

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, February 8, 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 officials' reports, Board of Trustees Minutes for December 12, 2022 meeting; Statement of Revenue & Expenses YTD Comparison for the six months ending December 31, 2022 and 2021 for Fremont Community Health Resources, Bond Continuation Certificate for James M. Brabec, Platte Township Board, correspondence from the Jail Standards Division of the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice regarding the Jail Standards Inspection Report, information from Nebraska Loess Hills Resource Conservation & Development Council regarding 2022 projects and approval to renew \$350 sponsor membership (referred to the finance committee), Audit Report of Dodge County from Erickson and Brooks CPA for fiscal year ending 6/30/2022, Cancellation Notice of G & R Electric, Inc. for Worker's Compensation, Certificates of Insurance for G & R Electric, Inc. and Cotterell Township, Cuming County Public Notice for (2) Public Hearings of the Cuming County Planning Commission on February 15, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. for a Conditional Use Permit application for John Sedivy dba Walcroft Customs, LLC for the sale of custom-made firearms on property located at 2385 21st Rd, Section 8, T24N, R7E and for an amendment to Comprehensive Plan Chapter 11 & 12, NIRMA Safety Shorts for February 2023 and Moving Permit for Barnhart Crane to move a self-propelled crane over county roads January 25th thru 28th, 2023.

The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the January 25, 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 is 80. Currently there are 87 inmates in custody with 63 of them being held in Saunders County, 16 in Washington County, 3 at the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services, 2 at the Lincoln Regional Center, 2 are under house arrest and 1 at the Sarpy County Juvenile Justice Center. In the month of January, 139 inmates were booked into custody.

At 9:07 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Corrections until Wednesday, February 22, 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 \$275,568.39.

The Board unanimously approved the financial claims as submitted in the amount of \$304,274.15.

The Board unanimously received the *Participation Package* for Opioid Settlements with Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walgreens and Walmart and authorized Chairman Missel's signature on the documents. County Attorney Hopkins told the Board that the payments for this settlement are based on tiers. The more counties in Nebraska that participate, the more money the State of Nebraska will receive. At this time, it is difficult to determine an estimated dollar amount that Dodge County could receive because of all the factors that will go into the final calculation.

The Board unanimously approved the request of the Clerk's Office and authorized transfers to repay loans on interfund loan accounts created by audit adjusting entries for 6/30/2022. Supervisor Bendig said these transfers are needed to reclassify dollars; there will be no expenditures.

At 9:13 A.M., the Board unanimously passed a motion to go into closed session to discuss general assistance claims.

At 9:36 A.M., the Board unanimously passed a motion to go back into open session from the discussion of the claims. No action was taken on any of the claims as a result of the closed session.

Committee Reports – Supervisor Strand reported that the County Property Committee has been working on getting the heating and cooling systems in the courthouse updated. A bid has been received for this project that will need to be placed on the next meeting agenda (February 22, 2023). American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds have been allocated for this project.

The Board unanimously authorized Zoning Administrator Jean Andrews to request an additional \$1 million of Cyber Liability Insurance that is provided by NIRMA for a total of \$2 million of coverage effective 7/1/2023. Ms. Andrews explained that Dodge County currently has \$2 million worth of cyber coverage and the premium is \$643/year. Effective 7/1/2023, the standard amount of cyber coverage will be \$1 million. An additional \$1 million cyber coverage will be available to those entities that formally request it on the renewal application. The additional \$1 million cyber coverage will be granted if questions on the Cyber Liability Information portion of the renewal application are answered satisfactorily according to the cyber reinsurance underwriters. Ms. Andrews was confident that Dodge County would qualify for the additional \$1 million coverage.

Zoning Administrator Jean Andrews presented a pin to Dodge County for 35 years of NIRMA membership and asked that it be placed on the plaque; Dodge County is a Charter Member.

The Board unanimously approved moving forward with the Observation of Construction for Bridge Project C002732025, County project 622 with Speece Lewis and authorized Chairman Missel to sign the document. Highway Superintendent Huppert told the Board that this is the Winslow Bridge and they will be rehabilitating the abutments and replacing bearings on the abutments.

