

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, March 5, 2025 in the Board Room of the Courthouse, Fremont, Nebraska with the following members present: Beam, Giesselmann, Strand, Backens, Missel, Tawney and Bending. 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, correspondence from Charter Communications regarding a change in channel lineup, correspondence from Midland University thanking the County for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, Public Official Bond documents for Jeremy Horvatic – Treasurer, Logan Township and Nickerson Township Officials (Denise Richards, Joseph Kreifels & Scott Bang), Board of Trustees Minutes for January 13, 2025 meeting and Statement of Revenues & Expenses YTD Comparison for the seven months ending January 31, 2025 and 2024 for Fremont Community Health Resources, Certificates of Insurance for Ridgeley Township and Mid-State Engineering & Testing Inc., Notice of Public Hearings of the Fremont City Council to be held at 7:00 P.M. on February 25, 2025 for a request of Roger Menn for a Conditional Use Permit for an event center on property located at 3551 N. Somers Ave., Fremont, NE; and a request for a change of zone from R, Rural and GC, General Commercial to Mobile Home-Planned Development for Kenna Investments II, LLC, Notices of Public Hearings of the City Council of the City of Fremont to be held on March 11, 2025 at 7:00 P.M. regarding Amendment to Redevelopment Plan for property located at 210 E. Military Ave., Lots 1 & 2 Block 114 Original Town of Fremont Replat 1; a request of RVR Bank for a Conditional Use Permit to allow a drive-thru facility as an accessory use to a bank located at 210 E. Military Ave. and a Sign Plan located at the same address; and regarding Amendment to Redevelopment Plan to the Downtown Redevelopment Plan and to update the downtown redevelopment area and incorporate a sub-area plan, Nebraska Department of Natural Resources Project Review for the Elkhorn River Mitigation Bank, letter of the City Council for the City of Fremont as the Board of Equalization that will hold a public hearing regarding a special assessment to be levied for Business Improvement District #1 at a meeting on February 25, 2025 at 7:00 P.M., Moving Permit for Barnhart Crane to move a self-propelled crane over State and County Roads on February 24, 2025 and Utility Installation Agreement with ALLO Communications to install fiber optic line in north County Road 18.

The Board, with Supervisors Bendig, Strand and Tawney abstaining since they were not present at the February 19, 2025 meeting, unanimously approved the minutes of the February 19, 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 54 inmates in custody with 36 being held in Saunders County, 13 in Washington County, 2 at the Lincoln Regional Center and 3 at the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services. During the month of February there were 184 individuals booked into custody. County Attorney Hopkins advised the Board that 10 of the inmates in custody are on Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) holds. She said her office is expediting the

proceedings, but Dodge County will house these inmates until there is resolution on the Federal level.

At 9:06 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Corrections until Wednesday, March 19, 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 \$312,233.29.

The Board unanimously approved the financial claims as submitted in the amount of \$164,070.57.

The Board unanimously received the PSAP Staff Report dated February 19, 2025 and an amended Independent Contractor Agreement with the City of Fremont, Fremont/Dodge County Communications Center and P.S. Rad Com LLC to provide radio administration services for the public safety radio system. In the same motion, the Board unanimously authorized Chairman Missel and County Clerk Gilfry's signatures on the amended agreement. Shelly Holzerland, Director of Communications, Fremont/Dodge Co 911 was present and explained that the amendment to the contract is a 4% adjustment to the yearly rate, which increases that amount from \$79,000 for 600 hours of work per year to \$82,160 for 600 hours of work per year. There is no change to the after-hours rate. Ms. Holzerland reported that County Attorney Hopkins has reviewed the agreement and the City of Fremont approved this Agreement at their February 25, 2025 meeting.

The Board unanimously accepted the recommendation from the Fremont & Dodge County CVB Advisory Committee to grant \$10,000 of funding to MainStreet of Fremont, Inc. for their 2025 calendar of events. Molly Paden, Executive Director of Fremont & Dodge County CVB, was present and told the Board that this is MainStreet of Fremont's yearly sponsorship request and will financially support the seven events they have planned for 2025.

The Board unanimously received the Nebraska Department of Economic Development (NDED) near completion letter regarding CDBG-DR Subrecipient Agreement 23-03-317 Hazard Mitigation Grant Project (HMPG) #19, Elkhorn Drainage Scoping and authorized Emergency Manager Tom Smith to sign the closeout letter to be sent to NDED regarding this project.

The Board recognized Dodge County Weed Superintendent Larry Klahn being named the Outstanding Weed Superintendent of Region III in Nebraska for 2024. Chairman Missel said this award is a testament to the quality of work Larry provides to Dodge County and he was pleased to see Mr. Klahn be honored in this way.

The Board unanimously approved the Master Human Resources Outsourcing Agreement with Zelle, LLC and authorized Chairman Missel's signature on the agreement. Supervisor Beam said Zelle will review Dodge County's employee handbook and job descriptions; they will also supply other human resource services where needed. ARPA funding in the amount of \$48,000 has been obligated to help pay for these services. Supervisor Beam added that Zelle personnel will always be available virtually, but they will also assign a person to physically be in Dodge County 1-2 days per week. This contract

was approved with the understanding that there will be a review of Zelle's services 60 days prior to the renewal date of the contract.

