

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska  
July 30, 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 30, 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. Miller 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 Wausa Gazette 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 July 9 and July 13, 2020 meetings were read and were approved by Chairman Mackeprang with the correction that the special meeting was held on July 13, 2020.

Correspondence reviewed was: 1. Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition letter; 2. Letter from the Secretary of the Interior David Berhardt regarding President Trump's direction to lead a Task Force that will propose options for the creation of a National Garden of American Heroes, including potential locations for the site; 3. Project updates on the Lewis and Clark Lake Watershed and North Fork Elkhorn Watershed; 4. Nirma's direction to add the new Creighton Yard pole shed to the County's Building & Contents Schedule.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Borgmann 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 \$645,407.77 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Chairman Mackeprang moves the Board recess at 9:59 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:30 a.m. with all members present.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1. Discussion was held on the request to vacate/abandon a one-mile portion of 893 RD in Hill Township. The Santee Sioux Tribe does not want the road vacated/abandoned as they may purchase property in that area plus they lose federal dollars when a road on the reservation is vacated/abandoned as it is then removed from their inventory; 2. Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded Supr. Miller to authorize Chairman Mackeprang to sign an Application For Occupancy On The Right Of Way Of Knox County Highways for Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company for the installation of fiber optic along the County Oil road west of Highway 14 going to O'Neill. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 3. Bridge Crew update; 4. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Liska to accept quotes from Husker Steel, Columbus NE for materials for the replacement of two bridges in Peoria Township as follows: precast concrete slab bridge 25' 6" x 33' \$66,605 and inset bridge 24' 6" x 40' \$82,825. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 5. Oil Crew update; 6. Road projects; 7. Motorgrader repair; 8. Dump trailer repair; 9. CJ slide update; 10. Bloomfield North Overlay Project update; 11. EWP, ER and FEMA projects updates; 12. Discussed budget proposals; 13. New Creighton Shed completed.

Economic Development Director Harvey updated the Board on the new Knox County Passport Project featuring tourism in Knox County.

Emergency Manager Hintz met with the Board about the COVID-19 screening. Discussion was held on the following: there were 1,074 contacts from June 8 through July 29; All county courthouses are open in the region or will be as of August 3; it is time to make changes as employees are being taken away from their regular jobs while screening; Fridays are very busy due to drivers test; each office could log the dates, names and phone numbers of the public who come to their office; and the staff have done an exceptional job keeping the County business operating in spite of the fact that Knox County has the highest number of positive cases in the health district. Officials gave their opinions to the proposed changes. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Liska to move to Phase IV; change the COVID-19 screening of the public to only court days, Fridays, and special events; practice social distancing; no congregating in the hallways or stairs; each office head will determine if the public can be admitted inside their offices and if the public is not allowed in the office, business will be conducted through the transaction windows or other methods until further notice; each office is responsible for regularly disinfecting their counters/transaction windows during the day; and employees are required to wear masks into the hallways, working directly with the public or anyplace where the public will be on the Courthouse Complex. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Sheriff Henery met with the Board on the following: 1. Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Schlote to approve and authorize Chairman Mackeprang to sign the Interlocal Agreement between the County of Knox and Village of Verdigre for law enforcement services for a two-year period beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2022. 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 July 9, 2020 through July 29, 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 Sheriff's Report on Collection of Taxes from October 30, 2019 through July 14, 2020. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the Knox County Treasurer's Report of Collections of Delinquent Personal Property Taxes FY 2018 & Prior, noting that all distress warrants were collected in full. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

