

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
October 8, 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 October 8, 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.

County Clerk Fischer 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 September 24, 2020 meeting were read and approved by Chairman Mackeprang.

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 \$733,446.88 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 10:10 a.m. with all members present.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1. Update on EWP projects; 2. Discussed Knox/Antelope County Line Bridge near Ash Falls. FEMA will obligate \$138,000 to repair one approach. The Antelope County Board said the bridge needs to be replaced. Discussion was held on replacement costs to both counties, size of bridge, not a heavily traveled road and there are two more bridges that need to be replaced in the area. The Knox County Board of Supervisors' response to the Antelope County Board is to fix the approach as they do not want to spend the estimated Knox County share on the bridge at this time; 3. Bridge Crew update; 4. CJ Slide update; 5. Cedar/Knox County Line Bridge update; 6. Seth and Lisa Harder met with the Board regarding the right of way across on Lots 21-23 in Bon Homme Subdivision. The Harders purchased Lots 16 – 23 and found out about the right of way after they received a title insurance policy. Discussion was held on options to vacate the old right of way, the Harders could contact the Nebraska Department of Roads, and the State possibly could deed over the lots in question; 7. County Attorney Thomas and the Board discussed the Rec Road slide, the agreement for cost split on that road, danger to the public so something needs to be done, and County Attorney Thomas to draft a letter to the Nebraska Dept. of Transportation; 8. Bridge inspections update; 9. Ray Stark Bridge update; 10. Work being done on the gravel road north of Center; 11. ER project update.

Extension Educator Megan Hanefeldt and Extension Board President Holly Wortmann met with the Board on a possible restructuring of the Center Extension Office. Knox County currently has 377 youth enrolled in the Knox County 4-H program and is ranked 18th in the State of Nebraska. Discussion was held on encouraging our youth to return to the County and projects that help the members in college. One office staff member is retiring December 31 and discussion ensued on possibly having a 4-H Assistant who would be an employee of the University of Nebraska, the County contributing the funds for wages and benefits, the Assistant would be required to have a Bachelor's Degree, hiring procedures, the Assistant would have an opportunity to further their education with tuition assistance through the University, and that the remaining person who has worked in the office part-time for over 30 years would go to full time status. The matter was tabled to the October 29, 2020 meeting.

Zoning Administrator Doerr met with the Board on the following: 1. Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Liska to place on file the September Zoning Permits Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to approve Administrative Plat Application #P0160 Scott Fiedler for a zoning lot combination of Lots 607, 608 and 609 in Hideaway Acres 6th Addition. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 3. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Schlote to approve Administrative Plat Application #P0162 Alan Poppe for a lot split of a 5-acre tract in the S1/2SW1/4 of Section 19, T32N, R2W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 4. The next Planning Commission meeting will be October 13, 2020; 5. Lewis and Clark NRD is working on remapping the flood plains.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Sokol, Jr. to place on file the Revenue Receipts List for September 24, 2020 to October 7, 2020. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a tort claim submitted by Paul Rosberg. No action was taken.

Motion by Supr. Miller, seconded by Supr. Liska to place on file the 2019/2020 Audit Report of Knox County. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the Clerk of District Court October 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 Sheriff's Quarterly Report of Fees Collected between July 1, 2020 and ending September 30, 2020. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the 2021 Knox County Spelling Bee. Due to concerns of social distancing in the Knox County Courtroom, the Knox County school superintendents will be asked if one of their schools would hold the spelling bee in their school.

The last meeting in November was moved to Tuesday, November 24, 2020 due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

Discussion was held on the COVID 19 procedures in the Courthouse. It is recommended the public wear masks and the employees are required to wear masks when going into the hallway, into the public, into other offices or to other buildings in the Courthouse Complex. Also discussed was what should be done at the front door on Fridays and for County Court. The Board directed that the County Court office to be in charge of COVID procedures on the top floor on their respective court dates. Loren Hintz had assisted Emergency Manager Hintz on three Fridays and has presented a claim for payment of his time. Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr, seconded by Supr. Liska to approve a claim submitted by Loren Hintz in the amount of \$292.50 for COVID screening on September 11, 18 and 25, 2020. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4 and #5. Nays Districts #2, #6 and #7. Motion carried. Chairman Mackeprang will man the front door on Fridays and the matter will be revisited at the October 29, 2020 meeting.

Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Borgmann to go into executive session at 12:37 p.m. so as to protect the reputation of an individual when reviewing General Assistance Application #1-2020. 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 an individual when reviewing General Assistance Application #1-2020. The Board came out of executive session at 12:47 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Miller to close the executive session at 12:47 p.m. that was held for the review of General Assistance Application #1-2020.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to deny General Assistance Application #1-2020. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

