

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
July 9, 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 July 9, 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. Liska 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 June 25, 2020 meeting were read and approved by Chairman Mackeprang.

Correspondence reviewed was: 1. Email from Josh Jelden with U.S. Senator Deb Fischer's office reaching out for any concerns the Board may have; 2. Department of the Interior letter stating the County will receive Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program funds in the amount of \$42,198.

Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. O'Connor 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 \$580,951.80 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Discussion was held on maintenance of subdivision entrances.

Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Liska to set a uniform allowance for Weed Superintendent Steve Banks at \$35 per month during his working months of May through October. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to authorize Chairman Mackeprang to sign the Audit Engagement Letter with the Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts for the Fiscal Year 2019/2020. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the Amendment Sequence #003 to the Irrevocable Standby Letter of Credit #S322191 KeyBank N.A. for Viento Funding II Inc. on behalf of Elkhorn Ridge Wind LLC. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

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

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Miller to place on file the County Treasurer's Semi-Annual Report of Collections, Disbursements & Balances for six months ending June 30, 2020 and that there were no unpaid claims against Knox County as of June 15, 2020. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Miller to place on file the NIRMA Crime Policy, Liability Package Policy, Property Package Policy and Workers Compensation Policy. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to adopt **Resolution #2020 - 12** for the transfer of funds through the claims process from the General Fund to the Road Fund in the amount of \$94,682.45 in July and August to cover incurred expenses in the Road Fund until the 2020/2021 budget is set. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2020 - 12

WHEREAS, due to Section 39-1904 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes, the 2020-2021 County Road budget does not include a property tax dollar request, and

WHEREAS, the 2020-2021 Knox County budget will not be adopted until September 2020, and

WHEREAS, transfers are needed from the Knox County General Fund to the Knox County Road Fund until the 2020-2021 budget is adopted to cover incurred expenses for July and August, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Knox County Board of Supervisors that the Knox County Clerk is hereby directed to transfer through the claims process \$94,682.45 in July 2020 and \$94,682.45 in August 2020 from the Knox County General Fund to the Knox County Road Fund to cover the incurred expenses for July and August, and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the total transfer from the Knox County General Fund to the Knox County Road Fund that will be adopted in the 2020/2021 Knox County Budget will be reduced by the \$189,364.90 and the remaining balance of the 2020/2021 total transfer to be prorated accordingly from September 2020 through June 2021.

Dated this 9th day of July 2020.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/
Kevin D. Mackeprang, Chairman, District #5

Martin J. O'Connor /s/
Martin J. O'Connor, District #1

Patrick J. Liska /s/
Patrick J. Liska, District #2

Virgil H. Miller /s/
Virgil H. Miller, District #3

James Sokol, Jr. /s/
James Sokol, Jr., District #4

Danny R. Schlote /s/
Danny R. Schlote, District #6

ATTEST : (Seal)
Joann M. Fischer /s/
Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk

James J. Borgmann /s/
James J. Borgmann, District #7

Motion by Supr. Miller, seconded by Supr. Sokol, Jr. to place on file the County Sheriff's Quarterly Report of Fees collected between April 1 and June 30, 2020. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

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

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:27 a.m. with all members present.

Public comment on non-agenda items was given by Robert and Gigi Larson regarding inheritance tax on a relative's estate and the use of inheritance funds by the Board.

There was no public comment on agenda items.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1. Hill Township Board members request that a one-mile portion of 893 Road between 537 and 538 Avenues be vacated and abandoned. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Sokol, Jr. to adopt **Resolution #2020 – 13** directing Hwy. Supt. Barta to conduct a study of vacating and abandoning a one-mile portion of 893 RD located between the S1/2 of Section 3 and the N1/2 of Section 10 (between 537 and 538 Avenues), all in T32N, R4W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nay District #2. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2020 -13

WHEREAS the Hill Township Board has requested to vacate and abandon a portion of 893 Road as follows:

A one-mile portion of 893 Road located between the South Half of Section 3 and the North Half of

Section 10 (between 537 and 538 Avenues), all in T32N, R4W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska

WHEREAS the Highway Superintendent must conduct a study of vacating and abandoning such roads, and,

NOW BE IT RESOLVED, the Knox County Board of Supervisors hereby directs Hwy. Supt. Kevin R. Barta to conduct a study of vacating and abandoning a one-mile portion of 893 Road as described above.

