

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska  
December 7, 2021  
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 Tuesday, December 7, 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.

SLFRF Administrator Nix 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 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 November 23, 2021 meeting were read and approved by Chairman Mackeprang with the correction that the executive session was held on personnel and that the opt out stipend for 2022 will be \$355.

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 \$435,247.12 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

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

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:22 a.m. with all members present.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1. Update on the Walton FEMA bridge project. Herbst Construction had the low bid for the 130 ft. bridge and has agreed to do a change order for a 196 ft. bridge if FEMA/NEMA and the Board agree; 2. The advertised bid opening for a Paver Special Trailer/lowboy trailer was held. Knox County reserves the right to reject any and all bids and further reserves the right to accept any bid that best serves the County's needs. Bids received were: **Trail-EZE, Mitchell SD** – Trail-EZE lowboy trailer, \$107,000, delivery October 2022; **Murphy Tractor & Equipment, Sioux City IA** – Eager Beaver lowboy trailer, \$85,800, delivery April 30, 2022; **NMC, Inc., Norfolk NE** – Trail King lowboy trailer, \$108,950 with option of 42-inch aluminum center loading ramp at \$1,400, delivery August 2022. The Board took no action and will address the bids at the December 30, 2021 meeting; 3. There will be bid openings at the December 30 meeting for two concrete box culverts as well as for the dirt work at the Walton FEMA bridge project; 4. Motion by Supr. Miller, seconded by Supr. Sokol, Jr. to accept the low bid from Herbst Construction of LeMars IA for a 130 ft. bridge for the Walton FEMA bridge project in the amount of \$751,734 with the understanding that the final cost being established on the final change order for a 196 ft. bridge. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried;

5. Discussion was held on the Weigand Bridge. Engineer Jeff Wagner recommends the County request a letter from the Nebraska Dept. of Transportation or the Attorney General.

Extension Educator Megan Hanefeldt informed the Board that two new people are interested in serving on the Knox County Extension Board. With the redistricting of the Supervisors' districts, it caused a shift of the make-up of the Extension Board. Casey Wagner and Jennifer Bollich will be going off the Extension Board. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Schlote to approve the appointment of Julie Dather from Addison Township and Becca Jessen from Peoria Township to the Knox County Extension Board for three-year terms beginning January 1, 2022. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to add to the agenda by emergency action the reappointment of Hwy. Supt. Kevin R. Barta, License #S-1109, Class A, employee of Knox County, with a beginning date of January 1, 2022 and to adopt **Resolution #2021 – 51** authorizing Chairman Mackeprang to sign the Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent For Determining Incentive Payment from January 1, 2021 to December 30, 2021. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Miller to reappoint Hwy. Supt. Kevin R. Barta, License #S-1109, Class A, employee of Knox County, with a beginning date of January 1, 2022 and to adopt **Resolution #2021 – 51** authorizing Chairman Mackeprang to sign the Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent For Determining Incentive Payment from January 1, 2021 to December 30, 2021. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION  
SIGNING OF THE  
YEAR-END CERTIFICATION OF COUNTY HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT  
2021**

**Resolution No. 2021 – 51**

**Whereas:** State of Nebraska Statutes, sections 39-2302, and 39-2501 through 39-2505 details the requirements that must be met in order for a county to qualify for an annual Incentive Payment; and

**Whereas:** The State of Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) requires that each county must annually certify (by December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year) the appointment of the County Highway Superintendent to the NDOT using the Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent form; and

**Whereas:** The NDOT requires that such certification shall also include a copy of the documentation of the county highway superintendent's appointment, i.e., meeting minutes showing the appointment of the County Highway Superintendent by their name as it appears on their License (if applicable), their License Number (if applicable) and Class of License (if applicable), the type of appointment, i.e., employed or under contract (consultant, or interlocal agreement with another county and/or incorporated municipality), and the beginning date of the appointment; and

**Whereas:** The NDOT also requires that such Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent form shall be signed by the County Board Chairperson and shall include a copy of a resolution of the County Board authorizing the signing of the Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent form by the County Board Chairperson.

