

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska  
February 13, 2020  
9:30 a.m.

A regular meeting of the Knox County Board of Supervisors was held in the Boardroom at the Knox County Courthouse in Center, Nebraska on the date of February 13, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. Present were Supervisors Martin J. O'Connor District #1, Patrick J. Liska District #2, Virgil H. Miller District #3, James Sokol, Jr. District #4, Kevin D. Mackeprang District #5, Danny R. Schlote District #6 and James J. Borgmann District #7. Absent was none. Chairman Mackeprang presiding.

Supr. Schlote led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Mackeprang announced to the public that a copy of the Public Open Meeting Act was posted in the Boardroom.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Niobrara Tribune newspaper, as shown by the Affidavit of Publication attached to these minutes.

Notice of this meeting was simultaneously given to all members and a copy of their acknowledgment and receipt of notice and agenda is attached to these minutes. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was opened to the attendance of the public.

The minutes of the January 30, 2020 meeting were read and were approved by Chairman Mackeprang.

Correspondence reviewed was: 1. Email from County Attorney Thomas to the Nebraska Transportation and the Army Corps of Engineers regarding flooding of the Ponca Creek in Knox County.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Sokol, Jr. that all claims, audited and approved for payment by the Claims Committee, be allowed subject to delinquent personal taxes. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Claims totaling \$505,542.12 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Miller to place on file the Clerk of the District Court January Fee Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Miller, seconded by Supr. Schlote to approve payment from the KENO Account to the Nebraska Department of Revenue in the amount of \$100 for the renewal of Knox County's lottery KENO license. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Miller, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the January Zoning Permits Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Sokol, Jr. that the receipts totaling \$490,792.68 be accepted and placed on file. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

#20395 – BIA, BIA reimbursement for housing inmates, 8,050.00; #20396 – State of Nebraska, 911 service funding, 4,820.27; #20397 – State of Nebraska, rent, 2,205.00; #20398 – Knox County Clerk, transfer to road, 94,682.45; #20399 – NIRMA, reimbursement of Alder Carpentry, 2,603.50; #20400 – State of Nebraska, 1<sup>st</sup> payment of property tax credit, 1,253,452.73; #20401 – Knox County Sheriff, VIN inspections/handgun permits/fingerprinting, 245.00; #20402 – Knox County Treasurer, interest, 4,242.50; #20403 – Knox County Treasurer, interest, 2,667.68; #20404 – State of Nebraska, 1<sup>st</sup> of six homestead payments, 49,963.69; #20405 – Brunswick State Bank, interest, 2,513.32; #20406 – Clerk of District Court, filing fees, court costs, copies & passport fees, 408.25; #20407 – Knox County Clerk, misc. fees, c.c. marriage licenses & copies, 98.61; #20408 – State of Nebraska, reimbursement of EM budget, 7,391.54; #20409 – Great Plains Communications, 911 surcharges, 9,022.37; #20410 – Commercial State Bank, interest, 1,299.42; #20411 – Register of Deeds, recording fees, documentary stamp tax & copies, 7,712.91; #20412 – Knox County Economic Development, 2020 contributions, 5,762.00; #20413 – Knox County Clerk, imprest interest, 12.11; #20414 – Knox County Court, fines, bond forfeitures, court costs & lab test fees, 2,418.00; #20415 – State of Nebraska, highway allocation, 164,000.21; #20416 – Estate of Shirley M. Olson, inheritance tax, 3,112.46; #20417 – Estate of Arlene M. Farley, inheritance tax, 96.08; #20418 – Pierce County Treasurer, tax collections for Sch. 13 Gen & Capi, 1,850.71; #20419 – Galen Hoferer, inheritance tax- Lorinda Hoferer Estate, 629.44; #20420 – Jerry Hanefeldt, filing fee – Republican for District 4 Supervisor, 242.84; #20421 – Knox County Sheriff, VIN inspections, 130.00; #20422 – AFLAC, premium refund, 382.72; #20423 – Santee Sioux Nation, reimbursement – 80% for Ray Stark Bridge, 32,388.77; #20424 – Knox County Treasurer, inmate commissary, 107.30; #20425 – Brunswick State Bank, interest, 693.15; #20426 – Cedar County Treasurer, tax collections – Crofton Fire Gen & Sink & Wausa Fire Gen, 9,508.07.