The budget meeting with officials will be held on Friday, August 21, 2020 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to reappoint LeRoy Buchholz to another five-year term on the Knox County Veterans Service Committee. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Borgmann to publish the following current salaries as per Nebraska Revised Statute 23-122. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Pursuant to Section 23-122, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, salaries & job descriptions of County officials and employees are required to be published between July 15 and August 15. Eligible employees receive a single health insurance policy or a taxable \$330/month stipend for opting out of County health insurance coverage, a single dental/vision policy and a \$15,000 life insurance policy as a benefit. Those not receiving insurance will be marked "no insurance". Non-exempt employees' salaries are based on an eight-hour workday and non-exempt employees are eligible for overtime pay for hours worked over 40 hours a week at one & one-half times hourly rate. The following are current salaries of Knox County officials and employees: 1 Supervisor/Chairman - \$2,174.25/month; 3 Supervisors - \$2,074.25/month; 3 Supervisor - \$2,074.25/month + \$330 opt out stipend/month; Co. Attorney, Clerk of District Court. Court, Co. Assessor, Co. Clerk & Co. Treasurer - \$5,185.63; Co. Sheriff - \$5,903.12/month + \$120 uniform allowance/month & \$50 phone/internet/month; Co. Surveyor - \$83.33/month; Highway Superintendent - \$5,185.63/month + vehicle benefit; Emergency Mgr.- \$4,055.24/month + \$330 opt out stipend/month; Part-time Zoning Administrator - \$26.28/hour + \$45 cellphone allowance/month & \$25 internet allowance/month (no insurance); Veterans Service Officer - \$21.27/hour; Weed Superintendent - \$20.31/hour summer months + \$35 uniform allowance/summer months (no insurance); Development Agency Director - \$2,606.00/month; 911 Coordinator - \$19.48/hour + \$60 uniform allowance/month Deputy Assessor - \$22.44/hour + \$20 clothing allowance/month; Part-time Deputy County Attorney - \$2,500/month (no insurance); Deputy Clerk of District Court - \$22.44/hour + \$330 opt out stipend/month; Deputy Clerk & Deputy Treasurer - \$22.44/hour; 1 Office Clerk - \$17.30/hour; 1 Recording Clerk - \$16.45/hour; 2 Office Clerks - \$16.45/hour; 1 Office Clerk - \$15./hour; 1 Part-time Office Clerk - \$12.61/hour (no insurance); 1 Clerks/Appraisers - \$17.05/hour + \$20 clothing allowance/month; 1 Clerk/Appraiser - \$16.45/hour + \$20 clothing allowance/month; 1 Clerk/Appraiser - \$15.00/hour + \$20 clothing allowance/month + \$330 opt out stipend/month; 1 Office Manager - \$22.44/hour; 2 Part-time Office Managers - \$20.01/hour (no insurance); 1 Part-time Secretary - \$13.47/hour (no insurance); 1 Custodian - \$18.57/hour; 1 Chief Deputy Sheriff - \$4,307.39/month + \$37.56 other hours + \$120 uniform allowance/month; 1 Deputy Sheriff - \$4,213.60/month + \$36.75 other hours + \$120 uniform allowance/month; 1 Deputy Sheriff - \$3,828.33/month + \$33.38 other hours + \$120 uniform allowance/month; 8 Part-time Deputy Sheriff - \$23.35/hour (no insurance); 1 Head Jailer - \$22.25/hour + \$60 uniform allowance/month; 2 Jailors - \$18.45/hour + \$60 uniform allowance/month; 1 Jailer - \$18.08/hour + \$60 uniform allowance/month; 1 Jailer - \$17.69/hour + \$60 uniform allowance/month; 2 Jailors - \$17.69/hour + \$60 uniform allowance/month + \$330 opt out stipend/month; 1 Jailer - \$16.92/hour + \$60 uniform allowance/month; 1 Part-time Jailer - \$16.15/hour (no insurance); 1 Administrative Assistant - \$17.50/hour + \$60 uniform allowance/month; 1 Bridge Crew Foreman/Crane Operator - \$20.91/hour + \$35 clothing allowance/month; 1 Oil Foreman - \$20.39/hour + \$35 clothing allowance/month; 1 Substitute Oil Foreman - \$20.39/hour; 1 Mechanic - \$25.00/hour + \$35 clothing allowance/month; 2 Patrol Operators - \$18.71/hour oiling season + \$35 clothing allowance/month; 1 Patrol Operator - \$18.21/hour + \$35 clothing allowance/month + \$330 opt out stipend/month; 6 Patrol Operators - \$18.21/hour + \$35 clothing allowance/month; 1 Patrol Operator - \$17.82/hour + \$35 clothing allowance/month + \$330 opt out stipend/month; 1 Patrol Operator - \$16.00/hour + \$35 clothing allowance/month; 3 Truck Drivers - \$18.21/hour + \$35 clothing allowance/month; 1 Truck Driver - \$16.50/hour + \$35 clothing allowance/month; 1 Truck Driver - \$16.00/hour + \$35 clothing allowance/month; 1 Part-time Truck Driver - \$17/hour summer months (no insurance).

Zoning Administrator Doerr met with the Board on the following: 1. Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to place on file the Planning Commission February 11, 2020 meeting minutes. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2. Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Borgmann to approve Administrative Plat Application #P0157 Nicholas Jurgens for a lot split of a 7.26-acre tract in the NE1/4SE1/4 of Section 34, T29N, R7W of the 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 3. The Planning Commission will meet on August 11, 2020; 4. Update on the Wolf Run campground; 5. Discussed tiny houses.

There was no public comment on agenda items.

Public comment on non-agenda items was given by Supr. O'Connor who said that it is necessary to add microphones to the Boardroom so the public can hear the Board when they are speaking and the sound upgrade would enhance the Zoom and Webex interface (corrected 8-13-2020).

Public comment on non-agenda items was given by Sheriff Henery who asked about adding more security cameras in the building.

As per Nebraska Revised Statute 47-109, the Board made a quarterly visit to the Knox County Jail.

