75; Valley Twp., \$19.00; Verdigre Twp., \$20.00; **Vakoc Excavating LLC, Verdigre NE** – County haul gravel (pit price/per yard), State Spec (Class A) \$14.25; Bank Run \$8.00; Armor Coat \$14.75; Gravel per yard/delivered price – ALL STATE SPEC (CLASS A) – Bohemia Twp., \$17.50; Central Twp., \$22.00; Cleveland Twp., \$23.00; Creighton Twp., \$19.50; Jefferson Twp., \$18.50; Logan Twp., \$19.35; Miller Twp., \$19.35; Morton Twp., \$22.00; Niobrara Twp., \$19.50; Peoria Twp., \$22.00; East Raymond Twp., \$23.50; West Raymond Twp., \$23.50; Spade Twp., \$19.00; Sparta Twp., \$19.00; Union Twp., \$20.50; Valley Twp., 19.50; Verdigre Twp. \$19.00; Walnut Grove Twp., \$21.20; Washington Twp., \$20.80; Western Twp., \$21.70.

After discussion, motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to accept all gravel bids as submitted. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

Hwy. Supt. Barta continued with the following: 9.) Potential small bridge projects to be paid for using the federal bridge funds; 10.) The truck for District 1 should be delivered soon.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the County Treasurer's Return of Sale Proceedings on Delinquent Taxes certifying that that on March 4, 2024 all delinquent real estate taxes were offered for public auction, that the public tax sale is now closed and the private tax sale will begin and continue from day to day until all said land has been offered. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

Angie O'Connor with Avera met with the Board to discuss the annual on-site wellness program and the 2024 Services Proposal. The basic price will be \$112 per participant this year. Discussion was held on past results and optional testing. Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce to approve a 2024 On-site Wellness Health Screening for all Knox County employees and spouses who are enrolled in the 90 Degree Benefits health insurance at a cost of \$112 per participant; to allow a \$75 credit per participant towards additional laboratory testing; that those employees participating

shall complete a Wellness Questionnaire through the LiveNOW Portal and if the employees and enrolled spouses do not, they are not eligible to participate; that participating members shall meet with Avera staff in a Health Coaching session to review each participant's results of the Wellness Health Screening; to approve reimbursement to those eligible employees who are enrolled in the County's health insurance benefit through 90 Degree Benefits/HealthCare Solutions Group and participate in the onsite Wellness Health Screening and complete all of the requirements for the screening with the reimbursement to be up to \$250 of 2024 deductibles paid between \$250 and \$500. Ayes Districts #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Abstain District #1. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

Sr. Office Clerk Surface presented a restructured Great Plains contract that will eliminate five fax lines and convert two lines to e-Fax. The contract will reduce monthly costs by approximately \$153 per month for the next 53 months. Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Liska to accept the restructured Great Plains contract. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

Officials' updates were given by Economic Development Director Hanvey and Visit Knox County Director Miller concerning upcoming community meetings. During the last year, secret shoppers were sent out to each community. They shopped, ate, stayed overnight, and took in local community attractions. The first impression reports will be given at the upcoming meetings. Visit Knox County Director Miller presented new rack cards that were purchased with a state tourism grant. Miller also noted that a bus tour will be coming to Knox County in June.

At 11:30, Deputy County Attorney Jensen presented a Road Agreement where the County would work with the Santee Sioux Tribe to reopen a one-half mile portion of road between the Southwest Quarter of Section 2 and the Northwest Quarter of Section 11 in Township 32 North, Range 4 West of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. The County will carry out the purchase of the four-acre ROW from the Owner. The Council and the County will split the sale price of the four-acre ROW, and the costs associated with the sale. Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to present the Road Agreement drafted by Deputy County Attorney Jensen to the Santee Sioux Tribal Council to start the process of reopening the one-half mile portion of road. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

Deputy County Attorney Jensen gave an update concerning an estimate to improve the Rec Road. Jensen has been in contact with Senator DeKay who plans to have a meeting with the Department of Transportation as well as members of the Nebraska Game and Parks.

Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek presented a new Proposed Fee Schedule. Jelinek worked with other Counties in Nebraska to align Knox County's zoning fee prices. Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Liska to accept the Proposed Fee Schedule effective March 20, 2024. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

Legislative updates were given by Deputy County Clerk Nix regarding LB938 on the competitive bidding process and Jelinek on LB399 that would transfer permitting rights for renewable energy projects from the county to the state.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Pierce to go into closed session at 11:55 a.m. so to discuss public safety matters. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried. The Board came out of closed session at 12:10 p.m. Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Pierce to close at 12:10 p.m. the closed session held on public safety. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 98,470.87; Center Garage, tire repair, 25.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,226.20; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 19.09; Crowne Plaza Kearney, lodging, 434.85; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, backup, 472.00; Dollar General, jail supplies, 37.10; Eakes Office Solutions, paper/supplies, 921.69; GiGi Larsen, election help, 144.12; Gragert's Grocery, jail food/jail supplies/training food, 1,117.13; Great Plains Communications, tower internet/phone/cable/internet, 1,197.13; Independent Pest Management, pest control, 75.00; Jane Wilmes, election help, 156.82; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, paint/supplies/freezer, 1,207.95; Knox County Court, cases pending/dismissed, 157.00; Knox County Sheriff, paper service fees, 187.50; Knox County Treasurer, transfer from General Fund to Road Fund, 143,951.92; KV Electric, lights, 1,000.00; Lois Kumm, jail food, 32.00; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 40.50; Midwest Special Services Inc., transport fees, 340.00; Moody Motor Company, repairs, 893.71; N&B Gas Co., propane, 1,476.00; NACO, registrations, 200.00; North Central Public Power District, tower power/light, 73.31; Northeast Nebraska News Company, publishing, 391.44; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 816.76; Platte Valley Communications, tower repairs, 704.25; R&K Motor Parts, repairs, 594.84; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 6,755.09; Sanford Health, autopsy, 3,356.00; Sucha Repair, tires, 780.00; University of Nebraska, computer, 2,795.02; US Cellular, cell phones, 185.62; US Cellular, cell phones, 359.92; Verdigre Eagle, publishing/supplies, 1,094.88; Verdigre Farm Service, gas, 77.22; Village of Center, water/sewer/garbage, 524.00.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 35,378.79; Art's Garbage, garbage, 18.00; B's Enterprises, Inc., signs/posts, 2,725.00; Big Red Mini Mart, gas, 95.81; Black Hills Energy, heating fuel, 208.48; Bloomfield Auto Parts, shop supplies/filters/oil, 295.15; Bohemian One Stop LLC, gas, 839.92; Cedar Knox PPD, electricity, 282.88; Center Garage, tires/belt rims, 120.00; CHS, diesel, 1,705.83; City of Creighton, water/sewer, 148.73; CMart, gas, 162.60; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,574.95; Cornhusker International Trucks Inc., repairs, 775.24; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 535.99; Crowne Plaza Kearney, lodging, 289.90; Farmer's Pride, diesel/propane, 1,480.90; Frevert Excavating LLC, snow removal, 740.00; Hefner Hardware, shop supplies, 95.12; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 284.80; J&K Auto, gas, 74.25; J&J Sanitation, garbage, 49.00; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, shop supplies, 94.38; Kayton International Inc., repairs, 296.69; Kimball Midwest, shop supplies, 221.74; LTL Holdings Inc., gas, 159.45; N&B Gas Company, propane, 3,066.80; Northeast Association of Co. Engineer/Hwy Supt./Surveyors, dues/registration, 160.00; Pease General Store, shop supplies, 65.13; Power Plan, repairs, 1,014.41; R&K Motor Parts, repairs/filters/shop supplies, 2,370.06; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,332.36; Rohrer Welding, repairs, 702.45; Russ Crosley, garbage, 46.00; Santee Utility Commission, garbage, 65.00; Schaefer Grain & Feed Co., road salt, 4,615.80; Sucha Repair, repairs, 15.13; US Cellular, cell phones, 780.74; Verdigre Eagle, publishing, 11.18; Verdigre Farm Service, gas/diesel/shop supplies, 2,232.88; Vic's Service, gas/shop supplies, 331.62; Village of Center, water/sewer, 34.00; Village of Niobrara, water/sewer, 43.25; Village of Verdigre, water/sewer/garbage, 85.00.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Microfilm Imaging Systems Inc., scanner rent, 81.00; Quill, office supplies, 260.05.

COUNTY WELLNESS FUND. Name Redacted, deductible reimbursement, 250.00; Name Redacted, deductible reimbursement, 250.00; Name Redacted, deductible reimbursement, 250.00; Name Redacted, deductible reimbursement, 63.70.

COVID ARPA FUND. Herbst Construction Inc., Verdel Northwest, 345,478.95.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND. NENEDD, admin fees, 1,083.75.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 3,481.28; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 262.30; Creative Revolution, email upgrade, 48.44; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 223.17; US Cellular, cell phones, 52.74; Verdigre Eagle, publishing, 56.00.

INHERITANCE FUND. Egley, Fullner, Montag, Morland & Easland, court appointed attorney, 2,114.82; Mark D. Albin, court appointed attorney, 752.50; Moyer, Moyer & Lafleur, court appointed attorney, 343.90.

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

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

TOTALS	
General Fund	\$273,471.31
Road Fund	65,759.90
Child Support Fund	341.05
County Wellness Fund	813.70
Covid ARPA Fund	345,478.95
Economic Development Fund	1,083.75
C & C Development Fund	4,043.03
Inheritance Fund	3,211.22
911 Emergency Fund	44.74
911 Wireless Service Fund	104.38
Total	\$694,352.03

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 12:10 p.m. on March 20, 2024 until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 3, 2024 for a regular meeting.

I, Krista Nix, Knox County Deputy 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

Krista Nix, Knox County Deputy Clerk

By _____
James Sokol, Jr., Chairman

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
April 3, 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, April 3, 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, and Danny R. Schlote District #6. Absent was Supervisor James J. Borgmann District #7. Chairman Sokol, Jr. presiding.

Supr. Schlote 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 Bloomfield Monitor 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 March 20, 2024 meeting as read.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce 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 \$552,871.42 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to place on file the Clerk of the District Court March 2024 Fee Report. 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. Liska to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of March 18 – 29, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 and #6. Nays none. Absent was District #7. Motion carried.

The public comment session was held from 9:50 a.m. through 10:00 a.m. Supr. O'Connor commented that large farming equipment was driven into property that is part of a court case and the property as well as the road right of way was torn up by the large equipment. Discussed was a problem on an easement in the lake area where another landowner will not let cement trucks use the easement area.

The Board discussed what funds will pay for the LPR program start-up fees and said the fees will be paid from Knox County's allocation of the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF) established by ARPA.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 10:02 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

Supervisor Borgmann arrived at 10:15 a.m. during Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:17 a.m. with all members present.

Sheriff Henery requested a closed session to discuss personnel. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Pierce to go into closed session at 10:17 a.m. to not cause injury to the reputation of individuals while discussing personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held so as not to cause injury to the reputation of individuals while discussing personnel. The Board came out of closed session at 10:35 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Schlote to close at 10:35 a.m. the closed session held on personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Highway Superintendent Office Manager Katie Fritz met with the Board on the following: 1.) The advertised asphaltic bid opening was held at 10:25 a.m. The Knox County Board of Supervisors reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids and further reserves the right to accept bids which are in the County's best interests. One bid was received which was from **Jebro Inc., Sioux City IA** – MC70 price per gallon - \$4.41; MC250 per gallon - \$4.07; MC3000 price per gallon - \$3.79; CRS-2 price per gallon (estimated gallons 7,500+) delivered to Creighton - \$3.37; Demurrage charge \$160 per hour after one and a half hours, \$100 cancellation fee; \$100 pumping fee each time County requests a pump during placement of orders; returned loads subject to \$400 return fee. Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to accept the asphaltic bid from **Jebro Inc., Sioux City IA** as submitted. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Bridge Crew update; 3.) Oil Crew update; 4.) Updates on the Verdigre North and Shaw Bridge projects.

Librarians from Bloomfield, Creighton and Verdigre met with the Board with annual reports of activities and what the County funds were used for at the six libraries in Knox County. The Board expressed their gratitude for the work the librarians have done for their communities and Knox County. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Liska to approve a cost-sharing of \$5,000 to each of the six Knox County libraries with the funds to be paid from the Inheritance Fund. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the County Sheriff's Quarterly Report of Fees Collected from January 1 through March 31, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

County Clerk Fischer gave a Legislative update.

Officials update was given by the following: 1.) Deputy County Attorney Jensen updated the Board that she had received a letter from Senator Barry DeKay (District #41) stating that the State of Nebraska cannot help with funding upgrades to the Weigand Basin – Miller Creek Recreational Road until 2029. Jensen prepared a Congressionally Directed Spending Request Form (CDS) – Fiscal Year 2025 to be submitted to United States Senator Deb Fischer (R-Nebraska) requesting appropriations from the Highway Infrastructure Program in the amount of \$13,385,548.75 for the upgrading of the Weigand Basin – Miller Creek Recreational Road. The Board signed a letter of support that will an exhibit to the CDS Request Form; 2.) County Clerk Fischer gave a presentation of the 2024 Primary Election process that will include the newly implemented Voter ID; 3.) NIRMA presenter Todd Duncan conducted Active Shooter Training for Knox Employees on April 2 and will conclude the afternoon of April 3. Several Supervisors will be attending the training after lunch on this date. The training is highly informative and well received.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 99,151.72; Antelope County Sheriff, house inmate, 400.00; Brockhaus Funeral Home Inc., autopsy costs, 1,430.00; Classic Carpet Care, mop rental, 35.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,278.49; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 43,004.59;

Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 943.80; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, radios, 161.00; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, teletype, 537.60; David A. Arens, meeting/mileage, 70.85; Dean Wilken, meeting/mileage, 50.55; Ecowater, bottled water, 234.00; First National Bank Omaha, gas/supplies/postage/meals/lodging, 4,764.64; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet/fax, 2,047.91; Greg D. Kuhlman, meeting/mileage, 56.44; Jim Kotrous, meeting/mileage, 45.96; Jones Automotive, repairs, 141.48; Keith Nielsen, meeting/mileage, 42.69; Knox County Sheriff, service fees, 6.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 295.91; MIPS, computer program, 784.52; Moody Motor Company, repairs, 62.65; Neil Clausen, meeting/mileage, 61.68; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 1,913.78; Pitney Bowes, meter lease, 159.57; Postmaster, election postage, 1,550.00; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 2,241.00; Quill Corporation, supplies, 201.35; Region 4 Behavioral Health System, quarterly bill, 6,638.00; Region IV Inc., quarterly bill, 2,521.50; Reserve Account, postage, 2,000.00; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 6,820.05; Robert D. Larsen, meeting/mileage, 36.79; Robert Ganz, meeting/mileage, 39.41; Security Shredding Services, shredding, 280.00; Stingers, meals, 53.64; US Cellular, cell phones, 185.62; Verdigre PrintWorks, printing, 867.75.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 35,338.30; B's Enterprises Inc., blades, 21,160.00; Bloomfield Medical Clinic, DOT physical, 150.00; Bomgaars, shop supplies/shop tools/repairs, 840.61; Bruce A Hagge, prior service, 24.00; Bruce Peters, prior service, 24.00; City of Bloomfield, water, 28.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,568.95; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 18,745.32; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 28.52; Dan Vakoc, mixing strip rental, 500.00; Eakes Office Solutions, copier agreement, 162.19; First National Bank Omaha, meals, 106.86; Grossenburg Implement, repairs/oil/greaser, 6,641.99; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 2,116.80; Hrbek Construction, equipment rental, 630.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 113.24; Marc Mastalir, prior service, 21.00; Marlene Moeller, mixing strip rental, 500.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 237.53; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 375.20; Orrin Pospisil, mixing strip rental, 500.00; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 20.62; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 806.76; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,331.34; Rose Equipment Inc., repairs, 97.10; Scott Grim, prior service, 30.00; US Cellular, cell phones, 542.80.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Great Plains Communications, phone/internet/fax, 165.98; Mayer Signs, signs, 335.00.

VISITOR'S PROMO FUND. Southeast South Dakota Tourism Association, advertising, 75.00.

ROD PRES/MOD FUND. MIPS INC., computer program, 566.66.

COVID ARPA FUND. Truck Center Companies, truck, 258,823.00.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND. NENEDD, admin fees, 276.25.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 3,511.21; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 264.58; First National Bank Omaha, leadership/postage/meals/registration, 1,404.34; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet/fax, 89.44; Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 5.96; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 44.82; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 225.19; US Cellular, cell phones, 61.61; Verdigre Improvement Club, Verdigre bucks, 100.00.

INHERITANCE FUND. Cedar County Transit, public transit, 2,100.00; Rodney W. Smith, public defender contract, 2,083.33.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 234.11; NESCA, training, 36.00; Three River Telco, phone, 66.42.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. Great Plains Communication, phone/internet, 406.46; NESCA, training, 84.00; Three River Telco, phone, 154.99.

TOTALS

General Fund	\$187,115.94
Road Fund	94,641.13
Child Support Fund	500.98
Visitor's Promo fund	75.00
ROD Pres/Mod Fund	566.66
Covid ARPA Fund	258,823.00
Economic Development Fund	276.25
C & C Development Fund	5,707.15
Inheritance Fund	4,183.33
911 Emergency Fund	336.53
911 Wireless Service Fund	645.45
Total	\$552,871.42

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 11:18 a.m. on Wednesday, April 3, 2024 until Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. 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

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
April 17, 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, April 17, 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. Borgmann 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 April 3, 2024 meeting as read.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 9:43 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 9:59 a.m. with all members present.

Public comment session was held from 9:59 a.m. to 10:10 a.m. There was no public comment given.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang 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 \$553,759.62 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) A request was received from the Center Village Board of Trustees for the County to take up the asphalt on the street between the bank and post office running east for a block and one-half. Discussion was held on referral to an asphalt company, usually do not take on these projects for other entities and costs. The Board said since the Oil Crew will be working north of Center in the near future they can take up the asphalt so the street can become a gravel street and the time used will be tracked for reimbursement; 2.) Discussed repairing three 10-foot sections of concrete on the Ponca Agency Road; 3.) Update on the Verdigre North Federal Bridge project; 4.) Oil Crew update; 5.) Bridge Crew update; 6.) The Board agreed to purchase a used power screed from Motacek Construction of Niobrara; 7.) Chris Adelman with Husker Steel and Hwy. Supt. Barta discussed with the Board steel products for three smaller bridge projects located in Dolphin, Central and Walnut Grove townships. Quotes will be submitted for approval at the next meeting; 8.) Properties owned by the County were reviewed and possible sale of several parcels was discussed.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of April 1 – 12, 2024 was placed on file. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 04** for approval of the execution of an agreement between Nebraska Department of Transportation and Knox County for permission from the State to install, operate and maintain part or all of the County's automatic license plate reader system. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 04

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING AND APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OF THE STATE OF NEBRASKA FOR AGREEMENT NO. ZL2406, PROJECT NAME: KNOX COUNTY – HIGHWAY 12 LOCAL DETOUR

Be it resolved by Knox County, Nebraska, that:

1. The County shall enter into an Agency Agreement with the Nebraska Department of Transportation for Agreement No. ZL2406, for the purpose of highway improvements on Highway 12 & 14 within the corporate limits of Knox County.
2. The Chairperson of the Knox County Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized and directed to execute said agreement on behalf of the Knox County.
3. This resolution will be marked Exhibit "C" and a copy attached to the Original Agreement.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 17TH DAY OF APRIL 2024.

ATTEST: (Seal)

Joann M. Fischer /s/
Knox County Clerk

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA
By: James Sokol, Jr. /s/
Chairman

Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the February and March, 2024 Zoning Permits Reports. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nay none. Motion carried; 2.) Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to place on file the Planning Commission March 12, 2024 meeting minutes. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 3.) Discussion was held on the recent Planning Commission meeting and wind towers.

County Clerk Fischer gave legislative update.

Officials' updates were discussion on upcoming NACO workshops as well as how other counties are handling the use of opioid funds.

Heidi Borg with Congressman Adrian Smith's Office gave updates on Federal legislation. Ms. Borg was in the Driver's License Room for an hour to address public concerns.

Committee update was given by Chairman Sokol, Jr. about the new storage/garage building that is being constructed.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 98,430.57; Antelope County Sheriff, board prisoner, 520.00; Applied Connective Technologies LLC, it/phones, 5,051.73; Cassie Stark, car decals, 375.00; Clerk of District Court, court costs, 148.00; CMart, gas, 33.34; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,222.86; Comfort Inn, lodging, 239.90; Cornhusker State Industries, supplies, 78.00; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing/subscription, 541.00; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, backup, 472.00; David A. Arens, meeting/mileage, 70.85; Dean Wilken, meeting/mileage, 50.55; Dollar General, jail supplies, 123.40; Doug DeShazer, meeting/mileage, 64.30; Eakes Office Solutions, copier agreement/supplies/janitor supplies, 2,741.24; Election Systems & Software Inc., Primary Election, 2,153.30; Fire Protection Services LLC, fire alarm inspection, 600.00; Floor Maintenance & Paper Supply Co., supplies, 702.89; Gragert's Grocery, jail food, 1,185.90; Great Plains Communications, tower internet, 676.32; Greg D Kuhlman, meeting/mileage, 56.44; Heartland Heating & Air Conditioning Inc., contact, 3,420.00; Hefner Hardware, supplies, 40.98; Holiday Inn-Kearney, lodging, 269.90; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, supplies, 4.99; Jim Kotrous, meeting/mileage, 45.96; Keith Nielsen, meeting/mileage, 42.69; Knox County Sheriff, paper service fees, 37.60; Knox County Treasurer, transfer from General Fund to Road Fund, 143,951.92; Kristine Tramp, mileage, 13.40; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 40.50; NACO, registrations, 250.00; Neil Clausen, meeting/mileage, 61.68; North Central Public Power District, tower power, 28.63; NENEDD, dues, 920.00; Northeast Nebraska News Company, publishing, 388.24; O'Neill Shopper, publishing, 50.00; One Office Solution, office supplies, 3.55; Physicians Laboratory P.C., autopsy, 6,130.00; Pitney Bowes, postage meter ink, 365.16; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 652.98; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 1,354.62; R&K Motor Parts, oil/filters, 88.44; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 6,745.28; Ganz, meeting/mileage, 39.41; Schumacher Elevator, inspection, 2,797.67; Tauber Plumbing, conference room sink, 2,885.12; The Scarlet Hotel, lodging, 214.00; University of Nebraska-Lincoln, salary, 14,532.59; US Cellular, cell phones, 359.92; Verdigre Farm Service, gas, 216.51; Village of Center, water/sewer/garbage, 496.00.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 39,871.61; Art's Garbage, garbage, 18.00; B's Enterprises, Inc., signs, 1,563.50; Big Red Mini Mart, gas, 102.61; Black Hills Energy, heating fuel, 56.05; Bloomfield Auto Parts, repairs/filters/oil, 93.24; Bohemian One Stop LLC, gas, 578.56; CHS, diesel/gas, 1,299.00; CMart, gas, 440.85; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,917.93; Cornhusker International Trucks Inc., repairs, 1,014.14; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 459.42; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 22.40; Crofton Lumber, repairs, 129.37; Farmer's Pride, diesel/propane, 1,121.53; Freeman Oil Co., diesel, 1,505.75; Hefner Hardware, shop supplies, 102.56; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 3,897.19; Herbst Construction Inc., shaw bridge, 107,855.10; J&J Sanitation, garbage, 49.00; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, shop supplies, 132.38; Kaiser Appliance & Refrigeration, blades, 67.98; Kathleen Fritz, reimburse title fee, 20.00; Kayton International Inc., repairs, 458.34; KV Electric, lights, 1,616.46; Lawson Products, shop supplies, 1,438.98; LTL Holdings Inc., gas, 101.02; Mid-American Research Chemical, grease, 590.00; N&B Gas Company, propane, 1,316.61; Northeast Nebraska News, publishing, 25.46; Overhead Door CO. of Norfolk, repairs, 1,119.75; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 15.39; Platte Valley Communications, radio, 713.50; R&K Motor Parts, repairs/filters/oil, 1,859.44; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,635.65; Russ Crosley, garbage, 46.00; Santee Utility Commission, garbage, 65.00; State of Nebraska Motor Fuels Division, diesel tax, 935.00; Steffen's Service Station, gas, 863.38; Sucha Repair, repairs/oil/filters, 90.52; Verdigre Farm Service, gas/diesel/shop supplies/grass seed, 4,427.09; Vic's Service, gas, 276.75; Village of Center, water/sewer, 34.00; Village of Niobrara, water/sewer, 43.25; Village of Verdigre, water/sewer/garbage, 77.00; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 22,574.10.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Microfilm Imaging Systems Inc., scanner rent, 81.00; Postmaster, postage, 806.00.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 3,463.74; Beth Rudloff, reimbursement for preparing meal, 95.00; Bloomfield Community Club Bucks, Bloomfield bucks, 260.00; CMart, meal, 110.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 260.95; Creative Revolution, website renewal, 27.71; Creighton Area Chamber of Commerce, Creighton bucks, 150.00; Crofton Community Club Bucks, Crofton bucks, 370.00; CTM Media Group Inc., visitor programs, 2,880.00; Northeast Nebraska News, publishing, 207.24; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 1,069.20; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 221.99; Wausa Community Club, Viking bucks, 220.00.

INHERITANCE FUND. Bloomfield Public Library, cost share, 5,000.00; Creighton Public Library, cost share, 5,000.00; Eastern Township Library, cost share, 5,000.00; Lincoln Township Library, cost share, 5,000.00; Niobrara Public Library, cost share, 5,000.00; Verdigre Public Library, cost share, 5,000.00.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. City of Norfolk, telephone services, 44.74; OPTK Networks, networking, 228.44.

911 WIRELESS SERVICES FUND. City of Norfolk, telephone services, 104.38; OPYK Networks, networking, 533.04.

TOTALS	
General Fund	\$307,985.33
Road Fund	204,640.86
Child Support Fund	887.00
C & C Development Fund	9,335.83
Inheritance Fund	30,000.00
911 Emergency Fund	273.18
911 Wireless Service Fund	637.42
Total	\$553,759.62

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 11:21 a.m. on April 17, 2024 until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 1, 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

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
May 1, 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, May 1, 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. Pierce 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 Bloomfield Monitor 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 April 17, 2024 meeting as read.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Liska that all claims except Claim #24050074 payable to Myndi J. Schlote in the amount of \$61.80, 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.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Borgmann that Claim #24050074 payable to Myndi J. Schlote in the amount of \$61.80, 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 #7. Nays none. Abstain District #6. Motion carried.

Claims totaling \$482,271.21 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of April 15 – 26, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Public comment session was held from 9:44 a.m. through 10:05 a.m. Katrina Burkhardt and Representatives from National Grid Renewable Wind gave public comments.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moved the Board recess at 10:06 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:18 a.m. with all members present.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Discussed repairs needed to a motorgrader at the Center yard. More discussion will take place later in the meeting; 2.) Three quotes were received from Husker Steel for steel products for three smaller bridge projects. Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to approve the following quotes for steel products from Husker Steel of Columbus NE - \$13,845 for the "Heggemeyer South" bridge in Walnut Grove Township; \$27,917 for the "Circle E Land & Cattle, LLC" bridge in Dolphin Township; and \$39,818 for the "Doerr" bridge in Central Township. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 3.) Discussion was held on the Center West bridge project. The project began five years ago, and the cost of the project is estimated to increase three times over the first estimation, making the County's cost share nearly \$800,000 now. As the project has started and loss of Federal funds would cost the County considerably more to replace the bridge, the Board will continue with the project. Bidding for the project will take place on August 8, 2024. Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to adopt Resolution #2024 – 05 authorizing Chairman Sokol, Jr. to sign the resolution and submit it to the State signifying the County's approval of the preliminary PS&E package. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION
APPROVAL OF PRELIMINARY PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND ESTIMATES
(PS&E)

County of Knox
Resolution No. 2024 - 05

Whereas: Knox County and State entered into an LPA Program Agreement for State to assist County in the development and construction of an LPA Federal-aid transportation project;

Whereas: The State or the design consultant has developed the project plans to the point where they are ready to submit to State's PS & E Section for final edits for a bid letting;

Whereas: The LPA Program Agreement requires the county to review the preliminary PS & E package and either request modification or approve them as acceptable at this stage;

Whereas: Knox County wishes to approve the preliminary PS & E package as prepared.

Be It Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Knox County that:

The Chairman, James Sokol Jr. is hereby authorized to sign the bottom of this resolution and submit it to the State signifying the County's approval of the preliminary PS & E package.

NDOR Project Number: BRO-7054(22)
NDOR Control Number: 32313
NDOR Project Description: Center West
Adopted this 1st day of May, 2024 at Center Nebraska.

The Board of Supervisors of Knox County, Nebraska		
Patrick J. Liska /s/	James Borgmann /s/	James Sokol, Jr. /s/
David L. Pierce /s/	Danny R. Schlote /s/	Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/
Martin J. O'Connor /s/		

Board/Council Member Supr. Pierce
Moved the adoption of said resolution
Member Supr. O'Connor Seconded the Motion
Roll Call: 7 Yes 0 No 0 Abstained 0 Absent
Resolution adopted, signed and billed as adopted

Knox County
James Sokol Jr. /s/
Chairman
Attest: (Seal)
Joann M. Fischer /s/
Signature County Clerk

Hwy. Supt. Barta continued with the following: 4.) The Frankfort Township Board requested that a .75-mile section of the East-West Platted Road #732 in Section 19, T33N, R2W be reclassified to Minimum Maintenance. An adjoining landowner to the road wants to vacate a portion of the road and reclassify the rest of the road to Minimum Maintenance. The matter was tabled for more information; 5.) Discussion was held on the Rec Road possible upgrade. Deputy County Attorney Jensen had submitted a Congressionally Directed Spending Request grant application to Senator Deb Fischer to upgrade nine miles of the Rec Road. Hwy. Supt. Barta contacted the State to see if they would pay part of the match cost and the answer was no. The match cost to the County could be 20% of \$13 million. More discussion will be held later in the meeting.

Tyler Wulf and Jeff Jones with Nebraska Game and Parks met with the Board to discuss the "Star Wars" projects and law enforcement. Mr. Wulf informed the Board of the following: Nearly \$6 million was "swept" from the designated funds to the Star Wars projects so instead of updating the Verdel and Niobrara boat landings, only the Verdel landing is proposed to be updated. The proposed construction of a new Niobrara State Park lodge project will be discussed with engineers in the next several weeks. Also, no bidding will be let for the Weigand Marina upgrade until the permitting process with the Army Corps of Engineers takes place. Sgt. Jeff Jones updated the Board on law enforcement in the park areas under the Nebraska Game and Parks authority, the number of Nebraska Game and Parks Officers available in his subdistrict and dispatching access.

Jackie Duncan with FirstNet met with the Board to present communication and network services for first responders and individuals provided by FirstNet. The program was built by AT&T and was built to maintain the confidentiality of data by maintaining segregation from other users' data as well as providing service to the public safety sector as a large amount of bandwidth is used by individuals affecting network service for the first responders, fire departments, highway departments and other departments. Discussed were costs, service area that can reach into South Dakota, use in fleet vehicles and deployable units available. No action was taken.

Economic Development Director Hanvey and Bobby Pettit with Five Rule Planning updated the Board on the activity in most of the communities in Knox County that included low to moderate housing, senior citizens' housing, adopting a sales tax project and childcare.

Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek met with the Board on the following: 1.) The Crofton Community Fire Protection District #3 submitted a building permit application for construction of a rural fire hall. EM/ZA Jelinek asked the Board if the permit fee should be collected from the Crofton Fire District and the Board instructed her to waive the permit fee; 2.) Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Liska to approve Administrative Plat Application #P2403 Jason Schendt for a 7.79-acre tract split in the NE1/4NW1/4 of Section 20, T33N, R2W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 3.) EM/ZA Jelinek requested clarification of Resolution #2021 – 45 that was adopted November 9, 2021 amending Section 8.04 of the Knox County Zoning Regulations. A building permit application was received from Jeanne Kneifl who wants to move a pre-built shed from Bloomfield to Cedar Ridge RV Park. Section 8.04 (8B) says "All external amenities (porches, screened patios, decks, built-in grills/pizza ovens, and similar) constructed on, relocated to, and placed on a recreational vehicle site or camping site shall require the following: B. Be considered permanent and said items shall be taxed as improvements to the land. This information shall be provided within the zoning permit and may be verified by any authorized county official." Landowner Robyn Barney signed the permit application approving the relocation of the pre-built shed to the Cedar Ridge RV Park. The Board said it will be permissible as the landowner has approved the relocation of the shed to the RV park. County Assessor McManigal said that the shed will be affixed to the real estate and is taxable to the landowner.

Nebraska Cooperative Government contacted County Clerk Fischer to inquire about Knox County designating a Community Day (bonus day) for KENO in the facilities under the County's jurisdiction. KENO players would have a chance to win extra money on Community Day. Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to authorize Chairman Sokol, Jr. to sign a letter to Nebraska Cooperative Government designating Saturday, June 15, 2024 as a Community Day (bonus day) for KENO in the sites under the County's jurisdiction and further to designate the third Saturday of June in the subsequent years as a KENO Community Day in the sites under the County's jurisdiction. By call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moved the Board recess at 12:01 p.m. for lunch.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 12:49 p.m. with all members present.

Hwy. Supt. Barta continued with the following: 6.) Discussion continued on repairing the motorgrader at the Center Shed. Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to put in a new motor in the Center John Deere motorgrader. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 7.) Further discussion was held on upgrading the Rec Road. As the State won't help with the cost share and it being a large burden on the County, Senator Deb Fischer will be contacted that the County's application be withdrawn. The grant application may be resubmitted next year and possibly shorten the number of miles of upgrading; 8.) Water continues to pool near CJ's on the Rec Road and a plastic pipe will be placed under the road. Lewis and Clark Rural Water crews will be checking the lines in that area to see if a leak is causing the pooling; 9.) Bridge Crew update.

The Board and Officials/Department Heads met to discuss employee wage increases. As it is time to begin the preliminary budget process, wage information is needed. The Officials/Department Heads met with the Finance Committee to discuss options. The proposal from the Officials/Department Heads and Finance Committee was to increase the wages at the June 30, 2024 payroll period by 3.5% for Categories 1, 2 and 3 employees with the exception that newer employees who have not been employed for one year would be eligible to receive an increase at their one-year anniversary. Also proposed the County pay of the premium of health insurance of the spouse/child(ren) or family health insurance premiums. Currently eligible employees who have their spouse or child(ren) enrolled are paying \$250 per pay period of twenty-four pay periods and eligible employees who have a family policy are paying \$375 per pay period of twenty-four pay periods towards that premium. The County is paying the remainder of those premiums. Eligible employees receive as a benefit a single health insurance policy or if they are not enrolled with 90 Degree Benefits health insurance, they receive an opt-out taxable stipend. Elected officials will receive a 2.886% increase on January 1, 2025 as per Resolution #2021 – 35. Motion by Supr.

