

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, February 22, 2023 in the Board Room of the Courthouse, Fremont, Nebraska with the following members present: Beam, Weddle, Strand, Backens, Missel and Bendig. Absent: Tawney. 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, Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Association (NIRMA) 2022 Annual Report, Board of Trustees Minutes for January 16, 2023 meeting; Statement of Revenue & Expenses YTD Comparison for the seven months ending January 31, 2023 and 2022 for Fremont Community Health Resources, Certification from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development informing the City of Fremont and Dodge County that the Inland Port Authority Act application has been approved, Official Bond and Oath for Michael Schuler, Treasurer, Everett Township Board, Final Report from Rey Freeman regarding the Dodge County Radio System, Certificates of Insurance for Hooper, Nickerson and Ridgeley Townships, Certificate of Insurance for Loy Woerman Movers, Cancellation of Insurance for Cedar Valley Corporation, LLC and Moving Permit for Loy Woerman to move a grain bin over county roads on February 10, 2023.

The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the February 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 except for Supervisor Tawney.

Under any items of discussion, Supervisor Beam reported that the average daily inmate count is 80 and they are averaging 5.5 bookings per day. Currently there are 86 inmates in custody with 61 being held in Saunders County, 17 in Washington County, 2 at the Lincoln Regional Center, 3 at the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services and 3 under house arrest. County Attorney Hopkins reported that the negotiations with Washington County about housing Dodge County inmates have stalled. She would like to meet with the jail committee to discuss the negotiations with Washington County.

At 9:07 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Corrections until Wednesday, March 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 except for Supervisor Tawney.

The Board unanimously approved the wage & hour claims as submitted in the amount of \$280,955.90.

The Board unanimously approved the financial claims in the amount of \$510,512.64.

The Board unanimously received a certification from County Clerk Gilfry stating no written protests were received regarding the renewal of the Class D liquor license for Saga Properties Fremont, LLC – dba “Duel Stop Fremont” and passed a motion recommending approval of the renewal to the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission.

The Board unanimously approved the appointment of Sid Ready, Agriculture Business Representative, to the Dodge County Extension Board for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2025.

The Board unanimously received the Final Project Acceptance Certificate from Motorola Solutions for the Dodge County Radio System and authorized Chairman Missel’s signature on the certificate. Supervisor Strand asked if it was explained early on in this project that the maintenance costs would be a minimum of \$2 million per year. Chairman Missel said that Rey Freeman did explain expected maintenance costs when the project began. Tom Christensen, administrator for the public safety radio system, said there is no discount for prepaying the yearly maintenance costs. Sheriff Weitzel spoke highly of the new radio system and said it’s a night and day difference from when the project began in late 2018.

Committee Reports – Supervisor Strand reported that the Extension Office will be using the Schneider Building for meetings over the next 2 months. There is a sewer issue at the Extension Office that will require half of the floor to be torn out to allow sewer line repairs. The Schneider Building meeting room is big enough to accommodate approximately 70 people. The Probation Office also has a meeting room that is nearly the same size as the one at the Schneider Building. Dodge County closed on the purchase of the future election office at 92 W. 5th St., Fremont, NE; planning for the remodel of this space can begin.

Zoning Administrator Jean Andrews reminded the Board that they can go to NIRMA.info and register for the regional meetings to be held in April.

Highway Superintendent Scott Huppert reported that they hired one employee and will be hiring two more employees that will start March 6. They have interviewed and will hopefully hire two additional employees soon. In 2024, Dodge County will be taking over Highway 30. In June of 2024, the State will grind and resurface the 19 miles of Highway 30 that Dodge County will take control of by October or November 2024. Employees are patching potholes. The pickup came in and is being equipped. The repaving of County Road 18 is moving forward; the United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) is not claiming the ditch so work can begin on that. However, Superintendent Huppert said he had not received anything in writing from the USACE. He said he’s trying to obtain more white rock to be prepared for road conditions that will be affected by fluctuations in temperature and spring rains. The Yager Road project, as it is right now, is not acceptable to Superintendent Huppert. He has walked it twice with the engineers and they have found many issues that need to be addressed. The Elkhorn River bridge project started today and will take approximately 6-7 weeks to complete. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funded bridge project on Road F – Herman/Scribner Road will be going out for bids soon. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has outstanding issues in Elkhorn Township regarding

culverts that were installed improperly by the township. The GPS coordinates are not correct, but the Program Delivery Manager (PDMG) told them to do it the way it was done. FEMA also needs more information for projects that were done in Maple Township, but they are not getting the information they need. Sheriff Weitzel reported that coordination with the State for the opening of the new Highway 30 By-Pass in June 2023 has begun.

At 9:50 A.M., the Board recessed as a Board of Supervisors.

At 10:00 A.M., the Board convened as a Board of Equalization. Chairman Missel dispensed with roll all members being present except for Supervisor Tawney.

The Board unanimously waived the late filing fee of \$100 on Iglesia Apostolica de la fe en Cristo Jesus' application for tax exemption on real and personal property (Form 451) for tax year 2023. At the February 8, 2023 meeting of the Dodge County Board of Supervisors, the Board waived the filing deadline and instructed Assessor Churchill to process the application, but no action was taken to waive or uphold the late filing fee of \$100.00.

Assessor Churchill introduced Brandy Marshall as the new Deputy County Assessor. She told the Board that Ms. Marshall will be learning all facets of the job of county assessor.

At 10:03 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Equalization until Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at 10:00 A.M.

At 10:15 A.M., the Board reconvened as a Board of Supervisors. Chairman Missel dispensed with roll all members being present except for Supervisor Tawney.

At 10:15 A.M., a Public Hearing was held to consider the Dodge County One- & Six-Year Road Plan. Highway Superintendent Huppert pointed out on a map and summarized the thirteen projects on the one-year plan. Motion was made to close the hearing at 11:10 A.M. Hearing no testimony for or against the Dodge County 2023 One- & Six-Year Road Improvement Plan, the Board unanimously adopted and authorized the necessary signatures on a resolution approving the plan as presented. Supervisor Strand read the resolution for the record.

At 11:12 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Supervisors until Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at 9:00 A.M.

Micki Gilfry
Dodge County Clerk