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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, December 27, 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 November 13, 2023 meeting and Statement of Revenues & Expenses YTD Comparison for the five months ending November 30, 2023 and 2022 from Fremont Community Health Resources, receipt of bond documents for the following: Clerk, Treasurer and Chairman for Cotterell Township – Public Official Position Schedule Bond, Jason Kreikemeier, Pebble Township Treasurer - Official Bond & Oath, Bernard Bunn, Pleasant Valley Township Treasurer - Continuation Certificate, Clerk, Treasurer and Chairman for Union Township – Public Official Position Schedule Bond and Thomas Grovijohn, Webster Township Treasurer – Continuation Certificate; Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) award notifications for 2019 Flood Public Assistance projects within Dodge County for the following: Dodge County Highway Roads – Aggregate & Concrete, Roads & Bridges-concrete, Dirt and Gravel, Cuming Township – Township Roads & Culverts 100% complete, Hooper Township - Township Roads Damages & Nickerson and County Rd M, Nickerson Township – Culverts #2, Nickerson Township Multiple Sites & Nickerson Roads #1, Pebble Township – Permanent Work on Sites #1-10 and Platte Township – Township Roads & County Road 14 Blvd. Culvert; Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) award notifications for 2019 Hazard Mitigation projects within Dodge County for the following: Dodge County – Platte River Gauge Monitoring Project, North Bend Drainage Dist./North Bend Stormwater System & Drainage Improvements, Dodge County - Home Elevation Project and Dodge County – State of Nebraska Advance Assistance Drainage Study; correspondence from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development regarding the closeout of 19EM005, Rod & Gun Club breached lake flood damage repair project, correspondence from Mary Loftis, Nebraska State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) Counselor regarding the annual Medicare Open Enrollment that just ended, Certificate of Insurance for JJK Construction, LLC and Moving/Overweight Permit for Hulcher Services, Inc. to move 2 loads of Cat 583, Side Boom, 67-1 & 2 61A811 & 67-1 78V582 over county roads to ADM on December 14-15, 2023.

The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the December 12, 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 53 inmates in custody with 43 being held in Saunders County, 8 in Washington County, 1 in Douglas County and 1 at the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services. There have been 1,612 inmates booked into custody so far in 2023. County Attorney Hopkins

said she and Supervisor Beam need to investigate the basis for the billing from Saunders County for housing Dodge County inmates. She said one inmate was on the jail list for 6 weeks after bonding out. If the billing is based on the jail list, this needs to be re-evaluated.

At 9:07 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Corrections until Wednesday, January 10, 2024 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 \$273,287.45.

The Board unanimously approved the financial claims as submitted in the amount of \$442,182.65.

Committee Reports – Supervisor Bendig reported that Dodge County did receive the NIRMA ASSIST grant in the amount of \$7,500. There was some question as to whether the grant money could be used for the original project that was submitted. Those details have been worked out and Dodge County will be able to utilize that grant money. Dodge County also received a \$9,000 grant through Homeland Security in Nebraska. Applied Connective Technologies will be working on a contingency plan for cyber security with this grant money. There is a second round of Homeland Security grants with an application deadline of February 1, 2024. Supervisor Bendig said he is hopeful this grant money (if awarded) will help pay for an upgrade to the server. He also reported that Applied Connective has finished the wiring project and the phone system was cut over on December 20. He hasn't received any calls or heard any negative comments about the wiring or the phone system. He said the IT Committee is considering upgrades to the redundant internet service. Supervisor Backens reported that the Security Committee is considering utilizing civilian assistance for courthouse security. This would free up deputies for road duty and court duty; the Sheriff's Department is still short on the number of deputies employed. The judges are looking into having 2 courtrooms active at the same time, but currently the Sheriff's Department and the County Attorney's Office are not staffed to accommodate this. Chairman Missel reported that he met with the Natural Resource Districts, JEO Consulting and Emergency Manager Tom Smith about the status of flooding projects. There will be a Joint Water Management Advisory Board meeting on Thursday, January 18, 2023, 10:00 A.M. at Fremont City Hall.

At 9:13 A.M., the Board recessed as a Board of Supervisors.

At 9:16 A.M., the Board reconvened as a Board of Supervisors. Chairman Missel dispensed with roll all members being present.

Zoning Administrator Jean Andrews reported that the questionnaire to determine the June 30, 2024 insurance premium is due January 5, 2024. She is in the process of verifying the schedules for county automobiles, equipment and property.

The Board tabled the consideration of an agreement between the Nebraska Department of Transportation and Dodge County regarding the replacement of bridges, re-construction of Old US Highway 30 and the detouring of the traffic to Dodge County gravel roads. Highway Superintendent Huppert said this is the formal agreement to

approve the work that he and the State agreed to after assessing this section of highway. The question that has arisen out of discussions with the State is who is responsible for the maintenance (specifically snow removal) of Old US Highway 30 now that the traffic has been shifted to the new Highway 30 Expressway. The State claims that Dodge County signed an agreement in 1999 (updated in 2014) that says the County now has jurisdiction over Old US Highway 30. County Attorney Hopkins said the 2014 agreement states there needs to be another agreement that specifies the date for the shift in jurisdictional responsibility. Chairman Missel said he thinks there needs to be a meeting between the Roads Committee, County Attorney Hopkins and the State Department of Transportation to clear up the ambiguities. Highway Superintendent Huppert said he will schedule the meeting. He added that responsibility for snow removal is Dodge County's at this time. Supervisor Tawney originally made a motion to approve the agreement and authorize the necessary signatures on the document. After the discussion, Supervisor Tawney rescinded his original motion.

Highway Superintendent Scott Huppert reported that he has several employees on vacation this week. Employees removed snow on county roads on Christmas Day. He has been in contact with RDO Equipment Company about the truck for the Highway Department; it will be built in May and ready in September 2024. Superintendent Huppert met with the Scribner City Administrator Elmer Armstrong to discuss snow removal around Scribner.

At 9:37 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Supervisors until Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at 9:00 A.M.

At 10:00 A.M., the Board convened as a Board of Equalization with the following members present: Beam, Weddle, Strand, Backens, Missel, Tawney and Bendig. Absent: None.

The Board unanimously approved tax roll corrections #5637 through #5654.

The Board unanimously received correspondence from Nebraska Tax Equalization & Review Commission (TERC) regarding the following: Third Amended Order for Single Commissioner Hearing & Notice of Hearing for Robert J. Schmidt, Case No. 21A 0600 and Third Amended Order for Single Commissioner Hearing & Notice of Hearing for Robert J. Schmidt, Case No. 22A 0449.

County Assessor Churchill reported that their office has sent out about 10 taxless corrections to homeowners that have made repairs to their property but have no permit on file with the County Assessor's Office. If there is no response, which would include filing an improvement information form, the property owner will be penalized 20% of the taxes due on the improvements. Assessor Churchill told the Board that she would prefer to have the Board make a final decision in the event one of these homeowners decides to protest this action.

At 10:08 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Equalization until Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at 10:00 A.M.

Micki Gilfry
Dodge County Clerk