Passed this 9th day of July 2020.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/
Kevin D. Mackeprang, Chairman, District #5

Martin J. O'Connor /s/
Martin J. O'Connor, District #1

Patrick J. Liska /s/
Patrick J. Liska, District #2

Virgil H. Miller /s/
Virgil H. Miller, District #3

James Sokol, Jr. /s/
James Sokol, Jr., District #4

Danny R. Schlote /s/
Danny R. Schlote, District #6

ATTEST : (Seal)
Joann M. Fischer /s/
Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk

James J. Borgmann /s/
James J. Borgmann, District #7

Hwy. Supt. Barta continued with the following: 2. Oil Crew update; 3. Bridge Crew update; 4. Broken concrete was hauled to the Creighton Yard from a Knox County farm; 5. Discussed the Center West federal aid bridge project. An interlocal agreement may be drafted as County funds will be spent in the Village of Center limits; 6. Discussed employee time sheets. The sheets are scanned and the information put on a spreadsheet that will be shared with the Board in the future; 7. Working on a lease for a JD 6145 tractor from Grossenberg Implement; 8. Discussed an issue on a road north of Crofton where a landowner hired a company to clean out ditches along a County Road. The work was scheduled to be done by the County this summer.

County officials and the Board discussed the employee wages for 2021 as the officials are working on budget worksheets for the fiscal year 2020/2021. Discussed was the request by officials for a 3% wage increase for employees except to the Sheriff's employees, Hwy. Supt. Barta, elected officials and their deputies and those employees receiving a deputy wage; Sheriff Henery requested a \$1 per hour increase for all of his employees and giving a flat rate per hour increase instead of a percentage increase. Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Miller to approve a 45 cent per hour increase for 2021 for Knox County employees except the Sheriff's employees, Hwy. Supt. Barta, elected officials and their deputies and those employees receiving a deputy wage. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #3, #4, #5 and #7. Nays Districts #1, #2 and #6. Motion carried.

Sheriff Henery told the Board that he has difficulty competing with the South Dakota prison in Springfield when it comes to wages. Also, he said each Supervisor district has its own situations such as tribal areas, camping areas, large influx of people on weekends in the lake and river areas where law enforcement is needed plus he is in need of one more dispatcher. Sheriff Henery requested a \$1 per hour increase for his employees for 2021. Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Miller to approve a \$1 per hour wage increase for the County Sheriff's employees for 2021, except Sheriff Henery whose salary along with the other elected officials was set through calendar year 2022 by Resolution #2017 – 35. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Zoning Administrator Doerr met with the Board on the following: 1. Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the June Permits Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2. Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to approve Administrative Plat #P0156 Roland Young for zoning lot combination on Lots 8 and 12, Block H, Lazy River Acres Subdivision. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 3. The Planning Commission will hold a meeting on July 14.

Sheriff Henery presented an Interlocal Law Enforcement Agreement between Knox County and Cedar County. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Liska to approve an Interlocal Law Enforcement Agreement between the Knox County Sheriff's Office and the Cedar County Sheriff's Office to provide for personnel backup and such other assistance as either party may require in time of emergency or other time of need. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Sokol, Jr. to place on file the Receipts Revenue Listing from June 24 through July 8, 2020. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

