

PROCEEDINGS OF THE DODGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Regular meeting of the Dodge County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Missel at 9:01 A.M. on Wednesday, January 25, 2023 in the Board Room of the Courthouse, Fremont, Nebraska with the following members present: Beam, Weddle, Strand, Backens, Missel, Tawney and Bendig. Absent: None. Prior to roll call Chairman Missel announced the meeting to be an open public meeting and that the current open meeting laws are posted on the wall and available for anyone's review.

The Board unanimously declared the meeting legally convened.

The Board unanimously approved the agenda as printed and received and placed on file correspondence from Charter Communications regarding a change in channel lineup, Official Bond & Oath for Robin E. Geis-White, Platte Township Board, Official Bond & Oath for Amanda Johnson, Treasurer, Ridgeley Township Board, Continuation Certificate for Donald F. Paseka, Maple Township Board, correspondence from Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District regarding the Urban Conservation Assistance Program and the Recreation Area Development Program, Minutes of the January 17, 2023 Planning Commission Meeting, Certificates of Insurance for Telaid Industries, Inc., City of Fremont - Department of Utilities, Platte and Maple Townships, 2022 Annual Report of Livestock Friendly County for Dodge County, NIRMA Safety Shorts for January 2023, correspondence from Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy regarding letter of Noncompliance for RMG Fremont LLC concerning violations of NDEE Title 124-Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems located at 549 E. County Road T, Fremont, NE, correspondence from NIRMA to Larry Klahn regarding the ASSIST Grant of \$1,400.00 to be used for a post pounder for the highway department, Moving Permit for Ellingson Drainage to move a plow, excavator, and dozer over county roads from January 16 to January 23, 2023 and Moving Permit for Barnhart Crane to move a self-propelled crane over Highway 77 and County Road T to Norag, 549 County Road T and return January 24 to January 27, 2023.

The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the January 11, 2023 meeting as printed.

At 9:05 A.M., the Board recessed as a Board of Supervisors and convened as a Board of Corrections. Chairman Missel dispensed with roll all members being present.

Under any items of discussion, Supervisor Beam reported that the average daily inmate count for the month of January is 79. Currently there are 81 inmates in custody with 65 of them being held in Saunders County, 10 in Washington County, 2 at the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services, 2 at the Lincoln Regional Center and 2 are under house arrest. Supervisor Beam also reported that the Dodge County Sheriff's Department (including jail staff), the Dodge County jail committee, Washington County Sheriff's Department (jail staff) and Dodge County Attorney Pam Hopkins met two weeks ago to discuss the housing of inmates. Saunders County Corrections is having a difficult time finding and retaining corrections officers to supervise female inmates. They have also been transporting inmates to Washington County due to their staffing issues. County Attorney Hopkins said she sent the existing contract between Dodge County and Saunders County for the housing of inmates to Washington County for their review; she is hopeful that the only changes will be to logistics and expectations. Washington

County would prefer to contract directly with Dodge County instead of going through Saunders County. County Attorney Hopkins is anticipating having an agreement with Washington County for the Board to review within the next few weeks.

At 9:09 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Corrections until Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 9:05 A.M.

Immediately thereafter, the Board reconvened as a Board of Supervisors. Chairman Missel dispensed with roll all members being present.

The Board unanimously approved the wage & hour claims as submitted in the amount of \$299,574.38.

The Board unanimously approved the financial claims as submitted in the amount of \$486,915.91.

The Board unanimously approved the appointment of Scott Huppert as the 2023 Dodge County Highway Superintendent, Class A License number S-1402, to serve from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

The Board unanimously received the 2022 Noxious Weed Control Plan, the 2022 Activity Report and other related reports from Weed Superintendent Larry Klahn and approved and authorized Chairman Missel to sign the reports as submitted. Superintendent Klahn told the Board that the county utilized a drone to spray weeds along the Platte River in 2022. The drone makes it possible to spray weeds that would otherwise be difficult or impossible to reach. Mr. Klahn said the 26 miles of river shoreline that are typically sprayed would take him 4-5 days to complete; the same job takes about 2 days using the drone.

Committee Reports – Chairman Missel reported that he has completed the updates to the committee assignments for 2023. He will send the updated document to the county clerk's office. He encouraged the Board members to reach out to their respective agencies so they know who their county representative is. Supervisor Bendig reported that Erickson & Brooks has completed the audit of Dodge County for fiscal year ending 6/30/22. Chairman Missel also told the Board about the Ice Jam Risk Indicator that is on the National Weather Service Website. Supervisor Backens reported that the Merit Commission selected one candidate out of four interviewed who will be going to the Law Enforcement Academy in May. Chairman Missel also cited several legislative bills being introduced this session that may be of interest to county officials.

