

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska  
January 14, 2021  
9:30 a.m.

A reorganizational 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 January 14, 2021 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. Borgmann led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman ~~Sokol, Jr.~~ Mackeprang (corrected 1-28-2021) 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 Bloomfield Monitor 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 December 31, 2020 and January 7, 2021 meetings were read and approved by Chairman Mackeprang with the correction of the December 31, 2020 minutes that the new strain of the coronavirus is making its way into the United States.

Correspondence reviewed was: 1. Letter from Region 11 Emergency Manager Bobbi Risor on the update to the Hazard Mitigation Plan; 2. Thank you card from former employee Mary Ketelsen; 3. Email and "Threshing out some facts concerning the Deployment of Industrial Wind Turbines in Rural Nebraska" document from Dan Schmid with Nebraska Coalition For Responsible Energy (NCFRE); 4. Letters from NIRMA stating ASSIST Program funds were sent to Knox County in the amount of \$1,250 for bullet proof vests, \$937.50 for barricade lights and \$867.15 for high-visibility vests; 5. NACO letter stating that Executive Director Larry Dix will be retiring from actively managing NACO and MIPS beginning February 1, 2021 but will continue on with NACO on a consulting basis. Jon Cannon will become the new Executive Director.

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 \$457,253.86 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Chairman Mackeprang moves the Knox County Board of Supervisors recess at 9:58 a.m. on January 14, 2021.

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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The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:01 a.m., as provided by Sec. 23-156, 23-272, 23-274 Revised Statutes of Nebraska 1943.

Chairman Mackeprang appointed County Clerk Fischer as Temporary Chairman of the Knox County Board of Supervisors due to the reorganization process.

Temporary Chairman/Co. Clk. Fischer called for nominations three times from the floor for the 2021 Chairman of the Knox County Board of Supervisors. Supr. Sokol, Jr. nominated Supervisor Mackeprang.

Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr. seconded by Supr. Miller that nominations cease, rules be suspended and to cast a unanimous ballot for Supervisor Mackeprang for Chairman of the Knox County Board of Supervisors for 2021. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Abstain District #5. Motion carried. Supervisor Mackeprang assumed the duties of the Chairman of the Knox County Board of Supervisors for 2021.

Chairman Mackeprang called for nominations three times from the floor for the 2021 Vice-Chairman of the Knox County Board of Supervisors. Supr. Liska nominated Supr. Miller.

Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Schlote that nominations cease, rules be suspended and to cast a unanimous ballot for Supervisor Miller for Vice-Chairman of the Knox County Board of Supervisors for 2021. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Abstain District #3. Motion carried. Supr. Miller assumed the duties of the Vice-Chairman of the Knox County Board of Supervisors for 2021.

Chairman Mackeprang announced the 2021 Committees as follows: **CATASTROPHIC LEAVE COMMITTEE** - the recipient employee's department head, Chairman – Supr. Kevin Mackeprang, Co. Clerk Joann M. Fischer, Sheriff Don Henery, Highway Superintendent Kevin Barta and an outside employee-Road Department; **CLAIMS** – Supervisors Martin O'Connor, Danny Schlote and Jim Sokol, Jr.; **COUNTY GENERAL ASSISTANCE** - Supervisors in Respective Districts;