The Board unanimously received the Public Notice and approved setting a hearing date for February 22, 2023 at 10:15 A.M. on the 2023 One & Six Year Road Improvement Plan.

The Board unanimously received the bid for the 2023 Applied Traffic Paint Striping opened on January 30, 2023 at 11:00 A.M. and authorized Chairman Missel to sign the contract awarded to Straight-Line Striping Inc. of Grand Island, NE. The price per gallon went from \$20.90 in 2022 to \$24.77 per gallon for 2023.

Highway Superintendent Huppert reported that there were no bids for a 2022 or 2023 F-250 4x4 Pickup. Supervisor Tawney said the Road & Bridge Committee have a good lead on a pickup and the deal may be finalized today. If the purchase is under \$50,000, no bids need to be submitted.

Highway Superintendent Scott Huppert reported to the Board that his employees are working on pothole patching. He has hired one employee and will be interviewing 4 others over the next couple of weeks. He has talked with grader operators in the townships about fixing the bad spots on the county roads; he doesn't want the white rock they apply to be thrown into the ditches. County Road 18 will be paved from County Road T to the new Highway 30 Bypass, but the road needs to be realigned to meet road construction standards. The proposal is to move the ditch on the west side of the road approximately 10'. The United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) told Superintendent Huppert that this ditch belongs to them, but he thinks they will approve the realignment of County Road 18. There are power poles on the east side of County Road 18 that would cost approximately \$4,000 per pole to move, so they are trying to avoid that and make most of the adjustments on the west side of the road. Superintendent Huppert will be meeting with the engineers on the Yager Road Project this week. He is not happy with the work that's been done so far; there is no crown on part of the road and there are already cracks. He's also meeting with the engineers on the bridge box replacement on County Road F near Scribner; they will be going out for bid on this project soon. Supervisor Backens reported that Superintendent Huppert will be managing the county address sign installation project. 811 utility location will be the most difficult and time consuming part of this project. Cost and time factors will be a consideration in utilizing Roads employees to install the signs. There are approximately 3500 signs that must be installed on the county right-of-way and on the house side of the road.

At 10:04 A.M., the Board recessed as a Board of Supervisors and convened as a Board of Equalization. Chairman Missel dispensed with roll all members being present.

The Board unanimously approved tax roll corrections #5561 through #5579. Supervisor Strand asked what the Centrally Assessed tax roll corrections are. Assessor Churchill said values from the State did not have the correct values for the new Fremont Public School bonds, so those values had to be corrected for 2022.

At 10:05 A.M., a Public Hearing was held to consider the request from Iglesia Apostolica de la fe en Cristo Jesus, parcel ID No. 270001442, OT S1/2 Lots 5 & 6, Blk 93 for tax exemption on real and personal property (Form 451) for tax year 2023. Assessor Churchill said a physical review of this property was done in January and it is being used as a church. She has no problem granting the tax exemption request. Hearing no other testimony for or against the request, the Board unanimously accepted Assessor Churchill's recommendation, waived the filing deadline and instructed Assessor Churchill to process the application.

NOTE: After this meeting it came to light that the decision to waive or uphold the \$100 late filing fee was overlooked. This matter will be placed on the February 22, 2023 agenda to be acted upon.

At 10:07 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Equalization until Wednesday, February 22, 2023 at 10:00 A.M.

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

The Board, with Supervisors Backens and Bendig dissenting, approved having the jail standards committee, Sheriff and County Attorney approve technical changes and accept the housing rate of \$73/day per inmate in the Interlocal Agreement with Washington County, NE for the Housing of Inmates in the Washington County Jail. County Attorney Hopkins said she got a response from the Washington County Attorney identifying the technical changes Washington County wanted to make to the interlocal agreement. She said this contract is structured for Washington County to house both male and female inmates. Supervisor Beam said Saunders County would like this issue to be resolved. County Attorney Hopkins suggested that the contract, with changes, be made available to the Washington County Board before their next meeting on February 14, 2023. Final acceptance of the interlocal agreement will be made at the February 22, 2023 meeting of the Dodge County Board of Supervisors.

At 10:24 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Supervisors until Wednesday, February 22, 2023 at 9:00 A.M.

Micki Gilfry
Dodge County Clerk