O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Pierce to approve a 3.5% wage increase for Categories 1, 2 and 3 employees with the exception that newer employees who have not been employed for one year would be eligible to receive an increase at their one-year anniversary, and the County to pay the full premium for spouse/child(ren) or family of eligible employees enrolled in the 90 Degree Benefits Health Insurance starting at the June 27, 2024 payroll period noting that the Board will review the health insurance County pay of premiums in one year. By roll call. Ayes Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7. Nays District 5. Motion carried.

Job evaluations were held on Appointed Officials Hwy. Supt. Barta, Veteran Service Officer Jones and Weed Supt. Banks. Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek requested closed session for her job evaluation. Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Pierce to go into closed session at 2:40 p.m. so as to not cause injury to the reputation of an individual while discussing a job evaluation and personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Supr. Borgmann left the meeting during the closed session at 3:05 p.m. The Board came out of closed session at 3:15 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to close at 3:15 p.m. the closed session held on job evaluation and personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 and #6. Nays none. Absent was District #7. Motion carried.

The Board discussed personnel and tabled discussion of wage increases for the Appointed Officials until the next meeting.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 97,655.72; Applied Connective Technologies, IT, 5,610.54; April 2024 Jurors, jury duty/mileage, 4,958.02; Bloomfield Tire & Oil LLC, repairs, 100.00; Bomgaars, repairs, 184.66; Bryan Health, copy fees, 29.00; Ciox Health, retrieval fees, 146.50; Classic Carpet Care, mop rental, 40.00; Clerk of District Court, court costs, 37.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,164.01; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 43,004.59; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 304.00; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, radios, 161.00; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, teletype, 537.60; Eakes Office Solutions, copier agreement, 333.02; Election Systems & Software Inc, ballots, 2,578.38; First National Bank Omaha, gas/supplies/postage/meals/lodging, 3,622.79; Holiday Inn-Kearney, lodging, 1,037.55; Joann Fischer, reimbursement of van gas, 46.25; Knox County Clerk, jury meals, 22.00; KV Electric LLC, electrical work, 294.79; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 295.91; Loffler, copier contract, 355.03; Matthew R Fischer, reimburse jury meals, 81.88; Midwest Radar & Equipment, equipment, 82.00; Moody Motor Company, repairs, 185.67; NACT, registration, 150.00; Nebraska Sheriffs' Association, dues, 60.00; Northeast Nebraska RC&D, dues, 2,000.00; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 481.98; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 2,241.00; Quill Corporation, supplies, 279.20; Red Door Grill, jury meals, 369.00; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 6,721.93; Rhonda Surface, reimburse supplies, 13.50; Top Quality Glove, gloves, 89.31; US Cellular, cell phones, 185.62; Verdigre PrintWorks, printing, 867.75; Village of Center, hall rent, 80.00.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 37,137.51; B's Enterprises Inc., blades, 18,826.00; Black Hills Energy, heating fuel, 69.18; Bomgaars, shop tools/repairs, 1,087.98; Cedar-Knox Public Power District; electricity, 254.07; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,708.79; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 18,745.32; Fairfield Inn & Suites; lodging, 559.80; First National Bank Omaha, meals/gas, 144.34; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 4,424.83; Laflan Medical Clinic, drug test, 75.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 113.24; Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fees, 18,753.16; Medical Enterprises Inc., drug test, 75.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 184.75; Overhead Door Co., repairs, 125.00; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 806.76; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 83.98; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,451.11; Verdigre Collision Repair, repairs, 1,683.70; Verdigre Eagle, publishing, 17,529.76.

FLOWAGE EASEMENT ROAD FUND. Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fees, 632.50.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. First National Bank Omaha, courtroom supplies, 78.17; Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 164.44.

COVID ARPA FUND. Scott Ober Construction LLC, storage/garage, 23,835.00.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND. NENEDD, admin fees, 42.50.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 3,510.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 264.50; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 576.00; First National Bank Omaha, leadership/postage/meals/travel, 921.09; Flagship Publishing Inc., publishing, 1,300.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 5.96; Niobrara Promoters, Niobrara bucks, 120.00; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 44.82; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 225.11; Stacy Miller, reimburse meals, 46.33; Verdigre Eagle, publishing, 210.00.

INHERITANCE FUND. Brogan Lamml P.C., court appointed attorney, 1,070.14; Mark D. Albin, court appointed attorney, 1,608.09; Rodney W. Smith, public defender contract, 2,083.33; Stratton DeLay Doele Carlson & Buettner PC LLO, court appointed attorney, 552.72.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. First National Bank Omaha, supplies, 29.82; GEO Comm Inc., GIS mapping, 3,287.40.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. GEO Comm Inc., GIS mapping, 7,670.60.

TOTALS

General Fund	\$183,617.27
Road Fund	126,579.42
Highway Bridge Buyback Fund	123,796.00
Flowage Easement Road Fund	632.50
Child Support Fund	242.61
Covid ARPA Fund	23,835.00
Economic Development Fund	42.50
C & C Development Fund	7,223.81
Inheritance Fund	5,314.28
911 Emergency Fund	3,317.22
911 Wireless Service Holding Fund	7,670.60
Total	\$482,271.21

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 3:25 p.m. on May 1, 2024 until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 15, 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

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
May 15, 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, May 15, 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 May 1, 2024 meeting.

Correspondence reviewed was the following: 1.) Knox County Development Agency April 29, 2024 meeting minutes.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. O'Connor 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 \$435,894.66 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Public comment session was held from 9:45 a.m. to 9:58 a.m. Public comment was given by a representative of National Grid Wind Energy, a representative of the Land & Liberty Coalition and Tom Sobotka.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 9:59 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:15 a.m. with all members present.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board with the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to authorize Chairman Sokol, Jr. to sign the MRJ Engineering proposal for the Verdigre North Federal Aid bridge project bid documents noting such bid documents and a hydraulic study will be furnished within 45 days. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Shaw Bridge update. There is approximately \$752,070 remaining to be paid; 3.) Verdigre North Bridge project update; 4.) Bridge Crew update; 5.) Oil Crew update; 6.) Motorgrader tires were ordered; 7.) FEMA is requesting approximately \$8,100 be returned on the Prischman FEMA bridge project as over \$9,000 was paid to the County for rip rap on the change order and shouldn't have been included in the pay to the County. The refund requested is 90% of the amount paid to the County. The refund needs to be done to progress with the FEMA Category Z administrative fees' payment to the County; 8.) Hwy. Supt. Barta asked the Board if the June 30 wage increase could be given to an employee who was hired on July 10, 2023. Employees are not eligible for a wage increase until their one-year hire date anniversary so the employee will be eligible to receive an increase after July 10, 2024; 9.) Cedar Knox Rural Water is finding water in trenching they did along their water line in the lake area. They are still trying to locate the leak that is causing ponding in that area; 10.) A number of Lazy River Acres residents have expressed concerns as to the flooding and sedimentation.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the Receipts Revenue List from April 29 – May 10, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to place on file the Clerk of District Court April 2024 Fee Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to authorize Chairman Sokol, Jr. to sign the Commitment Letter with Regier Carr & Monroe, LLP for audit services. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Schlote to approve a Special Designated Liquor License for Lisa's Lindy Country Club for an event June 21 through June 23, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to change the June 12, 2024 Board meeting date to Tuesday, June 11, 2024 due to workshop scheduling. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Sheriff Henery had submitted an Interlocal Enforcement Agreement between the Knox County Sheriff's Office and the Cedar County Sheriff's Office that will be on the May 29, 2024 agenda.

A representative from National Grid Wind Energy returned to the meeting to give clarification presented at the public comment session.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce to go into closed session at 10:54 a.m. so as to protect the reputation of an individual when discussing personnel, as requested by Sheriff Henery. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated that the closed session will be held so as to protect the reputation of an individual when discussing personnel. The Board came out of closed session at 11:13 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Liska to close at 11:13 a.m. the closed session held on personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to go into closed session at 11:14 a.m. so as to protect the reputation of an individual when discussing personnel, as requested by Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held on personnel so as to protect the reputation of individual when discussing personnel. The Board came out of executive session at 11:40 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to close the closed session held on personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to approve a 3.5% increase in wages beginning June 30, 2024 to Appointed Officials Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek, Veteran Service Officer Jones, Weed Superintendent Banks, and Highway Superintendent Barta's base rate for the fiscal year 2024/2025. By roll call. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Schlote to reiterate the 3.5% increase to the Category 3 employees starting June 30, 2024 that was approved at the May 1, 2024 meeting with an addition that when another deputy sheriff is hired, to accommodate an increased beginning wage, the current deputies will each receive a one-time \$5,000 annual or prorated increase within the fiscal year 2024/2025 depending on the date within the fiscal year 2024 when the new deputy is hired, and, to accommodate an increased beginning wage, a one-time increase of \$1.00 per hour during the fiscal year 2024/2025 to the part-time deputies, dispatchers/jailors, 911 Coordinator, Administrative Assistant and part-time matron when another dispatcher is hired within the fiscal year 2024/2025, and further noting the full County pay of the 90 Degree Benefits health insurance premiums for eligible employees as well as spouse, child(ren) or family coverage or opt out stipend to the eligible employees who do not enroll in the health insurance benefit. 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. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the March 12 and April 9, 2024 Planning Commission minutes as a report to the Board of Supervisors with the recommendation the Board of Supervisors deny the request to amend the Wind Energy Conversion System (WECS) setback from wetlands to 200 ft. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the April 2024 Zoning Permits Report. By roll call. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 3.) Discussion was held on possibly hiring a part-time assistant to Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek.

Committee update was given by Supr. Pierce who said he attended the audit of the Crofton Senior Citizen Center by the Northeast Nebraska Area Agency on Aging.

Officials' update was given by the following: 1.) County Assessor McManigal said that one of her employees was going to the post office when shooting took place at the gun range that is a short distance west of the Courthouse. Employees recently took Active Shooter training by NIRMA and the employee was startled by the shooting at the gun range. County Assessor McManigal requested that Sheriff Henery send an email memo to the officials as to when the gun range will be in use; 2.) Sheriff Henery said there is State funding for radios.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 105,886.58; Amy Johnson, mileage, 16.08; Applied Connective Technologies LLC, it/phones, 5,112.73; Bloomfield Auto Parts, headlight, 10.28; Bloomfield Pharmacy, meds, 17.80; Bloomfield Tire & Oil LLC, oil change, 86.79; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,793.93; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, subscription, 90.00; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, backup, 472.00; Derrick Kinnison, mileage, 35.91; Don Hanzlik, mileage, 67.83; Eakes Office Solutions, paper, 31.65; Election Systems & Software Inc., Primary Election costs, 2,925.00; Elizabeth Doerr, contract labor, 210.00; ESRI Inc., Arc GIS contract, 460.00; Government Forms & Supplies, checks, 101.64; Gragert's Grocery, jail food, 1,037.44; Great Plains Communications, tower internet/phone/cable, 1,235.88; gWorks, basic Assessor GIS program, 8,610.00; Hanna LK Jensen, reimburse manual cost, 95.00; Harm & Tulleys Event Center, building rent, 350.00; James Hames, mileage, 132.50; James Scott, mileage, 22.27; Josh Key, mileage, 45.89; Kristine Tramp, mileage, 61.64; LeRoy Buchholz, mileage, 15.07; LeRoy Clausen, mileage, 68.90; Marvin Planning Consultants Inc., contract costs - zoning regs/meeting, 200.00; MIPS Inc., programming, 784.52; N&B Gas Co., propane, 492.00; Nebraska County Attorney's Association, registrations, 1,100.00; North Central Public Power District, tower power/electricity, 2,045.57; Northeast Nebraska News Company, publishing, 1,285.66; O'Neill Shopper, publishing, 61.00; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 674.23; Platte Valley Communications, repairs, 38.00; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 101.98; R&K Motor Parts, oil/filters/repairs, 384.42; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 7,302.94; US Cellular, cell phones, 185.49; US Cellular, cell phones, 359.52; Verdigre Eagle, subscription, 35.00; Verdigre Farm Service, gas, 194.78.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 35,958.87; Art's Garbage, garbage, 18.00; Avera Medical Group, drug tests, 50.00; Bazile Creek Power Sports, repairs, 77.62; Big Red Mini Mart, gas, 184.57; Bloomfield Auto Parts, repairs, 125.47; Burns Lumber Company, door repair, 1,293.93; CHS, diesel, 1,279.74; City of Bloomfield, water, 25.00; City of Creighton, water/sewer, 196.85; CMart, gas, 33.35; CMart LLC, gas, 321.70; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,620.48; Cornhusker International Trucks Inc., repairs, 2,359.43; Crane Sales & Service, repairs, 2,319.03; Crofton Lumber, door repair, 254.17; Farmer's Pride, diesel, 9,070.43; Freeman Oil Co., diesel, 1,243.62; Great Plains Communications, phone, 401.18; Grossenburg Implement, lease/repairs/oil filter, 4,752.54; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 3,879.23; J&J Sanitation, garbage, 49.00; Kayton International Inc., repair/oil/filter, 205.62; LTL Holdings Inc., gas, 509.56; McCormick Tree Trimming, equipment rental, 699.50; Medical Enterprises Inc., drug test, 35.00; N&B Gas Company, propane, 739.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 66.90; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 315.45; PowerPlan, repairs, 2,348.02; R&K Motor Parts, repairs/filters/oil, 1,773.39; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,373.23; Russ Crosley, garbage, 46.00; Santee Utility Commission, garbage, 65.00; Sucha Repair, repairs/oil/filters, 152.10; Truck Center Companies, repairs/filter, 907.84; US Cellular, cell phones, 542.36; Vakoc Excavating LLC, gravel, 53,579.88; Verdigre Farm Service, gas/tordon/shop supplies, 4,324.28; Vic's Service, gas, 356.57; Village of Niobrara, water/sewer, 44.50; Village of Verdigre, water/sewer/garbage, 85.00; Village of Wausa, water/sewer/garbage, 168.60; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 23,794.64.

HIGHWAY BRIDGE BUYBACK FUND. Herbst Construction Inc., Shaw bridge, 100,524.15.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 164.44.

ROD PRES/MOD FUND. MIPS Inc., computer program, 566.66.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 3,467.97; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 261.28; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 222.27; US Cellular, cell phones, 61.57.

INHERITANCE FUND. Brogan Lamml P.C., court appointed attorney, 436.89; Cedar County Transit, public transit, 2,100.00; Copple, Rockey, Schlecht, Mason P.C. LLO, court appointed attorney, 503.34; Mark D. Albin, court appointed attorney, 1,057.97.

KENO FUND. Applied Connective Technologies LLC, conference room tv, 2,325.00; City of Creighton, keno proceeds, 21.92; gWorks, subscription, 12,654.00.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. City of Norfolk, telephone services, 44.74; Great Plains Communications, phone, 195.12; OPTK Networks, networking, 228.44; Three River Telco, phone, 66.42.

911 WIRELESS SERVICES FUND. City of Norfolk, telephone services, 104.38; Great Plains Communications, phone, 315.50; OPTK Networks, networking, 533.04; Three River Telco, phone, 154.99.

TOTALS

General Fund	\$150,237.92
Road Fund	159,646.65
Highway Bridge Buyback Fund	100,524.15
Child Support Fund	164.44
ROD Pres/Mod Fund	566.66
C & C Development Fund	4,013.09
Inheritance Fund	4,098.20
Keno Fund	15,000.92
911 Emergency Fund	534.72
911 Wireless Service Fund	1,107.91
Total	\$435,894.66

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 11:58 a.m. on May 15, 2024 until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 29, 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

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
May 29, 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, May 29, 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.

County Clerk Fischer 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 Bloomfield Monitor and Verdigre Eagle newspapers, as shown by the Affidavits 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 May 15, 2024 meeting as read.

Public comment session was held from 9:42 a.m. to 9:59 a.m. Public comments were given by Mike Kumm, Brad Young, Dolphin Township Chairman Van Heek, Chase Wilken and Kelvin Kumm. Also present for public comment was Terry Heimes. The Board asked that Mr. Heimes give his comment when Hwy Supt. Barta was present as the public comment was in reference to Platted Road #732.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Liska that all claims except Claim #24050346, 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.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 10:00 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:22 a.m. with all members present.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Update on the Shaw Bridge and Verdigre North Bridge projects; 2.) Public comment was given by Terry Heimes regarding Platted Road #732 in Frankfort Township. The Frankfort Township Board will be invited to a future Board of Supervisors' meeting.

Clem Wagner of rural Center met with the Board to discuss the leafy spurge problem in neighboring pastures to his property, spray drift that causes crop damage, and the need to spray regularly. Weed Supt. Banks was present and said that he had talked to one adjoining landowner to Mr. Wagner's property and a drone was going to spray in the next several days. Use of the drone should not cause the spray drift as the drone will spot spray. Driving a tractor or utility vehicle to spray in the adjoining pasture to be sprayed is very treacherous so use of aerial spraying or drone spraying is the only resort in most of that pasture. Other landowners will be contacted about the requirements to control leafy spurge.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened at 11:12 a.m. an advertised public hearing on a reuse loan application for the purchase of the Verdigre Bakery. Jeff Christensen with NENEDD and Marty and Dana Konopasek were present and gave information of the purchase of the Verdigre Bakery and loan requirements. Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the public hearing at 11:16 a.m. Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Liska to approve a \$50,000 reuse loan to Dana and Marty Konopasek dba Verdigre Bakery with a term of 20 years at 4.5% interest along with other guarantees, to sub-grant the \$50,000 County CDBG funds to NED, Inc. and to waive the 1% loan processing fee. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang that Claim #24050346 payable to NED, Inc. in the amount of \$50,000, 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 \$462,452.44 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Hwy. Supt. Barta continued with the following: 3.) Update on the Center West Bridge project. Costs will be entirely paid with federal, state and soft match funds; 4.) Creighton Cemetery Bridge project update; 5.) Discussed was a request for the Road, Bridge and Oil Crew employees to work four ten-hour days per week during the summer. The Board took no action on the matter so the current work schedule will continue.

Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to approve Administrative Plat Application #P2404 Adam Pavelka for a 5.7-acre tract split in the N1/2SE1/4 of Section 27, T31N, R6W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to approve Administrative Plat Application #P2405 Justin and Stephanie Kruse for a 5.04-acre tract split in the E1/2NW1/4 of Section 10, T29N, R5W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 3.) The Planning Commission recommended the Board correct Section 8.04 Recreational Vehicle Parks zoning regulations. Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to correct Section 8.04 of the Knox County zoning regulations as per the recommendations from the Planning Commission on the following: Section 8.04(1) where the tract to be used as a recreational vehicle park or campground shall not be less than two acres in area (was three acres); Section 8.04(4) the minimum dimensions of a recreational vehicle, trailer or camp site shall be 30 feet wide, however the length could be up to the RV campground owner (was 25 feet wide by 40 feet long), and Section 8.04(8) the external amenities with conditions to match Resolution #2021 – 45 adopted on November 9, 2021 by adding "All items will be considered by design for approval" (was "All external amenities (porches, screened patios, decks, built-in grills/pizza ovens, and similar) constructed on, relocated to, and placed on a recreational vehicle site or camping site shall require..."). By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of May 13 – 24, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to authorize Chairman Sokol, Jr. to cast a vote for Jeff McGill, a candidate for the Northeast Region for election to the Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN) Board of Directors. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

County Sheriff Henery met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Schlote to approve the Knox County Sheriff's Office/Cedar County Sheriff's Office Interlocal Law Enforcement Agreement for a period of one year beginning May 15, 2024 with an automatic renewal for successive one year terms unless either Agency gives written notice to the other at least thirty days prior to any yearly termination date that the agreement will not be renewed. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Clarification of the Category 3 wages that go into effect July 1, 2024.

The scheduled June 26, 2024 Board meeting will be changed to Friday, June 21, 2024 due to scheduling of the TERC hearings that will be held June 26, 2024 in Norfolk.

Legislative updates were given by County Clerk Fischer who presented a spreadsheet of adopted legislative bills that may affect Knox County.

Committee update was given by Chairman Sokol, Jr. who informed the Board that the new building is completed except for an inspection of the newly installed electrical wiring.

Officials' updates were given by the following: 1.) County Clerk Fischer presented a report of the 2024 Primary Election Voter Turnout noting that Knox County was 9th out of the 93 counties for voter turnout; 2.) Deputy County Attorney Jensen said that packets are being sent to two attorneys asking for their proposals to represent Knox County to see if the Army Corps of Engineers is in violation of their agreement in the Ponca Creek flooding.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 101,095.74; Amber Jansen, mileage, 36.18; Applied Connective Technologies LLC, computers, 3,771.00; Armscor Cartridge Inc., ammunition, 1,291.00; Bomgaars, round up/paint/supplies, 139.38; Chad Vanness, mileage, 34.84; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,735.47; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, radios, 161.00; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, teletype, 537.60; David A. Arens, meeting/mileage, 70.85; Dean Wilken, meeting/mileage, 50.55; Dollar General, jail supplies, 41.00; Doug DeShazer, meeting/mileage, 64.30; First National Bank Omaha, gas/postage, office supplies/meals, 5,980.21; GiGi Larsen, election help/mileage, 274.32; Greg D Kuhlman, meeting/mileage, 56.44; Hanna LK Jensen, mileage, 259.63; Jane Wilmes, election help/mileage, 288.02; Jim Kotrous, meeting/mileage, 45.96; Julie Dather, mileage, 24.12; Justice Data Solutions Inc., Jamin software, 3,000.00; Keith Nielsen, meeting/mileage, 42.69; Knox County Treasurer, transfer from General Fund to Road Fund, 143,951.92; Megan Dufek, mileage, 16.08; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 40.50; Monroe Systems, calculator ribbon, 97.97; Neil Clausen, meeting/mileage, 61.68; Northeast Nebraska News Company, publishing, 9.27; Physicians Laboratory P.C., autopsy, 600.00; Pitney Bowes, ink pad, 19.08; Pitzer Digital, publishing/subscription, 74.65; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 482.89; Rebekah Poppe, mileage, 17.42; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 6,973.00; Robert D Larsen, meeting/mileage, 36.79; Security Shredding Services, shredding, 120.00; Sharla Hanzlik, mileage, 29.48; Tri State Turf & Irrigation, sprinkler repair, 104.62; Verdigre Eagle, publishing, 1,990.65.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 33,287.30; Bauer Built Inc., tires/repairs, 292.18; Black Hills Energy, heating fuel, 114.73; Bohemian One Stop LLC, gas/propane, 860.85; Bomgaars, shop supplies, 466.73; Cedar-Knox Public Power District, electricity, 176.10; City of Bloomfield, water, 25.00; Clark's Rentals LLC, jack hammer rental, 660.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,546.47; Freeman Oil Co., diesel, 1,156.20; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 2,661.36; Hrbek Construction, equipment rental, 6,075.00; James Carlson, sand, 1,500.00; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, shop supplies, 92.95; Kristel Mackeprang, clay, 360.00; Lance Rudloff, reimburse DOT physical, 150.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 125.58; Overhead Door Co. of Sioux City, repairs, 788.00; Quill, office supplies, 48.98; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,192.89; Rohrer Welding, repairs, 982.34; Steffen's Service Station, gas, 590.15; Yankton Fire & Safety Co. Inc., fire extinguisher inspection, 35.00.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Nebraska Clerks of District Court Association, registration, 75.00.

COVID ARPA. Applied Connective Technologies LLC, security cameras, 64,346.21.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND. NED Inc., loan, 50,000.00.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 3,467.97; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 265.30; Creative Revolution, website updates, 62.50; First National Bank Omaha, gas/postage/meals/lodging, 1,153.56; Five Rule LLC, quarterly payment, 8,000.00; Kelly Hanvey, reimburse meal, 24.00; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 222.27.

KENO FUND. First National Bank of Omaha, postage, 21.52.

TOTALS

General Fund	\$279,626.30
Road Fund	55,187.81
Child Support Fund	75.00
Covid ARPA Fund	64,346.21
Economic Development Fund	50,000.00
C & C Development Fund	13,195.60
Keno Fund	21.52
Total	\$462,452.44

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 12:10 p.m. on May 29, 2024 until 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday June 11, 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

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
June 11, 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 Tuesday, June 11, 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.

Deputy County Clerk Nix 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 Bloomfield Monitor 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 May 29, 2024 meeting as read.

The public comment session was held from 9:45 a.m. to 9:58 a.m. Public comment was given by Stephanie Stueckrath and representatives from National Grid Renewable Wind.

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 \$435,894.66 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 10:00 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:21 a.m. with all members present.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Discussed federal, state and soft match funds that will pay for the Center West bridge project; 2.) Bridge Crew update; 3.) Oil Crew update; 4.) The Santee Sioux Tribe is applying for funding for upgrading nine bridges on the Santee Sioux reservation.

Heather Stacken with Avera Creighton Hospital Transportation met with the Board to discuss a grant she is working on to be submitted to the Nebraska Public Service Commission. As part of the grant process, Knox County and the City of Creighton each need to submit a Letter of Recommendation stating that these two entities do not contribute funds to the Avera public transit. Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to authorize Chairman Sokol, Jr. to sign a Letter of Recommendation to the Nebraska Public Service Commission noting that while there is no funding from Knox County, the Knox County Board of Supervisors supports and approves of the public transit service that Avera Creighton Hospital Transportation provides. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Hwy. Supt. Barta continued with the following: 5.) Discussion was held on purchasing a used motorgrader; 6.) Mark Keck with the Frankfort Township Board was present and informed the Board that there is no longer a request for an easement on Road 732 so the Township Board will begin the process to vacate and abandon a portion of Road 732; 7.) Scott Jordan was present and asked the Board how far back a fence needs to be from a road. Mr. Jordan operates a township motorgrader and said that a landowner has placed a fence in the road right of way causing safety concerns when meeting traffic on the road. The Board directed him to speak to the township board and their attorney.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the Receipts Revenue List from May 27 through June 7, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Liska to place on file the Clerk of District Court May 2024 Fee Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgmann that married couples working for Knox County receiving the County health insurance benefit and covered by the family/spouse coverage are not entitled to an opt out stipend for either party as the County now pays the health insurance premiums of enrolled employees and their spouses, child(ren) or family. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to approve the Maximus Service Agreement that is effective from June 1, 2024 through December 31, 2029. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

County Attorney Thomas met with the Board on the following: 1.) Discussion was held on the North Fork Wind project and representation by County Attorney Thomas to eliminate any conflicts of interest. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Schlote to have County Attorney Thomas direct and represent the Board in the North Fork Wind Project to offset any conflict of interest. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) The Board reviewed proposals from Cline Williams Wright Johnson & Oldfather and from Domina Law Group for potential claims by the County against the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers regarding the Swanson Road in the Lazy River Acres. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Chairman Sokol, Jr. to approve the Domina Law Group proposal for representing Knox County for consideration of potential claims by Knox County against the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers on the Swanson Road in the Lazy River Acres area. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Matt Robinette and Kyle Alpers with BlueStem updated the Board on a proposed solar renewal energy project in western Knox County and a small area in Holt County.

Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to place on file the Zoning May Permits Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Pierce to approve Administrative Plat Application #P2406 for the Crofton Community Fire Protection for a lot split in the E1/2W1/2S1/2SW1/4 in Section 14, T33N, R2W. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Committee update was given by Chairman Sokol, Jr. who informed the Board that parking in the new building should begin soon. Also, a safety maintenance workshop was held by NIRMA for area county maintenance workers.

Officials' update was given by the following: 1.) Hwy. Supt. Barta discussed with the Board the calculation used as a basis for the County/Township allocation distribution; 2.) Supr. Mackeprang gave an update on the recent North Central District Health Department meeting.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 105,886.58; Amy Johnson, mileage, 16.08; Applied Connective Technologies LLC, it/phones, 5,112.73; Bloomfield Auto Parts, headlight, 10.28; Bloomfield Pharmacy, meds, 17.80; Bloomfield Tire & Oil LLC, oil change, 86.79; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,793.93; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, subscription, 90.00; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, backup, 472.00; Derrick Kinnison, mileage, 35.91; Don Hanzlik, mileage, 67.83; Eakes Office Solutions, paper, 31.65; Election Systems & Software Inc., Primary Election, 2,925.00; Elizabeth Doerr, contract labor, 210.00; ESRI Inc., Arc GIS contract, 460.00; Government Forms & Supplies, checks, 101.64; Gragert's Grocery, jail food, 1,037.44; Great Plains Communications, tower internet/phone/cable, 1,235.88; gWorks, basic assessor GIS, 8,610.00; Hanna LK Jensen, reimburse manual, 95.00; Harm & Tulleys Event Center, building rent, 350.00; James Hames, mileage, 132.50; James Scott, mileage, 22.27; Josh Key, mileage, 45.89; Kristine Tramp, mileage, 61.64; LeRoy Buchholz, mileage, 15.07; LeRoy Clausen, mileage, 68.90; Marvin Planning Consultants Inc., zoning regs/meeting, 200.00; MIPS Inc., programming, 784.52; N&B Gas Co., propane, 492.00; Nebraska County Attorney's Association, registrations, 1,100.00; North Central Public Power District, tower power/electricity, 2,045.57; Northeast Nebraska News Company, publishing, 1,285.66; O'Neill Shopper, publishing, 61.00; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 674.23; Platte Valley Communications, repairs, 38.00; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 101.98; R&K Motor Parts, oil/filters/repairs, 384.42; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 7,302.94; US Cellular, cell phones, 185.49; US Cellular, cell phones, 359.52; Verdigre Eagle, subscription, 35.00; Verdigre Farm Service, gas, 194.78.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 35,958.87; Art's Garbage, garbage, 18.00; Avera Medical Group, drug tests, 50.00; Bazile Creek Power Sports, repairs, 77.62; Big Red Mini Mart, gas, 184.57; Bloomfield Auto Parts, repairs, 125.47; Burns Lumber Company, door repair, 1,293.93; CHS, diesel, 1,279.74; City of Bloomfield, water, 25.00; City of Creighton, water/sewer, 196.85; CMart, gas, 33.35; CMart LLC, gas, 321.70; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,620.48; Cornhusker International Trucks Inc., repairs, 2,359.43; Crane Sales & Service, repairs, 2,319.03; Crofton Lumber, door repair, 254.17; Farmer's Pride, diesel, 9,070.43; Freeman Oil Co., diesel, 1,243.62; Great Plains Communications, phone, 401.18; Grossenburg Implement, lease/repairs/oil filter, 4,752.54; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 3,879.23; J&J Sanitation, garbage, 49.00; Kayton International Inc., repair/oil/filter, 205.62; LTL Holdings Inc., gas, 509.56; McCormick Tree Trimming, equipment rental, 699.50; Medical Enterprises Inc., drug test, 35.00; N&B Gas Company, propane, 739.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 66.90; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 315.45; PowerPlan, repairs, 2,348.02; R&K Motor Parts, repairs/filters/oil, 1,773.39; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,373.23; Russ Crosley, garbage, 46.00; Santee Utility Commission, garbage, 65.00; Sucha Repair, repairs/oil/filters, 152.10; Truck Center Companies, repairs/filter, 907.84; US Cellular, cell phones, 542.36; Vakoc Excavating LLC, gravel, 53,579.88; Verdigre Farm Service, gas/tordon/shop supplies, 4,324.28; Vic's Service, gas, 356.57; Village of Niobrara, water/sewer, 44.50; Village of Verdigre, water/sewer/garbage, 85.00; Village of Wausa, water/sewer/garbage, 168.60; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 23,794.64.

HIGHWAY BRIDGE BUYBACK FUND. Herbst Construction Inc., Shaw bridge, 100,524.15.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 164.44.

ROD PRES/MOD FUND. MIPS Inc., computer program, 566.66.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 3,467.97; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 261.28; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 222.27; US Cellular, cell phones, 61.57.

INHERITANCE FUND. Brogan Lamml P.C., court appointed attorney, 436.89; Cedar County Transit, public transit, 2,100.00; Copple, Rockey, Schlecht, Mason P.C. LLO, court appointed attorney, 503.34; Mark D. Albin, court appointed attorney, 1,057.97.

KENO FUND. Applied Connective Technologies LLC, conference room tv, 2,325.00; City of Creighton, keno proceeds, 21.92; gWorks, subscription, 12,654.00.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. City of Norfolk, telephone services, 44.74; Great Plains Communications, phone, 195.12; OPTK Networks, networking, 228.44; Three River Telco, phone, 66.42.

911 WIRELESS SERVICES FUND. City of Norfolk, telephone services, 104.38; Great Plains Communications, phone, 315.50; OPTK Networks, networking, 533.04; Three River Telco, phone, 154.99.

TOTALS

General Fund	\$150,237.92
Road Fund	159,646.65
Highway Bridge Buyback Fund	100,524.15
Child Support Fund	164.44
ROD Pres/Mod Fund	566.66
C & C Development Fund	4,013.09
Inheritance Fund	4,098.20
Keno Fund	15,000.92
911 Emergency Fund	534.72
911 Wireless Service Fund	1,107.91
Total	\$435,894.66

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 12:12 p.m. on June 11, 2024 until 9:30 a.m. on Friday, June 21, 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

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
June 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 Friday, June 21, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. Present were Supervisors Martin J. O'Connor District #1, 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 Supervisor Patrick J. Liska District #2. Chairman Sokol, Jr. presiding.

Sheriff Henery 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 Affidavits 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 June 11, 2024 meeting as read.

Public comment session was held from 9:39 a.m. to 10:02 a.m. Public comments were given by Marvin Hochstein, Garnet Anderson, Pat Kronberg, Chase Wilken, Chad Walvoord, and National Grid Renewables representative Shawn Lawler.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 10:03 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:51 a.m. with all members except Supervisor Patrick J. Liska District #2.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang 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, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried. Claims totaling \$562,096.06 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 10:58 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 11:18 a.m. with all members present except Supervisor Patrick J. Liska District #2.

Scott Kostal of Springfield met with the Board with an update on the Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition, Phase 2 and 3 of the plans to remove sedimentation in the Missouri River which includes the use of a bed-load collector on August 12, 2024 as a demonstration, funding, water shed management, and working with the Corps of Engineers.

County Attorney Thomas met with the Board on the following: 1.) Discussed was a proposed public hearing on possible changes to the zoning regulations; 2.) Update that the court case of Sukup v Burkhardt has been dismissed.

