

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 9:00 A.M. on Wednesday, March 22, 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 county official's report, Board of Trustees Minutes for February 13, 2023 meeting and Statement of Revenues and Expenses YTD Comparison for the eight months ending February 28, 2023 & 2022 for Fremont Community Health Resources, the most recent opioid settlement payment schedules from the following: Allergan, CVS, TEVA, Walgreens & Walmart, correspondence from Omaha Steaks announcing the transition of their Snyder, Nebraska production facility to two production facilities in Omaha, Certificate of Insurance for Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company and Pleasant Valley Township, Notice of Public Hearing for Cuming County Planning Commission on Monday, March 20, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. and the Cuming County Board of Supervisors on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at 10:15 A.M. to hear an amendment to the Cuming County Zoning Regulations regarding the Floodplain Overlay District, Notice of Public Hearings of the Scribner Planning Commission on Monday, March 27, 2023 at 12:00 P.M. regarding Hoppe Single Family Housing Redevelopment Plan and the Scribner City Council on Monday, March 27, 2023 at 6:45 P.M. for the Hoppe Single Family Housing Redevelopment Plan (both meetings to be held at the Community Room at City Hall, 530 Main Street, Scribner, NE), and Notice of Public Hearing on March 15, 2023 for Douglas County Environmental Services regarding Wigle SUP Property and relative zoning regulations, Article 2 Definitions.

The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the March 8, 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 there are currently 71 inmates in custody. The daily average inmate count for the year is 80. In the month of January there were 216 inmates booked into custody; in the month of February there were 209 inmates booked into custody and so far for the month of March, 173 have been booked into custody. County Attorney Hopkins said the negotiations continue with Washington County regarding the housing of inmates. The contract, with Dodge County's input, is in the hands of the Washington County Attorney right now. She also reported that the judges are receptive to strict home confinement with electronic monitoring for inmates with extreme medical needs. This will reduce the county's cost for medical care for these inmates because they are able to tend to their medical needs with their regular health care provider while still being electronically monitored. Supervisor Beam said Saunders County is anxious for there to be a resolution with Washington County regarding the housing of inmates. County Attorney Hopkins said if

this doesn't move forward, the jail committee may want to meet to determine another course of action. The main points of contention in the contract with Washington County are the daily rate and payment for the supervision and security of inmates who are hospitalized while in custody at the Washington County Jail.

At 9:07 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Corrections until Wednesday, April 5, 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 \$268,312.84.

The Board unanimously approved the request for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds on Project 19-EM-005 Rod & Gun Club Repairs and authorized Chairman Missel and County Clerk Gilfry to sign the request for General Administration Costs of \$5,460.00 (To NENEDD). This is the final payment for Project 19-EM-005 Rod & Gun Club Repairs.

The Board unanimously approved a payment to Motorola Solutions for change orders made throughout the radio project. It was pointed out that the annual maintenance fees on the radio system will be the only payments to Motorola in the future for this project.

The Board unanimously approved the financial claims as submitted in the amount of \$1,038,254.76.

Regarding the payment schedules for the recent opioid settlements that were received earlier in the meeting, Supervisor Strand asked how this money will be budgeted. County Attorney Hopkins said there are restrictions on how these funds can be spent and it has been discussed that a committee should be established to set the guidelines for this. She thinks the first priority should be surveillance and data collection (which is an allowable expenditure of these funds) to identify the needs in the community. There are no deadlines for spending this money and the first payments will not be received until the end of this year. Supervisor Tawney said Region VI will be a good resource for determining how to spend these funds.

The Board unanimously approved the application for FY2024 Juvenile Services Commission Grant Program and authorized Chairman Missel's signature on the document before submittal to the Nebraska Crime Commission.

The Board unanimously approved a Grant Management Policy for Dodge County, Nebraska. Supervisor Bendig reported that the county's auditors, Erickson & Brooks, said the county needs a policy to track and manage grants.

The Board unanimously approved a \$41,500 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) expenditure for Courthouse Security Cameras (\$42,000) and Security Alarms (\$7,000). A NIRMA ASSIST Grant for \$7,500 was secured which makes the total ARPA expenditure \$41,500.

