

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, August 7, 2024 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 2024/2025 preliminary levy requests from: Cotterell Township, Cuming Township, Everett Township, Hooper Township, Maple Township, Nickerson Township, Pebble Township, Platte Township, Pleasant Valley Township, Ridgeley Township, Union Township, Webster Township, Dodge Rural Fire District, Fremont Rural Fire District, Hooper Rural Fire District, North Bend Rural Fire District, Scribner Rural Fire District, Snyder Rural Fire District, Uehling Rural Fire District, Dodge Co. Agricultural Society and Dodge Co. Historical Society; Dodge County Water Rescue Team 2024-2025 budget request in the amount of \$5,000.00, county officials' reports, Certificate of Liability Insurance for Logan Township, Logan Watershed update for July 2024, Notice of Public Hearings for the Fremont City Council for a request by Mary Ann Diers Yost for the Brooks Hollow 3rd Final Plat consisting of 17 residential lots generally located at Heatherwood Dr. & Peterson Ave.; also, a request to change zoning from R, Rural to SR, Suburban Residential and to annex property located at same vicinity to be held August 13, 2024 at 7:00 P.M., Notice of Public Hearings of the Fremont City Council for a request by the Planning Director to change text for Height and Area Exceptions of the Fremont Municipal Code to include press boxes on the top of bleachers as an architectural projection that can exceed the maximum height of the district regulations to be held August 13, 2024 at 7:00 P.M., Moving Permit for Barnhart Crane to move a self-propelled crane over county roads on July 24 thru 26, 2024 and correspondence from JNR Adjustment Company serving as official notice of tort claim submitted to Dodge County for damage to a buried cable that was cut during culvert/drainage excavation work done by Dodge County on or about 6/12/23 at 5085 Morningside Road, Fremont, NE (referred to Dodge County Attorney). Agenda items #18a and 18b were removed from the agenda at the request of the FEVR Rail to Trail Foundation Board. Agenda item #25 was also removed from the agenda; the closed session to discuss pending litigation was not needed.

The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the July 24, 2024 meeting with one correction made in the first paragraph on page three. The ninth sentence, "There are drainage issues on the Highway 30 Bypass at Scribner." should be replaced with "There are drainage issues on Platte River Road."

At 9:06 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 54 inmates in custody with 39 of them being held in Saunders County, 13 in Washington County and 2 at the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services. There were 165

inmates booked into custody in the month of July. During the first week of August, 26 inmates were booked into custody.

At 9:07 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Corrections until Wednesday, August 21, 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 \$318,671.44.

The Board unanimously approved the transfer of \$5,000 from the Inheritance Tax fund to the Veterans Aid fund. County Clerk Gilfry explained that this will cover the cash on hand for the Veterans Aid fund until the budget is approved and the final transfers are made.

The Board unanimously approved the financial claims as submitted in the amount of \$426,658.78.

The Board unanimously adopted a Resolution setting final allocations of levy for fiscal year 2024/2025 to Fire Districts, Townships, the Agricultural Society and the Historical Society.

The Board unanimously received the Dodge County Sheriff's Department Distress Warrant Report and recommended that the 62 uncollected Distress Warrants be referred to the Credit Bureau.

The Board unanimously approved the Proposal for the Dodge County Courthouse Evaluation of Interior and Exterior Restoration Projects from Berggren Architects and authorized Chairman Missel's signature on the proposal. Supervisor Strand told the Board that Berggren Architects will help Dodge County with grant writing to secure the funding for repairs to the courthouse structure. There will be a number of projects that will span many years.

The Board unanimously approved a commitment of \$31,480 for Year 2 of the Fremont Transit Program. Terra Uhing, Director of Three Rivers Public Health Department, was present as a member of the Fremont Transportation Taskforce. She introduced other members of the taskforce that were present.: Shayla Linn representing the Fremont Area United Way, Shawn Brown representing the Methodist Fremont Health Foundation, Melissa Diers representing the Fremont Area Community Foundation, Michelle Padilla representing the Fremont Family Coalition and Angie Olson with the City of Fremont. Ms. Padilla told the Board some success stories of people whose lives have been changed with access to the Fremont Transit Program. Ms. Uhing told the Board that because the lack of transportation is an identified need in the area, the talks about the need for a transportation program began in February of 2023. In June 2023, the Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging (ENOA) ended their transportation services. At this time, the City of Fremont decided to apply for a grant to get a transportation program up and running. On September 7, 2023, the first ride was given by the Fremont Transit Program. Ms. Linn emphasized the collaboration that has gone into this program and said by the nine months mark the program had provided

