

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, August 21, 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 county officials' reports, Official Bond Continuation Certificate for Bernard Bunn, Treasurer, Pleasant Valley Township, list from County Treasurer Winterstein of distress warrants issued on personal property on November 1, 2023 but not collected, Certificate of Liability Insurance for West Iowa Telephone dba WesTel Systems, Notice of Public Hearings for the Fremont City Planning Commission for a request by Jerry Nelson on behalf of CDLD, LLC for a Conditional Use Permit to expand a non-standard use to erect a metal canopy structure to cover vehicles at 2420 E. 23rd St; and a request by Scott Osterhouse to annex approximately 15.49 acres of property generally located at the SW Corner of Hwy 77 south bypass and Downing St. located in NW ¼ Section 36 and SW ¼ Section 25 all in Township 17 North, Range 8 East. Both hearings to be held August 12, 2024 at 5:00 P.M. and Moving Permit for Barnhart Crane to move a self-propelled crane over county roads on August 2, 2024 and return.

The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the August 7, 2024 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 38 inmates in custody with 29 of them being held in Saunders County, 8 in Washington County and 1 at the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services. There have been 88 inmates booked into custody so far in the month of August.

At 9:06 A.M., the Board adjourned as a Board of Corrections until Wednesday, September 4, 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 \$297,942.07.

The Board unanimously approved the financial claims as submitted in the amount of \$648,091.75.

The Board unanimously approved setting the public hearing on the proposed 2024-25 Dodge County Budget for Wednesday, September 4, 2024 at 10:15 A.M. Former Dodge County Clerk Fred Mytty is helping the county prepare the budget again

this year. He explained that, early in the budget process, they were \$3.1 million over the lid, but after realigning department budgets they were able to get it down to \$651,617. \$1.1 million of the overage will come from the Inheritance Tax Fund. Chairman Missel said funds are used from Inheritance Tax so the levy will not have to be increased. Supervisor Bendig said he appreciates the budget cuts that helped them get the budget below the 2% growth cap. He added that this all means a decrease in the levy from .24292 (2023-2024) to .22027 (2024-2025), which is a 9.16% decrease.

The Board unanimously received a list from County Treasurer Winterstein of delinquent personal property taxes for years 2017-2019 and accepted her recommendation to strike them from the tax rolls.

The Board unanimously approved the Interlocal Agreement with North Bend Central and Logan View Schools with Dodge County to provide a school resource officer and authorized Chairman Missel's signature on the agreement. Sheriff Weitzel reported that they have the staffing to restore the position of school resource officer. Deputy Nick White will split his time between the two schools and will attend school events as his schedule allows. Sheriff Weitzel said there is also funding the schools can apply for through the Educational Service Unit (ESU). The funding is allocated in the spring; therefore, it was too late to obtain funding for this year.

The Board unanimously approved an Addendum to the Contract for the Dodge County Sheriff to Provide Law Enforcement Services to the City of North Bend and authorized the necessary signatures on the contract. Sheriff Weitzel told the Board the services under this contract are for ordinance enforcement.

The Board unanimously approved an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Fremont and the Village of Dodge, NE to allow the sharing of public safety servers and authorized the necessary signatures on the agreement. Sheriff Weitzel said this is a computer aided dispatch program that will provide information to law enforcement agencies that are connected to it. There is potential for expansion to other first responders in Dodge County and first responders in other counties; Saunders County has expressed interest in joining as well as the Hooper and Scribner Police Departments. Deputy Logan Kampschneider also provides law enforcement on a part-time basis for the Villages of Dodge and Snyder. He said they applied for a \$13,000 grant to pay for this addition, which will include a new computer. They are hoping the upgrades will draw in applications for a new police chief or officer for Dodge and Snyder.

Committee Reports – Supervisor Bendig reported that the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) increase will go into effect on September 1st for all Dodge County employees. Supervisor Backens reported that the Merit Commission has 5 or 6 certified applicants to interview. Supervisor Missel reported that there will be a Northeast District NACO (Nebraska Association of County Officials) meeting in September; registrations will be taken at the NACO Website.

The Board unanimously approved an Interlocal Cooperative Agreement for Improvements to County Road F in Scribner (Project No. C-27) by and Between the County of Dodge and the City of Scribner, Nebraska for a joint improvement (paving) of County Road F between US 275 Highway and Old US 275 Highway and authorized the necessary signatures on the agreement. This project will be starting soon; the City of Scribner will pay a portion of the construction costs.

The Board unanimously approved the Amended Resolution No. 2024-008 regarding the vacation of a segment of County Road 29 located in the SE ¼ Section 14, Township 17 North, Range 9 East in Elkhorn Township and authorized the necessary signatures on the Resolution. Superintendent Huppert explained that Washington County owns a small piece of land involved in this road vacation. He has been in contact with the Washington County Highway Superintendent and he is ok with putting a gate on the land that belongs to them. The road vacation will not become effective until Washington County vacates the adjoining east half of County Road 29 located in Washington County.

The Board unanimously approved the contract with Western Engineering Company Inc. for the Old Nebraska 275 Asphalt Overlay – Project No. C-27 (645) and authorized the necessary signatures on the contract. Supervisor Bendig told the Board that there are 3 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) projects that are being reallocated to pay for this overlay project. He added that there will be approximately \$130,000 remaining to use for another road project.

Highway Superintendent Scott Huppert reported that federal dollars have been released for the disaster declaration due to the severe weather incidents between May 20, 2024 and June 3, 2024. He has his employees keeping track of the work they have been doing removing corn stalks from ditches, repairing roads and repairing culverts, which are all a result of the severe weather. Project 651, the bridge/culvert changeover on County Road 11 north of T is nearly complete; heavy equipment can now travel over it. There are 2 excavators running as much as possible to clean debris out of the ditches; there are also two employees that continue to do the shredding and trimming. Platte River Road milling and overlay work continue and there are many detours and delays. Superintendent Huppert said he sent the State another letter about helping with the culverts and ditch debris removal on Platte River Road before they turn it over to Dodge County; he doesn't think all of that should be put on Dodge County. Supervisor Backens asked if the State has ever responded to the County's inquiry about installing a turn lane on the Highway 275 Bypass at Luther Road; recently there was another accident at this location. Supervisor Bendig asked if the letter that was sent by Superintendent Huppert to the Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) should be received by the Dodge County Board and the issue be revived. Superintendent Huppert said he talked to Tim Weander about the need for a turn lane at this location before he was succeeded by Thomas Goodbarn as NDOT District 2 Engineer; that was over a year ago. Chairman Missel said he needed to contact Mr. Goodbarn about another issue and he would also mention this in that conversation. Supervisor Backens said the detoured traffic after the accident on the Highway 275 Bypass and Luther Road was horrendous. Superintendent Huppert said he does not get calls (from law enforcement) when they detour traffic onto county roads. This can become problematic if there are heavy trucks traveling on roads with bridges that have weight limits these trucks exceed.

At 9:49 A.M., the Board adjourned as a Board of Supervisors until Wednesday, September 4, 2024 at 9:00 A.M.

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

There was no business for the Board of Equalization.

At 10:01 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Equalization until Wednesday, September 4, 2024 at 10:00 A.M.

Micki Gilfry
Dodge County Clerk