At 9:30 A.M., a Public Hearing was held to consider the request of Kenneth, Sandra and Kevin Hasemann of 1 Pioneer Lake, North Bend, NE 68649 to subdivide a 6.55-acre tract and obtain a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for an existing dwelling as per Article 12 Section 2. Conditional Uses 4.2 Exemptions B. located in part of SW ¼ and part of NW ¼ of Section 22, Township 19 North, Range 7 East in Everett Township, Zoning District A-1, Intensive Ag. Zoning Administrator Jean Andrews reported that the Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of this CUP. Hearing no testimony for or against the request, the Board unanimously accepted the recommendation of the Planning Commission and approved the CUP based on the

conditional use conforms to the intent and purpose of the regulations and the use conforms to the regulations of the district in which it is located.

A Public Hearing was scheduled at 9:35 A.M. to consider amending the Dodge County Zoning Regulations, Supplemental Regs, Article 25, Section 23 Wind Energy Conversion Facilities. Zoning Administrator Jean Andrews told the Board this is a work in progress and she will continue to research regulations that other Nebraska counties have developed. She plans to get input from public utility companies and the University of Nebraska Extension as well. No action was taken by the Planning Commission on this matter. Supervisor Strand said he thinks it's important for Dodge County to develop some regulations to get something in place before there is a need instead of developing something quickly to accommodate a request that may come in the future. The Board took no action on the matter.

Zoning Administrator Jean Andrews told the Board about the NIRMA virtual HR Roundtable event to be held at noon on February 2, 2023 entitled "Supervisor's Role in Maintaining Harassment Free Workplace" and she encouraged participation. Supervisor Backens asked Ms. Andrews who is going to install the county road signs that are to be installed throughout the county. She said it has been mentioned that the Roads Department employees are going to do the installation, but she added that the department is currently 4 employees short. Supervisor Backens asked if local firefighters could install the signs. Ms. Andrews said they could, but there will be a lot of prep work (i.e. locating underground utilities) that will have to be done ahead of the installation. Supervisor Bendig said American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds are allocated for this project.

The Board unanimously approved an Interlocal Agreement with Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District and the City of Scribner to split the cost of an additional 947.54 ton of rock riprap to complete the Elkhorn "Streambank Stabilization Repair Project" and authorized Chairman Missel to sign the agreement. The Dodge County Highway Department has rock riprap on hand that can be used to complete the project, so the county may not have to actually expend any money.

County Attorney Pam Hopkins updated the Board on the status of the Opioid Litigation Settlement payments coming to Dodge County. A distributor payment of \$12,074.92 and a Janssen payment of \$11,398.75 (total \$23, 473.67) will be received at the end of February. She also said the county attorney training facilitated by the County Attorney Association was cancelled due to the inclement weather last week. She plans to attend the training when it is rescheduled.

At 9:50 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Supervisors until Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 9:00 A.M.

At 10:03 A.M., the Board convened as a Board of Equalization. Chairman Missel dispensed with roll all members being present.

The Board unanimously approved tax roll corrections #5548 through #5560.

The Board unanimously received correspondence from Dodge County Assessor Debbie Churchill regarding state statute 77-202.11 (2) requirement "By January 31,

2023, the state and each Governmental Subdivision shall provide to the appropriate County Assessor a copy of each lease in effect on January 1 of the current year for property owned by the State or Governmental Subdivision(s).” Effective January 1, 2023, property owned by the State and its Governmental Subdivision(s) **NOT BEING USED OR DEVELOPED FOR USE FOR A PUBLIC PURPOSE**, shall be subject to taxation and authorized Chairman Missel to sign the bottom of the letter affirming that Dodge County does not have property being leased for any purpose.

The Board unanimously received Form 451 – Exemption Application for Tax Exemption on Real and Personal Property from Iglesia Apostolica de la fe en Cristo Jesus for tax year 2023 and authorized the county clerk’s office to publish a notice for a public hearing scheduled for 10:05 A.M. on February 8, 2023 to decide on the tax status of this organization.

At 10:10 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Equalization until Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 10:00 A.M.

Micki Gilfry
Dodge County Clerk