**COUNTY GENERAL ASSISTANCE** – Supervisors in Respective Districts; **COUNTY MACHINERY CARE** – Supervisors Martin O'Connor, Jim Sokol, Jr., Patrick Liska and Hwy. Supt. Kevin Barta; **COURTHOUSE & GROUNDS** – Supervisors Kevin Mackeprang, Virgil Miller, Jim Sokol, Jr., Co. Clerk Joann M. Fischer, Deputy Co. Clerk Rhonda Surface and Custodian Brandon Peters; **COURTHOUSE SECURITY** – Sheriff Don Henery, County Attorney John Thomas and Emergency Manager Laura Hintz; **COURTHOUSE SUPPLY APPROVAL OFFICER** – County Clerk Joann Fischer; **EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK & PERSONNEL SYSTEM REVIEW COMMITTEE (Created 6/27/2019)** – Supervisor Kevin Mackeprang, County Clerk Joann M. Fischer, Sheriff Don Henery, Deputy County Clerk Rhonda Surface and Hwy. Supt. Office Manager Katie Fritz; **FINANCING, BANKING & INSURANCE** – Supervisors Virgil Miller, Martin O'Connor and Jim Borgmann; **PRINTING** – Supervisors Jim Sokol, Jr., Jim Borgmann and Patrick Liska; **PURCHASING** – Supervisors Martin O'Connor, Jim Borgmann and Kevin Mackeprang; **ROAD & BRIDGE** – Supervisors Virgil Miller, Jim Sokol, Jr., Patrick Liska and Hwy. Supt. Kevin Barta.; **SAFETY COMMITTEE** - Supervisors Danny Schlote and Patrick Liska, Emergency Manager Laura Hintz, Co. Clerk Joann Fischer, Hwy. Supt. Kevin Barta, Sheriff Don Henery, Custodian Brandon Peters, Road employees Mike Beckmann, Mike Jelinek, Mike Kucera, and Hwy. Supt. Office Manager Katie Fritz as secretary; **SAFETY COORDINATORS** – Emergency Manager Laura Hintz and County Clerk Joann M. Fischer; **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES COMMITTEE** - Supervisor Kevin Mackeprang, Hwy. Supt. Kevin Barta and Co. Clerk Joann Fischer; **BLOOMFIELD AIRPORT JOINT ZONING BOARD** – Supervisor Kevin Mackeprang; **CREIGHTON AIRPORT JOINT ZONING BOARD** – Supervisor Jim Borgmann; **GOLDENROD HILLS (HOUSING)** – Supervisor Jim Sokol, Jr.; **HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (HIPAA) COORDINATOR** – Co. Clerk Joann Fischer; **KNOX COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY** - Supervisors Danny Schlote and Jim Borgmann; **KNOX COUNTY VISITORS' COMMITTEE** – Supervisor Martin O'Connor; **MISSOURI SEDIMENTATION ACTION COALITION BOARD** – Mark Simpson; **NEBRASKA REGIONAL INTEROPERABILITY NETWORK** – Supervisor Kevin Mackeprang; **911 EMERGENCY SERVICE BOARD** - Supervisors Virgil Miller, Jim Sokol, Jr. and Jim Borgmann; **NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT BOARD** - Supervisor Kevin Mackeprang; **NORTHEAST NEBRASKA AREA AGENCY ON AGING** - Supervisor Virgil Miller; **NORTHEAST NEBRASKA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (NENEDD) BOARD** - Supervisor Jim Borgmann; **NORTHSTAR SERVICES BOARD** - Supervisor Danny Schlote; **RECREATION RIVER COOPERATING AGENCY** - Supervisor Martin O'Connor; **REGION IV MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICE DISTRICT** - Supervisor Kevin Mackeprang.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to authorize Co. Treasurer Stark to invest all funds of the County for the calendar year 2021. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Liska to set the current salary for Veterans' Service Officer Gary Jones at \$21.72 per hour. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Borgmann to designate the publishing and posting requirements of 2021 Notices of Meeting as follows: All 2021 Notices of Meeting to be posted on the Knox County Website being [www.co.knox.ne.us](http://www.co.knox.ne.us); the Notice of Meeting for the first regular meeting of each month be published in the Bloomfield Monitor, the Notice of Meeting for the second regular meeting of each month be published in the Verdigre Eagle; and special meeting/quorum meeting notices be published in both the Bloomfield Monitor and Verdigre Eagle. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Chairman Mackeprang moves the Board recess at 10:11 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:28 a.m. with all members present.

There was no public comment on agenda items.

Public comment on non-agenda items was held with a group of people who had attended and asked about the Harts vs. Knox County Supreme Court ruling and what action the Board was going to take. The Board will not take action without the guidance of County Attorney Thomas and discussion will be held when County Attorney Thomas is present and it is an agenda item.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1. Discussed rotary chopper attachment for the skid loader to cut brush and smaller trees in the County Road right-of-way; 2. Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Schlote to purchase two flashing speed signs to be placed at the Miller Feedlot area on the Bloomfield North County oiled road. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 3. Additional bridge projects for 2021 were discussed. Steel prices are increasing so another bridge project and another repair project will be added to the list for 2021; 4. Knox County was not selected for a bridge buyback project; 5. Ford truck repair; 6. Discussed culvert repair.

