

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 9:03 A.M. on Wednesday, January 22, 2025 in the Board Room of the Courthouse, Fremont, Nebraska with the following members present: Beam, Giesselmann, 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 official's report, Board of Trustees Minutes for the December 9, 2024 meeting and Statement of Revenues & Expenses YTD Comparison for the six months ending December 31, 2024 and 2023 from Fremont Community Health Resources, correspondence from Charter Communications regarding a change in channel lineup, Public Official Bonds for Bryan Maschmeier – Chairman, Elkhorn Township, Robert Reed – Secretary, Elkhorn Township and Carrie Rehder – Treasurer, Elkhorn Township, Audit Report of Dodge County from Erickson and Brooks CPA for fiscal year ending 6/30/2024, Certificates of Insurance for A & R Construction Co., Maple Township, Platte Township and Wardcraft Homes, Inc., Utility Installation Agreement with Century Link/Lumen to install 2.5" conduit/72 MF Fiber @ 320 Deborah Ave., Fremont, NE, Utility Installation Agreement with OPPD to install an overhead line to 4210 E. County Road U, Fremont, NE and Moving Permit for Prochnow Transport Inc. to move a load of trusses over county roads near Dodge, NE.

The Board, with Supervisor Backens abstaining since he was not present at the January 8, 2025 meeting, unanimously approved the minutes of the January 8, 2025 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 47 inmates in custody with 32 being held in Saunders County, 12 in Washington County, 1 in Douglas County and 2 at the Lincoln Regional Center. So far in the month of January there have been 85 individuals booked into custody.

At 9:06 A.M., the Board adjourned as a Board of Corrections until Wednesday, February 5, 2025 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 \$312,527.42

The Board unanimously approved the financial claims as submitted in the amount of \$669,170.17

The Board unanimously received the 2024 Noxious Weed Control Plan, the 2024 Activity Report and other related reports from Weed Superintendent Larry Klahn and

approved and authorized Chairman Missel to sign the reports as submitted. Weed Superintendent Klahn told the Board that he has been busy with the housing developments around Fremont that are outside the city limits. He said it has been challenging because of the lack of response from some of the development managers. Weed control on the river systems in Dodge County has also been active. There were 143 acres sprayed by helicopter on the Platte River and 20 acres on the Elkhorn River. Phragmites and musk thistle are the noxious weeds that are most problematic in Dodge County.

The Board unanimously authorized the Dodge County Clerk's Office to repay loans on interfund loan accounts created by an audit adjusting journal entry for 6/30/2024. This is a typical adjustment that needs to be made as a result of the Dodge County audit that has just completed.

The Board unanimously approved a change to the Dodge County Employee Handbook on page 15 in the "Separation from Employment" section. The last sentence in the second paragraph of this section will be stricken to make Dodge County compliant with current state statute. The sentence to be stricken reads "However, this compensation will be retained until the department head is satisfied that all county property has been returned to the office."

Committee Reports – Supervisor Bendig reported that Dodge County signed an agreement with Applied Connective Technologies to upgrade the phone system in the jail holding area. Chairman Missel reported that he and Supervisor Tawney met NACO Director Jon Cannon in Lincoln and introduced him to Dave Wordekemper, the incoming District 15 representative for the Nebraska State Legislature. Chairman Missel also reported that the Zoning Committee met with OPPD regarding solar farms and zoning regulations. Dodge County has not established any zoning regulations for solar farms so they currently follow state zoning regulations. Zoning Administrator Jean Andrews is looking at zoning regulations from several other counties to create regulations for Dodge County.

Zoning Administrator Jean Andrews reported that NIRMA had their 2025 reorganizational meeting. All board members will receive the 2024 Annual Report from NIRMA. She also told the Board about the NIRMA regional meetings this spring; there will be a meeting in Norfolk on April 2, 2025.

Highway Superintendent Scott Huppert reported that employees are cutting brush on County Road S, cleaning out ditches for the FEMA project and continuing maintenance on equipment. He has been negotiating with the Nebraska Department of Transportation regarding the handling of culverts, ditches and trees prior to the state's relinquishment of Platte River Road to Dodge County. He sent the state an estimate of expenses for this in the amount of \$71,540 and they have agreed to pay this amount to Dodge County. FEMA will be here today for a pre-inspection meeting regarding the ditch cleanout project and they will be back on Friday to see the flood damage and the work that has been completed. At the 3-day bridge inspection class Superintendent Huppert attended, he learned that there will be several changes to the bridge inspection process and the required paperwork. These changes must be implemented by March 2026. Weed Superintendent Larry Klahn will be helping with the stop sign program. Dodge County has the signs and posts that were paid for by the state and will provide the labor for the county's 20% share of the project. There will be approximately 150 signs replaced; the project must be completed within the next year and a half. There are also weight limit signs

that must be placed at all intersections within one mile of a bridge with weight limits. The Nebraska Association of County Highway Superintendents is trying to get the state to pay for the signs. Dodge County has one year to complete this project.

At 9:33 A.M., the Board recessed as a Board of Supervisors.

At 10:00 A.M., the Board convened as a Board of Equalization with the following members present: Beam, Giesselmann, Strand, Backens, Missel, Tawney and Bendig. Absent: None.

The Board unanimously approved tax roll corrections #5722 through #5738.

The Board unanimously received and referred to County Attorney Hopkins correspondence from the Nebraska Tax Equalization and Review Commission (TERC) regarding the following: Certification of Final Decision and Order for Jennifer L. McIntyre, Case No. 21R 0507 and Second Amended Order for Hearing and Notice of Hearing for Two Bottom Plow LLC, Case Nos. 21A 0444, 22A 0468, 21A 0445, 22A 0467 and 22A 0469.

The Board unanimously accepted the recommendation of County Treasurer Winterstein to approve the Applications for Exemption from Motor Vehicle Taxes for 2025 (Form 457) from Midland University and Spirit of Peace Church, Hooper, NE.

At 10:06 A.M., the Board adjourned as a Board of Equalization until Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at 10:00 A.M.

At 11:00 A.M., the Board reconvened as a Board of Supervisors at the Dodge County Extension Office Appreciation Luncheon with the following members present: Beam, Giesselmann, Backens, Missel, Tawney and Bendig. Absent: Strand.

At 12:45 P.M., the Board adjourned as a Board of Supervisors until Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at 9:00 A.M.

Micki Gilfry
Dodge County Clerk