The Board directed that the current COVID-19 procedures remain in effect in the Courthouse Complex buildings to be reviewed at the July 30, 2020 Board meeting.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 174,217.40; Applied Connective Technologies, south door locks, 3,446.47; Bear Graphics, freight, 79.37; CenturyLink, long distance, 108.71; Classic Carpet Care, mop/towel rent, 24.50; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 13,065.94; County of Knox Employee Benefit Account HealthCare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 29,750.00; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 1,003.27; Donald Stoural, mileage, 31.23; Eakes Office Plus, supplies/copier agreement, 310.78; Ecowater Systems, bottled water/salt, 307.94; Fire Protection Services LLC, fire alarm inspection, 600.00; Folkers Bros. Garage, repairs, 895.32; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 1,563.02; Hagge Glass, lexan, 40.00; Heartland Energy Management, quarterly billing, 1,428.00; Hide Out Bar & Grill, prisoner board, 960.00; Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 76.18; James Hames, mileage, 57.75; James Scott, mileage, 58.99; Jo Ann P. Knori, prior service, 20.00; Key Sanitation LLC, garbage, 108.00; Knox County Register of Deeds, recording, 10.00; Knox County Sheriff, return comm/subpoenas, 582.67; LeRoy Buchholz, mileage, 39.91; LeRoy Clausen, mileage, 30.03; The Lincoln National Life Ins. Co., insurance County pays, 260.15; Liz Doerr, postage, 131.30; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 40.50; MIPS, computer program, 674.33; Northeast NE Area Agency on Aging, FY 2021 match, 6,205.00; Nebraska Weed Control Assn, registration, 120.00; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 2,342.27; Northeast Nebraska News Co., publishing, 474.44; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 699.00; Principal Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 1,577.04; R&K Auto Parts, repairs, 361.10; Region 4 Behavioral Health System, additional match, 2,093.00; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 11,621.74; Telebeep, pager, 64.17; Tri-State Turf & Irrigation, sprinkler repair, 67.61; United States Treasury, PCORI fee, 137.16; U.S. Cellular, cell phones, 153.94; US Cellular, cell phones, 234.27; Verdigre Farm Service, van parts, 250.00; Village of Center, hall rent, 40.00.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 71,145.68; Bauer Built Tire, tire, 2,898.40; Bazile Creek Power Sports, repairs, 50.97; Big Red Mini Mart, gas, 341.26; Bohemian One Stop, gas, 459.04; Burns Lumber Co. LLC, ash gro, 212.28; Carlson Home & Auto Inc., shop supplies, 14.52; City of Bloomfield, water, 25.00; City of Creighton, water/sewer/trash, 156.16; C-Mart, gas, 174.43; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 5,386.82; Cornhusker International Trucks Inc., repairs, 2,283.27; Country Market, shop supplies, 8.56; County of Knox Employee Benefit Acct. c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 11,900.00; Farmer's Pride, diesel, 2,922.15; Freeman Oil Company LLC, diesel, 822.95; Great Plains Communications, phone, 588.11; Grossenburg Implement Inc., shop supplies, 247.42; J&K Auto, gas, 31.00; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, shop supplies, 63.11; Kayton International, repairs, 174.00; Key Sanitation, garbage, 120.00; Larry Pilar, prior service, 21.00; Lincoln National Life Ins. Co., insurance County pays, 113.24; Max Dvorak, cell phone repair, 85.19; Moody Motor Company, repairs, 1,778.11; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 44.89; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 250.45; Principal Life Insurance Co., Ins. Co. Pays, 775.80; R&K Motor Parts, supplies/repairs /oil/filters, 641.21; RDO Truck Centers, repairs, 352.14; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 4,646.07; Riverside Hydraulics Inc., repairs, 127.83; Schrier Lumber, supplies, 38.20; State of Nebraska Motor Fuel Division, diesel tax, 3,151.00; Truck Center Companies, repairs, 1,673.99; U.S. Cellular, cell phones, 400.04; Vakoc Excavating LLC, gravel/haul, 25,115.24; Verdigre Farm Service, diesel/gas/antifreeze/shop supplies/oxygen, 2,404.18; Village of Niobrara, water/sewer, 38.69; Village of Verdigre, water/sewer/garbage, 86.78; West Hodson Lumber & Concrete Co., shop supplies, 3.99; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 21,651.30; ZimMetal & Welding LLC, shop supplies, 1,074.07.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. CenturyLink, long distance, 6.80; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 50.71; Microfilm Imaging Systems Inc., scanner rent, 81.00.

ROD PRESERVATION/MODERNIZATION FUND. Microfilm Imaging Systems Inc., scanner rent, 55.00; MIPS, computer program, 267.29.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 4,416.16; CenturyLink, long distance, 6.80; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 329.78; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 32.50; County of Knox Employee Benefit Acct. c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 850.00; Great Plains Communications,

phone/internet, 50.71; Lincoln National Life ins. Co., insurance County pays, 5.96; Northeast Nebraska News, publishing, 29.15; Principal Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 43.10; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 205.31; US Cellular, cell phone, 143.41.

INHERITANCE FUND. Doerr & Klein P.C., court appointed attorney, 3,948.82; KEA Constructors LLC, contractor payment, 146,587.05; Rodney W. Smith, public defender contract, 2,083.33.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. CenturyLink, phone, 5.64; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 138.40; Three River Telco, phone, 28.78.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 532.43; Three River Telco, phone, 192.63.

TOTALS	
General Fund	256,362.50
Road Fund	164,498.54
Child Support Fund	138.51
ROD Pres./Mod. Fund	322.29
C&C Development Fund	6,112.88
Inheritance Fund	152,619.20
911 Emergency Fund	172.82
911 Wireless Service Fund	<u>725.06</u>
Total	\$580,951.80

Chairman Mackeprang adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 11:34 a.m. on July 9, 2020 until Monday, July 13, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. for a special meeting and Thursday, July 30, 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