Committee Reports – Supervisor Bendig reported that he invited Applied Connective Technologies (the county’s IT provider) & Tred-Mark Communications (the county’s current phone system provider) to come to the April 5, 2023 meeting to discuss the alternatives for upgrading the county’s current phone system and the advantages and disadvantages of different phone systems. Supervisor Tawney reported that on March 20 representatives from JEO Consulting met with property owners regarding the Rawhide Creek Watershed project; there were approximately 12 property owners that participated. He also reported that there will be a public meeting (open house) at Johnson Crossing Academic Center on March 30, 2023 from 5:30-7:30 for interested individuals to learn more about the Elkhorn Drainage project. Chairman Missel reported that he attended the Nebraska Association of County Officials regional meeting last Friday and learned about the bills being considered in the legislature this session. As of that date, no bills have been passed, but at this time last year, eighty bills had passed. Other topics discussed were early childhood education and care in Nebraska and the associated cost to families as well as the expansion of broadband in Nebraska. Chairman Missel also reported that he attended a PSAP (Public-safety answering point) meeting yesterday and Shelly Holzerland presented the budget for the next 2 fiscal years. Supervisor Backens reported that the Hooper and Winslow Fire Departments are on board with the new radio system. Dodge and Snyder Fire Departments have the radios that the county purchased, but have not obtained any other radios at this time. They are using the new radio system, but also use their own radio system as well since they communicate with surrounding counties. Saunders County will be joining the Dodge County radio system; Rey Freeman is helping with the setup. County Attorney Hopkins informed the Board that there will be a community roundtable discussion about public transportation needs in Fremont on April 14.

Zoning Administrator Jean Andrews reported that NIRMA will be holding a webinar on Friday, March 24 addressing the need for funds to improve cyber security. Supervisor Bendig said he has already filled out the application for funding with the help of Applied Connective and he will sit in on the webinar to learn more about how the funding can be spent. She reminded the Board once again about the NIRMA regional meetings held in April; they can register at NIRMA.info.

The Board unanimously approved the request of Highway Superintendent Huppert to advertise for bids for Paving Project 642, County Road 18, to be opened Monday, April 10, 2023 at 10:30 A.M. in the Office of the Dodge County Highway Department and authorized Chairman Missel’s signature on the Notice to Bidders. This is an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funded project.

The Board unanimously approved the request of Highway Superintendent Huppert to advertise for bids for construction of a concrete box culvert and grading for Project 640 to be opened Monday, April 10, 2023 at 11:00 A.M. in the Office of the Dodge County Highway Department and authorized Chairman Missel’s signature on the Notice to Bidders. This is an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funded project.

The Board unanimously received correspondence from the Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) regarding Project STP-79-3 (108) North Bend – US-30; C.N. 22752, authorized completion of the feedback form as to how the project impacts Dodge County and authorized the county clerk to mail the form back to NDOT.

Highway Superintendent Scott Huppert reported that his employees are sealing cracks as weather permits and will move on to pothole repairs and culvert installations next week. Superintendent Huppert purchased 1200 tons of crush and run rock from Martin Marietta at a reduced price as a result of the State of Nebraska purchasing this product in error for a project on Highway 91; he is stockpiling it. The contractor for the Elkhorn River Bridge project made an error that will have to be corrected at a cost of approximately \$14,000 that will be covered by the contractor. The Elkhorn River Streambank repair project is complete. Superintendent Huppert met with Graham Construction and the engineers regarding the Yager Road project. Graham will be fixing the problems that have been identified at their expense. These repairs will include completely tearing out concrete panels, replacing those panels, grinding down the center and fixing cracks with concrete epoxy. The repairs are to start within the next week. The bridge at County Roads 9 and G is being torn out. A brush hog will be brought in to clean up brush on West Military Road between Ridge Road and County Road 19. Superintendent Huppert found out about a state program that will pay for stop signs, posts and stop ahead signs for placement on the rural roads. He intends to find locations where these are needed and take advantage of this program. There will be a flagger and barricades class in April that will be held at the 935 Schneider Building. This class is put on for free by the Local Technical Assistance Program and there will be other counties involved with this as well. The Board members will be touring the Martin Marietta cave site at Fort Calhoun on Wednesday, March 29, 2023.

At 10:00 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Supervisors until Wednesday, April 5, 2023 at 9:00 A.M.

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

The Board unanimously approved 2020 tax roll correction #5581.

The Board unanimously accepted the recommendation of County Treasurer Bargstadt on form 457, Application for Exemption from Motor Vehicle Taxes for 2023 on a 2019 Chevy Impala from Midland University, 900 N. Clarkson, Fremont, Nebraska granted the exemption and authorized Chairman Missel to sign the form.

The Board unanimously received correspondence from the Nebraska Tax Equalization and Review Commission (TERC) regarding Notice of Appeal filed by various businesses and private property owners against the Dodge County Board of Equalization for 2022 valuations and referred it to the Dodge County Attorney's Office.

At 10:03 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Equalization until Wednesday, April 5, 2023 at 10:00 A.M.

Micki Gilfry
Dodge County Clerk