

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, December 28, 2022 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 official's report, correspondence from Charter Communications regarding price changes to take effect on or after January 17, 2023, Board of Trustees Minutes for November 7, 2022 meeting, Statement of Revenue & Expenses YTD Comparison for the four months ending October 31, 2022 and 2021 and the five months ending November 30, 2022 and 2021 and Financial Statements & Supplementary Information, June 30, 2022 & Independent Auditor's Report for Fremont Community Health Resources, Certificate of Insurance for Williams Midwest Housemovers, Inc., Minutes of the December 20th, 2022 Dodge County Planning Commission, Moving Permit for Barnhart Crane to move a self-propelled crane over county roads: Morningside Road, Old 275, Cloverly Road to Wholestone Foods and return on December 12 thru 14, 2022, Moving Permit for Palleton of Fremont to move a flatbed trailer over county roads (see attached map) between December 27 & 29th, 2022 and Dodge County Highway Department Safety Committee Meeting Minutes of December 20, 2022.

The Board, with Supervisor Beam abstaining since he was not present at the December 13, 2022 meeting, unanimously approved the minutes of the December 13, 2022 meeting.

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 78 inmates in custody. The average daily inmate count for the month of December is 72. Over the Christmas holiday weekend there were 27 individuals booked into custody. Saunders County is having trouble finding female corrections officers to monitor female inmates. Supervisor Beam said he has been in contact with Brian Styskal, Saunders County Jail Director, as well as other jail administrators in the area about this issue. It may be necessary to house female inmates elsewhere, which will create issues with transportation.

At 9:06 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Corrections until Wednesday, January 11, 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.

The Board unanimously approved the wage & hour claims as submitted in the amount of \$266,528.72.

The Board unanimously approved the financial claims as submitted in the amount of \$1,204,951.69. Large claims included the Yager Road paving project, interest due on the radio bonds and payment to Saunders County Department of Corrections.

The Board unanimously received the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which will facilitate the transfer of audio-visual components, equipment, or full system (equipment) to be used in Dodge County and District Court courtrooms located in the Dodge County Courthouse to improve technology. In the same motion, the Board unanimously approved the MOU and authorized the Chairman's signature on the MOU. District Court Judge Geoffrey C. Hall was present and told the Board that the State of Nebraska is investing in courtroom technology upgrades across the State. These upgrades will allow hearings to be held remotely early on in criminal cases, which will save time and money since defendants won't need to be transported. The County will take ownership of all new equipment and will be responsible for the maintenance of this new equipment. Sixth Judicial District County Court Judge Francis W. Barron III was also present and told the Board that the equipment and installation for county courtrooms A & B will be roughly \$100,000. Dodge County is the first county (behind Douglas County) with multiple courtrooms to be upgraded and the approval of this MOU will help keep the work moving forward. There will be a five-year warranty and service plan for the upgraded equipment after the County accepts ownership.

The Board unanimously approved the appointments of Rossana Jaeger – Minority Population representative and Bonnie Nebuda – 4-H representative to the Dodge County Extension Board for a three-year term expiring December 31, 2025.

The Board unanimously approved the appointments of Daniel Beerbohm, Russel Stockamp and Jason Kreikemeier to 4-year terms on the Pebble Township Board effective January 5, 2023. County Clerk Mytty will send correspondence to the appointees notifying them of their appointment, the term of the appointment and the effective date of the appointment.

The Board unanimously adopted a Resolution clarifying the purchase of property for an election office at 92 W. 5th St., Fremont, NE and authorized the necessary signatures on the Resolution. Supervisor Strand read the Resolution for the record.

The Board considered possible action on how incoming elected officials and outgoing elected officials are paid. County Clerk Mytty explained that at least twenty years ago, Dodge County decided to go from monthly to bi-weekly pay because of the wage and hour law and computations of overtime in the sheriff's department. There is no resolution clarifying this pay policy. The Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) recommends that elected officials be paid their salaries over a 12-month period utilizing a monthly payroll cycle (January 1 – December 31). Dodge County, because of the bi-weekly payroll cycle, pays an elected official up until the incoming elected official is sworn in, which is on the first Thursday after the first Tuesday in January. The newly elected official's pay begins on the day they are sworn in. Supervisor Strand asked if there is extra work for payroll processing. Deputy County Clerk Micki Gilfry said it does not create extra work to do it this way. Chairman Missel suggested that we keep the status quo for this year to be fair to the outgoing elected officials and revisit the issue before the next election cycle in two years. County Attorney Sara Sopinski recommended that a resolution be adopted before the next election cycle to clarify how this pay is to be administered. No formal action was taken on the matter.

At 9:33 A.M., a Public Hearing was held to consider the request of BESTNPET INC. c/o Palleton, Inc. of 1669-1681 County Road 21, Fremont, NE 68025 to amend a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to store and cut lumber in the existing structures as per Article 11 Non-Conforming Uses of Structures and Premises, Section 4 located in SE Corner Section 21, Township 18 North, Range 8 East in Nickerson Township, Zoning District A-2, General Ag. Zoning Administrator Jean Andrews reported that the Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of this CUP. Hearing no testimony for or against the request, the Board unanimously accepted the recommendation of the Planning Commission and approved the CUP based on the conditional use conforms to the intent and purpose of the regulations and the use conforms to the regulations of the district in which it is located.

The Board unanimously approved the engineering agreement with Speece Lewis Engineers for bridge replacement Structure No. C002704710 (County project 643) and authorized the necessary signatures on the agreement. This bridge is located at Luther Road and County Road S and it was identified during inspection that it needs to be replaced; the lower water levels revealed corrosion on the pilings. A concrete box culvert will be installed at this location.

Superintendent Huppert gave the Board an update on projects going on in the Roads Department. Employees continue maintenance on equipment. One employee is leaving employment at the end of this week. Superintendent Huppert assured the Board that there are enough employees to handle snow removal if it's needed. The concrete replacement job on Ridgeland Road is complete; CR Menn Concrete completed the job quickly with no complaints from local residents. Graham Construction is done with the concrete on Yager Road, but still has dirt work, shoulder work and ditch work to complete. The Scribner Elkhorn River bank stabilization project is in FEMA's hands and Superintendent Huppert is hopeful that the riprap that Dodge County donated to this project will prevent the need for Dodge County to expend any money for their share of the project. The State has confirmed that Fairacres Road will be closed all winter due to work on the By-pass 275 at Scribner.

Committee Reports – Chairman Missel reported that at the December 27, 2022 meeting of the Fremont City Council, Resolution 2022-245 was passed authorizing the naming of the alley adjacent to the courthouse “Fred Mytty Way” in recognition of 48 years of public service. Supervisor Tawney reported that Dodge County received a NIRMA ASSIST Grant in the amount of \$7,500 for security cameras.

At 9:49 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Supervisors until Wednesday, January 11, 2023 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.

The Board unanimously approved tax roll corrections #5518 thru #5537.

At 10:01 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Equalization until Wednesday, January 11, 2023 at 10:00 A.M.

Fred Mytty
Dodge County Clerk