Zoning Administrator Doerr met with the Board on the following: 1. The recessed public hearing that was held at the December 31, 2020 meeting on Conditional Use Permit Application #CU0041 for the amendment to Permit #CU0029 and the amendment to Resolution #2017-33 was reconvened at 10:58 a.m. Deputy County Attorney Holecek had researched the application and the Condominium Declaration and said that the application could be approved. Chairman Mackeprang closed the public hearing at 11:00 a.m. There was no one present in opposition. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Liska to adopt **Resolution #2021 – 01 approving Conditional Use Permit #CU0041 amending #CU0029 and amending Resolution #2017 – 33** on David Hoffman where one condominium was built and applicant requested to construct a single-family dwelling instead of an additional two-unit condominium on Lots 2 and 3, Hideaway Estates Subdivision. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

### **RESOLUTION #2021 – 01 AMENDING RESOLUTION #2017-33**

**WHEREAS**, David Hoffman has applied for Conditional Use Permit #CU0041 to amend #CU0029 to construct a single family dwelling on Lot #2 in addition to the already constructed two-unit condominium on Lot #3 Hideaway Estates, Knox County, Nebraska

**WHEREAS**, the Knox County Planning Commission has given public notice and held a public hearing on December 8, 2020, and

**WHEREAS**, the Knox County Planning Commission has found that the application complies with the Knox County Zoning Regulations, and hereby makes a recommendation to approve the permit with the following conditions:

1. The amended Condominium Declaration shall be recorded to reflect that it will now be a single family dwelling and one 2-unit condominium.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, THAT THE DAVID HOFFMAN CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT #CU0041 BE APPROVED, AMENDING #CU0029 AND AMENDING RESOLUTION #2017-33 THAT WAS ADOPTED ON NOVEMBER 9, 2017.**

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2021.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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

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

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

ATTEST: (Seal)

Joann M. Fischer /s/  
Knox County Clerk

Zoning Administrator Doerr continued with the following: 2. Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Schlote to approve Administrative Plat Application #P0167 Bow Valley Elevator for a five-acre lot split in the N1/2SE1/4 of Section 25, T31N, R4W of the 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 3. Motion by Supr. Miller, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to place on file the 2020 Yearly Permits Report and the Permits-Yearly Summary. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Sokol, Jr. to place on file the County Treasurer's Semi Annual Report of Summary of Collections, Disbursements and Balances for six months ending December 31, 2020 and that there were no unpaid claims against Knox County as of December 31, 2020. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Sokol, Jr. to place on file the Clerk of District Court December 2020 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 from October 1 through December 31, 2020. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to set the 2021 mileage rate at the IRS rate of 56 cents per mile and the Sheriff paper rate of 59 cents per mile. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Miller, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the Receipts Revenue Listing Report of January 1 through January 13, 2021. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Sokol, Jr. to approve and place on file the Knox County Credit Card Accounts Report as of January 1, 2021. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Emergency Manager Hintz updated the Board on the following: 1. Update on the North Central District Health Department Tentative Vaccine Timeline; 2. Hazard Mitigation Plan update.

**GENERAL FUND.** Salaries, 185,591.71; Antelope County Sheriff Department, house inmate, 130.00; Applied Connective Technologies, computers/programs, 3,257.59; Aumentum Technologies, rate tables, 2,944.50; Carlson Home & Auto Inc., weed tire repair, 28.65; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 13,994.58; County of Knox Employee Benefit Account HealthCare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 31,625.00; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 18.10; Creston Fertilizer Co., chemicals, 308.48; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 12.70; Dollar General, supplies, 14.55; Eakes Office Solutions, office supplies, 9.97; EcoWater Systems, bottled water, 336.00; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 1,470.25; Hampton Inn Kearney, lodging, 288.00; Heartland Energy Management, quarterly billing, 1,428.00; Herbert Feed & Grain, generator diesel, 124.80; Hide Out Bar & Grill, prisoner board, 1,960.00; Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 76.18; Jo Ann P. Knori, prior service, 20.00; Kathy Wagner, reimburse gas, 20.18; Knox County Court, cases pending, 102.00; Knox County Sheriff, transport, 238.32; K/V Electric LLC, service call, 85.00; The Lincoln National Life Ins. Co., insurance County pays, 266.11; Liz Doerr, mileage/ink, 136.87; Loffler, copier contract, 244.20; Marvin Planning Consultants, comprehensive plan, 180.00; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 40.50; MIPS, computer program, 1,621.90; MOCIC, dues, 100.00; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 2,047.95; Northeast Nebraska News Co., publishing, 388.70; Pitney Bowes, meter lease, 159.57; Pitzer Digital LLC, publishing, 251.69; Postmaster, postage, 375.00; Principal Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 1,939.50; Quill Corporation, supplies, 400.05; R&K Motor Parts, van oil/wash, 10.59; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 12,425.61; Telebeep, pager, 64.17; University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Showworks renewal, 225.00; Village of Center, water/sewer/garbage, 319.00.