Elaine Menzel, Legal Counsel with NACO, met with the Board on the following: 1.) The Board is encouraged to attend the NACO conferences and workshops. Upcoming conferences will be the NACO Legislative Conference on October 11, 2024 at the new NACO West location in Ogallala and the NACO December Conference that will be held on December 18 – 20, 2024 in Kearney; 2.) Update on new legislation. Governor Pillen will be calling a special session of the Legislature to discuss taxation. The Board thanked Ms. Menzel for coming to the meeting and presenting the information.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess for lunch at 11:59 a.m.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 12:43 p.m. with all members present except Supervisor Patrick J. Liska District #2.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Schlote to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 07** approving an interlocal agreement between Knox County and Antelope County for the replacement of Bridge No. C005416210 located on 870 Road approximately 1.2 miles east of 517 Avenue on the Knox/Antelope County line. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024-07 Knox County

INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT AND RESOLUTION BETWEEN KNOX COUNTY AND ANTELOPE COUNTY

1. Knox County and Antelope County (together referred to as "Parties") are political subdivisions of the State of Nebraska; and
2. The Interlocal Cooperative Act, Neb. Rev. State. §§13-801 to 13-827, permits local governmental units to make the most efficient use of their powers to enable them to cooperate with other governmental units in an effort to provide services and facilities in a manner that will accord with the needs of their local communities; and
3. The Parties wish to replace Bridge No. C005416210 (hereinafter "Bridge") on a county line road located on 870 Road approximately 1.2 miles east of 517 Avenue on the Knox/Antelope County line; and
4. Replacement of the Bridge includes removal and disposal of existing 18' x 61' steel pony truss, purchase, and installation of 24'6" x 80' steel/concrete bridge, and Knox County will dispose of all materials from old bridge.
5. Antelope County will pay for the steel products package necessary to rebuild the Bridge that will be purchased from an accepted bidder.
6. Knox County will use its equipment and personnel to tear out the old Bridge and build the new Bridge. Hours worked on the bridge project will be kept on a spreadsheet for all personnel and equipment used daily. Knox County personnel (including Bridge Foreman and Knox County Highway Superintendent) will charge at a rate of their current hourly wage plus their fringe benefit package (health insurance, retirement, unemployment, worker's compensation, etc.) Knox County will use the rate of 1.5651% for regular time pay per hour and 1.1433% for all overtime pay per hour, which is Knox County's FEMA benefit Rate. Following are hourly rates that will be used for use of Knox County equipment (operator not included):

30 Ton Crane: \$225.00/hr

1770 Bobcat Skid Loader:	\$100.00/hr
GMC Bridge Truck (carry leads):	\$ 70.00/hr
Chevrolet Bridge Truck:	\$ 70.00/hr
Welders:	\$ 30.00/hr
Motor grader:	\$130.00/hr
Case 621B Loader:	\$130.00/hr
Pickups-charged at (state rate)/mile:	\$.67/mile
JD 310K Backhoe:	\$120.00/hr
International Truck & Lowboy:	\$120.00/hr
10-yard Dump Truck:	\$135.00/hr

7. The Parties agree that Knox and Antelope Counties pay equal amounts (50-50) of ALL expenses, including engineering, steel package, required drainage study, removal and disposal of the old structure, the purchase and installation of the new structure, wages for Knox County personnel working on replacement of the Bridge, hourly rates for use of Knox County equipment in replacing the Bridge, and any and all other costs related to the replacement of the Bridge; and
8. Each County is responsible for acquiring all required right-of-way or temporary right-of-way easements in their respective county needed to construct the project, if needed.
9. Sufficient funds of Knox County and Antelope County are now, or will be, available and are hereby pledged at the required time for the purpose of paying for said project; and
10. Each County that is a party to this contract agrees to indemnify and hold harmless, protect and defend the other as well as its elected and appointed officials, employees and representatives against any and all claims, demands, suits, actions, payments and judgments, including any and all costs and expenses connected therewith, for the damages asserted, claimed or recovered against the other or its insurers, because of personal injury, including bodily injury or death, or on account of property damage, in any way connected with or resulting from the work associated with this agreement, and
11. Each County shall maintain general liability insurance coverage of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 annual aggregate covering personal injury, including bodily injury and property damage involved with the agreement. Each party will carry automobile liability limits of not less than \$1,000,000 single limit. Each party will maintain responsibility for providing its workers with workers' compensation coverage and for any claims associated with its employees.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Knox County and Antelope County hereby enter into agreement to replace Bridge No. C005416210 located on 870 Road approximately 1.2 miles east of 517 Avenue on the Knox/Antelope County line, in accordance with the terms listed above.

Adopted this 21st day of June, 2024, at Center, Nebraska.

Supr. Pierce moved and Supr. Schlote seconded the motion to approve and adopt said resolution.

ATTEST: (Seal)

Joann M. Fischer /s/
Knox County Clerk

James Sokol, Jr. /s/
Knox County Board Chairman

Hwy. Supt. Barta continued with the following: 2.) The Board signed their respective shop inventories; 3.) Discussion was held on purchasing a used motorgrader; 4.) The Verdigre Village Board of Trustees met with the Board requesting assistance from the County for upkeep and maintenance of 4th Avenue in Verdigre from the Pinnacle Bank going west to the village limits. More discussion will be held at a future meeting; 5.) Oil Crew update; 6.) Bridge Crew update; 7.) The bid letting for the Center West bridge project has been changed from August to November; 8.) Bridge projects discussed; 9.) County/Township Allocation was discussed; 10.) The Rayder Swanson Road leading into Lazy River Acres is closed due to flooding of the Ponca Creek. Several loads of gravel were ordered for the west road out of the Lazy River Acres area; 11.) Update on the balance of cash on hand.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of June 10 – 14, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Schlote to adopt **Resolution #2024-08** to transfer budget authority to functions of the County Board, Clerk of the District Court, County Sheriff, County Attorney and County Surveyor within the General Fund. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 - 08

WHEREAS, due to unforeseen circumstances and transition from monthly payroll to bi-weekly payroll, expenditures exceed budget authority allocated for the County Board function, Clerk of the District Court function, County Sheriff function, County Attorney function, the Highway Superintendent function, and the County Surveyor function within the General Fund Budget in the total amount of amount of forty-two thousand, one hundred seven dollars and 21 cents (\$42,107.21), and

WHEREAS, budget authority in the Grants function, also an office function of the General Fund Budget, is adequate to allow for transfers to meet current fiscal year expenditures, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that an additional six thousand, six hundred seventy-two dollars and 55 cents (\$6,672.55) of budget authority is hereby allocated to the County Board function; three thousand, three hundred fourteen dollars (\$3,314.00) of budget authority is hereby allocated to the Clerk of the District Court function; fourteen thousand, three hundred dollars (\$14,300.00) of budget authority is hereby allocated to the County Sheriff function; thirteen thousand, six hundred dollars (\$14,300.00) of budget authority is hereby allocated to the County Attorney function; two thousand, four hundred seventy-five dollars (\$2,475.00) of budget authority is hereby allocated to the Highway Superintendent function; and one thousand, eight hundred sixty-one dollars and 04 cents (\$1,861.04) of budget authority is hereby allocated to the County Surveyor function, all from the Grants function within the General Fund Budget.

Dated this 21st day of June 2024.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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

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

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

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

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

ATTEST: (Seal)

Joann M. Fischer /s/
Knox County Clerk

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Pierce to appoint Don Hanzlik of Niobrara to the Veterans' Service Committee for a five-year term, with the vote as follows: Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried.

Visit Knox County Director Miller met with the Board with the recommended 2024 Knox County Visitor's Promotion distribution. New this year is that the approved applicants must present copies of paid receipts before distribution will be made. Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to approve the following 2024 Knox County Visitor's Promotion distributions noting the amounts to be distributed are contingent on the amount of the paid receipts that must accompany the entities' invoices: amounts approved – 1.) Winnetoon – Winnetoon BBQ \$300; 2.) Wausa Community Club – Wausa Auto Show, Labor Day, Farmers Market and Christmas in Wausa \$1,000; 3.) Niobrara Promoters – Bridge Days Celebration and Niobrara Alumni \$1,000; 4.) Creighton Area Chamber of Commerce – Creighton Sesquicentennial Berry Pepper Days \$1,000; 5.) Lewis & Clark SRA – National Marina Day and Holiday Cabin Stay Package \$1,000; 6.) Niobrara State Park – 30 leather binders for cabins and other rental facilities \$1,000; 7.) Crofton's Dam Race \$1,000; 8.) Knox County Ag Society – Knox County Fair \$1,500; 9.) Shannon Trail Promoters \$300; 10.) Bloomfield Community Club – Bloomfield Appreciation Dayz \$1,000; 11.) Verdigre Improvement Club – Kolach Days \$1,000; 12.) Harm & Tulleys Event Center – website update \$500. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried.

Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the Report to Board of Supervisors dated June 11, 2024 from the Planning Commission. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried; 2.) The Board set the date of Wednesday, July 24, 2024 starting at 1:00 p.m. as the public hearing regarding the recommendations from the Planning Commission on the Wind Energy Conversion System-North Fork Wind Project.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to go into closed session at 1:44 p.m. so as to protect the reputation of individuals when discussing personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held so as to protect the reputation of individuals when discussing personnel. The Board came out of closed session at 1:58 p.m.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to close at 1:58 p.m. the closed session held on personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 101,540.53; Bob Barker Company Inc., jail supplies, 76.20; Clerk of District Court, filing fees, 73.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,629.87; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, subscription, 45.00; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, radios, 161.00; David A. Arens, meet/mileage, 70.85; Dean Wilken, meet/mileage, 50.55; Denise Burman, reimburse notary bond, 50.00; Dollar General, jail supplies, 82.30; Doug DeShazer, meet/mileage, 64.30; First National Bank Omaha, supplies/gas/postage/meals, 3,235.61; Greg Kuhlman, meet/mileage, 56.44; Jim Kotrous, meet/mileage, 45.96; Keith Nielsen, meet/mileage, 42.69; Knox County Court, cases bound over etc., 174.00; Knox County Register of Deeds, recording, 10.00; Knox County Sheriff, paper fees/transport, 156.40; Knox County Treasurer, transfer from General Fund to Road Fund, 143,951.92; Loffler, copier agreement, 309.98; Megan Hanefeldt, mileage/supplies, 80.14; NACO, registrations, 250.00; Nebraska Department of Revenue, Assessor certification exam, 75.00; Neil Clausen, meet/mileage, 61.68; Northeast Nebraska News Company, publishing, 25.64 Pitney Bowes, meter lease, 159.57; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 38.55; Postmaster, postage, 309.00; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 2,124.83; Reserve Account, postage for meter, 6,500.00; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 6,990.41; Robert Larsen, meet/mileage, 36.79; Robert Ganz, meet/mileage, 39.41; Secretary of State Election Division, election supplies, 30.00; United States Treasury, PCORI fee, 225.40; University of Nebraska-Lincoln, salary, 12,000; Verdigre Eagle, publishing, 88.00; Village of Center, water/sewer/garbage, 362.00; 2024 NCRAAO Conference, registrations, 600.00.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 37,035.38; Art's Garbage, garbage, 18.00; Bauer Built Tire & Service, tires, 5,902.12; Bazile Creek Power Sports, repairs, 138.90; Black Hills energy, heating fuel, 106.94; Bloomfield Auto Parts, repairs, 189.27; Bruce Hagge, prior service, 24.00; Bruce Peters, prior service, 24.00; Cedar Knox Public Power District, electricity, 115.56; CMart LLC, gas, 173.30; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,788.90; Haisch Grain & Livestock LLC, rock/haul, 2,400.00; Hrbek Construction LLC, equipment rental, 3,308.00; J&J Sanitation, garbage, 49.00; Jacob Dendinger, mow roadsides, 523.68; Jebro Inc., road oil, 50,007.13; JEO Consulting Group Inc., engineer fees, 2,507.50; Kevin Cook, dirt, 270.00; Lawson Products Inc., shop supplies, 1,258.56; Marc Mastalir, prior service, 21.00 Michael Jelinek, meal, 22.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 126.48; Overhead Door Company of Sioux City Inc., door repairs, 788.00; Platte Valley Communications Inc., radio, 873.54; Plumbing & Electric Service Inc., tile for CJ's, 981.75; Pomp's Tire Service Inc., repairs, 12,114.96; PowerPlan, repairs, 64,402.20; Pro Crane Service LLC, equipment rental, 4,421.25; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,445.90; Russ Crosley, garbage, 46.00; Scott Grim, prior service, 30.00; Spencer Quarries Inc., rock, 3,467.32; Steffen's Service Station, gas, 455.08; Sudbeck Underground, install drain tile, 6,720.00; TB&K Construction Inc., equipment rental, 500.00; Truck Center Companies, repairs, 2,079.99; Vakoc Excavating LLC, gravel, 20,020.03; Vic's Service, gas, 293.41; Village of Center, water/sewer, 34.00; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 29,047.82.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. First National Bank Omaha, lodging, 428.98; Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 168.91; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 81.00.

VISITOR'S PROMO FUND. Bohemian Photoworks LLC, photo/video, 2,365.59.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND. NENEDD, admin fees, 1,362.51.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 3,749.50; Bohemian Photoworks, photo/video, 2,365.59; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 282.82; First National Bank Omaha, meals/gas/lodging/dues/registrations, 980.20; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 241.28.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. Applied Connective Technologies, computers, 2,501.85; City of Norfolk, telephone services, 44.74; First National Bank Omaha, fair expenses, 1,950.72; Special T's and More, fair expenses, 1,914.00.

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

TOTALS

General Fund	\$287,823.02
Road Fund	255,730.97
Child Support Fund	678.89
Visitor's Promo Fund	2,365.59
Economic Development Fund	1,362.51
C & C Development Fund	7,619.39
911 Emergency Fund	6,411.31
911 Wireless Service Fund	104.38
Total	\$562,096.06

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 1:59 p.m. on June 21, 2024 until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, July 10, 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

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
July 10, 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, July 10, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. Present were Supervisors Martin J. O'Connor District #1, 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 Supervisor Patrick J. Liska District #2. Chairman Sokol, Jr. presiding.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. 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 Bloomfield Monitor 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 June 21, 2024 meeting as read.

Correspondence reviewed was a letter from the United States Department of Interior regarding the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) that will be coming to Knox County.

The public comment session was held from 9:44 a.m. to 10:03 a.m. Public comment was given by Austin Lammers, Mark Keck, Mike Kumm, Tamera Walter, and Gail Cunningham.

Supervisor Patrick J. Liska, District #2, arrived at 9:58 a.m. during the public comment session.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 10:03 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:54 a.m. with all members present.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. O'Connor 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 \$815,473.13 are listed at the end of these proceedings

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of June 17 – July 3, 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 Clerk of District Court June 2024 Fee Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 09** for the transfer of funds through the claims process from the General Fund to the Road Fund in the amount of \$143,951.92 each in July and in August to cover incurred expenses in the Road Fund until the 2024/2025 budget is set. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 - 09

WHEREAS, due to Section 39-1904 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes, the 2024-2025 County Road budget does not include a property tax dollar request, and

WHEREAS, the 2024-2025 Knox County budget will not be adopted until September 2024, and

WHEREAS, transfers are needed from the Knox County General Fund to the Knox County Road Fund until the 2024-2025 budget is adopted to cover incurred expenses for July and August, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Knox County Board of Supervisors that the Knox County Clerk is hereby directed to transfer through the claims process \$143,951.92 in July 2024 and \$143,951.92 in August 2024 from the Knox County General Fund to the Knox County Road Fund to cover the incurred expenses for July and August, and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the total transfer from the Knox County General Fund to the Knox County Road Fund that will be adopted in the 2024/2025 Knox County Budget will be reduced by the \$287,903.84 and the remaining balance of the 2024/2025 total transfer to be prorated accordingly from September 2024 through June 2025.

Dated this 10th day of July 2024.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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

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

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

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

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

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

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Schlote to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 10** for the transfer through the claims process of \$16,000.00 of NG9011 funds from the 911 Wireless Service Fund to the 911 Wireless Service Holding Fund during the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 - 10

WHEREAS, the Knox County 911 Wireless Service Holding Fund was created in the 2009-2010 budget for funds received from the Nebraska Public Service Commission, and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that wireless funds cannot be co-mingled with any other funding source, and

WHEREAS, such funds are to be expended in compliance with the Public Service Commission requirements, and

WHEREAS, the balance of \$42,651.81 of Legacy Funds in the 911 Wireless Service Holding Fund as of June 30, 2024 shall be depleted by February 28, 2026, and

WHEREAS, NG911 funds may be set aside, with no depletion deadline nor approval needed from the Nebraska Public Service Commission, for funding current or future eligible expenses related to 911, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Knox County Board of Supervisors approve the **transfer through the claims process of \$16,000.00 of NG911 funds from the 911 Wireless Service Fund to the 911 Wireless Service Holding Fund during the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year.**

Dated this 10th day of July 2024.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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

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

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

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

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

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

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Pierce to approve and authorize Chairman Sokol, Jr. to sign the Interlocal Agreement between the County of Knox and Village of Verdigre for Law Enforcement Services beginning the 1st day of July 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Bailey Webster with National Grid Renewables updated the Board on the proposed North Fork Wind Project. Mr. Webster also expressed that National Grid Renewables believes the recommended 1.25-mile setback is not feasible and that the current setbacks are satisfactory, that the recommended change is an infringement on property owners who want wind towers on their property, and National Grid Renewables is committed to obtain the conditional permits.

Scott Gropp, an attorney for concerned citizens, updated the Board on the concerns people have regarding the proposed North Fork Wind Project, case law, request that the recommended setback of 1.25-mile be approved, misrepresentation to landowners by National Grid Renewables, reference to a NIRMA article referencing wind turbine energy controversy, and a Holt County Planning Commission member who felt misled after a wind project was constructed in that county.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Schlote to commit to the purchase of a used 2021 John Deere 772G motorgrader along with a new Brandt wing from Murphy Tractor of Sioux City, Iowa with a cost of \$360,000 less trade-in of a 2012 JD 772G motorgrader and a wing in the amount of \$49,000 for a total of \$311,000 and to waive the bidding requirements of the County Purchasing Act (Nebraska Revised Statute §23-3109) as the Board had to take the immediate commitment to the purchase of the used motorgrader as there was no hold on the motorgrader. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Discussion was held on the beginning process of a grant application along with Holt and Boyd Counties for resurfacing the “old 108” highway; 3.) Bridge Crew update; 4.) Oil crew update; 5.) The Rayder Swanson Road was reopened on July 8. The road had been closed for thirteen days after flooding of the Ponca Creek following heavy rains in Boyd County. Sand and mud had to be cleaned off the road numerous times. NCRS and the Corps will be holding a meeting to discuss the situation in the Lazy River Acres area.

Vanessa Silke, an attorney with BairdHolm Law Firm and representing National Grid Renewables, requested from the Board and Deputy County Attorney Jensen an opportunity to address information given by attorney Scott Gropp who met with the Board earlier in the meeting. Knox County Attorney John Thomas was contacted by telephone and advised that Ms. Silke should be allowed a few minutes to respond. Supr. O'Connor expressed his concerns that the attorney had a chance to speak at the 9:45 session and again at the 11:00 session. Supr. O'Connor also stated she specifically was not on the agenda and could not speak after two previous allotted times to speak were over. Supr. O'Connor left the meeting at 12:01 p.m. Ms. Silke told the Board that she believes Nebraska landowners do not have a problem negotiating contracts and that the information given regarding neighbors of those contracting with the wind project was misrepresented.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 12:07 p.m. for lunch.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 12:45 p.m. with all members present.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the County Treasurer's Pledged Security Report dated June 24, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Liska to place on file the Semi-Annual Report by the Knox County Treasurer of Collections, Disbursements and Balances for six months ending June 30, 2024 and that there were no unpaid claims against Knox County as of June 30, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the NIRMA Crime, Workers' Compensation, Liability Package and Property Package Coverage Agreements for July 1, 2024 – July 1, 2025. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the County Sheriff's Quarterly Report of Fees Collected April 1 – June 30, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Liska to approve an additional 1% over the 2 1/2% basic limitation allowable increase to restricted funds for the 2024/2025 budget process. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 1:04 p.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 1:59 p.m. with all members present.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Pierce to go into closed session at 2:00 p.m. for pending litigation. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held on pending litigation. The Board came out of closed session at 3:15 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Liska to close at 3:15 p.m. the closed session held on pending litigation. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 99,365.40; Antelope County Sheriff, house prisoner, 200.00; Applied Connective Technologies, IT/cameras/cabling, 12,512.86; Art Kathol Appliance Inc., repairs, 170.00; Bloomfield Medical Clinic, prisoner medical, 290.00; Bomgaars Supply Inc., supplies, 56.96; Butler County Landfill Inc., scrap tires, 23,075.83; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,426.37; Comfort Inn, lodging, 570.85; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 50,966.76; Creston Fertilizer Co Inc., weed chemicals, 1,812.96; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 336.00; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, teletype, 537.60; Ecowater, bottled water/salt, 617.95; First National Bank Omaha, weed gas, 569.16; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet/fax, 1,868.23; Heartland Heating & Air Conditioning Inc., quarterly contract, 3,420.00; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, supplies, 9.99; KV Electric, repairs, 120.24; Landmark Surveying, surveyor fees, 394.80; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 295.91; Madison County Sheriff, paper fees, 29.90; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 40.50; MIPS Inc., programs, 878.86; Moody Motor Company, repairs, 1,130.37; Northeast Nebraska Area Agency on Aging, matching funds, 6,906.00; Nebraska Weed Control Association, registration, 150.00; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 2,566.69; Northeast Nebraska News, publishing, 9.27; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 126.00; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 2,241.00; R&K Motor Parts, oil/filters/belts, 161.65; Region 4 Behavioral Health System, quarterly bill, 6,407.75; Region IV Inc., quarterly bill, 2,521.50; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 6,848.97; The Barn at God's Country, hall rental, 200.00; US Cellular, cell phones, 185.49; Verdigre Eagle, publishing, 498.53; Village of Center, water/sewer/garbage, 188.00.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 38,635.46; Big Red Mini Mart, gas, 269.12; Bomgaars Supply Inc., shop supplies, 1,885.89; City of Bloomfield, water, 25.00; City of Creighton, water/sewer, 146.56; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,907.57; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 20,995.32; Crofton Lumber, shop supplies, 152.55; Eakes Office Solutions, copier contract, 201.05; Farmers Pride, diesel, 4,563.78; Freeman Oil Co LLC, diesel, 1,059.32; Great Plains Communications, phone, 200.59; Grossenburg Implement, repairs, 520.31; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 954.84; J&K Auto, gas, 84.00; Jebro Inc., windrow oil, 51,029.66; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, shop supplies, 171.41; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 113.24; Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fees, 2,965.00; Marlene Loeller, sand, 1,200.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 46.07; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 256.51; People's Grocery, shop supplies, 20.63; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 806.76; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 129.94; R&K Motor Parts, repairs/filters, 1,759.96; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,552.20; Ronald Bourn, gravel/haul, 325.42; Rose Equipment Inc., repairs, 5,351.28; Spencer Quarries Inc., gravel, 241.98; State of Nebraska Motor Fuels Division, diesel tax, 2,268.00; Sucha Repair, oxygen/acetylene, 337.32; US Cellular, cell phones, 542.36; Vakoc Excavating LLC, gravel, 16,051.96; Village of Center, water/sewer, 34.00; Village of Niobrara, water/sewer, 43.25; Village of Verdigre, water/sewer/garbage, 82.60; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 20,738.80.

FLOWAGE EASEMENT ROAD FUND. Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fees, 920.00.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Great Plains Communication, phone/internet/fax, 165.93; Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 168.91; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 81.00.

VISITOR'S PROMO FUND. Southeast South Dakota Tourism Association, dues, 375.00.

ROD PRES/MOD FUND. MIPS Inc., computer program, 389.88.

COVID ARPA FUND. Applied Connective Technologies LLC, cameras, 4,323.50; KV Electric LLC, storage/garage electrical, 4,156.55.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 3,487.63; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 262.78; Great Plains Communication, phone/internet/fax, 59.23; Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 5.96; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 44.82; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 223.60; US Cellular, cell phones, 123.14.

INHERITANCE FUND. Cedar County Transit, public transit, 4,200.00; Herbst Construction Inc., bridge, 356,581.55; Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fees, 17,563.49; Mark D Albin, court appointed attorney, 524.79; Moyer, Moyer & Lafleur, court appointed attorney, 2,581.40; Rodney W. Smith, public defender contract, 2,083.33.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. City of Norfolk, phone, 44.74; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 234.11; OPTK Networks, networking, 228.44; Three River Telco, phone, 66.42.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. City of Norfolk, phone, 104.38; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 406.46; OPTK Networks, networking, 533.04; Three River Telco, phone, 154.99.

TOTALS

General Fund	\$235,708.35
Road Fund	179,669.71
Flowage Easement Road Fund	920.00
Child Support Fund	415.84
Visitor's Promo Fund	375.00
ROD Pres/Mod Fund	389.88
Covid ARPA Fund	8,480.05
C & C Development Fund	4,207.16
Inheritance Fund	383,534.56
911 Emergency Fund	573.71
911 Wireless Service Holding Fund	1,198.87
Total	815,473.13

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 3:15 p.m. on July 10, 2024 until Wednesday, July 24, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. 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:

Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

By _____
James Sokol, Jr., Chairman

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AMENDED, REVISED AND RESTATED

Center, Nebraska
July 24, 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, July 24, 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. Schlote 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 July 10, 2024 meeting as read.

Correspondence reviewed was a DEE letter regarding M.G. Waldbaum Company Poultry Farm Operations' renewal of a NPDES Individual Permit.

Public comment session was held from 9:43 a.m. to 9:58 a.m. Marilyn Sharp and Supr. Mackeprang gave public comments.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce 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 are \$551,771.10 listed at the end of these proceedings.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of July 5-19, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to acknowledge, accept and place on file the retirement letter of Knox County Assessor Monica J. McManigal effective August 1, 2024, and to thank Mrs. McManigal for her many years of service to Knox County. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Schlote to appoint current Knox County Deputy Assessor Christa Beckmann to the position of Knox County Assessor effective August 1, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 9:58 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:18 a.m. with all members.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Liska to place on file a letter from the Frankfort Twp. Board requesting the vacation/abandonment of a .24-mile portion of Platted Road #732 and a request to change of classification to minimum maintenance of a .56-mile portion of Platted Road #732 in the NW1/4NE1/4 of Section 19, T33N, R2W. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Schlote to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 11** directing Hwy. Supt. Barta to conduct a study for the vacation/abandonment of a .24-mile portion of Platted Road #732 in the NW1/4NE1/4 of Section 19, T33N, R2W. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 - 11

WHEREAS the Frankfort Township Board has requested to vacate and abandon a portion of Platted Road #732 as follows:

A .24-mile portion of Platted Road #732 located in the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NW1/4NE1/4) beginning at Station Table 2853 and extending approximately 1,250 feet eastward in Section 19, Township 33 North, Range 2 West of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska

WHEREAS the Highway Superintendent must conduct a study of vacating and abandoning such roads, and,
NOW BE IT RESOLVED, the Knox County Board of Supervisors hereby directs Hwy. Supt. Kevin R. Barta to conduct a study of vacating and abandoning a .24-mile portion (1,250 feet) of Platted Road #732 as described above.

Passed this 24th day of July 2024.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

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

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

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

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

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

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

Hwy. Supt. Barta continued with the following: 3.) Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to hold a public hearing for 10:45 a.m. on September 4, 2024 for the change of classification to minimum maintenance of a .56-mile portion in the NW1/4NE1/4 of Platted Road #732 in Section 9, T33N, R2W. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 4.) Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Chairman Sokol, Jr. to place on file a letter from the Raymond Twp. Board requesting the vacation/abandonment of a 1.86-mile portion of Platted Roads #432 and #289 in Sections 3 and 4, T32N, R7W and Sections 33 and 34, T33N, R7W. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 5.) Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Chairman Sokol, Jr. to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 12** directing Hwy. Supt. Barta to conduct a study for the vacation/abandonment of a 1.86-mile portion of Platted Roads #432 and #289 located between the SE1/4 and SW1/4 of Section 3; between the SW1/4 and the NW1/4 of Section 3; and, between the NW1/4 of Section 3 and the NE1/4 of Section 4, all in T32N, R7W of the 6th P.M.; AND, between the NE1/4 of Section 4, T32N, R7W of the 6th P.M., and the SW1/4SW1/4 of Section 34 and the SE1/4SE1/4 of Section 33, in T33N, R7W of the 6th P.M., all in Knox County Nebraska. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 - 12

WHEREAS the Raymond Township Board has requested to vacate and abandon a portion of Platted Road #432 and a portion of Platted Road #289 as follows:

A 1.86-mile portion of Platted Roads #432 and #289 located between the SE1/4 and SW1/4 of Section 3; between the SW1/4 and the NW1/4 of Section 3; and, between the NW1/4 of Section 3 and the NE1/4 of Section 4, all in T32N, R7W of the 6th P.M.; AND, between the NE1/4 of Section 4, T32N, R7W of the 6th P.M., and the SW1/4SW1/4 of Section 34 and the SE1/4SE1/4 of Section 33, in T33N, R7W of the 6th P.M., all in Knox County Nebraska.

WHEREAS the Highway Superintendent must conduct a study of vacating and abandoning such roads, and,

NOW BE IT RESOLVED, the Knox County Board of Supervisors hereby directs Hwy. Supt. Kevin R. Barta to conduct a study of vacating and abandoning a 1.86-mile portion of Platted Roads #432 and #289 as described above.

Passed this 24th day of July 2024.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

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

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

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

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

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

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

Hwy. Supt. Barta continued with the following: 6.) Update on Shaw Bridge and Verdigre North Bridge projects; 7.) Bridge Crew update.

Concerned citizens of Lazy River Acres met with the Board. Discussion was held on recent damage due to the flooding of the Ponca Creek, the continued flooding, Corps responsibilities, wetlands created in that area, funding dredging, lost river banks, sustaining agriculture and commercial businesses in the Lazy River Acres area, promoting tourism, more people becoming year-round tenants, revenue, loss of crop land and crops, safety issues when emergency responders or equipment cannot get in during flooding and accounting of money spent.

Gordon Fulton met with the Board regarding the flooding of his property at Lazy River Acres and costs incurred, concerns of the steepness of the "Goat Road," wetlands, number of houses and campers in the area, and lack of commitment from the Corps. Supr. Sokol, Jr. updated the group on a recent meeting with the Lower Niobrara NRD, NCRS and the Corps.

The Board and Hwy. Supt. Office Manager Katie Fritz reviewed a list of Knox County vehicles and designated that three Road pickups and the green and blue vans should be changed from full insurance coverage to only liability coverage.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to approve and place on file the updated Section 504-Rehabilitation Act of 1973 – Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Schlote, as pursuant to Revised Statute Section 23-122, employee salaries as of July 15, 2024, be published in the legal papers of the Verdigre Eagle and Bloomfield Monitor by August 15, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Pursuant to Section 23-122, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, salaries and job descriptions of County officials and employees are required to be published between July 15 and August 15. Benefits include a single dental/vision policy, a \$15,000 life insurance policy, and eligible employees receive a single health insurance policy. In addition, eligible employees can enroll their spouses, child(ren), or family in the County health insurance with Knox County paying the premium for the spouse/child(ren)/family health insurance coverage. In lieu of health insurance, eligible employees receive a taxable \$175/pay period stipend for opting out of County health insurance coverage. Those not receiving insurance will be marked "no insurance." Non-exempt employees' salaries are based on an eight-hour workday with exception of law enforcement and non-exempt employees are eligible for overtime pay for hours worked over 40 hours a week at one & one-half times hourly rate. There are twenty-six pay periods in a year as Knox County employees are paid bi-weekly. The following are salaries of Knox County officials and employees as of July 15, 2024: **ELECTED**

OFFICIALS. Supervisors: 1 Supervisor/Chairman - \$1,143.08/pay period + \$175 opt out stipend/pay period; 6 Supervisors - \$1,096.92/pay period; **County Assessor Office:** County Assessor - \$2,742.31/pay period; Deputy Assessor - \$28.14/hour + \$20 clothing allowance/pay period; 1 Clerk/Appraiser – \$20.44/hour + \$20 clothing allowance/pay period; 1 Clerk/Appraiser - \$20.44/hour + \$20 clothing allowance/pay period + \$175 opt out stipend/pay period; 2 Clerks/Appraisers - \$17.50/hour + \$20 clothing allowance/pay period; **County Attorney Office:** County Attorney - \$2,742.31/pay period; Deputy County Attorney - \$1096.92/pay period; 1 Administrative Assistant - \$19.75/hour + \$175 opt out stipend/pay period; **County Clerk Office:** County Clerk, Election Commissioner & Ex-Officio Register of Deeds - \$2,742.31/pay period; Deputy County Clerk/SLFRF Administrator – \$28.14/hour; Senior Office Clerk - \$26.89/hour; 1 Recording Clerk - \$20.44/hour; 1 Office Clerk - \$20.44/hour; **Clerk of District Court Office:** Clerk of District Court - \$2,742.31/pay period; Deputy Clerk of District Court - \$28.14/hour + \$175 opt out stipend/pay period; **County Sheriff's Office:** County Sheriff - \$3,526.92/pay period + \$60 uniform allowance/pay period & \$23.08 phone/internet/pay period; 911 Coordinator - \$25.83/hour + \$30 uniform allowance/pay period; 1 Chief Deputy Sheriff - \$2,580.79/pay period + \$32.51/other hours + \$60 uniform allowance/pay period; 2 Deputy Sheriffs - \$2,528.75/pay period + \$31.85/other hours + \$60 uniform allowance/pay period; 1 Deputy Sheriff - \$2,385.12/pay period + \$30.05/other hours + \$60 uniform allowance/pay period; 8 Part-time Deputy Sheriff - \$30.48/hour (no insurance); 1 Administrative Assistant - \$23.44/hour + \$30 uniform allowance/pay period; 1 Head Jailer - \$30.37/hour + \$30 uniform allowance/pay period; 2 Jailors – \$25.16/hour + \$30 uniform allowance/pay period; 1 Jailer - \$23.67/hour + \$30 uniform allowance/pay period + \$175 opt out stipend/pay period; 1 Jailer - \$23.65/hour + \$30 uniform allowance/pay period; 1 Part-time Jailer - \$21.52/hour; **County Surveyor Office:** County Surveyor - \$57.69/pay period; **County Treasurer Office:** County Treasurer - \$2,742.31/pay period; Deputy County Treasurer - \$28.14/hour; 1 Office Clerk - \$20.44/hour; 1 Office Clerk - \$19.75/hour; 1 Office Clerk - \$19.19/hour + \$175 opt out stipend/pay period; **Custodian:** 1 Custodian - \$21.38/hour; **Extension Office (Interlocal agreement):** 1 Office Manager - \$24.75/hour. **APPOINTED OFFICIALS. Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Office:** Emergency Manager - \$1,974.46/pay period + Zoning Administrator - \$493.62/pay period; **Highway Superintendent Office:** Highway Superintendent - \$3,250.40/pay period + vehicle benefit; 1 Office Manager - \$28.14/hour; 1 Office Clerk - \$19.19/hour + \$175 opt out stipend/pay period; 1 Bridge Crew Foreman/Crane Operator - \$26.96/hour + \$25 clothing allowance/pay period; 1 Oil Foreman - \$26.31/hour + \$25 clothing allowance/pay period; 1 Substitute Oil Foreman - \$26.31/hour + \$25 clothing allowance/pay period; 1 Mechanic - \$32.14/hour + \$25 clothing allowance/pay period; 4 Motorgrader Operators – \$23.56/hour + \$25 clothing allowance/pay period; 1 Motorgrader Operator - \$23.56/hour + \$25 clothing allowance/pay period + \$175 opt out stipend/pay period; 2 Motorgrader Operators - \$21.50/hour + \$25 clothing allowance/pay period; 2 Motorgrader Operators - \$20.18/hour + \$25 clothing allowance/pay period; 4 Truck Drivers – \$23.56/hour + \$25 clothing allowance/pay period; 1 Truck Driver - \$23.56/hour + \$25 clothing allowance/pay period + \$175 opt out stipend/pay period; 2 Truck Drivers - \$20.18/hour + \$25 clothing allowance/pay period; 1 Part-time Truck Driver - \$21.00/hour (no insurance); **Veteran Service Officer Office:** Veterans Service Officer - \$25.36/hour + \$175 opt out stipend/pay period; **Weed Superintendent Office:** Weed Superintendent - \$24.84/hour summer months + \$25 uniform allowance/pay period/summer months (no insurance). **OTHER OFFICES. Development Agency Director Office (Interlocal agreement):** Development Agency Director – \$1,751.14/pay period + \$175 opt out stipend/pay period; Visit Knox County Director - \$20.87/hour.