The Board unanimously approved the appointment of Scott Huppert as the 2025 Dodge County Highway Superintendent, Class A License number S-1402, to serve from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

Committee Reports – Supervisor Bendig reported that there is an IT meeting scheduled for March 19, 2025 at 10:30 A.M. He also said that he and County Clerk Gilfry are meeting with Marissa Miller from county court about court appointed attorney fees.

The Board unanimously received the bid for the 2025 Applied Traffic Paint Striping opened on February 18, 2025 at 11:00 A.M. and authorized Chairman Missel to sign the contract awarded to Straight-Line Striping Inc. of Grand Island, NE. The price per gallon went from \$25.37 in 2024 to \$25.61 per gallon for 2025.

The Board unanimously approved the Work Order to Master Professional Services Agreement a Supplemental Agreement for Observation of Construction with Speece Lewis a Bowman Company for Project 643, Structure No. C002704710 and authorized Chairman Missel's signature on the agreement. Highway Superintendent Huppert told the Board that this is where the bridge will be replaced by a box culvert on Luther Road and County Road S. C F Industries use this road daily and have indicated that they would be willing to donate funds to improve the bridge (box culvert) and intersection.

The Board unanimously adopted a Resolution to Change the speed limit from 55 mph to 45 mph on a segment of Broad Street (US 77/275) near Sapp Brothers Travel Center (west side of Broad Street, 200 feet south of the new U.S. Highway 30 off ramp) and authorized the necessary signatures on the Resolution. Supervisor Strand asked if a reduce speed limit sign could be added before travelers from the north on Highway 77/Broad Street reach the new 45 mph sign. Superintendent Huppert said the sign could be added, but he would have to obtain a permit from the State of Nebraska to do this. The City of Fremont has already implemented speed limit changes in their jurisdiction along Highway 77/Broad Street. Supervisor Tawney read the Resolution for the record.

Highway Superintendent Scott Huppert reported that employees are working on grading county roads. They continue to work on the FEMA bank stabilization projects around bridges that were affected by storms in the Spring of 2024. Superintendent Huppert, Emergency Manager Tom Smith and FEMA representatives will be meeting next week regarding projects related to this storm. Crews were out early today for snow removal. Superintendent Huppert, Union Pacific Railroad, the State Department of Roads and engineers met Monday regarding the County's takeover of County Road 6 at Riverview Shores; there is a site visit scheduled for March 13, 2025. Superintendent Huppert is collaborating with the Fremont Municipal Inland Port Authority to select an engineer for work to be done on Morningside Road; an engineer will be named on March 19, 2025. Bids for the box culvert at Luther Road and County Road S will be opened on March 12, 2025. Employees have been installing new stop signs for the "Stop Program" but are short on signs. The State is to get the signs needed for this project; June is the deadline to get the stop signs installed. Employees have also been installing weight limit signs around all bridges in the county that have weight limits. This was an unfunded mandate which is supposed to be completed by September/October of this year. Superintendent Huppert said the Nebraska Association of Highway Superintendents is fighting to get the State to pay for a portion of the signs for this project.

At 9:46 A.M., the Board recessed as a Board of Supervisors.

At 9:49 A.M., the Board reconvened as a Board of Supervisors. Chairman Missel dispensed with roll all members being present.

At 9:50 A.M., the Board unanimously passed a motion to go into closed session to discuss general assistance claims.

At 10:03 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 10:04 A.M., the Board recessed as a Board of Supervisors.

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

At 10:05 A.M., a Public Hearing was held to receive public input as whether to allow or deny the New Permissive Exemption Applications for 2025. Hearing no testimony for or against any of the exemptions, the Board unanimously accepted the recommendations of Assessor Marshall, which were outlined in her letter to the Board, and approved 26 New Permissive Exemption Applications for 2025, including four parcels that have nursing facilities on them. There were 5 parcels for Midland University that were denied tax exempt status because their use is not solely for educational purposes. There was also one parcel for the Salvation Army that was denied because it is not being used for a charitable purpose.

At 10:07 A.M., the Board recessed as a Board of Equalization.

At 10:10 A.M., the Board reconvened as a Board of Equalization.

At 10:11 A.M., a Public Hearing was held to receive public input as whether to allow or deny the request from Iglesia Pentecostes Seguidores De Cristo Inc. for tax exemption on real and personal property (Form 451A) for tax year 2025. Assessor Marshall explained in her letter to the Board that this organization meets the State requirements for tax exempt status but filed the Form 451A past the December 31, 2024 deadline. The Board unanimously approved waiving the late filing deadline for this organization and authorized Assessor Marshall to process the application. There will also be a \$100 late penalty assessed that cannot be waived.

At 10:14 A.M., the Board adjourned as a Board of Equalization until Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 10:00 A.M.

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

At 10:15 A.M., a Public Hearing was held to consider the Dodge County One- & Six-Year Road Plan. Highway Superintendent Huppert summarized the projects on the one-year plan and pointed them out on a map. Chairman Missel closed the hearing at 10:33 A.M. Hearing no testimony for or against the Dodge County 2025 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 10:35 A.M., the Board adjourned as a Board of Supervisors until Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 9:00 A.M.

Micki Gilfry
Dodge County Clerk