approximately 5,300 rides. A new program coordinator has been hired and the budget for next fiscal year includes funding for one more driver. Ms. Brown thanked the Board for letting the taskforce come back and present the successes that have derived from this program. She added that collectively, a sustainable program can be built. Ms. Diers said last year the City of Fremont, the Fremont Area United Way and the Fremont Area Community Foundation joined together to meet the local match. She said it is beyond the capacity and scope of the United Way and Community Foundation to be the sustainable source of funding going forward. Chairman Missel voiced his support of the program and added that it has successfully filled the gap since ENOA ended their services.

Committee Reports – Supervisor Bendig reported that the Information Technology (IT) Committee selected our IT provider, Applied Connective Technologies, to install one server for all departments in the courthouse. The equipment has been ordered and they will start the project in September. The total cost of the project is \$58,652.35, which includes equipment and professional services.

The Board unanimously passed a motion to receive and adopt a Resolution for Signing of the County Annual Certification of Program Compliance 2024 and authorized the required signatures on the Resolution as well as the County Annual Certification of Program Compliance to Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards 2024.

The Board unanimously approved the Work Order to the Master Professional Services Agreement dated 3/27/24 for Speece Lewis, a Bowman Company for on-site construction observation for Project 637 F Road in Scribner, date of Work Order – 7/31/24 and authorized Chairman Missel's signature on the Work Order.

The Board unanimously received bids opened July 31, 2024 at 11:00 A.M. for Project C-27 (645) Old Highway 275 Overlay and accepted the recommendation of the Roads Committee to award the contract to the low bidder, Western Engineering Company, Inc. with a bid of \$833,888.47.

The Board unanimously received bids opened at 11:00 A.M., July 31, 2024 for Project C-27 (637) F Road in Scribner and accepted the recommendation of the Roads Committee to award the contract to Sawyer Construction Company for their concrete bid of \$470,383.40 pending the interlocal agreement with the City of Scribner regarding the details of their portion of the project. City of Scribner Administrator Elmer Armstrong said he agrees with using Sawyer Construction to finish the project with concrete and will work out the details for their portion of the project with Highway Superintendent Huppert.

The Board unanimously adopted the Resolution to vacate a 470-ft. segment of County Road 29 north of the Union Pacific Railroad bridge and 1,000 feet south of said bridge located in the SE ¼ Section 14, Township 17 North, Range 9 East in Elkhorn Township, Dodge County, Nebraska and authorized the necessary signatures on the Resolution. Superintendent Huppert said the Union Pacific Railroad supports Dodge County's plan as outlined in the adopted Resolution. Details about the placement of the gates, keys and access procedures will be worked out with Union Pacific. Chairman Missel read the resolution for the record. This was a tabled Item from the July 10th and 24th, 2024 meetings.

Highway Superintendent Scott Huppert reported that employees are cleaning out ditches on Wheatly Road. A crew is working on the bridge removal and culvert installation on Project 651; this project should be completed in about a week. There are 2 trucks and one excavator working continuously to remove corn stalks from ditches along County Road 17 (complete), County Road 20 (today) and then County Roads 26 and 28. Both bridges are under construction on Platte River Road and State crews are milling near North Bend. People are figuring out the detours; Superintendent Huppert has had fewer complaint calls about this. J & R Concrete is done with the approaches on the Pebble Bridge on County Road G.

At 9:55 A.M., the Board unanimously passed a motion to go into closed session to discuss general assistance claims.

At 10:01 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 10:02 A.M. the Board adjourned as a Board of Supervisors until Wednesday, August 21, 2024 at 9:00 A.M.

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

The Board unanimously approved tax roll corrections #5700 through #5709.

The Board unanimously accepted the recommendation of County Treasurer Winterstein on form 457, Application for Exemption from Motor Vehicle Taxes for 2024, on a 2023 Jeep Compass from Midland University, granted the exemption and authorized Chairman Missel to sign the form.

The Board unanimously accepted the recommendation of County Treasurer Winterstein on form 457, Application for Exemption from Motor Vehicle Taxes for 2024, on a 2020 GMC Sierra Pickup from Fremont Habitat for Humanity, Inc., granted the exemption and authorized Chairman Missel to sign the form.

At 10:05 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Equalization until Wednesday, August 21, 2024 at 10:00 A.M.

Micki Gilfry
Dodge County Clerk