The Board designated the afternoon of August 7, 2024 for the preliminary review of the 2024/2025 budget with officials.

Sheriff Henery, who is also on the Spade Twp. Board, discussed with the Board a Spade Twp. resolution requesting assistance to fix and preserve 532 Street in Spade Twp. before Bazile Creek washes out the road.

Hwy. Supt. Barta continued with the following: 8.) Oil Crew update; 9.) The used motorgrader that was committed for purchase will be delivered soon to District #4; 10.) August 7, 2024 will be the bid opening date for steel products for the Antelope/Knox County line bridge project.

Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the June 2024 Zoning Permits Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Information was received about the Bloomfield Airport.

Supr. Mackeprang left the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Pierce to go into closed session at 11:32 a.m. to discuss pending litigation. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held on pending litigation. The Board came out of closed session at 11:57 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Pierce to close at 11:57 a.m. the closed session held on pending litigation. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moved the Board recess for lunch at 11:58 a.m.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors moved to The Barn at God's Country at 53174 Hwy. 84, Center NE and reconvened at 1:00 p.m. with all members present except Supr. Mackeprang District #5.

The purpose of moving to The Barn was to accommodate the estimated large turnout by the public at the hearing on recommendations from the Planning Commission to the Board of Supervisors regarding the Wind Energy Conversion System. The public hearing was opened at 1:01 p.m. with Chairman Sokol, Jr. giving the rules of the public hearing. The first one-half hour session was designated to comments in favor of the recommendations to change the current set-back regulations regarding wind systems with eight people speaking on a number of concerns including safety issues, size of proposed towers in the National Grid Renewables proposed project, noise levels, information and issues of other wind projects in Nebraska, problems farming the fields where towers are located and more. The second one-half hour session was designated to comments in favor of no change to the current set-back regulations with eleven people speaking on economic improvement with the proposed project, nameplate capacity tax, the need for clean energy, no problems with the current two wind projects in Knox County, support from an ag board, job creation, and more. The process was repeated with a third session having eight people speaking on accepting the recommendations and a fourth session where ten people spoke on leaving the current setbacks in place.

At 2:50 p.m., the Board members present each gave testimony on their reasons and beliefs of the proposed recommendations by the Planning Commission. **AMENDED:** *The Planning Commission's recommendation was as follows: Proposed amendment 1: Kotrous makes a motion to recommend a change of setback for Wind Energy*

Conversion System (WECS) to dwelling units owned by non-participating landowners from 2,000 ft. to 1.25 miles. DeShazer seconded. Roll call vote: Ayes: Clausen, Larsen, Kotrous, Kuhlman, DeShazer, Wilken. Nays: Ganz, Nielsen, Arens. Absent: None. Motion passes 6-3; **Proposed amendment 4:** In Section 8.08.03 Definitions of Knox count Zoning Regulations, add “Shadow/Flicker” shall mean the shadow cast by the rotating blades of a wind turbine which moved with the blades. DeShazer moved to recommend approval of the proposed amendment request #4. Kotrous seconded approval of the amendment request. Roll call vote: Ayes: Kotrous, Nielsen, Arens, Ganz, Kuhlman, Clausen, Larsen, DeShazer and Wilken. Nays and Absent none; **Proposed amendment 6:** In section 8.08.07 of the Knox County Zoning Regulations, Special Safety and Design Standards and Additional Requirements, add “CWECS, Commercial Scale Wind Systems or Turbines shall use Aircraft Detection Lighting Systems.” Kotrous moved to recommend approval the proposed amendment request #6 based on state standards. DeShazer seconded approval of the amendment request. Roll call vote: Ayes: Kotrous, Nielsen, Arens, Ganz, Kuhlman, Clausen, Larsen, DeShazer and Wilken. Nays and Absent: None; **Proposed amendment 7:** In Section 8.08.07.10 of Knox County Regulations, Special Safety and Design Standards and Additional Requirements – Discontinuation and Decommissioning.” DeShazer makes a motion to recommend a surety bond to cover 100% decommissioning cost, which would be updated every 5 years based upon the decommissioning cost. Kotrous seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Ayes: Kotrous, Nielsen, Arens, Ganz, Kuhlman, Clausen, Larsen, DeShazer, Wilken. Nays and Absent: None; **Proposed amendment 11:** In Section 8.08.07.10 of Knox County Regulations, Special Safety and Design Standards and Additional Requirements. Neil Clausen makes a motion to recommend adding a requirement for a Conditional Use Permit of liability insurance in an appropriate amount at the Board’s discretion. Kuhlman seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Ayes: Kotrous, Neilsen, Arens, Ganz, Kuhlman, Clausen, Larsen, DeShazer and Wilken. Nays and Absent: None; **Board of Supervisors’ addition to proposed amendment 11:** That Knox County be listed as an additional insured of the liability insurance. Board of Supervisors roll call vote with respect to the Planning Commission recommendations: Ayes: O’Connor, Liska, Pierce, Scholte and Borgmann. Nays: Sokol, Jr. Absent: Mackeprang. Motion carried.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the hearing at 3:27 p.m.

Motion by Supr. O’Connor, seconded by Supr. Pierce to approve the recommendations of the Planning Commission on Amendments #1, #4, #6, #7 and #11 with the addition to Amendment #11 that Knox County be listed as an additional insured of the liability insurance. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #6 and #7. Nays District #4. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 105,494.44; Bomgaars Supply Inc., gloves, 7.99; Center Garage, jail supplies, 38.00; Classic Carpet Care, mop rental, 55.00; C-Mart, gas, 42.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,932.98; Creston Fertilizer Co. Inc., weed chemicals, 757.60; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 24,950.84; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, radios/backup, 633.00; David A. Arens, meet/mileage, 70.85; Dean Wilken, meet/mileage, 50.55; First National Bank Omaha, supplies/gas/postage/meals, 3,484.41; Floor Maintenance & Paper Supply Co., supplies, 473.24; Gragert’s Grocery, jail food, 1,228.21; Great Plains Communications, phone/cable, 401.63; Hanna Jensen, mileage, 261.64; Hefner Hardware, keys, 18.36; Jim Kotrous, meet/mileage, 45.96; Jonathan Lucas, witness fees/mileage, 34.74; Keith Nielsen, meet/mileage, 42.69; Knox County Treasurer, transfer to road fund, 143,951.92; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 147.95; Loffler, copier agreement, 1,329.86; Madison County Sheriff, paper fees, 29.90; Megan Ketelsen Lucas; witness fees/mileage, 64.89; Monica McManigal, reimburse meals, 181.03; Neil Clausen, meet/mileage, 61.68; Powertech LLC, generator service agreement, 700.00; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 1,120.50; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 186.75; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 7,290.17; Robert Larsen, meet/mileage, 36.79; Robert Ganz, meet/mileage, 39.41; Security Shredding Services, shredding, 120.00; US Cellular, cell phones, 254.52; Verdigre Farm Service, gas, 168.15; Village of Center, water/sewer/garbage, 348.00.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 40,092.54; Art’s Garbage, garbage, 18.00; Bauer Built Tire & Service, tires, 192.00; Bazile Creek Power Sports, repairs, 123.93; Black Hills energy, heating fuel, 96.60; Bloomfield Auto Parts, repairs, 328.26; Bohemian One Stop LLC, gas/propane, 563.43; Cedar Knox Public Power District, electricity, 116.51; CHS, diesel, 1,623.96; CMart, gas, 523.68; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 3,020.90; County of Kox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 10,497.64; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 359.05; Dendinger Ag LLC, equipment rental, 523.68; First National Bank Omaha, repairs, 16.88; Hefner Hardware, shop supplies, 25.56; Herbert Feed & Grain CO., diesel, 3,539.39; Hrbek Construction LLC, equipment rental, 7,590.00; J&J Sanitation, garbage, 49.00; Jebro Inc., windrow oil, 53,109.43; JEO Consulting Group Inc., engineer fees, 5,871.25; Kimball Midwest, shop supplies, 269.28; Laflan Medical Clinic, drug test, 85.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 56.62; LTL Holdings Inc., gas, 337.77; Medical Enterprises Inc., DOT alcohol forms, 25.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 149.38; Northern Materials LLC, equipment rental, 12,407.50; Pease General Store, shop supplies, 17.37; PowerPlan, repairs, 910.04; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 403.38; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,650.58; Russ Crosley, garbage, 46.00; Santee Utility Commission, garbage, 65.00; Verdigre Farm Service, shop supplies/gas/diesel/tordon/grass seed, 3,385.31; Vic’s Service, gas/filters/shop supplies, 1,147.73; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 30,998.12; Yankton Fire & Safety Co. Inc., fire extinguisher inspection, 495.50.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 168.91.

VISITOR’S PROMO FUND. Niobrara State Park, promo grant, 995.74; Verdigre Improvement Club, promo grant, 1,000.00.

COVID ARPA FUND. EAG West Omaha Inc., van, 34,210.74; Schreier’s Lumber Company, rock, 577.50; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel, 432.97.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 3,535.41; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 266.43; Creative Revolution, website updates, 250.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance CO., insurance County pays, 2.98; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 22.41; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 226.83.

KENO FUND. EAG West Omaha Inc., van, 9,574.26.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. Police Legal Sciences, training, 216.00.

911 WIRELESS SERVICES FUND. Knox County Treasurer, transfer to 911 Wireless Service Holding Fund, 16,000.00

911 WIRELESS SERVICE HOLDING FUND. Police Legal Sciences, training, 504.00.

TOTALS

General Fund	\$302,055.65
Road Fund	181,731.27
Child Support Fund	168.91
Visitor's Promo Fund	1,995.74
Covid ARPA Fund	35,221.21
C & C Development Fund	4,304.06
Keno Fund	9,574.26
911 Emergency Fund	216.00
911 Wireless Service Fund	16,000.00
911 Wireless Service Holding Fund	504.00
Total	\$551,771.10

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 3:27 p.m. on July 24, 2024 until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, August 7, 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

By

Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk

James Sokol, Jr., Chairman

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

Center, Nebraska
July 24, 2024
10:03 a.m.

A regular meeting of the Knox County Board of Equalization was held in the Boardroom at the Knox County Courthouse in Center, Nebraska on the date of Wednesday, July 24, 2024 at 9:58 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 Schlote 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 Affidavits 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 Schlote approved the July 10, 2024 meeting minutes as read with the correction that Assessor's Office Appraiser Kylee Kracht was also present at the July 15, 2024 meeting.

Protest #2024 - 29 submitted by Mark Golden, 2112 W 50th ST, Kearney NE 68845 was received on July 17, 2024 which is past the 2024 filing deadline which was Monday, July 1, 2024. Also, the Real Property Description portion of the form was not completed, which is a requirement for consideration. Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to deny **Protest #2024 – 29** as the protest was received on July 17, 2024 which was past the statutory deadline of July 1, 2024 and the required information of the Real Property Description was not completed. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the printing of the Joint Public Hearing “pink” postcards. MIPS and NACO will be partnering this year with CSG, an international corporation specializing in mass printing and mailing for public and private sectors. Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Pierce designate CSG as the printing service for the Joint Public Hearing postcards for 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Sokol, Jr. to approve Tax List Correction #8012 Alewelt, Inc., Clive IA, acceleration of 2024 real estate taxes using the 2023 levy as moving the mobile home to South Dakota. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Public comment session was held from 10:15 a.m. through 10:18 a.m.

Chairman Schlote adjourned the Knox County Board of Equalization at 10:18 a.m. on Wednesday, July 24, 2024 until 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 7, 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

By

Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk

Danny R. Schlote, Chairman

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
August 7, 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, August 7, 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. Schlote 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 Bloomfield Monitor 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 July 24, 2024 meeting as read.

Correspondence reviewed was the following: 1.) MSAC letter requesting maintaining annual membership contribution in 2025 and the pledged amount of \$3,100 for Phase 3; 2.) Probation District Seven review letter of 2024-2025 budget request; 3.) Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice report of full compliance of the Knox County Jail after inspection was completed.

The public comment session was held from 9:45 a.m. Public comment was given by Matt Woolery with National Grid Renewables.

Officials' update was given by Economic Development Director Harvey who informed the Board that a \$1.2 million housing project for Verdigre and Niobrara was approved by the State of Nebraska due to flood impact.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, 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 all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Claims totaling \$352,081.19 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of July 19 through August 2, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the updated County of Knox Title VI Implementation Plan. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the Certificate of Death of Township Officer of former Raymond Township Clerk Neil Peed and the appointment of Ward Adema as the Raymond Township Clerk. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

The public comment session closed at 10:00 a.m.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 10:00 a.m. for Board of Equalization

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

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) The 2023/2024 Hwy. Supt. Office inventory was reviewed and signed; 2.) Weigand Bridge update. The east side approach settled and will be repaired by Thrasher Foundation Repair as this approach is still under warranty, however, the County will need to pay for the west approach which also settled. It will cost approximately \$3,200 for use of the hydro-jack that will be used to fix that approach.

Jack and Lisa Janak met with the Board regarding the condition of a portion of 882 Road in Bohemia Township. They said the road has had little grading and little gravel making access to their property treacherous and hindering their farming operation, especially when it rains or snows. Also, they were confused as to maintenance of the road as they were attempting to maintain the road themselves but had conflicting direction. Bohemia Township Chairman Wendell Rohrer was present and explained that money has been spent on putting rock and concrete in that area plus snow removal to assist getting the Janak's tractor out. Discussion was also held on cutting trees in the ditches, the soil type in that area that causes the road to be very slick when it rains, the sides of the road very high in some areas and deep gullies in others, portions of the road very narrow and budget constraints. Supr. Pierce said he will visit the area and see if there could be a compromise made between the Bohemia Township Board and the Janaks.

Hwy. Supt. Barta continued with the following: 3.) The advertised bid opening was held at 11:02 a.m. for steel products for the Knox/Antelope County Line Bridge project. Bids received were: **Husker Steel Company, Columbus NE** - \$203,585.00 with estimated delivery date of November 18, 2024; **Oden Enterprises, Inc., Wahoo NE** - No Bid. Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to accept the bid from **Husker Steel Company, Columbus NE** in the amount of \$203,585.00 for steel products for the Knox/Antelope County Line Bridge Project. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 4.) Bridge Crew update; 5.) Oil Crew update; 6.) A 1992 Ford Tandem Conventional Truck with snowplow and sander, a 1976 International Hydro 1066 tractor and a 1990 Chevrolet 2-ton truck will be sold as surplus property at the Annual Fall Machinery Consignment Auction in Hartington on September 30, 2024; 7.) Discussion was held on selling overhead hoists. Sealed bids will be taken until 11:15 a.m. on September 4, 2024 for the sale of overhead hoists located at the Bloomfield, Crofton, Verdigre and Wausa County shops; 8.) The Spade Township Board submitted a letter requesting that a one-mile portion of Platted Road #446 (529 Avenue) located between Sections 29 and 30 in Spade Township be reclassified from Local classification to Minimum Maintenance classification. A public hearing will be held to address the request at the Knox County Board of Supervisors' meeting on September 4, 2024 at 11:30 a.m.; 9.) Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to accept the report brought by Knox County Highway Superintendent Barta for the vacation and abandonment of a .24-mile portion of Platted Road #732 located in the NW1/4NE1/4 beginning at Station Table 2853 and extending approximately 1,250 feet eastward in Section 19, T33N, R2W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Absent was none. Motion carried; 10.) Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Pierce that **Resolution #2024 - 13** be adopted setting a public hearing date for Wednesday, September 4, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. for the vacation/abandonment of a .24-mile portion of Platted Road #732 located in the NW1/4NE1/4 of Section 19, T33N, R2W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska, said resolution to be published in the Crofton Journal newspaper on August 15, 22 and 29, 2024, and a copy of said Resolution be sent by certified mail to current

the 6th P.M.; AND, between the NE1/4 of Section 4, T32N, R7W of the 6th P.M., and the SW1/4SW1/4 of Section 34 and the SE1/4SE1/4 of Section 33, in T33N, R7W of the 6th P.M., all in Knox County Nebraska, be vacated and abandoned.

Passed, approved and adopted this 7th day of August 2024.

ATTEST: (Seal)

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Joann M. Fischer /s/
Knox County Clerk

By: James Sokol, Jr. /s/
Chairman

Veteran Service Officer Gary Jones met with the Board to formally submit his resignation as of December 27, 2024. The Veteran Service Committee will review applications submitted, hold interviews and plan to name a person to fill the position in December, however, the new person will be training in the office during the next several months to become certified. The Board thanked Veteran Service Officer Jones for his dedication to Knox County and all veterans he has assisted.

Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the July Permits Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Liska to approve Administrative Plat Application #P2406 Joan Stewart for a 5-acre tract split in the SE1/4SW1/4 of Section 14 and a 2.30-acre tract split in the NE1/4NW1/4 of Section 23, all in T33N, R3W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 3.) Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Pierce to approve Administrative Plat Application #P2407 Terry and Sandra Heimes for a 5.72-acre tract in the NW1/4NE1/4 of Section 19, T33N, R2W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 4.) Discussed the proposed solar project west of Verdigre; 5.) A meeting with the local fire chiefs will be held to discuss a task force regarding mutual aid to other counties.

Committee update was given by Deputy County Clerk Krista Nix who informed the Board that the ARPA Fund has now been spent and that the ARPA Committee can be dissolved.

Officials' update was given by Sheriff Henery who said that he had hired a new deputy on this date who can start in two weeks. Also, Sheriff Henery updated the Board on the recent special Legislative session and the work being done by the NACO's Sheriff's Association regarding the possibility of a cap on tax asking and exemptions to the cap for law enforcement costs.

The Board began the preliminary 2024-2025 Knox County budget review with officials. Extension Educator Hanefeldt and County Assessor Beckmann reviewed with the Board their preliminary budget requests.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 12:00 p.m. for lunch.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened in the Basement Conference Room at 12:45 p.m. with all members present.

The Board reviewed preliminary budgets with County Treasurer Ebel, Hwy. Supt. Barta, and Deputy County Attorney Jensen.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 1:50 p.m. to attend the retirement party for County Assessor Monical McManigal being held in the Boardroom. A plaque/clock was presented to Mrs. McManigal on behalf of Knox County and appreciation was expressed for her many years of service.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 2:05 p.m. with all members present.

The Board continued with the review of preliminary budgets with Economic Development Director Hanvey and Visit Knox County Director Stacy Miller, Veterans Service Officer Jones, Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek, Clerk of District Court Clerk Fischer, County Clerk Fischer, and Sheriff Henery. Also reviewed were the budget pages for the Noxious Weed and the County Court.

Supervisor O'Connor left the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Discussion continued on Sheriff Henery's budgets and possibly purchasing a used patrol vehicle. Preliminary budgets were reduced by \$367,950. Further examination will be made at the August 21, 2024 meeting.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 103,868.09; Applied Connective Technologies, IT, 4,531.83; Bomgaars Supply Inc., jail supplies, 9.99; Centec Cast Metal Products, grave markers, 766.84; Center Garage, batteries, 308.00; Clerk of District Court, court costs, 110.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,808.62; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 23,980.92; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 3,987.28; D&L Tire LLC, tires, 1,103.96; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, teletype, 537.60; Eakes Office Solutions, copier contract/paper/supplies, 2,459.19; Ecowater, bottled water, 357.50; First National Bank Omaha, postage/gas/supplies, 238.48; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet/fax, 1,950.61; Knox County Sheriff, paper fees, 2.00; Kristine Tramp, mileage, 17.42; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 142.00; Madison County Treasurer, probation expense, 7,476.44; MIPS Inc., programs, 878.86; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 2,601.57; Northeast Nebraska News, publishing, 145.20; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 1,644.43; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 1,075.68; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 226.12; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 7,174.75; Tri State Turf& Irrigation, sprinkler repair, 218.70; University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension, Showworks program, 499.50; US Cellular, cell phones, 185.65; US Cellular, cell phones, 464.94; Verdigre Farm Service, gas, 165.71.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 40,972.00; B'S Enterprises Inc., signs/patch mix/coveralls, 6,806.50; Bazile Creek Power Sports, repairs, 189.94; Big Red Mini Mart, gas, 90.22; Bomgaars Supply Inc., shop supplies/tools, 1,183.50; City of Bloomfield, water, 25.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 3,088.21; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 10,497.68; Crofton Lumber, shop supplies, 87.14; Great Plains Communications, phone, 201.04; Grossenburg Implement, repairs/filters, 6,048.39; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 3,188.44; Hrbek Construction, equipment rental, 7,230.00; Jebro Inc., mc3000 oil, 47,515.23; JEO Consulting Group Inc., engineer fees, 4,661.70; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 56.62; Medical Enterprises Inc., drug tests/forms, 81.25; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 38.79; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 285.81; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 403.38; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,709.92; Rohrer Welding, repairs, 75.15; US Cellular, cell phones, 542.91; Vakoc Excavating LLC, gravel, 5,675.45; Verdigre Farm Service, shop supplies/gas/diesel/grass seed, 4,517.65; Village of Wausa, water/sewer/garbage, 122.60; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 13,712.23.

adjoining landowners namely Terry and Sandra Heimes; Travis and Robyn Barney; Kenneth Jansen; Christopher Jansen, Trustee of the Del Jansen Family Protection Trust; Melvin Jansen; Phyllis A. Jansen; and Charlotte F. Jansen. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 13

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Section 39-1722, Nebraska Revised Statutes (Re-issue of 2004) the County Board of Supervisors of Knox County, Nebraska, on the 24th day of July, 2024 directed the County Highway Superintendent to make a study of the use of a portion of a platted Frankfort Township road described as follows:

A 24-mile portion of Platted Road #732 located in the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NW1/4NE1/4) beginning at Station Table 2853 and extending approximately 1,250 feet eastward in Section 19, Township 33 North, Range 2 West of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent must conduct a study of vacating and abandoning the above-mentioned portion of Platted Road #732 in Frankfort Township, Knox County, Nebraska

WHEREAS, on August 7, 2024, County Highway Superintendent did file his report in writing as to such road, containing a recommendation that said portion of Platted Road #732 in Frankfort Township be vacated and abandoned, and

BE IT, THEREFORE RESOLVED, by the County Board of Supervisors of Knox County that a public hearing be had as provided in Section 39-1724, Nebraska Revised Statutes (Re-issue of 2004), in the Supervisors' Meeting Room in the Courthouse at Center, Nebraska on the 4th day of September 2024 at the hour of 10:30 A.M. for the purpose of determining if a .24-mile portion of Platted Road #732 located in the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NW1/4NE1/4) beginning at Station Table 2853 and extending approximately 1,250 feet eastward in Section 19, Township 33 North, Range 2 West of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska be vacated and abandoned.

Passed, approved and adopted this 7th day of August 2024.

ATTEST:	(Seal)	COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA
<u>Joann M. Fischer /s/</u> Knox County Clerk		By: <u>James Sokol, Jr. /s/</u> Chairman

Hwy. Supt. Barta continued with the following: 11.) Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to accept the report brought by Knox County Highway Superintendent Barta for the vacation and abandonment of a 1.86-mile portion of Platted Roads #432 and #289 located between the SE1/4 and SW1/4 of Section 3; between the SW1/4 and the NW1/4 of Section 3; and, between the NW1/4 of Section 3 and the NE1/4 of Section 4, all in T32N, R7W of the 6th P.M.; AND, between the NE1/4 of Section 4, T32N, R7W of the 6th P.M., and the SW1/4SW1/4 of Section 34 and the SE1/4SE1/4 of Section 33, in T33N, R7W of the 6th P.M., all in Knox County Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Absent was none. Motion carried; 12.) Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce that **Resolution #2024 – 14** be adopted setting a public hearing date for Wednesday, September 4, 2024 at 10:45 a.m. for the vacation/abandonment of a 1.86-mile portion of Platted Roads #432 and #289 located between the SE1/4 and SW1/4 of Section 3; between the SW1/4 and the NW1/4 of Section 3; and, between the NW1/4 of Section 3 and the NE1/4 of Section 4, all in T32N, R7W of the 6th P.M.; AND, between the NE1/4 of Section 4, T32N, R7W of the 6th P.M., and the SW1/4SW1/4 of Section 34 and the SE1/4SE1/4 of Section 33, in T33N, R7W of the 6th P.M., all in Knox County Nebraska, said resolution to be published in the Niobrara Tribune newspaper on August 15, 22 and 29, 2024, and a copy of said Resolution be sent by certified mail to current adjoining landowners namely Melvin D. and Jo E. Cameron, Warembourg Nebraska Ranches, LLC, and Wade S. and Michelle J. Lukken. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 14

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of Section 39-1722, Nebraska Revised Statutes (Re-issue of 2004) the County Board of Supervisors of Knox County, Nebraska, on the 24th day of July, 2024 directed the County Highway Superintendent to make a study of the use of a portion of platted Raymond Township roads described as follows:

A 1.86-mile portion of Platted Roads #432 and #289 located between the SE1/4 and SW1/4 of Section 3; between the SW1/4 and the NW1/4 of Section 3; and, between the NW1/4 of Section 3 and the NE1/4 of Section 4, all in T32N, R7W of the 6th P.M.; AND, between the NE1/4 of Section 4, T32N, R7W of the 6th P.M., and the SW1/4SW1/4 of Section 34 and the SE1/4SE1/4 of Section 33, in T33N, R7W of the 6th P.M., all in Knox County Nebraska

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent must conduct a study of vacating and abandoning the above-mentioned portions of Platted Roads #432 and 289 in Raymond Township, Knox County, Nebraska

WHEREAS, on August 7, 2024, County Highway Superintendent did file his report in writing as to such road, containing a recommendation that said portions of Platted Roads #432 and 289 in Raymond Township be vacated and abandoned, and

BE IT, THEREFORE RESOLVED, by the County Board of Supervisors of Knox County that a public hearing be had as provided in Section 39-1724, Nebraska Revised Statutes (Re-issue of 2004), in the Supervisors' Meeting Room in the Courthouse at Center, Nebraska on the 4th day of September 2024 at the hour of 10:45 A.M. for the purpose of determining if a 1.86-mile portion of Platted Roads #432 and #289 located between the SE1/4 and SW1/4 of Section 3; between the SW1/4 and the NW1/4 of Section 3; and, between the NW1/4 of Section 3 and the NE1/4 of Section 4, all in T32N, R7W of

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Great Plains Communication, phone/internet/fax, 168.16; Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 168.91; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 81.00.

VISITOR'S PROMO FUND. Creighton Area Chamber of Commerce, promo grant, 1,000.00; Crofton's Dam Race, promo grant, 1,000.00.

ROD PRES/MOD FUND. MIPS Inc., computer program, 389.88.

C & C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 3,666.71; Anthony Warrior, leadership meal, 225.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 276.48; First National Bank Omaha, gas/supplies/leadership, 325.97; Great Plains Communication, phone/internet/fax, 62.06; Joy Boutique, leadership, 171.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 2.98; LJ McElravy, leadership, 282.74; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 22.41; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 235.69; US Cellular, cell phones, 123.24.

INHERITANCE FUND. Cedar County Transit, public transit, 2,100.00; Copple, Rockey, Schlecht, Mason PC LLO, court appointed attorney, 192.00; Mark D Albin, court appointed attorney, 441.75; North Central District Health Department, miles of smiles, 2,270.00; Rodney W. Smith, public defender contract, 2,083.33.

KENO FUND. City of Creighton, keno proceeds, 74.42.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. City of Norfolk, phone, 44.74; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 234.36; OPTK Networks, networking, 228.44; Three River Telco, phone, 66.42.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. City of Norfolk, phone, 104.38; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 406.46; OPTK Networks, networking, 533.04; Three River Telco, phone, 154.99.

TOTALS

General Fund	\$174,937.88
Road Fund	160,006.75
Child Support Fund	418.07
Visitor's Promo Fund	2,000.00
ROD Pres/Mod Fund	389.88
C & C Development Fund	5,394.28
Inheritance Fund	7,087.08
Keno Fund	74.42
911 Emergency Fund	573.96
911 Wireless Service Fund	1,198.87
Total	352,081.19

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 4:34 p.m. on August 7, 2024 until Wednesday, August 21, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. for a regular meeting.

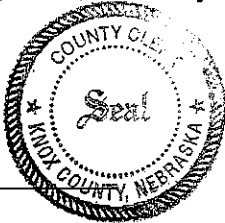
I, Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk, do hereby certify that the County Board of Supervisors' minutes are correct to the best of my knowledge.

ATTEST:

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

By James Sokol, Jr.
James Sokol, Jr., Chairman

Joann M. Fischer
Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk



PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
August 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, August 21, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. Present were Supervisors Martin J. O'Connor District #1, 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 Supervisor Patrick J. Liska District #2. Chairman Sokol, Jr. presiding.

Supr. Borgmann 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 August 7, 2024 meeting as read.

Correspondence reviewed was a Card of Thanks from the Crofton Dam Committee for the Visitor's Promo funds.

The public comment session was opened at 9:45 a.m.

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 Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried. Claims totaling \$649,274.40 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of August 5 – 16, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the Clerk of District Court July 2024 Fee Report. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Pierce to remove the name of former Knox County Deputy Clerk/ARPA Administrator Krista Nix from the County bank accounts as Mrs. Nix has moved to western Nebraska and is no longer employed by Knox County. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on Lease Agreement 65942025 – Addendum #3 between the County of Knox and the Department of Administrative Services, State Building Division acting on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services for office space located in Annex #2. The Addendum would extend the current lease from October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2028. County Clerk Fischer will contact the State Building Division to discuss a rent increase.

The public comment session ended at 10:02 a.m. No one from the public spoke during the session.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 10:03 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:09 a.m. with all members present except Supervisor Patrick J. Liska District #2.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Discussion was held on selling surplus equipment at the Annual Fall Machinery Consignment Auction at Hartington on September 30. Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to adopt Resolution #2024 – 15 declaring two trucks, two tractors, a rotary mower, a blade, a post hole digger, and a trailer from the Road Department and three vehicles from the Sheriff's Department described in the Resolution as surplus property to be sold on September 30, 2024 at the Annual Fall Machinery Consignment Auction at Hartington. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 15

RESOLUTION TO DECLARE MOBILE EQUIPMENT AS SURPLUS PROPERTY AND FOR THE SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

WHEREAS, Knox County owns mobile equipment which has a value of five thousand dollars or more which is not usable by the County and/or obsolete; and

WHEREAS, said mobile equipment consists of the following property:

1. 1992 Ford Tandem Conventional Truck with snowplow and sander
2. 1976 International Hydro 1066 Tractor
3. 1990 Chevrolet 2 Ton Truck
4. 1975 Massey Ferguson Tractor w/loader and fork attachment
5. Three-point rotary mower
6. Three-point blade
7. Post hole digger
8. Dual-Bolster trailer
9. 1998 Chevrolet S Pickup
10. 2000 Ford Explorer Sport Utility Vehicle
11. 2015 Ford Explorer 4 Door Sport Utility Vehicle

WHEREAS, Knox County intends to dispose of said property as surplus pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statute 23-3115 through competitive bidding on the truck with snowplow and sander and tractor at the Annual Fall Machinery Consignment Auction in Hartington on September 30, 2024, and

WHEREAS, the surplus property listed is being sold "as is" without any warranties, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS that the mobile equipment and other equipment listed is unusable by Knox County and/or obsolete and is therefore declared surplus property.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Highway Superintendent and the Knox County Clerk be directed to coordinate disposal of said property in accordance with the laws of the State of Nebraska.

DATED this 21st day of August 2024.

ATTEST: (Seal)

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Joann M. Fischer /s/
Knox County Clerk

By: James Sokol, Jr. /s/
Chairman

Hwy. Supt. Barta continued with the following: 2.) Oil Crew update; 3.) Bridge Crew update; 4.) Verdigre North Bridge update; 5.) NEMA representatives will be inspecting nine sites from the 2019 flood on August 29, 2024; 6.) Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 16** authorizing Chairman Sokol, Jr. to sign the County Annual Certification of Program Compliance to the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION
SIGNING OF THE COUNTY ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF PROGRAM COMPLIANCE
2024
Resolution No. 2024 – 16

Whereas: State of Nebraska Statutes, sections 39-2115, 39-2119, 39-2120, 29-2121, and 39-2510(2), requires an annual certification of program compliance to the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and standards; and

Whereas: State of Nebraska Statute, section 39-2120 also requires that the annual certification of program compliance by each county shall be signed by the County Board Chairperson and shall include the resolution of the governing body of the county authorizing the signing of the certification.

Be it resolved that the County Board Chairperson of Knox County is hereby authorized to sign the County Annual Certification of Program Compliance.

Adopted this 21st day of August, 2024 at Center, Nebraska.

County Board Members		
Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/	Martin J. O'Connor /s/	District #2 Absent
David L. Pierce /s/	James Sokol, Jr. /s/	Danny R. Schlote /s/
	James Borgmann /s/	

County Board Member Supr. Pierce
Moved the adoption of said resolution
Member Supr. O'Connor Seconded the Motion
Roll Call: 6 Yes 0 No 0 Abstained 1 Absent
Resolution adopted, signed and billed as adopted.

ATTEST: (Seal)
Joann M. Fischer /s/
(Signature of Clerk)

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce to go into closed session at 10:30 a.m. to protect the reputation of an individual when discussing personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held to protect the reputation of an individual when discussing personnel. The Board came out of closed session at 11:04 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to close the closed session at 11:04 a.m. that was held on personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried.

Kasey Rossiter with HartelCo updated the Board on the fiber optic project in the lake area. Discussed was Corps permits, subdivisions that still need to have the fiber optic installed and hooking up customers soon.

Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek met with the Board on the following: 1.) Discussion was held on a draft of an Application For Permit To Install Pipeline Or Service Line Beneath A County Road with a proposed permit fee of \$20, use of the application, area counties using similar applications, and increasing the proposed fee to \$200. Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to approve the Application For Permit To Install Pipeline Or Service Line Beneath A County Road form with a permit fee of \$200. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried; 2.) Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the August 13, 2024 Planning Commission's Report to Board of Supervisors with recommendations regarding the airport hazard zoning for the Bloomfield Airport Authority and the recommendations, contingent on approval from Southwest Power Pool, to approve the Conditional Use permit #C2401 VRDG, LLC to construct a commercial solar conversion system with conditions. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried; 3.) Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the minutes of the Planning Commission meetings of April 9, May 14, June 11, and July 9, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried; 4.) Discussed was setting a public hearing for Blue Stem Solar Project Conditional Use

Permit Application. Matt Robinette will attend the September 4, 2024, meeting to give information about the project. Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to set a public hearing for Wednesday, September 18, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. on Conditional Use Permit #C2401 VRDG, LLC for construction of a Commercial Solar Conversion System. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Absent was District #2. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 17** that as per Nebraska Statute §77-3443, the Board will allocate final allocation of levy authority to the Knox County Ag Society and the Knox County Rural Fire Districts but no allocation of levy authority will be given to the Knox County Townships for budget year 2024/2025. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 17

WHEREAS, the Knox County Board of Supervisors shall adopt a resolution that determines a final allocation of levy authority for Knox County's subdivisions as per Nebraska Statute §77-3443, and

WHEREAS, the Knox County Board of Supervisors has allocated levy authority to the Knox County Ag Society and the Knox County Rural Fire Districts but no allocation of levy authority to the Knox County townships, and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, as per Nebraska Revised Statute §77-3443, the Knox County Board of Supervisors will allocate a final allocation of levy authority to the Knox County Ag Society and the Knox County Rural Fire Districts but no allocation of levy authority will be given to the Knox County Townships for budget year 2024/2025.