There was no public comment on agenda items nor on non-agenda items.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 171,039.22; Bloomfield Bakery, jury rolls, 24.00; Bomgaars, shop towel, 10.99; Brian J. Peters, juror mileage, 34.50; CenturyLink, long distance, 116.39; Classic Carpet Care, mop/towel rent, 46.50; Clerk of District Court, filing fee, 98.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 13,102.79; Country Cafe, jury meals, 300.00; County of Knox Employee Benefit Account HealthCare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 29,750.00; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 78.00; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, teletype, 448.00; Debra Allemann-Dannelly, mileage, 108.99; Eakes Office Solutions, copier agreement, 221.95; Ecowater Systems, bottled water, 216.00; Election Systems & Software LLC, print & code ballots, 4,105.50; Fire Protection Services LLC, fire alarm inspection, 600.00; Grafix Shoppe, graphics for vehicle, 246.94; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 1,533.99; Heartland Energy Management, quarterly billing, 1,428.00; Hide Out Bar & Grill, prisoner board/jury meals, 1,516.75; Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 76.18; Independent Pest Management LLC, pest control, 35.00; Jennifer Doerr, juror mileage, 38.55; Jimmy Dean's Lounge, jury supplies, 80.00; Jo Ann P. Knori, prior service, 20.00; Knox County Sheriff, service fees, 205.05; The Lincoln National Life Ins. Co., insurance County pays, 260.15; Liz Doerr, mileage, 54.05; Loffler, copier agreement, 244.20; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 40.50; MIPS, computer program, 1,621.90; MIPS, final scanning, 206.30; Monica Rotherham, mileage, 27.60; Monroe Systems, calculator ribbons, 58.53; Nebraska Weed Control Association, registration, 120.00; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 3,096.23; Northeast Nebraska News Co., publishing, 95.73; NPZA, registration, 20.00; Pitney Bowes, meter lease, 159.57; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 300.00; Platte Valley Communications Inc., repeater repairs, 12,519.48; Principal Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 1,577.04; Quill Corp., office supplies, 763.29; R&K Motor parts, repairs, 664.40; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 11,495.59; Rita Olberding, substitute bailiff, 607.05; September 2020 District Court Jury, jury fees, 6,622.21; Telebeep, pager, 64.17; Tri-State Turf & Irrigation, sprinkler repair, 198.31; U.S. Cellular, cell phones, 191.33; US Cellular, cell phones, 236.44; Verdigre Eagle, subscription, 33.00; Verdigre Farm Service, gas, 18.00; Vickie Prince, mileage, 69.00; Village of Center, hall rent, 200.00.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 69,178.41; Red Mini Mart, gas, 53.00; Bomgaars, shop supplies/shop tools/cement/seed/sunshades, 1,598.67; CHS Wausa, diesel, 1,172.00; City of Bloomfield, water, 25.00; C-Mart, gas, 131.15; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 5,236.33; County of Knox Employee Benefit Acct. c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 11,900.00; Dollar General, shop supplies, 11.00; Farmer's Pride, diesel, 4,689.26; Frevert Excavating LLC, equipment rental, 1,567.50; Gerhold Concrete Company Inc., concrete, 3,515.25; Great Plains Communications, phone, 589.75; Grossenburg Implement Inc., repairs/filters, 462.45; Jebro Inc., road oil, 32,552.30; Kayton International, equipment rental, 2,000.00; Kimball Midwest, shop supplies, 673.24; Largen Manufacturing Co., repairs, 45.00; Larry Pilar, prior service, 21.00; Lincoln National Life Ins. Co., insurance County pays, 113.24; Linn Post & Pipe Inc., repairs, 60.65; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 48.69; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 312.09; Principal Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 775.80; R&K Motor Parts, repairs/filters/oil, 578.90; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 4,513.27; Rose Equipment Inc., repairs, 165.78; State of Nebraska Motor fuel Division, diesel tax, 2,911.00; Sucha Repair, filters, 11.13; U.S. Cellular, cell phones, 440.38; Vakoc Excavating LLC, gravel/haul, 45,490.07; Village of Niobrara, water/sewer, 38.75; Village of Verdigre, water/sewer/garbage, 100.34.

FLOWAGE EASEMENT ROAD FUND. High Plains Enterprises, equipment rental, 220,753.70; Vakoc Excavating LLC, equipment rental, 4,205.00.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. CenturyLink, long distance, 7.27; Gayle Krohn, jury supplies, 59.93; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 50.95; Horstmann Construction, witness stand cage, 445.50; Matthew R. Fischer, jury supplies, 95.27; Microfilm Imaging Systems Inc., scanner rent, 81.00; One Office Solution, name badges, 43.31.

VISITOR'S PROMO FUND. Salaries, 1,129.63.

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

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

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND. NENEDD, admin fees, 105.00.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 3,041.67; CenturyLink, long distance, 7.27; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 224.63; County of Knox Employee Benefit Acct. c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 850.00; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 11.29; First National Bank Omaha, equip/phone/postage/travel/dues, 373.93; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 50.95; Kelly Hanvey, meals, 55.00; Lincoln National Life Ins. Co., insurance County pays, 5.96; Principal Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 43.10; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, Retirement County pays, 205.31; Stacy Miller, meals, 13.00; US Cellular, cell phone, 151.72.

INHERITANCE FUND. Fitzgerald, Vetter, Temple, Bartell & Henderson, court appointed attorney, 4,420.71; Rodney W. Smith, public defender contract, 2,083.33.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. CenturyLink, phone, 6.67; CenturyLink, phone, 55.07; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 139.38; Knox County Treasurer, transfer to inheritance fund, 25,468.74; Three River Telco, phone, 28.78.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. Salaries, 2,518.44; CenturyLink, phone, 368.54; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 532.43; Knox County Treasurer, transfer to 911 wireless holding, 7,055.42; Three River Telco, phone, 192.63.

TOTALS	
General Fund	267,045.36
Road Fund	190,981.40
Flowage Easement Road Fund	224,958.70
Child Support Fund	783.23
Visitor's Promo Fund	1,129.63
Visitor's Improvement Fund	217.30
ROD Pres./Mod. Fund	322.29
Economic Development Fund	105.00
C&C Development Fund	5,033.83
Inheritance Fund	6,504.04
911 Emergency Fund	25,698.64
911 Wireless Service Fund	<u>10,667.46</u>
Total	<u>\$733,446.88</u>

Chairman Mackeprang adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 12:59 p.m. on October 8, 2020 until Thursday, October 29, 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
