

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 15, 2021 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, correspondence from Charter Communications regarding changes in channel lineup, a Tort Claim from Joe Lockett, 3216 West Van Dorn Street, Lincoln, NE 68542 (referred to the County Attorney), Certificate of Insurance for Wiese Plumbing & Excavating Inc., NIRMA Safety Shorts for December 2021, Certificate of Insurance for Stalp Gravel Inc. and a Moving Permit for Scrib's House Moving to move a ranch style home over County Road 2 to Road R east to County Road 8 and finally to North Bend.

The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the December 1, 2021 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 said he had not gotten a report from the Corrections Department. County Attorney Paul Vaughan said the number of arrests keeps going up. He said on a typical weekend, there would be 5 or 6 arrests and the past few weekends it has been closer to 10-15 arrests including some serious offenses. He is not sure what is contributing to the rise in criminal activity.

At 9:07 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Corrections until Wednesday, December 29, 2021 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 and hour claims as submitted in the amount of \$246,748.72.

The Board unanimously approved a transfer of \$49,000 from the Inheritance Tax Fund to the Flood Control Fund. The amount of the transfer will be returned to the Inheritance Tax Fund when grant monies are received.

The Board unanimously approved the financial claims as submitted in the amount of \$554,626.75.

The Board unanimously received and filed Application for Investment of Funds for the year 2022 from Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust (NPAIT) located in

Lincoln, NE. County Clerk Mytty said the Board can instruct the county treasurer where to invest funds in a depository institution each year. Supervisor Bendig said he would like to continue utilizing local financial institutions. Chairman Missel said he recognizes we have many good local banks to work with, but it would be good to have another financial institution to consider if necessary in the future.

The Board unanimously received the Information Technology Assessment from CoreTech dated 11/22/21 and authorized the IT Committee to prepare a request for proposal for a managed services provider (MSP). Supervisor Bendig said the committee is following the house bill that may include cyber security as an eligible expense for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. County Attorney Vaughan said he was concerned that his office was not interviewed during the IT assessment. He said his office had responded to the emails CoreTech sent, but they never connected to complete an assessment. Supervisor Bendig said he would contact CoreTech and have them get input from the county attorney's office.

At 9:15 A.M., the Board unanimously passed a motion to go into closed session to discuss General Assistance claims for the month of November 2021.

At 9:27 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.

The Board unanimously approved a Governmental Equipment Lease-Purchase Agreement (Contract #001-70060275) between Dodge County Highway Department and Caterpillar Financial Services Corporation on a Used 2017 Caterpillar 323FL Medium Hydraulic Excavator and authorized the appropriate signatures on the agreement. Zoning Administrator Jean Andrews said she thought the final payment on this excavator was made this fall. She received a bill in November and got in touch with CAT financial services who told her \$68,000 is still due. Since this expense was not in the 2021-2022 highway budget, the county will refinance this debt with the final payment of roughly \$70,000 to be paid in August 2022.

Highway Superintendent Scott Huppert reported that the sanders and blades are ready for snow. Employees are still cleaning ditches since the weather has been so nice. He said he has plenty of salt, sand and calcium, but he would like to do away with the calcium; he thinks the calcium is a waste. Superintendent Huppert ordered one load of a new product called ice slicer that he wants try out. This product is a dry product that is human safe and works best at temperatures of 20° and below. It is more expensive than calcium, but wouldn't be needed all the time since it's better in lower temperatures. County Road 20 is still open on the Highway 30 By-Pass. It was going to be closed beginning last week, but there are issues with steel and labor shortages. The Hooper North Logan Creek project is waiting on the end caps for the culverts, which are in short supply. Superintendent Huppert was granted an extension on completing this project until January 28, 2022. Bridge inspections are ongoing.

Committee Reports – Chairman Missel reported that the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) subcommittee met yesterday afternoon. The group is working on an application that will be used by agencies requesting ARPA funds. This work will be finalized after government action on guidance for ARPA funds distribution. They are

hoping to make this application available after the first of the year. Chairman Missel then reported that Jon Canon, Executive Director of the Nebraska Association of County Officials, invited officials from the 8 counties of like size (smaller than Douglas, Sarpy & Lancaster counties) to a meeting after the close of the NACO conference. Mr. Canon would like to form a group with these counties that would meet semi-annually to discuss issues that are common to these smaller counties. Chairman Missel also reported that he had spoken with Tom Christensen in regards to the radio project and they are waiting for the building department for the City of Omaha to approve the pole that will complete the Dodge County radio project.

The Board unanimously approved the application for FY2023 Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Grant and authorized the necessary signatures on the application before submittal to the Nebraska Crime Commission.

The Board unanimously approved the request for CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) Funds on Project 19-EM-005 of Fremont Rod & Gun Club and authorized Chairman Missel and County Clerk Mytty to sign the request. All of the invoices included in this request have been paid by Dodge County, but they were never uploaded into the new software system that the Department of Economic Development (DED) is using. The approval of this request will allow the Northeast Nebraska Economic Development District (NENEDD) to resubmit the request for funds to DED so Dodge County can be reimbursed.

At 9:43 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Supervisors until 9:00 A.M. on Wednesday, December 29, 2021.

A short recess was taken at this time.

At 10:00 A.M., Chairman Missel convened the Board 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 correction #5381.

The Board unanimously accepted the recommendation of County Treasurer Bargstadt on forms 457, Applications for Exemptions from Motor Vehicle Taxes for 2022, granted the exemptions and authorized Chairman Missel to sign the forms.

County Assessor Debbie Churchill wanted the Board to be aware that they are gearing up for the second protest time of the year (when tax statements are mailed); the Board may get phone calls regarding this.

At 10:03 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Equalization until 10:00 A.M. on Wednesday, December 29, 2021.

Fred Mytty
Dodge County Clerk