DATED this 21st day of August 2024.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

<u>James Sokol, Jr. /s/</u> James Sokol, Jr., Chairman, District #4	<u>Martin J. O'Connor /s/</u> Martin J. O'Connor, District #1	<u>Absent</u> Patrick J. Liska, District #2
<u>David L. Pierce /s/</u> David L. Pierce, District #3	<u>Kevin Mackeprang /s/</u> Kevin D. Mackeprang, District #5	<u>Danny R. Schlote /s/</u> Danny R. Schlote, District #6
	<u>James J. Borgmann /s/</u> James J. Borgmann, District #7	

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

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 18** allocating up to 4.5 cents of levy authority to the Knox County Rural Fire Districts as per Nebraska Statute §77-3443 noting that the Creighton, Verdigre, Niobrara, and Crofton Rural Fire Districts chose levies of 4.5 cents, Bloomfield Rural Fire District chose a levy of 3.5 cents and Wausa Rural Fire District chose 2.5 cents. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 18

WHEREAS, the Knox County Board of Supervisors shall adopt a resolution that determines a final allocation of levy authority for Knox County's subdivisions as per Nebraska Statute §77-3443, and

WHEREAS, the allocated amount to the rural fire districts was 4.5 cents, and WHEREAS, the Knox County fire districts belong to the Mutual Fire Organization (MFO), and

WHEREAS, that under legislation in 2018 the fire districts in an MFO had to have one year where the levies were the same for all members and could be different for the next two years, and

WHEREAS, the Knox County rural fire districts were allocated 4.5 cents by the Knox County Board of Supervisors in 2023/2024, and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the Knox County Board of Supervisors will allocate up to 4.5 cents to the Knox County rural fire districts as per Nebraska Revised Statute §77-3443 for budget year 2024/2025 noting that not all rural fire districts will use the 4.5 cents, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Knox County rural fire districts have chosen the following levies: Creighton Rural Fire District – 4.5 cents; Bloomfield Rural Fire District – 3.5 cents; Verdigre Rural Fire District – 4.5 cents; Niobrara Rural Fire District – 4.5 cents; Wausa Rural Fire District – 2.5 cents; and Crofton Rural Fire District – 4.5 cents.

DATED this 21st day of August 2024.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

<u>James Sokol, Jr. /s/</u> James Sokol, Jr., Chairman, District #4	<u>Martin J. O'Connor /s/</u> Martin J. O'Connor, District #1	<u>Absent</u> Patrick J. Liska, District #2
<u>David L. Pierce /s/</u> David L. Pierce, District #3	<u>Kevin Mackeprang /s/</u> Kevin D. Mackeprang, District #5	<u>Danny R. Schlote /s/</u> Danny R. Schlote, District #6
	<u>James J. Borgmann /s/</u> James J. Borgmann, District #7	

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

As Knox County Ag Society Director Nipp was unable to attend the meeting, County Clerk Fischer shared Mr. Nipp's update on the 2024 Knox County Fair, what projects are being completed and new projects that the Society would like to complete for future fairs. All present at the meeting said the Knox County Fair is one of the best and thanked everyone for

their hard work to make it happen. Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. O'Connor, to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 19**, as per Nebraska Revised Statute §77-3443, to approve a final allocation of levy authority of \$200,000 to the Knox County Ag Society with the breakdown to be \$125,000 for General Expenses (0.004265 levy) and \$75,000 for Capitol Improvement (0.002559 levy) for a total levy of 0.007824 for budget year 2024/2025. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Abstain District #4. Absent was District #2. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 19

WHEREAS, the Knox County Board of Supervisors shall adopt a resolution that determines a final allocation of levy authority for Knox County's subdivisions as per Nebraska Statute §77-3443, and

WHEREAS, the Knox County Board of Supervisors reviewed an income and expense report of the Knox County Ag Society and comparable funds allocated to ag societies in neighboring counties, and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, as per Nebraska Revised Statute §77-3443, the Knox County Board of Supervisors will allocate \$200,000.00 to the Knox County Ag Society with the breakdown to be \$125,000 for General Expenses (0.004265) and \$75,000 (0.002559) for Capital Improvement for a total levy of 0.007824 for budget year 2024/2025.

DATED this 21st day of August 2024.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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

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

Absent
Patrick J. Liska, District #2

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

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

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

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

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

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the 2023/2024 Office Inventories. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried.

The Board held a discussion on the proposed 2024/2025 Knox County budget.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 11:59 a.m. for lunch.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 12:50 p.m. with all members present except for Supervisor Patrick J. Liska District #2.

Discussion continued on the 2024/2025 budget. The Board directed that \$218,777.25 of the purchase of the motorgrader be deducted from the Road Fund and paid from the accrued interest in the Flowage Easement Road Fund as the motorgrader will be used in the Niobrara area, the remainder of the motorgrader cost of \$92,222.75 be paid from the Road Fund, a transfer of \$303,240.92 be made from the Inheritance Fund to the General Fund/Flowage Easement Road Fund for the 4th loan payment on the Bloomfield North project, and a transfer of \$200,000 be made from the Inheritance Fund to the General Fund to be added to the cash reserve. This will drop the tax asking to \$4,027,728.88 which would be \$84,853.52 more than last year, an estimated levy of 0.137431 which is 0.023840 less than last year.

With the revisions to the 2024/2025 tax request for Knox County, Knox County will not have to participate in the LB 644 Joint Public Hearing. As per the requirements of the Joint Public Hearing, the Board must set the date, time, and location of the 2024 Joint Public Hearing. At this time, it appears that Bloomfield School, Santee School, and Bloomfield City will be participating. Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to set the 2024 Joint Public Hearing for Monday, September 23, 2024 beginning at 6:05 p.m. at The Barn At God's Country, 53174 Hwy 84, Center NE 68724. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #2. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 109,379.52; Applied Connective Technologies, tower/access point/phone, 1,791.68; Armscor Cartridge Inc., ammo, 194.00; Bohemian One Stop LLC, gas, 62.14; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 8,243.98; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 23,079.76; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 29.47; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 143.28; Dollar General, jail supplies, 94.80; Floor Maintenance & Paper Supply Co., supplies, 479.60; Grager's Grocery, jail food, 1,458.35; Great Plains Communications, tower internet, 821.12; Holiday Inn-Kearney, lodging, 269.90; Joann Fischer, reimburse title fee, 15.00; Knox County Treasurer, transfer to road fund, 143,951.92; Kylee Kracht, reimburse meals, 24.53; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 141.99; Manion's Drug Store Inc., meds, 17.80; Moody Motor Company, repairs, 77.25; NACO, registrations, 270.00; Norfolk Daily News, subscription, 266.00; North Central Public Power District, tower electricity, 42.16; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 23.40; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 1,075.68; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 227.53; R&K Motor Parts, oil/filter/battery/wipers, 303.66; Ramada Midtown, lodging, 214.00; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 7,481.44; Software Unlimited Corp., software, 2,108.04; Verdigre Printworks, printing, 462.00.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 40,850.00; Art's Garbage, garbage, 18.00; B's Enterprises Inc., signs, 510.00; Black Hills energy, heating fuel, 99.20; Bloomfield Auto Parts, repairs, 44.25; Bohemian One Stop LLC, gas/propane, 988.99; Carlson Home & Auto Supply, repairs, 32.96; Cedar Knox Public Power District, electricity, 138.85; CHS, diesel/gas/propane, 2,945.24; CMart, gas, 445.21; CMart LLC, gas, 96.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 3,078.87; Cornhusker International Trucks Inc., repairs, 1,008.05; County of Kox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 10,497.64; Country Market, shop supplies, 19.95; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 213.50; Farmers Pride, diesel, 7,845.06; Gary Becker, sand, 1,200.00; Hefner Hardware, shop supplies, 9.99; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel/gas, 5,928.86; J&J Sanitation, garbage, 49.00; Jebro Inc., MC250, 49,503.41; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, shop supplies, 93.45; Lawson Products, shop supplies, 485.99; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 56.62; LTL Holdings Inc., gas, 333.04; Medical Enterprises Inc., drug test, 35.00; Motacek & Sons LLC, power screed, 9,284.00; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 130.62; Pomp's Tire Service Inc., tires, 4,289.30; Principal Life Insurance Company,

insurance County pays, 403.38; R&K Motor Parts, repairs/shop supplies/filters, 847.25; RDO Truck Centers, repairs, 575.47; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,701.69; Russ Crosley, garbage, 46.00; Santee Utility Commission, garbage, 65.00; Steffen's Service Station, gas, 794.35; Sucha Repair, repairs, 10.59; Truck Center Companies, repairs, 556.66; Vic's Service LLC, gas/tire repair, 359.09; Village of Niobrara, water/sewer, 44.50; Village of Verdigre, water/sewer/garbage, 77.00; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 25,858.66.

HIGHWAY BRIDGE BUYBACK FUND. Herbst Construction Inc., payment #6 Shaw Bridge, 161,961.23.

COUNTY WELLNESS FUND. Name Redacted, reimburse deductible, 250.00; Name Redacted, reimburse deductible, 250.00; Name Redacted, reimburse deductible, 250.00; Name Redacted, reimburse deductible, 250.00.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 3,595.74; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 271.06; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 2.98; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 22.41; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 230.90.

INHERITANCE FUND. Fitzgerald, Vetter & Temple, court appointed attorney, 3,057.96; Jamie Miller Legal Services LLC, court appointed attorney, 3,811.43.

Totals	
General Fund	\$302,750.00
Road Fund	172,570.69
Highway Bridge Buyback Fund	161,961.23
County Wellness Fund	1,000.00
C&C Development Fund	4,123.09
Inheritance Fund	6,869.39
Total	\$649,274.40

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 1:35 p.m. on August 21, 2024 until Wednesday, September 4, 2024 at 9:30 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:

Joann M. Fischer
Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk



COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

By *James Sokol, Jr.*
James Sokol, Jr., Chairman

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
September 4, 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, September 4, 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 Bloomfield Monitor 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 August 21, 2024 meeting as read.

The public comment session was held from 9:44 a.m. until 10:09 a.m. Clint Miller, James Mlady, Matt Frank, and Roger Tacey gave public comments regarding the proposed solar project west of Verdigre.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, 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 all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Claims totaling \$654,717.96 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess for Board of Equalization at 10:09 a.m.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:17 a.m. with all members present.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Bridge Crew update; 2.) Oil Crew update; 3.) Update on the Shaw Bridge and Verdigre North Bridge projects; 4.) Update on FEMA/NEMA site visits. Nearly \$814,000 was received from FEMA/NEMA from the 2019 disaster; 5.) The surplus equipment was moved to Hartington for the upcoming consignment sale; 6.) Gravel being hauled to County roads; 7.) Discussed getting a larger fuel tank for the Verdigre County Yard; 8) Discussed purchasing a tandem trailer.

At 10:30 a.m., Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the advertised public hearing for reclassification of a .56-mile portion of Platted Road #732 in Section 19 in Frankfort Township from "Local" classification to "Minimum Maintenance" classification.

At 10:30 a.m., Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the advertised public hearing for vacation and abandonment of a .24-mile portion of Platted Road #732 located in the NW1/4NE1/4 of Section 19 in Frankfort Township.

Terry Heimes, Melvin Jansen, Del Jansen, Frankfort Township Treasurer Duane Guenther, Kenneth Jansen, and Christopher Jansen were present at the public hearings and gave comments. There was no opposition to the reclassification nor the vacation/abandonment.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed at 10:43 a.m. the public hearing for reclassification of a .56-mile portion of Platted Road #732 in Section 19 in Frankfort Township. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Liska to adopt **Resolution #2024 - 20** approving the reclassification of a .56-mile portion of Platted Road #732 in Section 19, T33N, R2W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska from "Local" classification to "Minimum Maintenance" classification. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 - 20

WHEREAS, upon a public hearing held on September 4, 2024, there being no objections, it appears that it would be in the public interest to reclassify the following Frankfort Township Road from "Local" classification to "Minimum Maintenance" classification described as follows:

A .56-mile portion of Platted Road #732 beginning at 546 Avenue, thence running easterly for approximately .56-mile (2,965 feet) to Station 2853, being located in the south part of the N1/2NW1/4 of Section 19, T33N, R2W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska (Frankfort Township).

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that said portion of Platted Road #732 described above shall be reclassified as "Minimum Maintenance" classification, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the County Clerk give a copy of said Resolution to the Knox County Highway Superintendent for reclassification of this portion of Platted Road #732.

Passed and approved this 4th day of September 2024.

ATTEST: (Seal)

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Jöann M. Fischer /s/ _____
Knox County Clerk

By: James Sokol, Jr. /s/ _____
Chairman

Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened at 10:44 a.m. an advertised public hearing for the vacation and abandonment of a 1.86-mile portion of Platted Roads #432 and #289 in Raymond Township. Ben Cameron and Sandy Warembourg were present and gave comments. Adjoining landowner Wade Lukken requested an easement to access the northeast corner of his property in Section 3 of Raymond Township so the easement would be a contingency of the vacation/abandonment.

District 7 Chief Probation Officer Crystal Hestekind updated the Board on Knox County's probation statistics and budget costs.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of August 19 – 30, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to place on file the Surety Bond of Raymond Township Clerk Ward Adema. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

County Clerk Fischer gave a recap of the 2024/2025 Knox County Budget. The Budget Hearing and the Special Hearing will be held at 9:00 a.m. on September 18, 2024.

Officials' update was given by County Treasurer Ebel who informed the Board that 96% of the 2023 taxes have now been collected.

Committee update was given the Chairman Sokol, Jr., Supr. Pierce and Supr. Mackeprang who gave a Building and Grounds Committee update.

At 11:15 a.m., the advertised bid opening was held for the sale of overhead hoists at the County Sheds of Wausa, Crofton, Bloomfield and Verdigre. Knox County reserves the right to reject all bids and further reserves the right to accept any bid that best serves the County's needs. Bids received were: Wausa overhead hoist – Creston Bertschinger \$650, John Kauth \$777, Brian Dather \$230; Crofton overhead hoist – Alex Guenther \$200; Brian Dather \$230; Bloomfield overhead hoist – Brian Dather \$100; Verdigre overhead hoist – Jeremy Drobny \$687.95; Brian Dather \$100. Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Pierce to accept the bids as follows for the sale of overhead hoists – Wausa overhead hoist – John Kauth \$777; Crofton overhead hoist – Brian Dather \$230; Bloomfield overhead hoist – Brian Dather \$100; and Verdigre overhead hoist Jeremy Drobny \$687.95. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Duane Guenther updated the board on the progress of the Crofton Fire Station in the lake area.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the Public Hearing at 11:30 A.M. for vacation and abandonment of the following portion of Platted Road #732 Road located in Frankfort Township, Knox County, Nebraska described as follows: A .24-mile portion of Platted Road #732 located in the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NW1/4NE1/4) beginning at Station Table 2853 and extending approximately 1,250 feet eastward in Section 19, Township 33 North, Range 2 West of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. Also present were Terry Heimes, Melvin Jansen, Del Jansen, Frankfort Township Treasurer Duane Guenther, Kenneth Jansen, and Christopher Jansen.

It was then moved by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Liska that the publisher's affidavit of publishing notice herein, be filed with these minutes and as part of this record. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Absent was none. Motion carried.

It was moved by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Liska to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 21** to vacate and abandon a portion of Platted Road #732 in Frankfort Township, Knox County, Nebraska described as being a .24-mile portion of Platted Road #732 located in the NW1/4NE1/4 beginning at Station Table 2853 and extending approximately 1,250 feet eastward in Section 19, T33N, R2W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Absent was none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 21

WHEREAS, upon the public hearing duly held, after proper notice given, it appears that it would be in the public interest to require the vacation and abandonment of the following portion of Platted Road #732 located in Frankfort Township, Knox County, Nebraska described as follows:

A .24-mile portion of Platted Road #732 located in the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter (NW1/4NE1/4) beginning at Station Table 2853 and extending approximately 1,250 feet eastward in Section 19, Township 33 North, Range 2 West of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska, AND

BE IT, FURTHER, RESOLVED, that the County Clerk mail a copy of this Resolution to each member of the Township Board of Frankfort Township in Knox County, by certified mail, filing her receipts therefore as part of this record.

Passed and approved this 4th day of September 2024.

ATTEST: (Seal)

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Joann M. Fischer /s/ _____
Knox County Clerk

By James Sokol, Jr. /s/ _____
Chairman

At 11:27 a.m., Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the advertised public hearing for reclassification of a one-mile portion of Platted Road #446 (529 Avenue) between Sections 29 and 30 in Spade Township. Adjoining landowner George Beaudette and lessee Shane Greckel were present to convey their disapproval of the reclassification. Landowner Robert Larsen talked to County Clerk Fischer and asked that his approval of the reclassification be conveyed to the Board. County Sheriff/Spade Township Clerk Don Henery said that he wasn't aware that there were any complaints about the condition of the road.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed at 11:43 a.m. the public hearing for reclassification of a one-mile portion of Platted Road #446 (529 Avenue) between Sections 29 and 30 in Spade Township. Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 22** leaving the classification of the one-mile portion of Platted Road #446 (529 Avenue) between Section 29 and Section 30, T31N, R5W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska (Spade Township) as "Local" Classification and to not reclassify to "Minimum Maintenance" classification. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 22

WHEREAS, the Knox County Board of Supervisors received a request from the Spade Township Board on August 7, 2024 for the reclassification from "Local" classification to "Minimum Maintenance" classification on the following:

A one-mile portion of Platted Road #446 (529 Avenue) between Section 29 and Section 30, T31N, R5W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska (Spade Township)

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on September 4, 2024, for the reclassification on the above-mentioned portion of Platted Road #446, and

WHEREAS, adjoining landowner George Beaudette and his tenant Shane Greckel gave at the public hearing opposition testimony to the reclassification of the above-mentioned portion of Platted Road #446, and

WHEREAS, adjoining landowner Robert Larsen had expressed to County Clerk Fischer his approval of the reclassification at an earlier date and such approval was conveyed by County Clerk Fischer to the Knox County Board of Supervisors at the September 4, 2024 public hearing, and

WHEREAS, Spade Township Board member Don Henery was present at the hearing and discussed with the landowner, tenant and the Knox County Board of Supervisors the reason for the request, and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the Knox County Board of Supervisors did not approve the reclassification from "Local" classification to "Minimum Maintenance" classification on a one-mile portion of Platted Road #446 (529 Avenue) between Section 29 and Section 30, T31N, R5W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska (Spade Township) so this portion of Platted Road #446 (529 Avenue) will remain as "Local" classification, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution will be mailed to the Spade Township Board members, to adjoining landowners and a copy will be presented to the Knox County Highway Superintendent.

Passed and approved this 4th day of September 2024.

ATTEST: (Seal)

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Joann M. Fischer /s/
Knox County Clerk

By: James Sokol, Jr. /s/
Chairman

Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the Public Hearing at 11:47 A.M. for the vacation and abandonment of the following portion of Platted Roads #432 and #289 located in Raymond Township, Knox County, Nebraska described as follows: A 1.86-mile portion of Platted Roads #432 and #289 located between the SE1/4 and SW1/4 of Section 3; between the SW1/4 and the NW1/4 of Section 3; and, between the NW1/4 of Section 3 and the NE1/4 of Section 4, all in T32N, R7W of the 6th P.M.; AND, between the NE1/4 of Section 4, T32N, R7W of the 6th P.M., and the SW1/4SW1/4 of Section 34 and the SE1/4SE1/4 of Section 33, in T33N, R7W of the 6th P.M., all in Knox County Nebraska. Also present were Ben Cameron and Sandy Warembourg.

It was then moved by Chairman Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Schlote that the publisher's affidavit of publishing notice herein, be filed with these minutes and as part of this record. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Absent was none. Motion carried.

It was moved by Chairman Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Schlote to adopt **Resolution #2024 - 23** to vacate and abandon a portion of Platted Roads #432 and #289 in Raymond Township, Knox County, Nebraska described as being a 1.86-mile portion of Platted Roads #432 and #289 located between the SE1/4 and SW1/4 of Section 3; between the SW1/4 and the NW1/4 of Section 3; and, between the NW1/4 of Section 3 and the NE1/4 of Section 4, all in T32N, R7W of the 6th P.M.; AND, between the NE1/4 of Section 4, T32N, R7W of the 6th P.M., and the SW1/4SW1/4 of Section 34 and the SE1/4SE1/4 of Section 33, in T33N, R7W of the 6th P.M., all in Knox County Nebraska, contingent on an easement given and recorded to adjoining landowner Wade Lukken for his access to his northeast corner of property in Section 2, T32N, R7W. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Absent was none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 23

WHEREAS, upon the public hearing duly held, after proper notice given, it appears that it would be in the public interest to require the vacation and abandonment of the following portion of Platted Roads #432 and #289 located in Raymond Township, Knox County, Nebraska described as follows:

A 1.86-mile portion of Platted Roads #432 and #289 located between the SE1/4 and SW1/4 of Section 3; between the SW1/4 and the NW1/4 of Section 3; and, between the NW1/4 of Section 3 and the NE1/4 of Section 4, all in T32N, R7W of the 6th P.M.; AND, between the NE1/4 of Section 4, T32N, R7W of the 6th P.M., and the SW1/4SW1/4 of Section 34 and the SE1/4SE1/4 of Section 33, in T33N, R7W of the 6th P.M., all in Knox County Nebraska , AND

BE IT RESOLVED, that this vacation and abandonment is contingent upon an easement given and recorded to adjoining landowner Wade Lukken for his access to his northeast corner of property in Section 2, T32N, R7W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska, and

BE IT, FURTHER, RESOLVED, that the County Clerk mail a copy of this Resolution to each member of the Township Board of Raymond Township in Knox County, by certified mail, filing her receipts therefore as part of this record.

Passed and approved this 4th day of September 2024.

ATTEST: (Seal)

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Joann M. Fischer /s/
Knox County Clerk

By James Sokol, Jr. /s/
Chairman

Veteran Service Officer and Economic Development Director Kelly Hanvey met with the Board regarding filling the Veteran Service Office position when Mr. Jones retires. The Veteran Service Committee met with applicants and recommended that Kelly Hanvey be approved by the Board of Supervisors to fill the Veteran Service Officer position. The Board requested Veteran Service Officer Jones and Ms. Hanvey return later in the meeting to discuss the appointment and transition.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 12:04 p.m. for lunch.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 12:45 p.m. with all members present.

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 #P2408 Cedar Knox Public Power District for a boundary adjustment on a .39-acre tract in the NE1/4SE1/4 of Section 7, T30N, R3W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to go into closed session at 12:47 p.m. to discuss North Fork Wind litigation with NIRMA representatives, County Attorney Thomas, and Zoning Administrator Jelinek. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held to discuss North Fork Wind litigation with NIRMA representatives, County Attorney Thomas, and Zoning Administrator Jelinek. The Board came out of closed session at 2:00 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Pierce to close at 2:00 p.m. the closed session held on North Fork Wind litigation with NIRMA representatives, County Attorney Thomas, and Zoning Administrator Jelinek. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Matt Robinette with BlueStem gave a presentation on the proposed solar project west of Verdigre and extending into Holt County. The Board discussed neighboring County solar projects, decommissioning, nameplate capacity tax, conditional use permit conditions, timetable of construction, where will the transmission lines be buried, and how the solar panels are constructed.

Supr. Borgmann left at 3:00 p.m.

Cedar County Emergency Manager Kevin Garvin and Cedar County Commissioner Dave McGregor met with the Board as per their request to discuss sharing Emergency Manager services with Cedar County under the direction of Emergency Manager Garvin. Discussion ensued on sharing staff, federal matching, and a schedule that would work for both counties. More discussion will be held between the counties in the near future.

Veteran Service Officer Jones and Economic Development Director Hanvey returned to the meeting to discuss filling the Veteran Service Officer position as VSO Jones will be retiring at the end of the year. Also, VSO Jones said that a training will be held starting September 23, and it would be advantageous to have Ms. Hanvey appointed so she is eligible to take the training course now, otherwise the next training would not be until April 2025. Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Schlote to appoint Kelly Hanvey as a Veteran Service Officer starting September 23, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 and #6. Nays none. Absent was District #7. Motion carried.

Sheriff Henery requested a closed session to discuss personnel. Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to go into closed session at 3:37 p.m. so as to protect the reputation of individuals when discussing personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 and #6. Nays none. Absent was District #7. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held so as to protect the reputation of individuals when discussing personnel. The Board came out of closed session at 3:51 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to close at 3:51 p.m. the closed session held on personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 and #6. Nays none. Absent was District #7. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 101,668.44; Amy Johnson, mileage, 97.15; Bob Barker Company Inc., supplies, 130.00; Bomgaars Supply Inc., weed supplies, 50.91; Bonnie R. Cash, prior service, 9.00; Cathleen Sue Stark, prior service, 12.00; Center Garage, battery, 224.00; Classic Carpet Care, mop rental, 50.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,654.04; Connie J. Janeczek, prior service, 15.00; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 23,079.83; Creston Fertilizer Co. Inc., weed chemicals, 3,038.30; DAS State Accounting- Central Finance, backup/radios, 1,105.00; David A. Arens, meeting/mileage, 70.85; Dean Wilken, meeting/mileage, 50.55; Diane L. Eckert, prior service, 36.00; Doug DeShazer, meeting/mileage, 64.30; Egan Supply Co. vacuum, 370.00; First National Bank Omaha, postage/gas/supplies/meals, 4,647.32; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet/fax, 1,246.90; Greg D. Kuhlman, meeting/mileage, 56.44; Jacquelyn E. Meier, prior service, 21.00; James F. Janeczek, prior service, 21.00; Jim Kotrous, meeting/mileage, 45.96; Jo Ann Eisenbeiss, prior service, 45.00; John Thomas, reimburse cord, 34.98; Karen Riesberg, prior service, 21.00; Keith Nielsen, meeting/mileage, 42.69; Kristine Tramp, mileage, 174.20; Laura Hintz, prior service, 15.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 142.00; Lois Colwell, prior service, 27.00; Megan Hanefeldt, mileage/supplies, 175.75; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 40.50; NACO, registration, 30.00; Neil Clausen, meeting/mileage, 61.68; NSA/POAN, registration, 400.00; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 1,075.68; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 276.25; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 7,006.77; Robert D Larsen, meeting/mileage, 36.79; Robert Ganz, meeting/mileage, 39.41; The Barn at God's Country, building rent, 200.00; Verdigre Eagle, publishing, 830.33; Virginia Buerman, prior service, 27.00; Wendy C Cutting, transcript, 268.80.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 40,572.22; Bloomfield Medical Clinic, drug test, 100.00; Bomgaars Supply Inc., shop supplies/tools/grease/spray, 1,625.67; City of Bloomfield, water, 28.00; Clint Pischel, equipment rental, 400.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 3,057.63; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 10,497.68; Creighton Plumbing, repairs, 239.75; Great Plains Communications, phone, 201.04; Grossenburg Implement, repairs/filters, 906.22; Harmony Inn and Suites, lodging, 749.00; Jebro Inc., mc3000/demurrage, 45,965.94; Kayton International Inc., repairs, 69.88; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 56.62; Murphy Tractor & Equipment Co., motor grader, 92,222.75; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 184.52; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 403.38; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,682.92; Roger Lemke, clay, 450.00; Vakoc Excavating LLC, gravel, 54,504.00; Verdigre Collision Repair, repairs, 6,355.24.

FLOWAGE EASEMENT ROAD FUND. Murphy Tractor & Equipment Co., motor grader, 218,777.25.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Great Plains Communication, phone/internet/fax, 167.23.

COUNTY WELLNESS FUND. Name Redacted, reimburse deductible, 250.00.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 3,649.59; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 275.17; First National Bank Omaha, gas/supplies/leadership, 348.99; Great Plains Communication, phone/internet/fax, 61.13; Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 2.98; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance

County pays, 22.41; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 234.53; Stacy Miller, reimburse meal, 14.00.

INHERITANCE FUND. Albin Law Office, court appointed attorney, 1,375.72; Brogan Lamml P.C., court appointed attorney, 1,039.67; Cedar County Transit, public transit, 2,100.00; Egley, Fullner, Montag, Morland & Easland, court appointed attorney, 1,623.80; Fitzgerald, Vetter & Temple, court appointed attorney, 551.50; Jamie Miller Legal Services LLC, court appointed attorney, 5,252.70; Rodney W. Smith, public defender contract, 2,083.33.

KENO FUND. First National Bank Omaha, postage, 18.45.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 234.36; Three River Telco, phone, 66.42.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 406.46; Three River Telco, phone, 154.99.

TOTALS

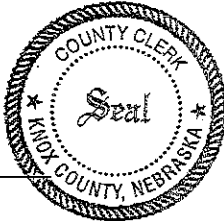
General Fund	\$154,734.82
Road Fund	261,272.46
Flowage Easement Road Fund	218,777.25
Child Support Fund	167.23
County Wellness Fund	250.00
C&C Development Fund	4,608.80
Inheritance Fund	14,026.72
Keno Fund	18.45
911 Emergency Fund	300.78
911 Wireless Service Fund	561.45
Total	\$654,717.96

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 3:40 p.m. on Wednesday, September 4, 2024 until Wednesday, September 18, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. for a 2024/2025 Budget public hearing, a 2024 Final Tax Public Hearing and a regular meeting that will follow the Budget and Final Tax public hearings.

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

ATTEST:

Joann M. Fischer
Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk



COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA
By *James Sokol, Jr.*
James Sokol, Jr., Chairman

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
September 18, 2024
9:00 a.m.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors met in the Boardroom at the Knox County Courthouse in Center, Nebraska on the date of Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 9:00 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.

County Clerk Fischer 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.

At 9:03 a.m., Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the advertised Budget Hearing for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to the 2024/2025 Knox County proposed budget.

At 9:03 a.m., Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the advertised special public hearing for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to setting the Final 2024 Tax Request.

Discussion was held on the 2024/2025 proposed Knox County budget and the proposed 2024 tax request.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the open budget hearing at 9:12 a.m. Present during the hearing were the Board, County Clerk Fischer, Deputy County Attorney Jensen, County Sheriff Henery, County Assessor Beckmann, County Treasurer Ebel, Senior Office Clerk Surface and members of the public who were wishing to comment at the Board's regular public comment session and not regarding the proposed budget and tax request.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the open special hearing on the Final 2024 Tax Request at 9:13 a.m. Present during the hearing were the Board, County Clerk Fischer, Deputy County Attorney Jensen, County Sheriff Henery, County Assessor Beckmann, County Treasurer Ebel, Senior Office Clerk Surface and members of the public who were wishing to comment at the Board's regular public comment session and not regarding the proposed budget and tax request.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to adopt **Resolution #2024- 24** for the Adoption and Appropriations of the 2024/2025 Knox County Budget. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

KNOX COUNTY
RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION AND APPROPRIATIONS

RESOLUTION #2024 - 24

WHEREAS, a proposed County Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025, prepared by the Budget Making Authority, was transmitted to the County Board on the 18th day of September, 2024.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of SUPERVISORS of Knox County, Nebraska as follows:

SECTION 1. That the budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025, as categorically evidenced by the Budget Document be, and the same hereby is, adopted as the Budget for Knox County for said fiscal year.

SECTION 2. That the offices, departments, activities, and institutions herein named are hereby authorized to expend the amounts herein appropriated to them during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025.

SECTION 3. That the income necessary to finance the appropriations made and expenditures authorized shall be provided out of the unencumbered cash balance in each fund, revenues other than taxation to be collected during the fiscal year in each fund, and tax levy requirements for each fund.

DATED AND PASSED THIS 18th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2024.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

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

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

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

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

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

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

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded Supr. Pierce to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 25** setting the 2024 property tax request at \$4,027,728.88 with a levy of 0.137431 per \$100 of valuation. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 25

RESOLUTION SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1601.02 provides that the Governing Body of Knox County passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request; and

WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Governing Body of Knox County, resolves that:

1. The 2024-2025 property tax request be set at \$4,027,728.88.
2. The total assessed value of property increased from last year's total assessed value by 19.87%.
3. The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property, would be \$0.134535 per \$100 of assessed value.

- 4. Knox County proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be \$0.137431 per \$100 of assessed value.
- 5. Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the operating budget of Knox County will be \$24,234,390.10 (does not include \$1,500,000 for cash reserve in the General Fund), which exceeds last fiscal year's operating budget by 4.94%.
- 6. The cash reserve for the General Fund will be increased to \$1,500,000.00.
- 7. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the Knox County Clerk on or before October 20, 2024.

Dated this 18th day of September 2024.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

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

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

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

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

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

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

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to authorize Chairman Sokol, Jr. to sign the Budget Message of the adopted 2024/2025 Knox County Budget. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.
Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Schlote to adopt **Resolution #2024 - 26** to make monthly transfers through the claims process from the Knox County General Fund to the Knox County Road Fund during the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 26

WHEREAS, due to Section 39-1904 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes, the 2024-2025 Knox County Road budget does not include a property tax dollar request, and
WHEREAS, the 2024-2025 Knox County budget was balanced by a fund transfer of \$1,577,621.64 from the Knox County General Fund to the Knox County Road Fund, and
WHEREAS, transfers through the claims process were needed from the Knox County General Fund to the Knox County Road Fund until the 2024-2025 budget was adopted to cover incurred expenses for July and August, 2024, and
WHEREAS, the Knox County Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution #2024-09 directing the Knox County Clerk to transfer through the claims process \$143,951.92 in July, 2024 and \$143,951.92 in August, 2024, from the Knox County General Fund to the Knox County Road Fund to cover the incurred expenses for July and August, and
WHEREAS, a remainder of \$1,289,717.80 needs to be transferred from September 2024 through June 2025 from the General Fund to the Road Fund, and
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Knox County Board of Supervisors that the 2024/2025 Knox County budget has now been adopted, and
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Knox County Clerk is hereby directed to make monthly transfers through the claims process from the Knox County General Fund to the Knox County Road Fund to be as follows: **\$128,971.78 for September 2024 through June of 2025.**
Dated this 18th day of September 2024.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

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

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

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

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

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

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

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Liska to adopt **Resolution #2024 - 27** to transfer through the claims process \$303,240.90 as tax relief from the Inheritance Fund to the General Fund during the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year which will be the fourth loan repayment for the Bloomfield North road project. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 27

WHEREAS, due to unfunded mandates, escalating prices, valuation increases, and loss of revenues, a transfer of funds from the Inheritance Fund would create a tax relief to the taxpayers of Knox County for the fiscal year 2024-2025, and
WHEREAS, transferring \$303,240.92 from the Inheritance Fund to the Knox County General Fund would then be transferred to the Flowage Easement for the Bloomfield North project and create that needed tax relief, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Knox County Board of Supervisors approves the transfer of \$303,240.92 through the claims process from the Knox County Inheritance Fund to the Knox County General Fund during the 2024/2025 fiscal year as tax relief.
Dated this 18th day of September 2024.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

<u>James Sokol, Jr. /s/</u> James Sokol, Jr., District #4, Chairman	<u>Martin J. O'Connor /s/</u> Martin J. O'Connor, District #1	<u>Patrick J. Liska /s/</u> Patrick J. Liska, District #2
<u>David L. Pierce /s/</u> David L. Pierce, District #3	<u>Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/</u> Kevin D. Mackeprang, District #5	<u>Danny R. Schlote /s/</u> Danny R. Schlote, District #6
ATTEST: (Seal) <u>Joann M. Fischer /s/</u> Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk	<u>James J. Borgmann /s/</u> James J. Borgmann, District #7	

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 28** to transfer through the claims process during the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 \$200,000.00 from the Inheritance Fund to the General Fund as tax relief and to be used to increase the General Fund cash reserve from \$1,300,000 to \$1,500,000. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 28

WHEREAS, Knox County has a cash reserve for the General Fund currently at \$1,300,000.00 which is used to pay expenses in the General Fund until the new budget is adopted, and

WHEREAS, the General Fund has to make regular transfers to funds as well as paying many expenses for the County until the new budget is adopted, and

WHEREAS, asking for tax dollars to increase the General Fund cash reserve was not favored by the Knox County Board of Supervisors this year but they know that the cash reserve should be increased so they wish to transfer additional funds from the Inheritance Fund to the General Fund to increase the cash reserve as tax relief, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Knox County Board of Supervisors approves the transfer of \$200,000.00 through the claims process from the Knox County Inheritance Fund to the Knox County General Fund during the 2024/2025 fiscal year as tax relief and to be used to increase the General Fund cash reserve from \$1,300,000 to \$1,500,000.