Chairman Mackeprang moves the Board recess at 10:00 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:21 a.m. with all members present.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1. A road safety course will be held on March 13 in the basement conference room and all road employees will attend; 2. Update on Ray Stark bridge project; 3. Federal Funds Buyback bridge projects' update; 4. The "Goat Road" into the Lazy River Acres area was to be graveled with red rock however due to road conditions, gravel from the Vakoc Pit was put on in place of the red rock. Discussion ensued on culvert options for the concrete road; 5. Road weight limit signs were put up for the spring; 6. Equipment repairs; 7. Niobrara County Shed repairs nearing completion; 8. Two vehicles received damage when meeting a County sander truck south of Bloomfield.

Chairman Mackeprang opened the advertised One and Six Year Road hearing at 10:34 a.m. Hwy. Supt. Barta presented information on the Road budget, highway allocation, county/township allocation, equipment purchased, oil projects, bridge projects, road projects, engineering, and flood repairs.

Chairman Mackeprang closed the One & Six Year Road public hearing at 11:08 a.m.

County Attorney Thomas updated the Board on the Harts vs Knox County appeal, impact easements, setbacks, livestock friendly designation, and that the Planning Commission and the Board may want to consider dollar value of impact easements and/or implementing alternative of shortening setbacks and eliminating impact easements. No action was taken.

The Board and County Treasurer Stark discussed with County Attorney Thomas a submitted Form 457 in Equalization for tax exemption on a vehicle owned by Fellowship Adventures Opportunities. County Attorney Thomas instructed County Treasurer Stark to request more information from the filer or owner.

At 11:21 a.m., Chairman Mackeprang held the advertised asphaltic bid opening for the Bloomfield North Overlay, C-54(953) project. The Knox County Board of Supervisors reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to waive any irregularities in bids received. Award of the Contract will be in accordance with the County Purchasing Act's competitive bidding considerations as set forth in Nebr. Revised Statute §23-3110 to §23-3114. Bids were opened in the order received: **Constructors Inc., Lincoln NE** – Total project \$2,883,443.12, start date on or before August 5, 2020, end date October 31, 2020; **Knife River Midwest, LLC, Sioux City IA** – Total project \$2,421,606.89, start date May 1, 2020, end date October 31, 2020; **Western Engineering Co., Inc., Harlan IA** – Total project \$2,370,198.40, start date June 1, 2020, end date July 3, 2020; **Werner Construction, Inc., Hastings NE** – Total project \$2,651,178.71, start date to be determined, end date October 31, 2020. Bid Bonds were included with each submitted project bid. Bids were taken to the Highway Superintendent's Office for review of accuracy and will be brought back to the Board for their consideration.

Sheriff Henery updated the Board on the damage done to the County patrol pickup he drives. The damage was done when a truck pulling a loaded belly trailer malfunctioned and the entire load of dirt, large frozen chunks and rock was dumped on Hwy. 12 east of Niobrara, and as it was barely light, Sheriff Henery could not see the dark spot on the road was actually a huge amount of material on the road and he drove into it. Sheriff Henery was able to stop the pickup before it went through the guardrail and he was also able to stop the traffic following him before they drove into the large pile. The truck driver located later said he was unaware that the load had been dumped. Damage to the pickup was over \$1,100, the damage was repaired by Moody Motor in Niobrara and the trucking company paid the bill.

Also discussed was where the driver's license equipment and the State van will be kept after hours. There was no public comment on agenda items.

Comment on non-agenda items was given by Marilyn Sharp who was present during the meeting. She asked who was in control of stopping violators who do not stop at the stop light west of Niobrara at the temporary bridge. Sheriff Henery was present and said that his office and the State Patrol have monitored the area, have stopped violators, and will continue to monitor it.

At 11:35 a.m., the Board took a fifteen-minute break returning at 11:50 a.m.

