

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 Tuesday, December 12, 2023 in the Board Room of the Courthouse, Fremont, Nebraska with the following members present: Beam, Strand, Backens, Missel and Tawney and Bendig. Absent: Weddle. 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, agreement between the State of Nebraska Economic Development Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Subrecipient Agreement NO. 23-03-311 – Platte River Gauge Monitoring Project, agreement between the State of Nebraska Economic Development Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Subrecipient Agreement NO. 23-03-317 – Drainage Plan for Elkhorn Township/East Fremont, Certificates of Insurance for Hewitt Service Center Ltd., Stalp Gravel Inc., Wiese Plumbing & Excavating Inc., Cedar Valley Paving, LLC and Maple Township, NIRMA Safety Shorts for December 2023, correspondence from Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy regarding Kroenke Farm Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation and 2 Utility Installation Agreements with Cox Communications to install fiber cable in county road rights-of-way.

The Board, with Supervisor Bendig abstaining since he was not present at the November 29, 2023 meeting, unanimously approved the minutes of the November 29, 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 Weddle.

Under any items of discussion, Supervisor Beam reported that there are currently 63 inmates in custody with 47 being held in Saunders County, 13 in Washington County, 2 in Douglas County Corrections and 1 at the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services. There was no report from Dodge County Attorney Hopkins.

At 9:06 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Corrections until Wednesday, December 27, 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 Weddle.

The Board unanimously approved the wage & hour claims as submitted in the amount of \$285,939.33.

The Board unanimously approved the financial claims as submitted in the amount of \$450,184.29.

The Board unanimously received bond documents for the following: Michael Schuler, Treasurer, Everett Township – Continuation Certificate, Jeremy Horvatich, Treasurer, Logan Township - Continuation Certificate, Clerk, Treasurer and Chairman for Nickerson Township – Public Official Position Schedule Bond, Christopher Dvorak – Chairman, Maple Township – Public Official Bond.

The board unanimously approved the list of designated official county newspapers for 2024.

The Board unanimously approved the FY2025 Community-based Juvenile Services Aid [CB] Grant Application before submittal to the Nebraska Crime Commission and authorized Chairman Missel's signature on the application. Meggie Studt, Dodge County Juvenile Diversion Director, was present and told the Board that this grant will pay for the continuation of juvenile diversion services that will divert youth out of the court system.

The Board unanimously approved the FY2025 Community-based Juvenile Services Aid [EB] (Enhanced) Grant Application before submittal to the Nebraska Crime Commission and authorized Chairman Missel's signature on the application. Ms. Studt said this is an enhancement grant and will cover the salary of bilingual staff and additional services.

Committee Reports – Regarding the Information Technology (IT) committee, Supervisor Bendig reported that the cutover for the new telephone system is still scheduled to begin December 18. Applied Technologies will provide training for all departments after the cutover has been completed. Supervisor Strand reported that the County Property Committee is researching businesses that can provide waterproofing services. He said there is approximately \$250,000 in repairs that have been put off that need to be taken care of sooner than later. The potential vendor is willing to spread the work out over a 3-year period. This will be addressed in the next budget cycle. Supervisor Bendig said these are capital improvements and the expense can be taken out of the capital improvement fund, not the building and grounds fund.

Zoning Administrator Jean Andrews reported that there were 111 ASSIST grant applications this year. The ASSIST Program helps NIRMA members fund various initiatives, programs, training and purchases that are intended to reduce losses and enhance and promote health and safety. With the approval of the full NIRMA Board of Directors, she said they will issue approximately \$122,000 of grant funding.

Highway Superintendent Scott Huppert reported that his employees are cleaning out ditches, trimming trees and patching potholes. He said he is in the process of registering with the Department of Motor Vehicles to become a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) Certified Training Provider. This certification would allow him to do in-house training for employees wanting to get their CDL. 126 Bridge inspections are complete and the paperwork has been turned into the state. The new signs for Platte River Road (Old Hwy 30) will be coming in soon; employees will put them up when they come in and move the Highway 30 signs over to the new highway. Superintendent Huppert said the state wanted him to pay for and install the chevron and stop ahead signs around the Highway 275 bypass (Scribner). He contacted the construction engineer for the Nebraska Department of Transportation District 2 and told her he would not pay for the signs; she told him she would take care of it. The state is hoping to have

two lanes of the Highway 275 bypass open around Scribner by the end of this week or Monday at the latest. Supervisor Backens said he spoke with Shelly Holzerland, Director of Communications, Fremont and Dodge County 911, about naming the offramp from US Highway 77 (Fremont Southeast Beltway) to Old Highway 275. Superintendent Huppert said he has never known of an instance where an offramp has been named. The lack of lighting on US Highway 77 was also mentioned. Superintendent Huppert said he talked to the District 2 construction engineer about this as well. She told him the state does not provide lighting. The county will not be adding lighting either since it is a state highway. Supervisor Backens asked about the grass and weeds not being mowed on the medians of the roundabouts. Superintendent Huppert said he would give him the phone number of the District 2 construction engineer since it is the state's responsibility.

At 9:22 A.M., the Board unanimously passed a motion to go into closed session to discuss general assistance claims.

At 9:45 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.

At 9:46 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 Weddle.

The Board unanimously received correspondence from Nebraska Court of Appeals Mandate (No. A-23-0431, Trial Tribunal No. 19C, 20C+) – Dodge County Board of Equalization v. Hy-Vee and referred it to County Attorney Hopkins.

At 10:02 A.M. Chairman Missel adjourned the Board of Equalization until Wednesday, December 27, 2023 at 10:00 A.M.

Immediately thereafter, Chairman Missel adjourned the Board of Supervisors until Wednesday, December 27, 2023 at 9:00 A.M.

Micki Gilfry
Dodge County Clerk