Dated this 18th day of September 2024.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

<u>James Sokol, Jr. /s/</u> James Sokol, Jr., District #4, Chairman	<u>Martin J. O'Connor /s/</u> Martin J. O'Connor, District #1	<u>Patrick J. Liska /s/</u> Patrick J. Liska, District #2
<u>David L. Pierce /s/</u> David L. Pierce, District #3	<u>Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/</u> Kevin D. Mackeprang, District #5	<u>Danny R. Schlote /s/</u> Danny R. Schlote, District #6
ATTEST: (Seal) <u>Joann M. Fischer /s/</u> Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk	<u>James J. Borgmann /s/</u> James J. Borgmann, District #7	

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Schlote to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 29** to transfer through the claims process \$250,000.00 during the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 from the County Wellness Fund to the General Fund as tax relief and to be used to assist with the payment of health insurance benefit premiums. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 29

WHEREAS, Knox County provides a health insurance policy to eligible employees as a benefit, and

WHEREAS, the health insurance benefit is a partially self-funded policy through 90 Degree Benefits based in Muskogee, Oklahoma, and

WHEREAS, premiums for the health insurance coverage are sent to 90 Degree Benefits and then deposited into a bank account for Knox County at the FIRSTAR BANK in Muskogee, Oklahoma, and

WHEREAS, health insurance claims for enrolled eligible employees, enrolled spouses, enrolled child(ren), or enrolled family are paid from the FIRSTAR bank account, and

WHEREAS, claims were low so a large balance had accumulated in the FIRSTAR bank account which was a non-interest bearing account, and

WHEREAS, the Knox County Board of Supervisors changed the health insurance benefit for eligible employees on July 1, 2024 to allow enrollment of spouses, child(ren) or family with Knox County paying the entire health insurance premium as a benefit, and

WHEREAS, the Knox County Board of Supervisors requested that \$400,000 be remitted back to Knox County leaving approximately \$250,000 in the FIRSTAR bank account to cover claims, and
WHEREAS, \$400,000 was withdrawn and remitted back to Knox County in the 2023/2024 fiscal year, given to the Knox County Treasurer and deposited into the County Wellness Fund, and
WHEREAS, a transfer in the amount of \$250,000 from the County Wellness Fund to the County General Fund would be tax relief as the \$250,000 would assist in paying the health insurance benefit premiums, and
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Knox County Board of Supervisors approves the transfer of \$250,000.00 through the claims process from the County Wellness Fund to the Knox County General Fund during the 2024/2025 fiscal year as tax relief and to be used to assist with the payment of insurance health benefit premiums.
DATED this 18th day of September 2024.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

<u>James Sokol, Jr. /s/</u> James Sokol, Jr., District #4, Chairman	<u>Martin J. O'Connor /s/</u> Martin J. O'Connor, District #1	<u>Patrick J. Liska /s/</u> Patrick J. Liska, District #2
<u>David L. Pierce /s/</u> David L. Pierce, District #3	<u>Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/</u> Kevin D. Mackeprang, District #5	<u>Danny R. Schlote /s/</u> Danny R. Schlote, District #6
ATTEST: (Seal) <u>Joann M. Fischer /s/</u> Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk	<u>James J. Borgmann /s/</u> James J. Borgmann, District #7	

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Pierce to adopt **Resolution #2024 - 30** to transfer through the claims process \$303,240.92 from the General Fund to the Flowage Easement Fund to be used as the fourth loan repayment for the Bloomfield North Road project with the transfer to be made during the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 30

WHEREAS, the Knox County Board of Supervisors approved at their February 13, 2020 meeting, a road project named “Bloomfield North” project where the County would oil 7.4 miles between Hwy. 84 and Hwy. 12 on 543 Ave. North of Bloomfield would be milled, graded and oiled with hot-mix by Western Engineering Co., Inc., Harlan, IA, in the amount of approximately \$3.03 million, and
WHEREAS, the Knox County Board approved at their August 26, 2021 meeting to pay for the Bloomfield North project from the Flowage Easement Road Fund, as a loan to be repaid over 10 years or earlier and the repayment to be made by taxation, or if needed sometime during the repayment period, to use some funds from the Inheritance Fund, and
WHEREAS, the Flowage Easement Road Fund was created when the County of Knox sued the U.S. Corps of Engineers and received \$10,049,868 from the Court settlement to cover the expenses associated with rebuilding bridges and roads damaged by the Missouri River and its’ tributaries due to sedimentation, and
WHEREAS, the funds to repay the loan to the Flowage Easement Road Fund will be collected in the General Fund and then transferred to the Flowage Easement Road Fund, and
WHEREAS, the project was completed in the 2020/2021 fiscal year with the final cost of the project being \$3,032,409.17 making a total of \$303,240.92 due each year for 10 years, and
WHEREAS, loan repayments in the amount of \$303,240.92 from the General Fund to the Flowage Easement Road Fund were made in 2021/2022, 2022/2023 and in 2023/2024 fiscal years and
NOW, BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Knox County Board of Supervisors adopted the 2024/2025 Knox County budget, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Knox County Board of Supervisors approves the transfer of \$303,240.92 from the General Fund to the Flowage Easement Road Fund through the claims process during the 2024/2025 Fiscal Year to be used as the fourth partial loan repayment for the Bloomfield North Road project.
Dated this 18th day of September 2024.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

<u>James Sokol, Jr. /s/</u> James Sokol, Jr., District #4, Chairman	<u>Martin J. O'Connor /s/</u> Martin J. O'Connor, District #1	<u>Patrick J. Liska /s/</u> Patrick J. Liska, District #2
<u>David L. Pierce /s/</u> David L. Pierce, District #3	<u>Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/</u> Kevin D. Mackeprang, District #5	<u>Danny R. Schlote /s/</u> Danny R. Schlote, District #6
ATTEST: (Seal) <u>Joann M. Fischer /s/</u> Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk	<u>James J. Borgmann /s/</u> James J. Borgmann, District #7	

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 31** to transfer through the claims process \$25,000 during the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 from the General Fund to the C & C Development Fund for the 2024/2025 Budget Year. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 31

WHEREAS, Knox County entered into an Interlocal Cooperation Act Agreement with other entities in Knox County and Great Plains Communications, Inc. for the creation of the Knox County Development Agency, and

WHEREAS, the Knox County Development Agency hires an executive director to operate the program so as to educate and organize promotion, encouragement, development, research, increased knowledge, appreciation and practice of economic development and to help to preserve and enhance the Knox County community's economic growth, and

WHEREAS, Knox County contributes \$25,000 towards the Executive Director's salary plus benefits that includes County-paid health insurance, a County-paid single dental/vision insurance policy, a County-paid \$15,000 single life insurance policy, the County-paid retirement rate and the County's share of FICA/MEDICARE (Social Security) along with an office space, and

WHEREAS, the taxes to pay Knox County's share of the Interlocal Agreement is collected in the General Fund and is to be transferred to the C & C Development Fund, and

WHEREAS, the 2024/2025 Knox County budget is approved, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Knox County Board of Supervisors approves the transfer of \$25,000 during the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 through the claims process from the General Fund to the C & C Development Fund to pay the budgeted amount for the Executive Director's salary, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the health insurance benefit premium, the County-paid single dental/vision insurance benefit premium, the County-paid premium for a \$15,000 single life insurance policy, the County-paid retirement rate and the County's share of FICA/MEDICARE (Social Security) will be paid from the General Fund.

Dated this 18th day of September 2024.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

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

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

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

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

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

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

County Clerk Fischer read the September 4, 2024 meeting minutes. Chairman Sokol, Jr. approved the minutes of the September 4, 2024 meeting.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to go into closed session at 9:35 a.m. to discuss possible litigation with legal advice from Deputy County Attorney Jensen regarding the Bluestem project. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, and #7. Nays Districts #5 and #6. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held on possible litigation on the Bluestem solar project. The Board came out of closed session at 9:50 a.m.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Pierce to close at 9:50 a.m. the closed session held on possible litigation on the Bluestem solar project. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

The public comment session was held from 9:50 a.m. to 10:04 a.m. Giving comments on the North Fork Wind, LLC project were Dale Van Heek, Faye Heine, and Wil Sanger. Supr. Schlote conveyed a request from Dean Kleinschmit that the County Government Day be reinstated and Supr. O'Connor concurred with the request. Supr. Pierce conveyed a concern by one constituent that notices are not put in every local paper. Supr. Mackeprang conveyed appreciation expressed by George Beaudette on an excellent job done by the Spade Township Board on a one-mile portion of Spade Township Road. County Sheriff/Spade Township Clerk Henery thanked Supr. Mackeprang for the input.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moved the Board recess at 10:04 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:07 a.m. with all members present.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, 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 all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Claims totaling \$570,591.92 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the Receipts Revenue List from September 3 – 13, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to place on file the Clerk of the District Court August Fee Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the County Treasurer's List of Delinquent Taxes not sold for want at the last annual tax sale and to direct County Treasurer Ebel to issue a County Tax Sale on property with two years of delinquent taxes namely Parcel ID #540012849 in the amount of \$34.82. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to remove the names of former Knox County Assessor Monica McManigal and former employee Cassie Stark from the County Assessor's bank account at the Farmers & Merchants State Bank as they are no longer employed by Knox County, and, to add newly appointed Deputy County Assessor Kylee Kracht to that bank account. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

County Clerk Fischer discussed with the Board arrangements for deer dumpsters again this year. Last year, Waste Connections, Inc. of Norfolk provided deer dumpsters to the Niobrara County Yard and the Knox County Fairgrounds in Bloomfield and J & J Sanitation of O'Neill provided a deer dumpster to the Creighton County Yard. This year Waste Connections, Inc. will not handle deer dumpsters so J & J Sanitation said they would provide 16-yard dumpsters to the Creighton and Niobrara County Yards but will not provide a deer dumpster to Bloomfield as that is not their service area. Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to approve J & J Sanitation of O'Neill to provide service for deer dumpsters at the Creighton and Niobrara County Yards from November 1 – December 1, 2024 and payment for the services to be paid from the County Keno Fund. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

The Board moved to the Courtroom to accommodate the number of constituents present for two public hearings.

At 10:23 a.m., Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the advertised public hearing on Permit #Z2404 Change of Zoning, Planned Development, or Regulations Amendment Application for the Bloomfield Airport Authority. Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek was present via Zoom. Bloomfield Airport Authority member Steve Barney informed the Board that the permit application submitted was to take into consideration wind towers in the area of the Bloomfield

Airport that can be a safety factor according to the FAA. The permit application is for increasing the instrument approach from three miles to ten miles. Also, a \$1.5 million concrete runway replacement, a new beacon and a proposed hanger project is proposed, noting that the runway will not be lengthened.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the public hearing on Permit #Z2404 Change of Zoning, Planned Development, or Regulations Amendment Application for the Bloomfield Airport Authority at 10:29 a.m. There was no opposing testimony given. Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Schlote to approve Permit #Z2404 Change of Zoning, Planning Development, or Regulations Amendment Application for the Bloomfield Airport Authority for the zoning change for an instrument approach to ten miles for the Bloomfield Airport. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

At 10:29 a.m., Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the advertised public hearing on Conditional Use Permit Application #CU2401 VRDG, LLC for a Commercial Solar Conversion System (CSCS). Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek was present via Zoom. Bluestem Energy Solutions Senior Vice President Matt Robinette gave a presentation about the company and the proposed project in Knox and Holt Counties. Five people spoke in favor of the proposed solar project and eleven people spoke in opposition of the solar project. Each Board member asked questions of Matt Robinette and David Levy with Bluestem.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the public hearing on Conditional Use Permit Application #CU2401 VRDG, LLC for a Commercial Solar Conversion System (CSCS) at 11:50 a.m. Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to table the vote until the next meeting on Conditional Use Permit Application #CU2401 VRDG, LLC for a Commercial Solar Conversion System (CSCS). By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #2, #3 and #7. Nays Districts #1, #4, #5 and #6. Motion failed.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang to approve Conditional Use Permit Application #CU2401 VRDG, LLC for a Commercial Solar Conversion System (CSCS). Motion died for lack of a second.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Pierce to deny Conditional Use Permit Application #CU2401 VRDG, LLC for a Commercial Solar Conversion System (CSCS). By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays District #5. Motion carried.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moved the Board recess at 11:57 a.m. for lunch.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 12:50 p.m. with all members present.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Pierce to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 32** certifying that Bridge Project STWD-CBMP(6), Control Number 00974E (Shaw Bridge) has been properly constructed by Knox County and its contractor in accordance with the Program Agreement and that all conditions were met. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION CERTIFYING PROPERTY COMPLETION OF PROJECT

Knox County
Resolution No. 2024 – 32

WHEREAS, Knox County and State entered into an agreement entitled "County Bridge Matching Program Agreement", for Structure Number C005430720 (the Project), Program Agreement Number BL2213 signed by State on the 15th day of March, 2022, and

WHEREAS, Knox County has now completed the construction of the Project that was identified in the Program Agreement, and

WHEREAS, this Resolution is to formally notify State of the proper completion of the Project according to the terms of the Program Agreement.

Be It Resolved: by the Board of Supervisors of Knox County:

- (1) The Project, for Structure No. C005430720, has been properly constructed by County and its contractor, in accordance with the terms of the Program Agreement.
- (2) The bridge was constructed in strict compliance with
 - (a) the plans and specifications including any State-approved change orders,
 - (b) all applicable design standards, and
 - (c) the conditions and requirements of the Program Agreement.
- (3) County understands that it is the owner of the bridge, and that it is solely responsible for the design, inspection, construction, reconstruction, repair, and operation of the bridge and roadway and is responsible for meeting any environmental or other post-construction permit or legal commitments applicable to the project.
- (4) The project costs were fair, reasonable and necessary for the proper construction of the project.

NDOT Project Number: STWD-CBMP(6)

NDOT Control Number: 00974E

NDOT LPA Control Number: 00974E(m)

NDOT Project Name: County Bridge Match Program

Adopted this 18th day of September, 2024 at Center, Nebraska.

The Board of Supervisors of Knox County

Patrick J. Liska /s/
James Sokol, Jr. /s/
Martin J. O'Connor /s/

Danny R. Schlote /s/
James J. Borgmann /s/
David L. Pierce /s/
Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/

Board/Council Member Supr. Liska
Moved the adoption of said Resolution
Member Supr. Schlote Seconded the Motion
Roll Call: 7 Yes 0 No 0 Abstained 0 Absent
Resolution adopted, signed and billed as adopted.

Attest: (Seal)

Joann M. Fischer /s/_____
Signature County Clerk

Hwy. Supt. Barta continued with the following: 2.) Discussed purchasing a 1,000-gallon fuel tank for the Verdigre Yard; 3.) Reviewed pictures of a used sander box that possibly could be used on the Center or Wausa trucks; 4.) Tim Farmer with Speece-Lewis Engineering, Holt County Hwy. Supt. Connot, Boyd County Supervisor Alan Nicolaus and Holt County Supervisor Dustin Breiner met with the Board to discuss a grant process to resurface the Old 108 Highway west of Creighton and the Ash Falls Road; 5.) The following quotes were reviewed for the purchase of a gooseneck flatbed trailer: **NE Nebraska Trailers, Wakefield NE** – 2024 Good Guys 32-ft. x 8 ft. 6-inch flatbed trailer, 14 ply radial 235/80R16 tires, \$17,900; **Ken's Trailers, Norfolk NE** – Travelong 31 ft x 8 ft. 6-inch flatbed trailer, 10 ply radial tires, \$17,000; **Seidel Trailers, Ainsworth NE** – Titan 2024 30 ft. flatbed trailer, 10 ply tires, \$18,000; **Kaufman Trailers, Beaver City NE** - Kaufman 30 ft. flatbed trailer, 10 ply tires, \$16,850 or \$16,344.50 if paid with a cashier's check. Knox County reserves the right to accept any bid or quote that best serves the County's needs. After discussion on comparisons of warranties, costs, weight load, and tires, motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Schlote to accept the quote from **NE Nebraska Trailers, Wakefield NE** for a 2024 Good Guys 32 ft x 8 ft. 6-inch flatbed trailer in the amount of \$17,900.00. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 6.) Verdigre North bridge project update; 7.) Oil Crew update; 8.) Bridge Crew update; 9.) Weigand Bridge approaches to be raised on September 5, 2024; 10.) Discussed the upcoming consignment sale in Hartington to be held on September 30, 2024.

Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek met with the Board via Zoom on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to approve Administrative Plat Application #P2409 Kenneth and Marlene Meyer for an 8.89-acre tract split in the SE1/4NE1/4 of Section 17, T29N, R5W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to approve Administrative Plat Application #P2410 Dwain Warriner for a 5.63-acre tract split and access easement in the SW1/4SW1/4 of Section 35, T30N, R5W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 3.) Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Liska to place on file the August 2024 Permits Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 4.) Discussion was held on whether a variance was needed on an expansion of an agricultural building. The landowner wants to extend their sheep shed but with the expansion, the building would not be 90 feet back from the center of the road. Discussed further was that Consultant Keith Marvin was contacted about variances of agricultural structures, fence lines, and if this would be grandfathered in because it is an agricultural structure. Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang that the request for expansion of an agricultural structure not meeting the setback of 90 feet from the center of the road needs to go through Knox County's variance process of application and to go before the Knox County Board of Adjustments. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Abstain District #4 as the requester is a relative of Chairman Sokol, Jr./District #4 Supervisor. Motion carried.

Committee update was given by VSO Hanvey who informed the Board that Visit Knox County Director Stacy Miller has now been appointed as the Economic Development Director by the Development Agency Board and will have a beginning wage of \$21.89 per hour.

Officials' updates were given by the following: 1.) Deputy County Attorney Jensen updated the Board on the recent plane crash near Crofton. The FAA may pay for the autopsy costs and the County may have to pay the transportation costs; 2.) Sheriff Henery updated the Board on the upcoming murder trial. Also, purchase of a new pickup will take place and one of the current Sheriff pickups will be given to the Road Department.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Liska to go into closed session at 1:56 p.m. to discuss the North Fork Wind litigation. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held to discuss the North Fork Wind Litigation. Supr. Mackeprang left the closed session and the meeting at 2:12 p.m. Present during various times of the closed session were Deputy County Attorney Jensen, Attorney David Begley, and, via Zoom was County Attorney Thomas. The Board came out of closed session at 4:41 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Pierce to close at 4:41 p.m. the closed session held on the North Fork Wind litigation. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Liska to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 33** employing Attorney David D. Begley of Omaha as Special County Attorney to defend the County of Knox, the Supervisors, and members of the Planning Commission in pending United States District Court Case 4:24-cv-03150 North Fork Wind LLC, etal vs Knox County, etal, and to approve an Hourly Fee Agreement with Attorney Begley. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 33

WHEREAS, The County of Knox, its Supervisors and members of the Knox County Planning Commission have been named as defendants, in their official capacities, in a certain case currently pending in the United States District Court for the District of Nebraska at 4:24-cv-03150 ("the Lawsuit");

WHEREAS, Neb. Rev. Stat. §23-1203 confers authority upon the County of Knox to employ additional counsel in civil matters as it may deem necessary;

WHEREAS, the County of Knox deems it necessary and in its best interests to employ attorney David D. Begley as Special County Attorney for the Lawsuit;

WHEREAS, the Chairman is hereby authorized to enter into an hourly fee agreement with attorney David D. Begley for his reasonable compensation with respect to the Lawsuit;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, that the county of Knox, pursuant to Neb,. Rev. Stat. §23-1203, employs attorney David D. Begley as Special County Attorney to defend the County of Knox, its Supervisors and members of the Planning Commission in the Lawsuit.

DATED this 18th day of September, 2024.

Elder Law and Estate Planning of
Nebraska, David D. Begley, P.C., L.L.O.
David D. Begley /s/
By David D. Begley, #16795

COUNTY OF KNOX
James Sokol, Jr. /s/
By James Sokol, Jr., Chairman

Attest (Seal)
Joann M. Fischer /s/
By Joann M. Fischer, County Clerk

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 109,044.53; Amy Johnson, reimburse registration, 115.00; Applied Connective Technologies, IT/phone, 5,273.34; Bloomfield Medical Clinic, medical treatment, 860.00; Bloomfield Pharmacy, meds, 14.80; Clerk of District Court, court costs, 112.00; CMart LLC, gas, 46.36; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 8,213.85; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 24,431.36; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 95.16; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, subscriptions, 90.00; Crowne Plaza Kearney, lodging, 899.70; Country Market, supplies, 21.33; Dollar General, jail supplies, 90.00; Eakes Office Solutions, janitor supplies/copier agreement, 481.14; Elizabeth Doerr, contract labor, 100.00; Farmers & Merchants State Bank, ach fee, 240.00; Gragert's Grocery, jail food, 1,594.71; Great Plains Communications, tower internet/phone/internet, 1,243.02; Hefner Hardware, batteries, 11.99; Independent Pest Management, pest control, 425.00; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, caulk/screws, 3.55; Knox County Treasurer, transfer from General Fund to Road Fund, 128,971.78; Law Enforcement Systems Inc., supplies, 204.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 141.99; Lois Kumm, jail food, 228.00; Madison County Clerk, judge expense, 72.30; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 40.50; Moody Motor Company, repairs, 240.06; North Central Public Power District, tower electricity, 41.56; Postmaster, permit fees, 700.00; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 1,075.68; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 965.13; R&K Motor Parts, oil/filter, 36.26; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 7,584.46; Sanne Repair, transfer equipment, 560.00; US Cellular, cell phones, 185.65; US Cellular, cell phones, 254.94; Verdigre Farm Service, gas, 89.51; Wayne County Clerk, judge expense, 4,101.49.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 39,256.07; Art's Garbage, garbage, 18.00; Bauer Built Inc., tires, 1,368.56; Bazile Creek Power Sports; repairs, 262.88; Big Red Mini Mart, gas, 192.27; Bloomfield Auto Parts, repairs/tools, 27.84; Bohemian One Stop LLC, gas, 962.10; Bruce Hagge, prior service, 24.00; Bruce Peters, prior service, 24.00; CHS, diesel, 1,509.50; City of Creighton, water/sewer, 137.93; CMart, gas, 372.03; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,956.91; County of Kox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 10,497.64; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 492.35; Crofton Lumber , shop supplies, 4.30; Dendinger AG LLC, roadside mowing, 523.68; Farmers Pride, diesel, 6,361.31; Freeman Oil Co LLC, diesel, 1,343.45; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 2,885.40; Hrbek Construction, equipment rental, 2,090.00; J&J Sanitation, garbage, 49.00; Jebro Inc., MC250/MC3000, 122,501.37; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, shop supplies, 170.88; John Kauth, reimburse CDL, 60.00; Kayton International Inc., repairs, 1,675.25; Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 56.62; LTL Holdings Inc., gas, 325.15; Marc Mastalir, prior service, 21.00; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 313.15; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 76.00; Powerplan, repairs, 4,509.34; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 403.38; R&K Motor Parts, repairs/battery/filters, 818.14; RDO Truck Centers, repairs, 144.28; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,594.08; Riverside Hydraulics Inc., repairs, 605.04; Rose Equipment Inc., repairs, 3,767.72; Russ Crosley, garbage, 46.00; Santee Utility Commission, garbage, 65.00; Schreier's Lumber Company, shop supplies, 11.25; Scott Grim, prior service, 30.00; Sucha Repair, oil/filter/oxygen/acetylene, 668.80; Titan Machinery Inc., repairs, 248.13; US Cellular, cell phones, 542.91; Vakoc Excavating LLC, gravel, 3,619.20; Verdigre Farm Service, shop supplies/gas/diesel/tordon, 5,685.97; Vic's Service LLC, gas/ repair, 420.25; Village of Niobrara, water/sewer, 43.25; Village of Verdigre, water/sewer/garbage, 82.60; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 45,199.47.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Eakes Office Solutions, copier agreement, 2.38; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 81.00.

COUNTY WELLNESS FUND. Name Redacted, reimburse deductible, 250.00.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 3,627.25; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 273.47; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 2.98; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 22.41; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 233.02; Rita Pitzer, leadership meals, 225.00; Stacy Miller, reimburse meals, 26.09; US Cellular, cell phones, 123.24.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. OPTK Networks, networking, 228.44.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. OPTK Networks, networking, 533.04.

TOTALS

General Fund	\$298,900.15
Road Fund	266,063.45
Child Support Fund	83.38
County Wellness Fund	250.00
C&C Development Fund	4,533.46
911 Emergency Fund	228.44
911 Wireless Service Fund	533.04
Total	\$570,591.92

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 4:49 p.m. on September 18, 2024 until Wednesday, October 2, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. 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:

Joann M. Fischer
Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk



COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

By James Sokol, Jr.
James Sokol, Jr., Chairman

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
October 2, 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, October 2, 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.

Deputy County Attorney Jensen 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 Bloomfield Monitor 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.

Sr. Office Clerk Surface read the September 18, 2024 meeting minutes. Chairman Sokol, Jr. approved the minutes of the September 18, 2024 meeting.

The public comment session was held from 9:45 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. No one gave public comment.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang that all claims except Claims #24100088 and #24100091, 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. A full list of claims totaling \$508,115.95 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce that Claim #24100091 in the amount of \$27,890.80 payable to Elder Law and Estate Planning payable from the Inheritance Fund, 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, #6 and #7. Nays none. Abstain District #5 due to conflict of interest. Motion carried.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess for Board of Equalization at 10:00 a.m.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:05 a.m. with all members present.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of September 16 – 27, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file Lease Agreement 65942025 – Addendum #3 between the County of Knox and the Department of Administrative Services, State Building Division, acting on behalf of the Department of Health and Human Services for the rental of a 1,764-foot portion of Annex #2 for four years starting October 1, 2024 noting that in addition the County provides 468 feet at no rental cost to the State as per statute and with the lease term amount to be \$27,675.00 October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025; \$28,366.88 October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026; \$29,076.48 October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2027 and \$29,803.08 October 1, 2027 – September 30, 2028. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) As per Statute 39-1811, roadsides are to be mowed sometime in July for the first time and sometime in September for the second time. Many of the roadsides are not being mowed; 2.) Update on the County Bridge Match Program. Several possible bridge projects were discussed; 3.) County Township Allocation update; 4.) The Weigand Bridge approaches have been raised; 5.) Oil Crew update. The center lines will be painted on approximately 60 miles of County oiled roads; 6.) Bridge Crew update; 7.) Discussed the recent auction held in Cedar County on September 30, 2024. The net sales of surplus Road Dept. equipment were \$12,472.50 and the net sales of surplus Sheriff Dept. vehicles was \$5,043.50; 8.) Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Pierce to authorize Chairman Sokol, Jr. to sign the Certification to Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

As per request of County Sheriff Henery, motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Liska to go into closed session at 10:36 a.m. so as to not cause injury to individuals when discussing personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held so as to not cause injury to individuals when discussing personnel. Also present during the closed session was County Clerk Fischer. The Board came out of closed session at 10:57 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to close at 10:57 a.m. the closed session held on personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

At 11:00 a.m., Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the advertised public hearing for a reuse loan to Michael and Katie Montagna to expand their daycare in Creighton. Jeff Christensen, Business Loan Specialist with NENEDD and Michael Montagna were present and presented information on the proposed daycare. Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the public hearing at 11:05 a.m. Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to approve a reuse loan in the amount of \$42,000 to Michael and Katie Montagna to expand their daycare in Creighton with terms to be a 20-year loan at 4.5% fixed interest. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Schlote that Claim #24100088 in the amount of \$42,000.00 payable to NED, Inc. payable from the Economic Development Fund, 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.

Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek met with the Board on the following: 1.) Discussion was held on a consolidation of Emergency Management with Cedar County with Cedar County taking the lead. Deputy County Attorney Jensen and Emergency Manager Jelinek discussed a draft contract, wages, benefits, who will pay for equipment or percentage of costs, possible assistant position to help with both counties, funding, and creating a region. Communication will be made with the Cedar County Board of Commissioners and the Cedar County Emergency Manager.

At 11:15 a.m., Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the advertised hearing for a public hearing on the HWY 12 LLC dba Lindy Bar & Grill Class C Liquor License Application. Darren and Becky Jensen were present and informed the Board of

their proposed operation at Lindy. Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the public hearing at 11:23 a.m. There was no one present in opposition. Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to approve a Class C Liquor License Application for HWY 12 LLC dba Lindy Bar & Grill. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek continued with the following: 2.) Discussed was a letter regarding Herzog Feedlot - South Lot Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation received from the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy. Comments from the Board are due by October 12, 2024 on the Modified Construction and Operating Permit Application on the Herzog Feedlot South Lot. Questioned was whether the construction was being done on the permitted area; 3.) The Board, Deputy County Attorney Jensen and Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek discussed zoning and how to improve it for the Board when having to make decisions. More discussion will be held at the next meeting; 4.) The Board of Adjustments will be meeting on October 8, 2024.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to go into closed session at 11:45 a.m. with Attorney David Begley via telephone conference on pending North Fork wind litigation. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Abstain District #5 due to conflict of interest. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held on pending North Fork wind litigation. Supr. Mackeprang excused himself from the closed session due to conflict of interest and left the meeting briefly. The Board came out of closed session at 12:28 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce to close the closed session at 12:28 p.m. that was held on pending North Fork wind litigation. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

Supervisor Mackeprang rejoined the meeting at 12:29 p.m.

Officials' update was given by County Clerk Fischer on the following: 1.) Deer dumpsters will be delivered to the Niobrara and Creighton County yards later in October; 2.) Discussed was a pending county burial application. More research will be done on the application; 3.) Update on the recent Joint Public Hearing held on September 23, 2024.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 106,206.98; Bomgaars Supply Inc., supplies/repairs, 36.44; Classic Carpet Care, mop rental, 55.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,997.16; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 24,431.45; DAS State Accounting- Central Finance, backup/radios, 874.50; DAS State Accounting -Central Finance, teletype, 537.60; Des Moines Stamp Mfg. Co., stamps, 194.30; Eakes Office Solutions, office supplies/paper/janitor supplies, 1,598.97; Echo Group Inc., bulbs, 162.00; Fire Protection Services LLC, inspection, 600.00; First National Bank Omaha, postage/gas/supplies/meals/lodging, 5,501.16; Floor Maintenance & Paper Supply Co. supplies, 527.91; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet/fax, 1,255.67; Hagge Glass, repairs, 45.00; Heartland Heating & Air Conditioning Inc, quarterly billing, 3,420.00; Kristine Tramp, mileage, 30.82; Landmark Surveying, surveyor fees, 1,145.86; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 142.00; Loffler, copier contract, 387.53; Megan Hanefeldt, supplies, 33.57; Moody Motor Company, repairs, 3,582.95; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 2,657.47; Northeast Nebraska News, publishing, 80.16; Pitney Bowes, meter lease, 159.57; Pitzer Digital, publishing/subscription, 260.00; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 1,075.68; Region 4 Behavioral Health System, quarterly billing, 6,407.75; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 7,355.45; Security Shredding Services, shredding, 100.00; The Cornhusker Marriott Hotel, lodging, 118.25; Thomas & Thomas Court Reporting, court transcripts, 5,292.82; Top Quality Glove, gloves, 74.75; Village of Center, water/sewer/garbage, 846.00.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 40,034.21; B's Enterprises Inc., signs/misc, 2,810.50; Black Hills Energy, heating fuel, 97.73; Blackburn Mfg. Co., flags, 238.50; Bomgaars Supply Inc., shop supplies/tools/tordon/def, 932.43; Cedar-Knox Public Power District, electricity, 129.27; City of Bloomfield, water, 28.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 3,016.47; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 10,497.68; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 31.40; Eakes Office Solutions, copier agreement, 135.74; First National Bank Omaha, registration, 125.00; Freeman Oil CO. LLC, diesel, 1,273.00; Great Plains Communications, phone, 201.04; Grossenburg Implement, repairs/filters/oil/wrench, 3,619.39; Jebro Inc., road oil, 99,770.78; Kelsey Schmidt, box sander, 2,500.00; Knox County Register of Deeds, recording, 112.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 56.62; Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fees, 42,401.06; Midwest Spray Team & Sales Inc., spraying, 768.11; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 202.84; NMC Inc., repairs, 1,282.90; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 313.15; Northeast Nebraska Tire and Trailer, flatbed trailer, 17,900.00; K&S Door Co Inc, dba Overhead Door Co of Norfolk, repairs, 562.00; People's Grocery, shop supplies, 37.93; Pomp's Tire Service Inc., tires, 100.00; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 403.38; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,646.63; Rose Equipment Inc., repairs, 1,302.97; Steffen's Service Station, gas, 505.25; Village of Center, water/sewer, 34.00.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Great Plains Communication, phone/internet/fax, 165.12; Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 168.91.

VISITOR'S PROMO FUND. Harm & Tulleys Event Center, promo grant, 428.95; Wausa Community Club, promo grant, 1,000.00.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND. NED Inc., reuse loan, 42,000.00.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 3,595.74; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 271.06; First National Bank Omaha, gas/supplies/leadership, 539.15; Great Plains Communication, phone/internet/fax, 61.13; Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 2.98; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 22.41; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 230.90.

INHERITANCE FUND. Elder Law and Estate Planning, attorney fees, 27,890.80; Fitzgerald, Vetter & Temple, court appointed attorney, 332.50; Jamie Miller Legal Services LLC, court appointed attorney, 11,046.87; Rodney W. Smith, public defender contract, 2,083.33.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. City of Norfolk, networking, 44.74; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 234.36; Three River Telco, phone, 66.42.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. City of Norfolk, networking, 104.38; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 406.46; Three River Telco, phone, 154.99.