**ROAD FUND.** Salaries, 70,313.42; A&D Service, tire repair, 132.00; B's Enterprises Inc., signs/lath/bits, 2,487.50; Big Red Mini Mart, gas, 119.14; Bloomfield Auto Parts, shop supplies, 18.37; Bohemian One Stop, gas, 461.70; CHS Wausa, diesel, 495.66; City of Bloomfield, water, 25.00; City of Creighton, water/sewer/garbage, 164.26; C-Mart, gas, 160.87; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 5,307.19; County of Knox Employee Benefit Acct. c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 13,125.00; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 325.24; Farmer's Pride, diesel/heating fuel, 2,713.26; Flenniken Electric, building repair, 237.03; Great Plains Communications, phone, 593.96; Grossenburg Implement Inc., repairs, 3.00; Hefner Hardware, shop tools, 175.97; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 1,730.64; Hrbek Construction, equipment rental, 462.50; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, shop supplies/ice melt, 143.35; Key Sanitation, garbage, 120.00; Larry Pilar, prior service, 21.00; Lawson Products, grease, 11.01; Lincoln National Life Ins. Co., insurance County pays, 113.24; Linn Post & Pipe Inc., shop supplies, 39.33; Main Street Grocery, shop supplies, 6.64; Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fees, 312.50; N&B Gas Co., heating fuel, 554.40; Nebraska Association of County Engineers, Hwy. Supt. & Surveyors, dues, 50.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 72.21; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 429.36; Overhead Door Co. of Norfolk, door opener, 196.50; Pease General Store, shop supplies, 94.38; Principal Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 775.80; R&K Motor Parts, repairs/filters/oil/shop tools, 1,316.16; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 4,491.55; Sam Sukup, dirt, 225.00; Schreier Lumber, crushed concrete, 4,704.00; State of Nebraska Motor Fuel Division, diesel tax, 1,217.00; Truck Center Companies, repairs, 557.04; Verdigre Farm Service, gas/diesel/fluids/repairs/tires/tire repair/posts; 3,138.81; Vic's Service LLC, gas/bulb, 169.81; Village of Center, water/sewer, 38.00; Village of Niobrara, water/sewer, 38.69; Village of Verdigre, water/sewer/garbage, 85.04; West Hodson Lumber & Concrete Co., crushed concrete, 5,644.74; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel, 236.79.

**FLOWAGE EASEMENT ROAD FUND.** Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fees, 22,394.98.

**CHILD SUPPORT FUND.** Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 50.95; Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 125.93; 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, 3,946.74; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 293.86; Cory Loomis Photography, promo grant, 400.00; County of Knox Employee Benefit Acct. c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 875.00; Diamond B Photography, promo grant, 475.00; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 50.95; Lincoln National Life ins. Co., insurance County pays, 5.96; Lisa Rohlk, promo grant, 100.00; Principal Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 43.10; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 266.40; Wild Focus Photography, promo grant, 200.00.

**INHERITANCE FUND.** Doerr & Klein P.C., court appointed attorney, 1,081.18; Fitzgerald, Vetter, Temple, court appointed attorney, 1,580.41; Minelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fees, 31,763.10; Rodney W. Smith, public defender contract, 2,083.37.

**911 EMERGENCY FUND.** CenturyLink, phone, 6.34; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 139.47.

**911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND.** Salaries, 1,300.37; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 532.43.

TOTALS	
General Fund	265,280.97
Road Fund	123,854.06
Flowage Easement Road Fund	22,394.98
Child Support Fund	257.88
ROD Pres./Mod. Fund	322.29
C&C Development Fund	6,657.01
Inheritance Fund	36,508.06
911 Emergency Fund	145.81
911 Wireless Service Fund	<u>1,832.80</u>
Total	\$457,253.86

Chairman Mackeprang adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 12:39 p.m. on January 14, 2021 until Thursday, January 28, 2021 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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