**GENERAL FUND.** Antelope County Sheriff Department, house inmate, 65.00; Bear Graphics, freight, 46.39; Bloomfield Auto Parts, weed repairs, 27.41; Bomgaars, weed oil & wash, 35.41; Butler County Landfill Inc., scrap tire, 7,304.41; CenturyLink, long distance, 103.68; Classic Carpet Care, mop/towel rent, 43.00; Clerk of District Court, filing fees, 36.00; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 65.25; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, backup, 363.38; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, teletype, 448.00; Dean Wilken, meeting/mileage, 47.43; Dollar General, supplies,

63.00; Doug DeShazer, meeting/mileage, 56.05; Eakes Office Solutions, copier agreement, 119.01; Eco Water Systems, bottled water, 120.00; First National Bank Omaha, gas/supplies/hot spot/postage, 2,639.10; Greg Kuhlman, meeting/mileage, 52.60; Heartland Heating & Air Conditioning, recovery unit, 2,255.00; Independent Pest Management, pest control, 159.41; Jim Kotrous, meeting/mileage, 43.40; Keith Nielsen, meeting/mileage, 40.53; Knox County Sheriff, service fees, 32.50; Knox County Treasurer, transfer from General Fund to Road Fund, 94,682.45; Loffler, contract, 414.85; Monica McManigal, meals/title, 153.11; Neil Clausen, meeting/mileage, 57.20; Northeast Nebraska News Company, publishing/subscription, 119.64; Pitney Bowes, meter lease, 159.57; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 11.45; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 458.72; Robert Larsen, meeting/mileage, 35.35; Security Shredding Services, shredding, 87.50; Thomson Reuters West, law book, 201.00; Tri-State Tuft & Irrigation, sprinkler repair, 303.72; Verdigre Eagle, publishing, 354.00; Village of Center, water/sewer/garbage, 1,011.00; Wholesale Supply Company Inc., supplies, 497.30; Yankton Fire & Safety Co. Inc., inspection, 179.75.

**ROAD FUND.** Backus Sand & Gravel, gravel, 3,298.84; Beckman Lumber Inc., shed, 26,000.00; Black Hills Energy, heating fuel, 68.16; Bloomfield Auto Parts, supplies/oil/filters/repairs, 273.90; Bomgaars, shop supplies, 666.12; Burns Lumber Co LLC, ash gro, 821.05; Cedar Knox PPD, electricity, 85.83; CHS Wausa, diesel, 1,546.77; C-Mart LLC, gas, 117.47; Crane Sales & Service, repairs, 1,562.83; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 63.00; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, advertisement, 133.28; Dan Vakoc, rental, 500.00; Dwarriner Clearing & Grading LLC, equipment rental, 3,343.75; First National Bank Omaha, repairs, 1,785.34; Freeman Oil Company LLC, diesel, 872.00; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 4,741.45; Hotsy Equipment Co., repairs, 196.85; James Carlson, sand, 1,500.00; Larry Moeller, rental, 500.00; Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fees, 4,562.20; Marcel Kramer, clay, 450.00; Medical Enterprises Inc., drug test, 220.00; Landmark Surveying, survey, 240.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 204.73; NMC Exchange LLC, repairs, 25,735.24; Orrin Pospisil, rental, 500.00; Roger's Auto Repair, repairs, 578.00; Rory Liska, cdl renewal, 63.50; Russ Crosley, garbage, 46.00; S&S Builders, shed labor, 22,000.00; Steffens Service, gas, 41.00; Vakoc Excavating LLC, gravel/haul, 39,415.58; Vic's Service LLC, gas/tire repair, 384.75; Village of Center, water/sewer, 25.50; Village of Wausa, water/sewer/garbage, 153.80; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 63,151.32; Yankton Fire & Safety Co., inspections, 218.75.

**HIGHWAY BRIDGE BUYBACK FUND.** Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 86.44; DWarriner Clearing & Grading LLC, equipment rental, 4,342.50.

**FLOWAGE EASEMENT ROAD FUND.** Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 143.16; Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fees, 63,043.63; Pitzer Digital LLC, publishing, 44.37; Western Engineering Co., Bloomfield north overlay, 201,151.00.

**CHILD SUPPORT FUND.** CenturyLink, long distance, 6.49; Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 125.93.

**VISITOR'S IMPROVEMENT FUND.** First National Bank Omaha, kiosk internet, 217.30.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND.** NENEDD, admin fees, 210.00.

**C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND.** CenturyLink, long distance, 6.48; First National Bank Omaha, supplies/postage/dues/travel, 191.20; Northeast Nebraska News, subscription, 36.50; Verdigre Eagle, publishing, 30.00.

**INHERITANCE FUND.** KEA Constructors LLC, Ray Stark bridge, 40,043.18; Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fees, 15,280.18

**911 EMERGENCY FUND.** CenturyLink, phone, 55.09; First National Bank Omaha, fair giveaways, 218.65; Three River Telco, phone, 28.78.

**911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND.** CenturyLink, phone, 368.70; First National Bank Omaha, fair giveaways, 625.98; Three River Telco, phone, 192.63.

TOTALS	
General Fund	112,892.57
Road Fund	206,067.01
Highway Bridge Buyback Fund	4,428.94
Flowage Easement Road Fund	264,382.16
Child Support Fund	132.42
Visitor's Improvement Fund	217.30
Economic Development Fund	210.00
C & C Development Fund	264.18
Inheritance Fund	55,323.36
911 Emergency Fund	302.52
911 Wireless Service Fund	<u>1,187.31</u>
Total	<u>\$645,407.77</u>

Chairman Mackeprang adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 12:15 p.m. on July 30, 2020 until Thursday, August 13, 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

By \_\_\_\_\_

Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk

Kevin D. Mackeprang, Chairman

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