TOTALS

General Fund	\$183,194.77
Road Fund	234,069.98
Child Support Fund	334.03
Visitor's Promo Fund	1,428.95
Economic Development Fund	42,000.00
C&C Development Fund	4,723.37
Inheritance Fund	41,353.50
911 Emergency Fund	345.52
911 Wireless Service Fund	665.83
Total	\$508,115.95

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 12:45 p.m. on Wednesday, October 2, 2024 until Wednesday, October 16, 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:


Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk



COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

By 
James Sokol, Jr., Chairman

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
October 16, 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, October 16, 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.

County Sheriff Henery 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.

County Clerk Fischer read the minutes of the October 2, 2024 meeting. Chairman Sokol, Jr. approved the minutes of the October 2, 2024 meeting.

Correspondence reviewed was the following: 1.) Letter from Program Manager Doug Christiansen with FIVE RULE Rural Planning regarding public hearings of the Bloomfield Planning Commission and Bloomfield City Council on a blight study and a general redevelopment plan.

The public comment session was opened at 9:45 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, 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 all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Claims totaling \$624,730.49 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of September 30 – October 11, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the County Sheriff's Quarterly Fee Report of fees collected between July 1 and September 30, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the Clerk of the District Court September 2024 Fee Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to deny County Burial #2-2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek met with the Board on the following: 1.) Discussion was held on the possible consolidation of Emergency Management with Cedar County. The Cedar County Commissioners will meet on October 22, 2024 and discussion will be held at that meeting on this issue. Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek and Chairman Sokol, Jr. will attend that meeting; 2.) Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to place on file the September Permits Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

The public comment session was closed at 9:59 a.m. No one made public comment.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. recessed for Board of Equalization at 9:59 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:12 a.m. with all members present.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Bridge Crew update; 2.) Oil Crew update; 3.) Seeding will need to be completed at the Verdigre North Bridge project; 4.) Discussed the County Bridge Match Program. The County Bridge Crew are allowed to build the match program projects; 5.) Center line stripping is near completion. Discussed was the cost; 6.) A NIRMA Assist Grant application will be submitted for the purchase of air jacks for the Mechanic's Shed; 7.) Discussed a skid loader rotary chopper to be used along the Rec Road. No action was taken; 8.) Sealed bids will be advertised on the sale of a 500-gallon used barrel; 9.) Bridge inspections have started.

Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek continued with the following: 3.) Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Pierce to approve Administrative Plat Application #2411 Jason Lockman on a lot split of Lot 6 and the South 20 feet of Lot 4, Grandview Estates. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 4.) Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to approve Application for Permit to Install Pipeline or Service Line Beneath a County Road in the North Half of Section 8, T30N, R7W for Kent Pavlik and Kevin Leningen. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 5.) The Board of Adjustments met recently, and a Task Force meeting was held with the fire districts.

Officials update was given by the following: 1.) County Clerk Fischer informed the Board that the 2024 General Election ballots were taken to the Center Post Office on this morning of October 16, 2024. As per statute, this was the earliest date that the regular by-mail ballots could be mailed; 2.) County Sheriff Henery is still looking for someone to fill dispatcher/jailor positions; 3.) County Treasurer Ebel said that October and November are slow months for revenue, so officials are encouraged to keep costs low.

Supr. Mackeprang left the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce to go into closed session at 10:41 a.m. to discuss pending litigation on the North Fork Wind lawsuit. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried. Also present was Zoning Administrator Jelinek. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated that the closed session will be held on pending litigation on the North Fork Wind lawsuit. The Board came out of closed session at 11:37 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Liska to close at 11:37 a.m. the closed session held on pending litigation on the North Fork Wind lawsuit. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 104,451.25; B&H Publishing Inc., publishing, 181.20; Bloomfield Pharmacy, meds, 14.80; Bohemian One Stop, gas, 32.01; City of Crofton, 2020 Dodge Durango, 35,000.00; CMart, gas, 14.54; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,858.81; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 24,431.36; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 29.00; Creston Fertilizer Co. Inc., weed chemicals, 2,538.06; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 611.76; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, backup, 472.00;

Derrick Barr, meeting/mileage, 81.28; Eakes Office Solutions, supplies, 48.33; Ecowater, bottled water, 365.50; Elections Systems & Software, election coding/layout/media, 3,408.47; Farm & Home Publishers, plat books, 260.00; Grager's Grocery, jail food, 954.12; Great Plains Communications, tower internet/phone/internet, 1,212.95; Holt County Independent, publishing, 164.30; Jody McFarland, meeting/mileage, 45.10; Knox County Treasurer, transfer from General Fund to C&C Development Fund, 12,500.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 144.97; Lois Kumm, jail food, 8.00; Lori Ebel, reimburse supplies, 68.98; Marion's Drug Store Inc., meds, 25.41; Marsha Neumann, reimburse gas, 36.64; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 40.50; MIPS Inc., programming, 878.86; Moody Motor Company, repairs, 43.00; Norfolk Area Shopper, publishing, 77.25; North Central Public Power District, tower electricity/electricity, 2,335.53; O'Neill Shopper, publishing, 366.30; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 2,987.66; Platte Valley Communications, radios, 689.25; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 1,098.09; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 171.28; R&K Motor Parts, oil/filter/repairs, 322.89; Region IV Inc., quarterly billing, 2,521.50; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 7,278.00; Robert Ganz, meeting/mileage, 39.74; Travis Barney, meeting/mileage, 42.42; US Cellular, cell phones, 185.65; US Cellular, cell phones, 464.94; Verdigre Eagle, publishing, 1,818.38; Verdigre Farm Service, gas, 212.23; Vic's Service LLC, tires, 792.59; Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, publishing, 416.90.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 37,328.10; Art's Garbage, garbage, 18.00; B's Enterprises Inc., signs, 640.00; Bauer Built Inc., tires, 4,896.00; Big Red Mini Mart, gas, 23.24; Bloomfield Auto Parts, oil, 107.97; Bohemian One Stop LLC, gas, 499.03; Brody Chemical Inc., solvent, 3,625.09; CHS, gas/diesel, 3,001.06; CMart, gas, 233.55; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,809.42; County of Kox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 10,497.64; Country Market, shop supplies, 19.95; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 524.46; Dollar General, shop supplies, 24.15; Emerson Manufacturing, air jacks, 2,725.00; Farmers Pride, diesel, 6,363.61; Hefner Hardware, shop supplies, 39.98; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 7,736.96; J&J Sanitation, garbage, 49.00; Jebro Inc., road oil, 51,404.17; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, shop supplies, 59.99; Kathleen Fritz, reimburse title/tire fee, 19.00; Kayton International Inc., repairs, 357.48; Kimball Midwest, shop supplies, 510.12; Lawson Products, shop supplies, 219.27; Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 56.62; LTL Holdings Inc., gas, 235.29; N&B Gas Co., heating fuel, 1,293.75; Pease General Store, shop supplies, 36.86; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 403.38; R&K Motor Parts, repairs/oil/filters, 708.30; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,463.95; Russ Crosley, garbage, 46.00; Santee Utility Commission, garbage, 65.00; State of Nebraska Motor Fuels Division, gas tax, 2,090.00; Straight-line Striping Inc., centerline striping, 45,539.15; Sucha Repair, oil/grease/oxygen/acetylene, 423.83; US Cellular, cell phones, 542.91; Verdigre Collision Repair, repairs, 177.95; Verdigre Eagle, publishing, 158.74; Verdigre Farm Service, oil/gas/diesel/def, 964.83; Vic's Service LLC, gas/ shop supplies, 326.84; Village of Niobrara, water/sewer, 43.25; Village of Verdigre, water/sewer/garbage, 85.00

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 168.91; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 81.00. **VISITOR'S PROMO FUND.** Lewis & Clark SRA, promo grant, 1,000.00.

ROD PRES./MOD FUND. MIPS Inc., computer program, 389.88. **C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND.** Salaries, 1,771.02; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 135.48; Creative Revolution, website, 249.99; Growing Small Town Nebraska Podcast, advertising, 300.00; NEDA, dues, 150.00; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 119.54; US Cellular, cell phones, 123.24.

INHERITANCE FUND. Cedar County Transit, public transit, 2,100.00; Knox County Treasurer, transfer to from Inheritance Fund to General Fund, 200,000.00; Mark D. Albin, court appointed attorney, 1,780.29.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. City of Norfolk, networking, 44.74; Motorola Solutions Inc., maintenance, 2,494.45; OPTK Networks, networking, 228.44.


911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. City of Norfolk, networking, 104.38; OPTK Networks, networking, 533.04. **911 WIRELESS SERVICE HOLDING FUND.** Motorola Solutions Inc., maintenance, 5,820.40.

TOTALS

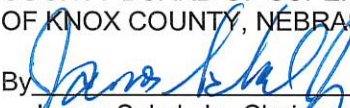
General Fund	\$217,741.80
Road Fund	189,393.89
Child Support Fund	249.91
Visitor's Promo Fund	1,000.00
ROD Pres./Mod Fund	389.88
C&C Development Fund	2,849.27
Inheritance Fund	203,880.29
911 Emergency Fund	2,767.63
911 Wireless Service Fund	637.42
911 Wireless Service Holding Fund	5,820.40
Total	\$624,730.49

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 11:38 a.m. on October 16, 2024 until Wednesday, October 30, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. for a regular meeting.
I, Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk, do hereby certify that the County Board of Supervisors' minutes are correct to the best of my knowledge.

ATTEST:


Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk



COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA
By 
James Sokol, Jr., Chairman

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
October 30, 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, October 30, 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.

Supervisor Liska 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 Bloomfield Monitor and Verdigre Eagle newspapers, as shown by the Affidavits 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.

County Clerk Fischer read the minutes of the October 16, 2024 meeting. Chairman Sokol, Jr. approved the minutes of the October 16, 2024 meeting.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the public comment session at 9:43 a.m. Brad Young gave public comments regarding wind turbines and zoning regulations.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce that all claims except Claim #24100284 payable to Elder Law and Estate Planning, 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.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Borgmann that Claim #24100284 payable to Elder Law and Estate Planning in the amount of \$21,938.37, 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, #6 and #7. Nays none. Abstain District #5. Motion carried.

Claims totaling \$1,286,585.48 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Liska to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of October 14 – 25, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Schlote to accept the resignation of Creighton Township Chairman Brady Wortman and the appointment of Bronson Pahl as Creighton Township Chairman. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the public comment session at 9:58 a.m.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 9:59 a.m. for Board of Equalization

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:08 a.m. with all members present.

Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the Board of Adjustments September 26, 2023 meeting minutes. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Discussion was held on a potential Cedar/Knox County Emergency Management Region. Discussion was held on the recent Cedar County Commissioners' meeting that Chairman Sokol, Jr. and E.M. Jelinek attended, funding, that the Federal Government is phasing out the match funding, splitting the Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator position so each has a stand-alone official, advertising on Indeed, the new Emergency Manager would need to be certified within the first twelve months of hire, and hiring wage. County Clerk Fischer will advertise the position on Indeed as well as placing it on the Knox County Nebraska Courthouse Facebook page.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Antelope/Knox County bridge project update; 2.) Motorgrader operating training is taking place for newer employees; 3.) Bridge inspections are ongoing; 4.) The Federal Bridge letting date is December 12, 2024 for the Center West Bridge project; 5.) Seeding is completed on the Verdigre North Federal Bridge project; 6.) Oil Crew update; 7.) Discussed cost of renting equipment to cut cedar trees along the Rec Road.

Insurance Agent Jeff Hammer met with the Board with proposed insurance premiums for the 2025 health insurance and the dental/vision insurance. The health insurance premiums increased approximately 5%. Discussed was the possible review of claims if more employees add a spouse or family and stipend options. Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgman to approve the 90 Degree Benefits Health Insurance 2025 premiums starting January 1, 2025 noting that the County will pay the full premiums for eligible employees as follows: eligible employee policy - \$1,020 per month; eligible employee plus spouse - \$1,965 per month; eligible employee plus child(ren) - \$1,645 per month; eligible employee plus family - \$2,910 per month, and the opt-out taxable stipend - \$396.50 per month (\$183.00 per 26 pay periods), with the addition that the Board will review the premiums, claims and other costs of the insurance benefit on a regular basis to determine if any changes to the insurance benefit is needed. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #2, #3, #4, #5 and #7. Nays none. Abstain Districts #1 and #6. Motion carried.

Agent Hammer informed the Board that the vision insurance premiums were not increasing but there is a slight increase of the dental insurance premiums for 2025. The County pays for a single dental/vision insurance policy for eligible employees while eligible employees can enroll spouses, children, or family in the dental/vision insurances with employee payroll deduction for these premiums. Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Liska to approve the 2025 Principal Insurance dental/vision insurance premiums starting January 1, 2025 as follows: County pay eligible employee dental premium at \$38.72 per month and vision premium at \$7.94 per month for a total of \$46.66 per month; eligible employee pay spouse dental premium at \$37.89 per month and vision premium at \$7.89 per month for a total of \$45.78; eligible employee pay child(ren) dental premium at \$57.07 per month and vision premium at \$9.89 for a total of \$66.96 per month; and eligible employee pay family dental premium at \$101.80 per month and vision premium at \$19.76 for a total of \$121.56 per month. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #2, #3, #4, #5 and #7. Nays none. Abstain Districts #1 and #6. Motion carried.

Officials' updates were as follows: 1.) County Clerk Fischer gave an update on the progress of the 2024 General Election. Also, the National Operation Green Light project will take place from November 4 – 17, 2024; 2.) Sheriff Henery updated the Board on the recent missing child case. Also, he informed the Board that there have been no applicants for the dispatcher/jailer positions; 3.) Chairman Sokol, Jr. received and read a resignation letter from Knox County Attorney

John Thomas who plans to resign effective December 31, 2024 and recommended the Board appoint Deputy County Attorney Hanna Knox Jensen to fill his unexpired term as Knox County Attorney. Deputy County Attorney Knox Jensen discussed the matter with the Board and asked the Board to consider keeping County Attorney Thomas on as an assistant starting January 1, 2025 due to upcoming trials with the proposal that, as assistant, Mr. Thomas' salary would be what Deputy County Attorney Knox Jensen is currently receiving and with no insurance benefits and staying on as assistant until after one of the upcoming murder trials. Chairman Sokol, Jr. asked that the matter be placed on the agenda for the November 13, 2024 meeting and asked that County Attorney Thomas be present at the meeting; 4.) Supr. Mackeprang informed the Board that he has not heard back yet if he will be dismissed from the North Fork wind lawsuit; 5.) Deputy County Attorney Knox Jensen updated the Board on the recent ordering of an autopsy of a young woman who passed away suddenly. Supr. Mackeprang questioned autopsy policies and that it would be beneficial to have written rules regarding County paid autopsies.

Supr. Mackeprang left the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Pierce to go into closed session at 11:20 a.m. to discuss the North Fork Wind lawsuit. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated that the closed session will be held to discuss the North Fork Wind lawsuit. Also present during the closed session was Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek. The Board came out of closed session at 12:03 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Pierce to close at 12:03 p.m. the closed session held on discussion of the North Fork Wind lawsuit. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 105,062.87; Applied Connective Technologies LLC, network switch, 475.00; Bob Barker Company, jail supplies, 53.09; Bomgaars, paint, 13.98; Candlewood Suites, lodging, 489.85; COIX Health, medical records, 20.00; CMart LLC, gas, 53.72; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 8,175.09; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 464.00; Crowne Plaza Kearney, lodging, 124.95; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, radios, 161.00; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, teletype, 1,075.20; Eakes Office Solutions, copier agreement, 245.55; Election Systems & Software Inc., election, 4,443.88; First National Bank Omaha, office supplies/meals/gas/postage, 5,535.11; Grafix Shoppe, graphics for patrol vehicle, 404.88; John Thomas, mileage, 241.20; Knox County Sheriff, paper fees, 2.00; Knox County Treasurer, transfer from General Fund to Road Fund and Flowage Easement Fund, 432,212.70; Kustom Signals Inc., signals, 1,806.56; MIPS Inc., joint public hearing postcards, 1,199.00; Moody Motor Company, repairs, 77.25; NACT, office supplies, 360.00; Plainview News, publishing, 64.00; Police Officers' Association of Nebraska, dues, 20.00; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 67.77; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 7,479.96; Tyler Technologies, Vetraspec subscription, 449.00; University of Nebraska-Lincoln UNL AEM Business Center, salary, 17,959.42; Verdigre Eagle, publishing, 84.00; Verdigre Printworks, printing, 570.00; Village of Center, water/sewer/garbage, 516.00.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 36,805.98; Black Hills Energy, heating fuel, 196.98; Bomgaars, shop supplies/repairs/oil/tools, 652.38; Cedar-Knox Public Power District, electricity, 117.53; City of Bloomfield, water, 25.00; CMart LLC, gas, 80.10; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,815.68; First National Bank Omaha, subscription, 239.88; Grossenburg Implement, repairs, 815.79; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., gas, 891.00; Hrbek Construction, equipment rental, 10,780.00; Kayton International Inc., equipment rental, 2,626.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 134.28; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,428.70; Steffen's Service Station, gas, 325.99; Vakoc Excavating LLC, gravel, 51,053.45; Village of Center, water/sewer, 34.00; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 8,991.09.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. First National Bank Omaha, zoom subscription, 168.69.

COUNTY WELLNESS FUND. Knox County Treasurer, transfer from County Wellness Fund to General Fund, 250,000.00.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 1,779.55; First National Bank Omaha, gas/postage/meals, 517.09.

INHERITANCE FUND. Elder Law and Estate Planning, special attorney fees, 21,958.37; Knox County Treasurer, transfer from Inheritance Fund to General Fund, 303,240.92.

TOTALS

General Fund	\$589,907.03
Road Fund	119,013.83
Child Support Fund	168.69
County Wellness Fund	250,000.00
C&C Development Fund	2,296.64
Inheritance Fund	325,199.29
Total	\$1,286,585.48

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 12:04 p.m. on October 30, 2024 until Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. for a regular meeting.

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

ATTEST:

Joann M. Fischer
Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk



COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

By James Sokol, Jr., Chairman

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
November 13, 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, November 13, 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.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. 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 Bloomfield Monitor 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.

County Clerk Fischer read the October 30, 2024 meeting minutes. Chairman Sokol, Jr. approved the minutes of the October 30, 2024 meeting.

The public comment session was opened at 9:45 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce 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. A full list of claims totaling \$282,205.73 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to place on file the October 28 – November 8, 2024 Receipts Revenue List. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to approve the cancellation of Check #24060196 payable to Overhead Door Company of Sioux City, Iowa in the amount of \$788.00 paid from the Road Fund. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the County Treasurer's Report of two Distress Warrants delivered to the County Sheriff for collection in the total amount of \$1,920.15 and such report shows that the County Sheriff has collected the total amount due. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the Clerk of District Court October 2024 Fee Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Pierce to reappoint Highway Superintendent Kevin R. Barta, License #S-1109, Class A, employee of Knox County, with a beginning date of January 1, 2025 and to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 34** authorizing Chairman Sokol, Jr. to sign the Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent Form for Determining Incentive Payment in Calendar Year 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION
SIGNING OF THE
YEAR-END CERTIFICATION OF COUNTY HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT
2024**

Resolution No. 2024 – 34

Whereas: State of Nebraska Statutes, sections 39-2302, and 39-2501 through 39-2505 detail the requirements that must be met in order for a county to qualify for an annual Incentive Payment; and

Whereas: The State of Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) requires that each county must annually certify (by December 31st of each year) the appointment(s) of the County Highway Superintendent(s) to the NDOT using the Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent form; and

Whereas: The NDOT requires that such certification shall also include a copy of the documentation of the county highway superintendent's appointment, i.e., meeting minutes showing the appointment of the County Highway Superintendent by their name as it appears on their License (if applicable), their License Number (if applicable) and Class of License (if applicable), the type of appointment, i.e., employed or under contract (consultant, or interlocal agreement with another county and/or incorporated municipality), and the beginning date of the appointment; and

Whereas: The NDOT also requires that such Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent form shall be signed by the County Board Chairperson and shall include a copy of a resolution of the County Board authorizing the signing of the Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent form by the County Board Chairperson.

Be it resolved that the County Board Chairperson of Knox County is hereby authorized to sign the attached Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent form(s).

Adopted this 13th day of November, 2024 at Center, Nebraska.

County Board Members

Kevin Mackeprang /s/

Danny R. Schlote /s/

David L. Pierce /s/

James Sokol, Jr. /s/

Martin J. O'Connor /s/

James Borgmann /s/

Patrick J. Liska /s/

County Board Member Supr. Liska

Moved the adoption of said resolution

Member Supr. Pierce Seconded the Motion

Roll Call: 7 Yes 0 No 0 Abstained 0 Absent

Resolution adopted, signed and billed as adopted

Attest: (Seal)

Joann M. Fischer /s/

(Signature of Clerk)

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to change the last meeting date in December to Monday, December 23, 2024 and the first meeting date in January 2025 to Thursday, January 9, 2025. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

The public comment session was closed at 10:02 a.m. No one gave public comment.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 10:03 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Equalization reconvened at 10:11 a.m. with all members present.

Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the October Permits Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Liska to approve Administrative Plat Application #P2412 Gary Hoebelheinrich for a zoning boundary adjustment of Lots 105 and 106, The Timbers subdivision. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 3.) Discussion was held on the Herzog Modification of a DEE Permit. Present were feedlot owners Mark and Laura Miller as well as Andy Scholting with Nutrient Advisors. Discussed were permits, not modifying the 20,000 head limit on the permit, additional area being considered but not additional cattle, the property is titled as under one name but the permit has a different name, and location of the holding pond. County Attorney Thomas informed the Board that the County doesn't have control over DEE (formerly DEQ) and the County is limited to zoning on agricultural land as well as limiting animal unit numbers but not building of structures. Mr. Scholting said there will be no animals on the property in question as the pens are located elsewhere and the DEE inspects all phases of the project to be sure it is built to the approved plans; 4.) Discussed Emergency Manager position. Selected applicants will be interviewed on November 27, 2024; 5.) The Planning Commission approved a Conditional Use Permit for Brenna Pahl of Bazile Mills for the expansion of her daycare. A public hearing will be held on December 11, 2024; 6.) Discussed disposal of surplus equipment.

Discussion ensued on trapping in road ditches, regarding safety and statutes. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Schlote to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 35** prohibiting trapping in County and Township road right-of-ways. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 35

Whereas, Nebraska Revised Statute §37-513(2)(a) states “Any county may adopt a resolution having the force and effect of law to prohibit the trapping of wildlife in the county road right-of-way or in a certain area of the right-of-way as designated by the county”, and

Whereas, Nebraska Revised Statute §37-513(2)(c) also states “For purposes of this subsection, county road right-of-way means the area which has been designated a part of the county road system and which has not been vacated pursuant to law”, and

Whereas, the Knox County Board of Supervisors’ February 26, 2009 meeting minutes show that the Board approved sending a letter to then Senator Cap Dierks stating that the Knox County Board of Supervisors’ supported the adoption of LB 5 that would allow trapping in road right of ways with the roll call vote as follows: Ayes Districts #2, #5, #6 and #7, Nays Districts #1 and #3. Absent was District 4, and

Whereas, concerns have been brought to the attention of the current Knox County Board of Supervisors for the safety of the public and the county road employees who may enter the county road right-of-way and be unaware of traps in such county road right-of-way, and

Be It Therefore Resolved, the Knox County Board of Supervisors, as per Nebraska Revised Statute §37-513(2)(a) have the force and effect of law, and, do hereby prohibit the trapping of wildlife in the county and township road right-of-ways in Knox County.

Dated this 13th day of November 2024.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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

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

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

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

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

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

Discussion was held on legal representation for Supr. Kevin Mackeprang in the North Fork Wind LLC lawsuit. As Supr. Mackeprang has a contract with North Fork Wind LLC but still named in the lawsuit, it was recommended he find his own legal representation. County Attorney Thomas was present and told the Board that he cannot represent Supr. Mackeprang. Supr. Mackeprang retained Attorney Julie M. Ryan with Abrahams Kaslow & Cassman LLP of Omaha. Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Chairman Sokol, Jr. to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 36** approving the retainer of Attorney Julie M. Ryan of Abrahams Kaslow & Cassman LLP of Omaha and to approve the retainer fee of \$3,000 and an hourly rate at the current rate of \$260 per hour for legal fees and expenses. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 36

WHEREAS, The County of Knox, its Supervisors, and members of the Knox County Planning Commission have been named as defendants, in their official capacities, in a certain case currently pending in the United States District Court for the District of Nebraska at 4:24-cv-03150 (“the Lawsuit”); and

WHEREAS, Neb. Rev. Stat. §23-1203 confers authority upon the County of Knox to employ additional counsel in civil matters as it may deem necessary; and

WHEREAS, the County of Knox deemed it necessary and in its best interests to employ attorney David D. Begley as Special County Attorney for the Lawsuit, and

WHEREAS, Kevin D. Mackeprang, Supervisor for District #5 ("Supervisor Mackeprang") in Knox County has a conflict of interest as he has a contract with North Fork Wind, LLC on personal real estate, and

WHEREAS, Supervisor Mackeprang has been advised to seek legal counsel to represent him in the Lawsuit and has engaged Attorney Julie M. Ryan with Abrahams Kaslow & Cassman LLP ("AK&C") of Omaha, and

WHEREAS, the Chairman of the Knox County Board of Supervisors was authorized to enter into an hourly fee agreement with Attorney David D. Begley for his reasonable compensation with respect to the Lawsuit, and

WHEREAS, Attorney Julie M. Ryan's letter of engagement (such letter of engagement is attached to this Resolution) states that her current hourly rate for this engagement is \$260 with an anticipated increase in the hourly rate effective January 1, 2025, noting that adjustments are made from time to time, and

WHEREAS, a request was made in the letter of engagement that a \$3,000 retainer fee be paid to AK&C within thirty days from November 8, 2024, with the right for AK&C to apply such amounts to payment of legal fees and expenses at any time after the legal fees or expenses have been incurred, and

BE IT THEREFORE, RESOLVED, the County of Knox will pay Abrahams Kaslow & Cassman LLP a retainer fee of \$3,000 with the addition of an hourly rate and all legal fees and expenses incurred in the representation of Supervisor Mackeprang in the case currently pending in the United States District Court for the District of Nebraska at 4:24-cv-03150.

Dated this 13th day of November 2024.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

<u>James Sokol, Jr. /s/</u> James Sokol, Jr., District #4, Chairman	<u>Martin J. O'Connor /s/</u> Martin J. O'Connor, District #1	<u>Patrick J. Liska /s/</u> Patrick J. Liska, District #2
<u>David L. Pierce /s/</u> David L. Pierce, District #3	<u>Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/</u> Kevin D. Mackeprang, District #5	<u>Danny R. Schlote /s/</u> Danny R. Schlote, District #6
ATTEST: (Seal) <u>Joann M. Fischer /s/</u> Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk	<u>James J. Borgmann /s/</u> James J. Borgmann, District #7	

County Attorney Thomas met with the Board regarding his letter of resignation. County Attorney Thomas will resign as County Attorney effective December 31, 2024 and recommends the appointment of current Deputy County Attorney Hanna Knox Jensen to fill his unexpired term as the Knox County Attorney. Also discussed was retaining County Attorney Thomas as an assistant to assist with the upcoming trials, the wage for being assistant to be the current rate Mrs. Jensen is currently receiving, which is 40% of the County Attorney's wage, and possibly staying on as assistant for two years. After discussion, motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to accept the resignation of County Attorney John Thomas effective December 31, 2024, and to accept the recommendation and to appoint Deputy County Attorney Hanna Knox Jensen as the Knox County Attorney to fill the unexpired term of Knox County Attorney John Thomas effective January 1, 2025. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to retain John Thomas as an assistant to Hanna Knox Jensen after she is sworn in as the Knox County Attorney to fill the unexpired term, the wage for being assistant to be the current deputy wage of 40% of the County Attorney's wage, Mr. Thomas to receive an health insurance opt-out stipend beginning January 1, 2025 and that Mr. Thomas can retain his current dental/vision insurance, life insurance and any other enrollments that he currently has as of December 31, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #2, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays District #1. Motion carried.

Committee updates were as follows: 1.) Chairman Sokol, Jr. informed the Board discussion was held on having the roof inspected; 2.) Supr. Mackeprang said the Region IV meetings take place on Wednesdays so is a conflict with the Board meetings.

Officials' updates were given as follows: 1.) Sheriff Henery said that one applicant has accepted a job offer as dispatcher/jailer and another one will start in December. Also, a retired State patrolman will be interviewed to fill a deputy position; 2.) Review of the law enforcement billing to Crofton City; 3.) County Clerk Fischer updated the Board on the successful Operation Green Light Project. Also, an update on the 2024 General Election process; 4.) County Treasurer Ebel said revenues are very slow coming in and officials should curb spending.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Bridge Crew update; 2.) Center line striping has been completed; 3.) Bridge inspections have been completed and the information now must be entered on the computer; 4.) Discussed repairs to the District #2 truck; 5.) The driveway has been completed to the Crofton Fire rural location.

Supr. Mackeprang left the meeting at 11:31 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Liska to go into closed session at 11:31 a.m. to discuss pending litigation on the North Fork Wind, LLC, etal vs Knox County etal lawsuit. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held on pending litigation namely the North Fork Wind, LLC, etal vs Knox County, etal lawsuit. The Board came out of closed session at 12:03 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Liska to close at 12:03 p.m. the closed session held on pending litigation namely the North Fork Wind, LLC, etal vs Knox County, etal lawsuit. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was district #5. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 102,754.54; Antelope County Sheriff, house inmate/medical treatment, 2,520.00; Applied Connective Technologies, it costs, 9,561.76; Big Red Mini Mart, gas, 45.61; Bloomfield Pharmacy, medication, 14.80; Classic Carpet Care, mop rental, 45.00; Cmart LLC, gas, 65.57; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,862.31; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 24,431.45; CVSOAN, dues, 100.00; D&L Tire LLC, tires, 981.96; David Arens, mileage correction, 6.30; Dean Wilken, mileage correction, 3.51; Des Moines Stamp Mfg. Co., stamps, 83.00; Doug DeShazer, mileage correction, 3.60; Eakes Office Solutions, copier agreement/janitor supplies, 531.03; Ecowater, bottled water, 598.00; Election Systems & Software Inc., election ballots, 3,070.50; Farmers & Merchants State Bank, stop check fee, 30.00; Gragert's Grocery, jail food, 1,017.49; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet/fax, 1,691.04; Greg D Kuhlman, mileage correction, 3.60; Holt County Independent, publishing, 164.30; Jim Kotrous, mileage correction, 2.88; Keith Nielsen, mileage correction, 2.43; Kelly Hanvey, reimburse dues, 50.00; Kenneth R. Tusha DDS, prisoner medical treatment, 903.00; Knox County Sheriff, paper fees, 2.00; Kristine Tramp, mileage, 69.68; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 144.98; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 40.50; MIPS Inc., computer program, 878.86; N&B Gas Company, propane, 585.20; NACO, dues, 2,174.00; Nebraska Sheriff's Association, memberships, 530.00; Neil Clausen, mileage correction, 5.04; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 1,852.72; O'Neill Shopper, publishing, 244.20; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 2,296.08; Platte Valley Communications, radio repair, 237.70; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 1,098.09; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 113.82; R.S. Technologies Inc., program subscription, 500.00; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 7,235.86; Robert D Larsen, mileage correction, 1.35; Robert Ganz, mileage correction, 1.98; Tri County Abstract & Title, title searches, 718.00; U-Save Pharmacy, medication, 59.37; US Cellular, cell phones, 185.75; US Cellular, cell phones, 465.20; Verdigre Farm Service, gas, 162.14; Willie's Service, oil change, 52.33; Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, publishing, 416.90.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 37,686.17; Art's Garbage, garbage, 18.00; B's Enterprises Inc., asphalt patch mix, 924.00; Big Red Mini Mart, gas 79.95; Bohemian One Stop, gas, 886.04; Central Valley Ag, equipment rental, 600.00; City of Creighton, water/sewer, 138.87; Clark's Rentals Inc., equipment rental, 845.00; Cmart, gas, 283.20; Cmart LLC, gas, 152.54; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,836.83; Cornhusker International Trucks inc., repairs, 238.52; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 10,497.68; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 386.78; Crowne Plaza Kearney, lodging, 123.95; Fairfield Inn & Suites, lodging, 247.90; Farmers Pride, propane/diesel, 5,126.24; Frevert Excavating LLC, equipment rental, 3,400.00; Great Plains Communications, phone, 201.62; Hefner Hardware, shop supplies, 64.98; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 1,860.00; Husker Steel, steel, 939.00; J&J Sanitation, garbage, 49.00; Jebro Inc., crs-2, 5,051.63; Kayton International Inc., equipment rental/repairs, 2,538.35; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 56.62; Linn Post & Pipe Inc., repairs, 38.09; LTL Holdings Inc., gas, 193.33; N&B Gas Company, propane, 308.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 39.10; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 238.32; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 403.38; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,488.12; Rohrer Welding, repairs, 424.35; Sucha Repair, filters/repairs, 820.93; US Cellular, cell phones, 543.24; Verdigre Farm Service, gas/diesel, 3,777.79; Village of Niobrara, water/sewer, 43.25; Village of Verdigre, water/sewer/garbage, 77.00.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Great Plains Communication, phone/internet/fax, 168.40; Maximus Inc., cost allocation, 1,250.00; Microfilm Imaging Systems Inc., scanner rent, 81.00.

ROD PRES/MOD FUND. MIPS Inc., computer program, 389.88.

COUNTY STOP PROGRAM FUND. Kustom Signals Inc., signals, 900.00.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND. NENEDD, admin fees, 1,870.00.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 1,751.20; Great Plains Communication, phone/internet/fax, 61.96; US Cellular, cell phone, 61.15.

INHERITANCE FUND. Cedar County Transit, public transit, 2,100.00; Copple Rockey Schlecht Mason PC LLO, court appointed attorney, 805.22; Jamie Miller Legal Services LLC, court appointed attorney, 6,731.88; Rodney W. Smith, public defender contract, 2,083.33; Stratton DeLay Doele Carlson, court appointed attorney, 294.50.

KENO FUND. City of Creighton, lottery proceeds, 640.98.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. City of Norfolk, networking, 44.74; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 234.56; OPTK Networks, networking, 228.44; Three River Telco, phone, 66.42.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. City of Norfolk, networking, 104.38; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 406.46; OPTK Networks, networking, 533.04 Three River Telco, phone, 154.99.

TOTALS

General Fund	\$176,615.43
Road Fund	84,627.77
Child Support Fund	1,499.40
ROD Pres/Mod Fund	389.88
County Stop Program Fund	900.00
Economic Development Fund	1,870.00
C&C Development Fund	1,874.31
Inheritance Fund	12,014.93
Keno Fund	640.98
911 Emergency Fund	574.16
911 Wireless Service Fund	1,198.87
Total	\$282,205.73

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 12:03 p.m. on November 13, 2024 until Wednesday, November 27, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. for a regular meeting.
I, Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk, do hereby certify that the County Board of Supervisors' minutes are correct to the best of my knowledge.