Hwy. Supt. Barta and Ramsey Robertson with Mainelli Wagner and Associates returned with the asphaltic bids. Discussion was held with several landowners along the Bloomfield North oil road, the process and the time period of the project, the area that will be concreted, and how long the concrete or asphalt will need to cure. Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Schlote to accept the low asphaltic bid of **Western Engineering Co., Inc., Harlan IA** with a total project cost of \$2,370,198.40, the start date to be June 1, 2020 and the project to be completed by July 3, 2020. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Chairman Mackeprang moves the Board recess for lunch at 12:04 p.m.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 1:00 p.m. in the Annex #1 Conference Room for Road employee job evaluations.

Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. O'Connor to go into executive session at 1:00 p.m. to protect the reputation of individuals when discussing personnel while conducting job evaluations. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Chairman Mackeprang reiterated that the executive session will be held so as to protect the reputation of individuals when discussing personnel while conducting job evaluations. The Board came out of executive session at 4:20 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Miller to close at 4:20 p.m. the executive session held on personnel while conducting job evaluations. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

**GENERAL FUND.** Salaries, 173,160.10; Antelope County Sheriff, house inmate, 160.00; Applied Connective Technologies, quarterly IT, 4,405.00; Big Red Mini Mart, gas, 24.01; Bloomfield Medical Clinic, medical treatment, 135.00; Bob Barker Company Inc., supplies, 68.33; Chad Vanness, board travel, 8.63; Classic Carpet Care, mop/towel rent, 45.50; Clerk of District Court, filing fee, 65.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 13,179.44; County of Knox Employee Benefit Account HealthCare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 29,750.00; County of Knox Employee Benefit Account HealthCare Solutions Group Inc., print ID cards, 38.25; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 35.81; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, subscriptions, 72.00; Derek Cunningham, board expense, 387.60; Don Henery, mileage, 222.64; Eakes Office Solutions, copier agreement/supplies, 165.17; Ecowater Systems, bottled water, 348.00; First National Bank Omaha, van gas, 34.00; Flower Basket, spelling bee trophies, 162.00; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 1,549.92; Hide Out Bar & Grill, prisoner board, 4,000.00; Holly Wortmann, board travel, 24.15; Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 76.18; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, washer fluid, 8.97; Jen Bollich, board travel, 15.53; Jo Ann P. Knori, prior service, 20.00; Kari Nilson, board travel, 23.58; Kasey Wagner, board travel, 43.70; Kevin R. Barta, reimburse AFLAC premium, 382.72; Landmark Surveying Associates, survey fees, 862.50; The Lincoln National Life Ins. Co., insurance County pays, 264.33; Megan Hanefeldt, mileage, 188.60; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 40.50; MIPS, computer program/checks, 1,356.49; Monica J. McManigal, meals/mileage, 360.13; N&B Gas Company, propane, 1,518.00; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 2,512.24; Northeast Nebraska News Co., publishing, 255.01;

Postmaster, postage, 4.27; Principal Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 1,939.50; Quill Corp., office supplies, 469.26; R&K Auto Parts, repairs, 259.39; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 11,703.49; Steven Banks, reimburse registration, 15.00; Telebeep, pager, 64.17; U.S. Cellular, cell phones, 154.07; US Cellular, cell phones, 234.07; Verdigre Eagle, publishing, 24.00; Village of Center, water/sewer/garbage, 325.00; Wholesale Supply Company Inc., supplies, 563.70.