ATTEST:

Joann M. Fischer
Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk



COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

By James Sokol, Jr.
James Sokol, Jr., Chairman

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
November 27, 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, November 27, 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.

Supervisor O'Connor 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 newspapers, 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.

County Clerk Fischer read the minutes of the November 13, 2024 meeting. Chairman Sokol, Jr. approved the minutes of the November 13, 2024 meeting.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the public comment session at 9:45 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Liska that all claims except Claim #24110223 payable to Elder Law and Estate Planning, 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.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Schlote that Claim #24110223 payable to Elder Law and Estate Planning in the amount of \$2,646.00, 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, #6 and #7. Nays none. Abstain District #5. Motion carried.

Claims totaling \$401,664.39 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Liska to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of November 11 – 22, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Pierce to accept the resignation of Herrick Township Treasurer Kathleen Peschel and the appointment of Cynthia Overhue as Herrick Township Treasurer. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

The Board and officials discussed 2025 proposed holidays. After a discussion, motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Liska to set the 2025 Holidays/Courthouse closings as follows: New Year's Day January 1; Martin Luther King, Jr. Day January 20; Presidents' Day February 17; Memorial Day May 26; Independence Day July 4; Labor Day September 1; Columbus Day/Indigenous People's Day October 13; Veterans' Day November 11; Thanksgiving November 27; Thanksgiving Friday November 28; Christmas December 25; and day after Christmas December 26, 2025. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts Nays none. Motion carried.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the public comment session at 10:07 a.m. No one gave public comment.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 10:08 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:17 a.m. with all members present.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Pierce to go into closed session at 10:17 a.m. so as to not cause injury to individuals' reputations when discussing personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Also present were County Clerk Fischer and Hwy. Supt. Barta. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held so as not to cause injury to individuals' reputations when discussing personnel. The Board came out of closed session at 10:42 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to close at 10:42 a.m. the closed session held on personnel. By call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Bridge Crew update; 2.) Snow fence is being put up; 3.) Discussed roadside mowing; 4.) Oil Crew update; 5.) Reviewed report of the number of loads of asphaltic oil purchased from 2020 through 2024.

The sealed bid opening for the sale of a 500-gallon fuel barrel located at the Verdigre County Yard was held at 11:00 a.m. One bid was received and was from Bohemia Township in the amount of \$250. Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to accept the sealed bid from Bohemia Township in the amount of \$250 for a 500-gallon fuel barrel located at the Verdigre County Yard. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek met with the Board on the following: 1.) Discussed selling radio or giving excess equipment to local fire departments; 2.) Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to approve Administrative Plat Application #P2415 Chad Walvoord for a boundary adjustment between two parcels in the E1/2SW1/4NE1/4 of Section 18, T33N, R4W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 3.) Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Pierce to approve Administrative Plat Application #P2414 Leslie Hutmman for a boundary line adjustment in the S1/2NE1/4 of Section 27, T32N, R3W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 4.) Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Schlote to approve Administrative Plat Application #P2413 Andy Doerr for a 5.01-acre tract split in the NE1/4SE1/4 of Section 14, T29N, R5W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 5.) Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Liska to place on file the Planning Commission's Report to Board of Supervisors recommending the approval of Conditional Use Permit #CU2402 Brenna Pahl to change her daycare application from Family Child Care Home I to Family Child Care Home II noting the public hearing will be held during the Board of Supervisors' meeting on December 11, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 6.) Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to place on file the Planning Commission's August 13, 2024 meeting minutes. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 7.) Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to reappoint Jim Kotrous, Neil Claussen and Robert Larsen to the Planning Commission for additional three-year terms. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 8.)

Update on Riverpoint Bay Subdivision and a possible replat; 9.) Update on Safety Committee meeting held before the Board of Supervisors' meeting.

Officials' updates were given by the following: 1.) Sheriff Henery discussed an upcoming cybersecurity training to be held in Ainsworth, job applicants' interviews are taking place, and Crofton City has hired a police officer; 2.) County Clerk Fischer updated the Board on the ballot initiatives that were voted in and when they go into effect. Also discussed was the overturned labor law that was to take place on January 1, 2025; 3.) Supr. Mackeprang informed the Board that the Region IV meetings will not conflict with the Board meetings as they will be held on opposite Wednesdays to the Board meetings. Also, the North Central District Health Department meetings are being held via Zoom for the time being because the District's office building is being renovated. Updated information was given regarding the recent Economic Development meeting that Supervisors Mackeprang and Borgmann attended; 4.) County Treasurer Ebel said that tax notices will be mailed in the coming week.

Supervisor Mackeprang left the meeting at 11:26 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to go into closed session regarding the North Fork pending litigation at 11:26 a.m. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held on the North Fork pending litigation. The Board came out of closed session at 12:10 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Pierce to close at 12:10 p.m. the closed session held on the North Fork pending litigation. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess for lunch at 12:10 p.m.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. and Supervisors Liska and Borgmann left the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

Supervisor Mackeprang returned to the meeting at 12:50 p.m.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 1:00 p.m. with Supervisors O'Connor, Mackeprang, Schlote and Pierce present. Absent were Chairman Sokol, Jr. and Supervisors Borgmann and Liska. Vice-Chairman O'Connor presiding.

In-person interviews of the Knox County Emergency Manager position applicants Donna Hays of Creighton, Jamie Novacek of Verdigre and Austin Taylor of Osceola, Iowa were held. After a discussion, motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce to offer the position of Knox County Emergency Manager to Austin Taylor of Osceola, Iowa. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #5 and #6. Nays none. Absent Districts #2, #4 and #7. Motion carried. Mr. Taylor accepted the job offer with a starting date of December 23, 2024.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 103,106.12; Applied Connective Technologies, access points, 403.22; B&H Publishing Inc., publishing, 177.60; Cassie Stark, decals, 100.00; Clerk of District Court, filing fees, 224.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,897.00; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 24,431.36; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 41.46; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, backup/radios, 633.00; David A Arens, meeting/mileage, 71.90; Dean Wilken, meeting/mileage, 51.13; Dollar General, jail food/jail supplies, 105.25; Egan Supply Co., janitor supplies, 40.32; Fairfield Inn & Suites, lodging, 123.95; First National Bank Omaha, gas/lodging/jail food/postage/election supplies, 6,850.36; Floor Maintenance & Paper Supply Co., supplies, 582.06; GiGi Larsen, election help, 639.27; Greg D Kuhlman, meeting/mileage, 57.16; Jane Wilmes, election help, 662.72; Jim Kotrous, meeting/mileage, 46.44; Keith Nielsen, meeting/mileage, 43.09; Knox County Court, pending/dismissed cases, 698.00; Knox County Sheriff, paper fees, 302.90; Knox County Treasurer, transfer from General Fund to Road Fund, 128,971.78; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 144.97; MIPS Inc., programming, 878.86; NACO, registrations, 1670.00; Nebraska Weed Control Association, dues, 235.00; Neil Clausen, meeting/mileage, 62.52; NIRMA, registration, 75.00; Norfolk Area Shopper, publishing, 154.50; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 18.45; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 1,098.09; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 77.39; R&K Motor Parts, oil/filter, 244.22; RR Donnelley, gun certificates, 114.82; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 7,282.89; Robert D. Larsen, meeting/mileage, 37.06; Robert Ganz, meeting/mileage, 39.74; Secretary of State Elections Division, id cards, 20.00; Steven Banks, reimburse registration, 10.00; Verdigre Eagle, publishing, 1,700.86; Verdigre PrintWorks, envelopes, 1,267.00.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 38,890.14; Black Hills Energy, heating fuel, 195.72; Bloomfield Auto Parts, filters/repairs, 82.44; Carlson Home & Auto Supply, tire repair, 50.00; Cedar-Knox Public Power District, electricity, 123.12; CHS, gas/diesel, 1,190.86; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,928.93; County of Kox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 10,497.64; D&L Tire LLC, tires/tire repair, 1,125.46; First National Bank Omaha, lodging/meal/queries, 260.98; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel/tank, 2,620.00; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, shop supplies, 156.32; Joel S. Suhr, clay, 450.00; Lawson Products, shop supplies, 2,098.04; Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 56.62; MRJ Engineering, engineer fees, 24,750.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 149.53; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 403.38; R&K Motor Parts, repairs/filters, 498.38; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,569.41; Russ Crosley, garbage, 46.00; Steffen's Service Station, gas, 588.51; Straight-line Striping Inc., centerline striping, 9,133.20; Titan Machinery Inc., repairs, 62.05; Truck Center Companies, repairs, 514.95; Vakoc Excavating LLC, sand, 1,200.00; Vic's Service LLC, gas, 101.00; Village of Wausa, water/sewer, 122.60.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 168.91; MIPS Inc., jury list, 325.00.

ROD PRES./MOD FUND. MIPS Inc., computer program, 389.88.

COUNTY WELLNESS FUND. David Huigens, reimburse deductible, 250.00; Heather Kienow, reimburse deductible, 250.00.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND. NENEDD, admin fees, 337.50.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 1,890.33; Comfort Inn, lodging, 175.77; First National Bank Omaha, leadership/gas, 320.18; NEDA, dues, 150.00; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 110.00.

INHERITANCE FUND. Albin Law Office, court appointed attorney, 384.75; Elder Law and Estate Planning, special county attorney, 2,646.00; Fitzgerald, Vetter & Temple, court appointed attorney, 522.50.

KENO FUND. First National Bank Omaha, postage, 18.85; J&J Sanitation, deer dumpsters, 520.00.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. First National Bank Omaha, battery/ink/certification, 923.48.

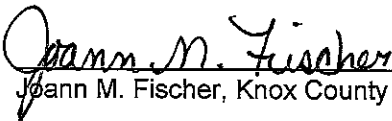
911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. First National Bank Omaha, certification, 24.50.

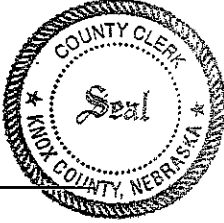
TOTALS	
General Fund	\$291,391.46
Road Fund	100,865.28
Child Support Fund	493.91
ROD Pres/Mod Fund	389.88
County Wellness Fund	500.00
Economic Development Fund	337.50
C & C Development Fund	2,646.28
Inheritance Fund	3,553.25
Keno Fund	538.85
911 Emergency Fund	923.48
911 Wireless Service Fund	24.50
Total	\$401,664.39

Vice-Chairman O'Connor adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 27, 2024 until Wednesday, December 11, 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:


Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk



COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

By 
James Sokol, Jr., Chairman

By 
Martin J. O'Connor, Vice-Chairman

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
December 11, 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, December 11, 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. Schlote 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 Bloomfield Monitor 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.

County Clerk Fischer read the November 27, 2024 meeting minutes. Chairman Sokol, Jr. approved the minutes of the November 27, 2024 meeting.

Correspondence reviewed was a letter from the Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs certifying that Kelly Hanvey is eligible for the Knox County Veterans Service Officer position.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Liska that all claims, except Claim #24120124 payable to Abrahams, Kaslow & Gassman, 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.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang, that Claim #24120124 payable from the Inheritance Fund to Abrahams, Kaslow & Gassmann in the amount of \$2,132.00, 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.

A full list of claims totaling \$331,281.47 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

The public comment session was opened at 9:45 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Liska to place on file the November 25 – December 6, 2024 Receipts Revenue List. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the Official Bond and Oath of Herrick Township Clerk Cynthia Overhue. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to place on file the Clerk of District Court November 2024 Fee Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to authorize Chairman Sokol, Jr. to sign the Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Justice Partnership Comprehensive Community Planning Team Memorandum of Understanding between Madison County and Knox County. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the job offer extended to and accepted by Austin Taylor for the Knox County Emergency Manager position at the November 27, 2024 meeting. Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to approve the appointment of Austin Taylor as the Knox County Emergency Manager effective December 23, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 10:01 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:08 a.m. with all members present.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the public comment session at 10:09 a.m. No one gave public comment.

Sheriff Henery, Deputy County Attorney Jensen, and the Board discussed a tort claim filed by James Wright in the amount of \$545.14 for medical costs associated with being cleared to be placed in the Knox County jail. Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang directing Sheriff Henery to work with Avera to receive Medicaid rates on the claim filed by James Wright for medical costs associated with being cleared to be placed in the Knox County jail and for Knox County to pay the Medicaid rates to Avera Patient Financial Services on the claim of James Wright. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Schlote to approve the 2025 Printing Report as follows: Legal papers – Creighton News and Crofton Journal; Printing of Delinquent Tax List – Niobrara Tribune and Wausa Gazette; Printing of County Treasurer's Semi-Annual Report – Bloomfield Monitor and Verdigre Eagle; and notices of road work and bridge and improvements to be published in the newspaper nearest to the project or improvement. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Bridge Crew update; 2.) Discussed leasing four tractors for the Oil Crew from Grossenberg Implement in Bloomfield. The cost would be \$25 per hour; 3.) The bid date for the Center West bridge project is December 12, 2024; 4.) Requests have been made for more signs for Amish traffic on Highway 13; 5.) A meeting with Attorney David Domina regarding the Lazy River Acres area will be held on Tuesday, December 17, 2024 at noon; 6.) Discussed was the reopening of a portion of 538 Avenue (Platted Road #720) in Hill Township. Deputy County Attorney Jensen is drafting a purchase agreement, and the process will proceed.

Committee update was given by Supr. Pierce on the Northeast Nebraska Area Agency on Aging (NENAAA) Fiscal Year 2024 report. In fiscal year 2024, NENAAA provided services in Knox County with expenditures of \$162,683 and Knox County's assessment was \$6,906. Knox County provided 10,214 congregate and home-delivered meals and there were 830 total contacts of Care Management and the Aged and Disabled Medicaid Waiver Program in Knox County.

Officials' update was given by the following: 1.) Sheriff Henery informed the Board that the new pickup is here so the used pickup will be given to the Road Department. Also, he is still attempting to fill dispatcher/jailor positions; 2.) Deputy County Attorney Jensen updated the Board on a recent death of an infant that statutorily required an autopsy; 3.) Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek said Cuming County Emergency Manager Jeff McGill left that position. McGill was the Northeast District representative on the NRIN Board so with his exit there will now be an opening on the

NRIN Board; 4.) Supr. Mackeprang updated the Board on recent CPA classes that Deputy County Attorney Jensen and he have attended. One of the new implementations was the sales tax exemption on the purchase of diapers in Nebraska. Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the November Permit Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) The December Planning Commission meeting was canceled. The next meeting will be January 14, 2025; 3.) Discussed the gWorks program; 4.) Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the advertised public hearing at 10:45 a.m. for Conditional Use Permit Application #CU2402 Brenna Pahl for the upgrade from Family Home 1 Daycare to Family Home 2 Daycare with a max capacity of twelve children at 405 Bazile Washington ST, Creighton NE (Bazile Mills). Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the public hearing at 10:49 a.m. No one was present in opposition. Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 37** approving Conditional Use Permit Application #CU2402 Brenna Pahl to upgrade from Family Home I Daycare to Family Home II Daycare located at Lot 6, Block 4 Acre Tract in Section 4, T29N, R5W, Village of Bazile Mills, contingent that Mrs. Pahl meet all requirements of the State of Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 37

WHEREAS, Brenna Pahl has applied for Conditional Use Permit #CU2402 to upgrade from Family Home I Daycare to Family Home II Daycare on the following described real estate:

The property is located in Knox County at LOT 6, BLOCK 4 ACRE TRACT 4-29-5, VILLAGE OF BAZILE MILLS, CREIGHTON, NEBRASKA 68729.

WHEREAS, the Knox County Planning Commission has given public notice and held a public hearing on November 12, 2024, and December 11, 2024, and

WHEREAS, the Knox County Planning Commission has found that the application complies with the Knox County Zoning Regulations, and hereby makes a recommendation to approve the permit with the following conditions:

1. Applicant meets all requirements of the State of Nebraska.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS that the Brenna Pahl's Conditional Use Permit #CU2402 be approved.

Dated this 11th day of December 2024.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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

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

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

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

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

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

Cedar County Transit Manager Nikki Pinkelman met with the Board regarding a 2025 Purchase of Service Contract for transportation services between Cedar County and Knox County. Review was made of the Knox County Rider Statistics comparison between 2023 and 2024. The service is beneficial to Knox County residents who live thirty miles from Hartington. State and Federal governments do not dictate rates, so the trip rates are set by local boards. Medicaid pays for many trips and Manager Pinkelman collaborates with the people who qualify for the Medicaid-paid trips. Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Schlote to approve the Purchase of Service Contract for Transportation Services between Cedar County Transit and the Knox County Board of Supervisors for affordable transit service assistance from Cedar County Transit from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 with monthly costs to Knox County in the amount of \$2,500 to cover operating costs for public transit services to Knox County. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Supr. Mackeprang left the meeting at 11:21 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Liska to go into closed session at 11:21 a.m. on pending litigation namely the North Fork Wind, LLC, etal v Knox County, etal lawsuit. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held on pending litigation namely the North Fork Wind, LLC, etal v Knox County, etal lawsuit. The Board came out of closed session at 12:10 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Liska to close at 12:10 p.m. the closed session held on pending litigation namely the North Fork wind, LLC, etal v Knox County, etal lawsuit. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

Supr. Liska left the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 103,946.37; Antelope County Sheriff, house inmate, 1,350.00; Bloomfield Pharmacy, medication, 14.80; Blue360 media, law books, 195.30; Bomgaars, supplies, 66.43; Bonnie R Cash, prior service, 9.00; Cathleen Sue Stark, prior service, 12.00; Chad Vanness, mileage, 34.84; Classic Carpet Care, mop rental, 30.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,950.64; Connie J Janecek, prior service, 15.00; Cornhusker State Industries; award, 39.00; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 24,431.45; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, teletype, 537.60; Diane L Eckert, prior service, 36.00; Don Henery, mileage, 64.40; Eakes Office Solutions, copier agreement/janitor supplies/paper, 881.90; Ecowater, bottled water, 273.00; Gary D Marshall, prior service, 12.00; Gragert's Grocery, jail food, 626.68; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet/fax, 1,613.72; Hampton Inn, lodging, 139.00; Hanna LK Jensen, mileage, 268.94; Jacquelyn E Meier, prior service, 21.00; James F Janecek, prior service, 21.00; Jo Ann Eisenbeiss, prior service, 45.00; Joann Fischer, reimburse title fees, 20.00; Julie Dather, mileage, 24.12; Julie K. Rayer, prior service, 12.00; Karen Riesberg, prior service, 21.00; Kristine Tramp, mileage, 34.84; Laura Hintz, prior service, 15.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 144.98; Lois Colwell, prior service, 27.00; Megan Dufek, mileage, 16.08; Megan Hanefeldt, mileage, 17.42; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 40.50; MIPS Inc., computer program, 878.86; Moody Motor Company, truck, 48,900.00; NACO, dues, 450.00; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 1,940.35; Pitzer Digital,

publishing/subscription, 64.00; Pocket Press, law books, 259.75; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 1,098.09; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 230.70; Rebekah Poppe, mileage, 17.42; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 7,336.78; Security Shredding Services, shredding, 200.00; Sharla Hanzlik, mileage, 29.48; US Cellular, cell phones, 185.75; US Cellular, cell phones, 150.20; Verdigre Eagle, publishing, 104.00; Verdigre Farm Service, gas, 108.51; Vic's Service LLC, assessor tire, 169.99; Village of Center, water/sewer/garbage, 468.00; Virginia Buerman, prior service, 27.00.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 37,955.26; Avera Medical Group, drug test, 50.00; B's Enterprises Inc., grader blades, 2,520.00; Bauer Built Inc., tire repair, 175.00; Bazile Creek Power Sports, repairs, 197.57; Big Red Mini Mart, gas, 38.02; Bohemian One Stop, gas, 382.30; Bomgaars, repairs/oil filters/shop tools/snow fence, 1,683.65; CHS, gas/diesel, 894.60; City of Bloomfield, water, 25.00; Cmart, gas, 216.94; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,857.39; Cornhusker International Trucks Inc., repairs, 4,139.7580; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 10,497.68; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 12.22; Crofton Lumber, repairs, 14.97; Farmers Pride, propane/diesel/def/tote, 5,363.62; Great Plains Communications, phone, 201.40; Grossenburg Implement, repairs/filters, 3,837.55; Hrbek Construction, equipment rental, 550.00; J&K Auto, gas, 92.00; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, shop supplies, 129.55; JEO Consulting Group Inc., engineer fees, 8,104.20; Lawson Products, repairs, 328.04; LCL Truck Equipment Inc., repairs, 4,587.07; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 56.62; Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fees, 272.50; Medical Enterprises Inc., drug/alcohol test, 75.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 49.28; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 300.01; Powerplan, repairs, 411.44; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 403.38; R&K Motor Parts, repairs/filters, 1,250.88; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,506.28; Riverside Hydraulics Inc., repairs, 667.80; Santee Utility Commission, garbage, 130.00; Spencer Quarries Inc., red rock, 911.53; Sucha Repair, filters/oil/flood lights/weld rod, 1,032.29; US Cellular, cell phones, 543.24; Verdigre Farm Service, gas/diesel, 4,682.64; Vic's Service LLC, gas/tire repair, 575.06; Village of Center, water/sewer, 34.00; Village of Niobrara, water/sewer, 44.50; Village of Verdigre, water/sewer/garbage, 85.00; Walton Electronics, cable, 12.95; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 14,483.69.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Great Plains Communication, phone/internet/fax, 169.51; Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 168.91; Microfilm Imaging Systems Inc., scanner rent, 81.00.

ROD PRES/MOD FUND. MIPS Inc., computer program, 389.88.

COUNTY WELLNESS FUND. Name Redacted, reimburse deductible, 250.00; Name Redacted, reimburse deductible, 250.00.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 1,751.20; Great Plains Communication, phone/internet/fax, 62.02; US Cellular, cell phone, 61.65.

INHERITANCE FUND. Abrahams Kaslow & Cassman LLP, special county attorney, 2,132.00; Cedar County Transit, public transit, 2,100.00; Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fees, 1,149.21; Rodney W. Smith, public defender contract, 2,083.37.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 234.56; OPTK Networks, networking, 228.44; Three River Telco, phone, 66.42.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 406.46; OPTK Networks, networking, 533.04 Three River Telco, phone, 154.99.

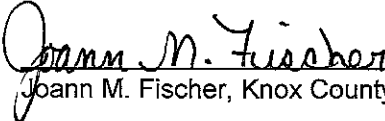
TOTALS	
General Fund	\$205,626.89
Road Fund	113,381.92
Child Support Fund	419.42
ROD Pres/Mod Fund	389.88
County Wellness Fund	500.00
C & C Development Fund	1,874.87
Inheritance Fund	7,464.58
911 Emergency Fund	529.42
911 Wireless Service Fund	1,094.49
Total	\$331,281.47

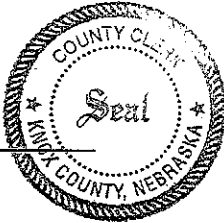
Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 12:11 p.m. on December 11, 2024 until Monday, December 23, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. for a regular meeting.

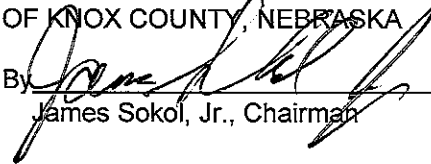
The Knox County Employee Potluck Christmas dinner was held on December 11, 2024 at noon and Chairman Sokol, Jr. and Supervisors Borgmann, O'Connor, Pierce, and Schlote attended the lunch. No County business took place.

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

ATTEST:


Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk



COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA
By 
James Sokol, Jr., Chairman

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
December 23, 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 Monday, December 23, 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, Danny R. Schlote District #6 and James J. Borgmann District #7. Absent was Supervisor Kevin D. Mackeprang District #5. Chairman Sokol, Jr. presiding.

Supervisor Borgmann 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.

Supr. O'Connor read the minutes of the December 11, 2024 meeting as County Clerk Fischer was detained. Chairman Sokol, Jr. approved the minutes of the December 11, 2024 meeting.

Correspondence reviewed was the following: 1.) A copy of a letter from the Nebraska Dept. of Environment and Energy addressed to Mark Miller/Epic Land and Cattle, LLC-Herzog Feedlot regarding a modified Construction and Operating Permit for phased livestock waste control facilities; 2.) Letter from State of Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects informing the Board that the architecture (A-2159) and professional engineering (E-9749) licenses of Tobias (Toby) S. Gay of Columbus, Nebraska were revoked.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the public comment session at 9:45 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, 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, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried. Claims totaling \$450,278.24 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the public comment session at 10:01 a.m. No one gave public comment.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moved the Board recess at 10:02 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:08 a.m. with all members present except Supervisor Kevin D. Mackeprang District #5.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of December 9 – 19, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

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

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce 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, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to place on file the Official Bond and Oath for Herrick Township Clerk Joyce Woodbury. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the Official Bond and Oath for North Frankfort Township Clerk Thomas L. Sobotka. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 38** to hire attorney David D. Begley as Special County Attorney to file a lawsuit against NIRMA in order to resolve the insurance policy coverage issue arising regarding the North Fork Wind LLC et al vs Knox County, et al lawsuit and to authorize Chairman Sokol, Jr. to sign the Hourly Fee Agreement between Elder Law and Estate Planning of Nebraska, David D. Begley, P.C., L.L.O. with respect to the NIRMA insurance coverage dispute and lawsuit. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 38

WHEREAS, the County of Knox, its Supervisors and members of the Knox County Planning Commission have been named as defendants, in their official capacities, in a certain case currently pending in the United States District Court for the District of Nebraska at 4:24-cv-03150 ("the Lawsuit");

WHEREAS, the County of Knox purchased from the Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Association ("NIRMA") an insurance policy to provide coverage for lawsuits against its public officials;

WHEREAS, the County of Knox has made demand upon NIRMA to pay Special County Attorney David D. Begley's fees in the Lawsuit, but after an appeal hearing NIRMA has refused to pay the attorney's fees of the Special County Attorney;

WHEREAS, the Neb. Rev. Stat. §23-1203 confers authority upon the County of Knox to employ additional counsel in civil matters as it may deem necessary;

WHEREAS, the County of Knox deems it necessary and in its best interests to employ attorney David D. Begley as Special County Attorney in order to file a lawsuit against NIRMA with respect to the insurance policy coverage issue;

WHEREAS, the Chairman is hereby authorized to enter into an hourly fee agreement with attorney David D. Begley for his reasonable compensation with respect to the Lawsuit;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, that the County of Knox, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §23-1203, employs attorney David D. Begley as Special County Attorney to file a lawsuit against NIRMA in order to resolve the insurance policy coverage issue arising regarding the Lawsuit.

DATED this 23rd day of December, 2024.

COUNTY OF KNOX
James Sokol, Jr. /s/
By James Sokol, Jr., Chairman

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

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Update on the recent NACO Conference; 2.) Recap of the Center West bridge project. Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Liska to adopt **Resolution #2024 – 39** providing for the construction of the Center West Federal Aid County Project and authorizing the Knox County Chairperson to sign future contract(s) with the low bidder being Herbst Construction, Inc., LeMars IA for the work on the Center West Federal Aid County Project. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2024 – 39

WHEREAS, there has been signed by the COUNTY OF KNOX on the 27th of February, 2020, and the State on the 5th day of March, 2020, an agreement providing for the construction of a Federal Aid County Project at the following location: CENTER WEST, and

WHEREAS, in the above agreement, the County has pledged sufficient funds to finance its share of the cost of the construction of this project identified as BRO-7054(22), and

WHEREAS, the above mentioned agreement provided that the County will pay costs as set forth in the agreement, and

WHEREAS, the State, on behalf of the County received bids for the construction of this project based on the final plans and specifications on December 12, 2024, at which time 9 bid(s) were received for the construction of the proposed work, and

WHEREAS, the following Contractor(s) for the items of work listed has/have been selected as the low bidder(s) to whom the contract(s) should be awarded:

HERBST CONSTRUCTION, INC., LE MARS, IA 51031-0728

GRADING, CULVERT, SEEDING, BRIDGE AT STATION 28+70, GUARDRAIL, GENERAL ITEMS:
\$2,034,034.00

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of above facts, the KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, by this resolution, takes the following official action:

1. If for any reason the Federal Highway Administration rescinds, limits its obligations, or defers payment of the Federal share of the cost of this project, the County hereby agrees to provide the necessary funds to pay for all costs incurred until and in the event such Federal funds are allowed and paid.
2. The Board hereby concurs in the selection of the above mentioned Contractor(s) for the items of work listed, to whom the contract(s) should be awarded.
3. The Board hereby approves of the final plans and specifications that were used in the bidding process for this project.
4. The Board hereby authorizes the Board Chairperson to sign the contract(s) with the above mentioned Contractor(s) for the above mentioned work on behalf of the County using State's standard contract signing process, including when applicable, an electronic or digital signing process such as DocuSign®.

DATED this 23rd DAY OF DECEMBER, A.D. 2024

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
James Sokol, Jr. /s/
(Chairperson)

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

Board Member Supr. Pierce
Moved the adoption of said resolution,
seconded by Supr. Liska
Roll Call: 6 yea, 0 nay, 1 absent.
Resolution adopted, signed and billed as
adopted.

Hwy. Supt. Barta continued with the following: 3.) Knox County was not selected in Round Nine of the County Bridge Match Program; 4.) NIRMA will conduct a sign audit January 6 and 7, 2025; 5.) January 14, 2025 will be a bridge inspection training; 6.) The State will be reviewing 120 bridges, the qualifying inspections and work done with a grading process to follow the review; 7.) Hwy. Supt. Barta and Deputy County Attorney Jensen discussed with the Board the recent meeting with Attorney David Domina regarding the Lazy Rivers Acres area; 8.) Update on the Heimes/Jansen lawsuit that has now been RULED by the District Court Judge.

Officials' update was given by the following: 1.) Sheriff Henery discussed the recent NACO Conference where plans by NACO are to push for the licensing of UTVs with the licensing fees to be used towards the replacement of inheritance tax revenue to Counties; 2.) County Clerk Fischer asked the Board about continuance of professional counseling for employees.

Newly appointed Emergency Manager Austin Taylor updated the Board on current work and research of new projects.

A telephone conference with held with Extension Educator Megan Hanefeldt regarding the appointment of Justin Avery of Center to the Knox County Extension Board, replacing Scott Ruzicka whose position termed out. Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Liska to appoint Justin Avery of Center to the District Three position on the Knox County Extension Board for a three-year term. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Pierce to go into closed session at 10:47 a.m. on pending litigation namely the North Fork Wind, LLC, etal v Knox County, etal lawsuit. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held on

pending litigation namely the North Fork Wind, LLC, etal v Knox County, etal lawsuit. The Board came out of closed session at 11:22 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce to close at 11:22 a.m. the closed session held on pending litigation namely the North Fork Wind, LLC, etal v Knox County, etal lawsuit. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

In recognition of many years of service to Knox County, Chairman Sokol, Jr. presented plaques to outgoing District #2 Supervisor Patrick J. Liska, County Attorney John Thomas who will be stepping back from being County Attorney and retiring Veterans Service Officer Gary Jones. Following the adjournment of the meeting, a luncheon for the honorees along with their families and friends, County Officials, and employees was held in the Basement Conference Room.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 98,640.36; Bloomfield Dental Clinic, medical treatment, 476.00; Clerk of District Court, filing fees, 36.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,535.15; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 34,370.00; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 109.79; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, backup, 472.00; Dollar General, jail supplies, 17.50; Farmers Pride, tower propane, 200.05; Flock Group Inc., license plate readers, 9,450.00; Great Plains Communications, tower internet, 64.52; Knox County Treasurer, transfer from General Fund to Road Fund, 128,971.78; KV Electric, repairs/heater, 924.33; Landmark Surveying, survey fees, 3,400.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 139.01; Lois Kumm, jail food, 26.00; MIPS Inc., programming, 878.86; MIPS Inc., freight, 90.60; Moody Motor Company, repairs, 169.24; NACO, registrations, 350.00; Nebraska Weed Control Association, registration, 150.00; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 512.49; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 1,096.51; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 333.29; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 6,923.16; U-Save Pharmacy, meds, 39.58; Verdigre FFA Alumni, table rent, 50.00; Village of Center, water/sewer/garbage, 480.00.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 39,338.98; Ag & Industrial Equipment, repairs, 50.63; Art's Garbage, garbage, 18.00; Black Hills Energy, heating fuel, 147.56; Bloomfield Auto Parts, repairs, 85.49; Bruce Hagge, prior service, 24.00; Bruce Peters, prior service, 24.00; Cedar-Knox Public Power District, electricity, 187.85; Cmart LLC, gas, 80.38; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,961.70; County of Kox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 12,290.00; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 304.83; Freeman Oil CO LLC, diesel, 873.14; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel/oil, 8,063.43; Hrbek Construction, equipment rental, 1,980.00; J&J Sanitation, garbage, 49.00; Kayton International Inc., equipment rental, 6,984.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 56.62; LTL Holdings Inc., gas, 165.90; Marc Mastalir, prior service, 21.00; Medical Enterprises Inc., drug test, 35.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 200.24; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 108.00; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 419.94; Reading Truck Equipment LLC, repairs, 2,375.38; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,599.70; Russ Crosley, garbage, 46.00; Schaefer Grain & Feed Co., road salt, 4,454.10; Scott Grim, prior service, 30.00; Truck Center Companies, repairs, 203.47; Vakoc Excavating LLC, gravel, 39,396.05; Village of Center, water/sewer, 34.00.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Postmaster, postage, 1327.20.

VISITOR'S PROMO FUND. Southeast South Dakota Tourism Assn, advertising, 962.00.

ROD PRES./MOD FUND. MIPS Inc., computer program, 389.88.

COUNTY WELLNESS FUND. Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, wellness, 8,936.92; Name Redacted, reimburse deductible, 250.00.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 1,767.62; Beth Rudloff, leadership meal, 70.00.

INHERITANCE FUND. Brogan Lamml PC, court appointed attorney, 2,297.55; Egley Fullner, Montag, Morland & Easland PC, court appointed attorney, 2,460.10; Elder Law and Estate Planning, special county attorney, 8,978.40; Jamie Miller Legal Services LLC, court appointed attorney, 1,417.52; Mark D Albin, court appointed attorney, 1,230.40.

KENO FUND. J&J Sanitation, deer dumpsters, 526.92.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. City of Norfolk, networking, 44.74.

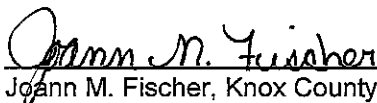
911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. City of Norfolk, networking, 104.38.

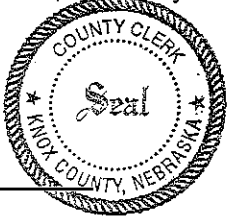
TOTALS	
General Fund	\$295,906.22
Road Fund	123,608.39
Child Support Fund	1,327.20
Visitor's Promo Fund	962.00
ROD Pres/Mod Fund	389.88
County Wellness Fund	9,186.92
C & C Development Fund	1,837.62
Inheritance Fund	16,383.97
Keno Fund	526.92
911 Emergency Fund	44.74
911 Wireless Service Fund	104.38
Total	\$450,278.24

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, December 23, 2024 until Thursday, January 9, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. for a statutory reorganizational meeting.


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

ATTEST:


Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk



COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

By 
James Sokol, Jr., Chairman