**ROAD FUND.** Salaries, 66,764.21; B's Enterprises Inc., asphalt patch, 1,467.20; Bauer Built Tire, tires, 3,143.40; Big Red Mini Mart, gas, 132.60; Black Hills Energy, heating fuel, 51.48; Bloomfield Auto parts, repairs/filters/supplies, 577.52; Bloomfield Medical Clinic PC, drug test, 35.00; Bohemian One Stop, gas, 305.42; Bomgaars, shop supplies/shop tools/snow fence/fluids, 697.85; Carlson Home & Auto Inc., tires/tire repair, 1,886.70; CHS Wausa, diesel/oil, 1,221.40; City of Bloomfield, water, 21.75; C-Mart, gas, 339.76; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 5,042.90; Cornhusker International Trucks Inc., repairs/filters, 1,878.19; County of Knox Employee Benefit Acct. c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 11,900.00; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 220.41; Dollar General, shop supplies, 10.00; Emedco, signs for shops, 174.30; Farmer's Pride, diesel/heating fuel/oil, 5,450.52; Flenniken Electric, building repair, 3,555.84; Great Plains Communications, phone, 603.64; Grossenburg Implement Inc., filter/repair, 1,435.89; Hefner Hardware, heater, 2,614.97; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 913.17; J&K Auto, gas, 56.00; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, shop supplies/water heater, 782.56; Kayton International, oil filter/shop supplies, 159.40; Larry Pilar, prior service, 21.00; Lincoln National Life Ins. Co., insurance County pays, 107.28; Mark's Machinery Inc., repairs, 1,233.77; N&B Gas Co., heating fuel, 1,696.25; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 98.75; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 537.90; Northeast Nebraska News Company, publishing, 7.06; Pahl Construction, equipment rental, 1,755.00; Pease General Store, shop supplies, 55.27; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 8.16; Principal Life Insurance Co., Ins. Co. Pays, 732.70; R&K Motor Parts, shop tools/repairs/shop supplies/oil/filters, 2,193.51; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 4,374.96; Schaefer Grain & Feed Co., road salt, 1,795.95; Schreier Lumber, building material, 1,058.48; Truck Center Companies, repairs, 1,548.43; U.S. Cellular, cell phones, 413.39; Vakoc Excavating LLC, gravel/haul, 28,673.52; Verdigre Eagle, publishing, 13.18; Verdigre Farm Service, diesel/gas/repairs/tire, 3,564.29; Vic's Service LLC, gas, 222.58; Viking Lumber, shop supplies, 36.48; Village of Center, water/sewer, 29.00; Village of Niobrara, water/sewer, 39.13; Village of Verdigre, water/sewer/garbage, 81.53; West Hodson Lumber & Concrete Co., shop supplies, 34.04; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 10,175.23.

**HIGHWAY BRIDGE BUYBACK FUND.** MRJ Engineering, Bid documents/study, 18,340.00.

**CHILD SUPPORT FUND.** Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 50.77; Microfilm Imaging Systems Inc., scanner rent, 81.00; MIPS Inc., jury list, 340.50; Nebraska District Court Clerk Association, dues, 50.00.

**ROD PRESERVATION/MODERNIZATION FUND.** Microfilm Imaging Systems Inc., scanner rent, 55.00; MIPS, computer program, 263.70.

**C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND.** Salaries, 4,157.66; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 310.00; County of Knox Employee Benefit Acct. c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 850.00; Gayle Krohn, cake, 50.00; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 50.77; Hanna Keelan, housing study, 8,000.00; Kelly Hanvey, mileage/leadership, 69.37; Lincoln National Life ins. Co., insurance County pays, 5.96; Northeast Nebraska News Company, publishing, 49.77; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 100.00; Principal Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 43.10; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 205.31; Stacy Miller, kolaches, 48.00; US Cellular, cell phone, 143.47.

**INHERITANCE FUND.** Doerr & Klein P.C., court appointed attorney, 213.75; Galyen Boettcher Baier PC LLO, court appointed attorney, 2,251.80; KEA Constructors LLC, contractor payment, 40,485.96; Northeast Nebraska News Company, publishing, 97.07; Rodney W. Smith, public defender contract, 2,083.33.

**911 EMERGENCY FUND.** CenturyLink, phone, 6.92; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 222.85.

**911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND.** Salaries, 2,543.98; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 698.21.

TOTALS	
General Fund	\$251,724.95
Road Fund	171,948.92
Highway Bridge Buyback Fund	18,340.00
Child Support Fund	522.27
ROD Pres./Mod. Fund	318.70
C&C Development Fund	14,083.41
Inheritance Fund	45,131.91
911 Emergency Fund	229.77
911 Wireless Service Fund	<u>3,242.19</u>
Total	\$505,542.12

Chairman Mackeprang adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 4:21 p.m. on February 13, 2020 until Thursday, February 27, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. for a regular meeting.

I, Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk, do hereby certify that the County Board minutes are correct to the best of my knowledge.

ATTEST:

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin D. Mackeprang, Chairman

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