**Be it resolved** that the County Board Chairperson of Knox County is hereby authorized to sign the attached Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent form(s).

Adopted this 7<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2021 at Center, Nebraska.

County Board Members

Kevin Mackeprang /s/  
James Sokol, Jr. /s/

Martin J. O'Connor /s/  
James J. Borgmann /s/  
Danny R. Schlote /s/

Virgil H. Miller /s/  
Patrick J. Liska /s/

County Board Member Supr. Borgmann

Moved the adoption of said resolution

Member Supr. Miller Seconded the Motion

Roll Call: 7 Yes 0 No 0 Abstained 0 Absent

Resolution adopted, signed, and billed as adopted.

Attest: (Seal)

Joann M. Fischer /s/

Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the Receipts Revenue List from November 23, 2021 through December 6, 2021. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

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

Officials' updates were: 1. SLFRF Administrator Nix updated the Board on the progress of the new sound system for the Boardroom and Basement Conference Room. The equipment and materials have been ordered; 2. Supr. Sokol, Jr., said he had been contacted by the Lower Niobrara NRD Rural Water about requesting ARPA funds. SLFRF Administrator Nix said she also had been contacted and instructed them to put together a plan and request that will be submitted to the SLFRF Committee.

Hwy. Supt. Barta continued with the following: 6. Discussion continued on the Weigand Bridge and options; 7. Discussed the dirt work needed at the Walton FEMA bridge project; 8. Discussed replacing the "Shaw" truss bridge near Verdel, an old Highway 121 Cedar County/Knox County line (corrected 12-30-2021) truss bridge and an Antelope County/Knox County line truss bridge; 9. Discussed replacing a pickup at the Bloomfield County Yard; 10. Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Liska to go into executive session at 11:32 a.m. so as to protect the reputation of an individual when discussing personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Chairman Mackeprang reiterated the executive session will be held on personnel. The Board came out of executive session at 12:27 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Miller to close at 12:27 p.m. the executive session held on personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed COVID-19 information submitted by Emergency Manager Hintz.

**GENERAL FUND.** Salaries, 183,679.66; Bonnie R. Cash, prior service, 9.00; Cathleen Sue Stark, prior service, 12.00; Center Garage, tire repair/battery, 192.00; CenturyLink, long distance, 69.24; Clerk of District Court, filing fees, 145.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 13,957.55; Connie J. Janecek, prior service, 15.00; Connie Viterna, gas, 30.25; County of Knox Employee Benefit Account HealthCare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 29,750.00; DAS State Accounting, teletype, 448.00; Diane L. Eckert, prior service, 36.00; Eakes Office Solutions, office supplies, 26.34; EcoWater Systems, bottled water, 245.50; First National Bank Omaha, gas/lodging/supplies, 2,626.48; Gary D. Marshall, prior service, 12.00; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 1,468.03; Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 76.18; Jacquelyn E. Meier, prior service, 21.00; James F. Janecek, prior service, 21.00; Jo Ann Eisenbeiss, prior service, 45.00; Julie K. Rayer, prior service, 12.00; Justice Data Solutions Inc., Jamin fees, 2,450.00; Karen K. Riesberg, prior service, 21.00; Knox County Sheriff, service fees, 218.44; Kristine Kumm, mileage/registration, 168.76; The Lincoln National Life Ins. Co., insurance County pays, 272.07; Liz Doerr, mileage, 58.80; Lois Colwell, prior service, 27.00; Megan Hanefeldt, mileage/registration, 256.28; MIPS, computer program, 681.16; National Sheriff's Association, dues, 68.00; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 1,856.12; Principal Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 1,982.60; Quill Corporation, supplies, 345.92; Region 4 Behavioral Health System, quarterly bill, 6,757.25; Region IV Inc., quarterly bill, 2,521.50; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 12,658.44; Roma Walton, prior service, 51.00; Samantha Holecek, reimburse fees, 175.00; Security Shredding Services, shredding, 525.00; Telebeep, pager, 21.39; U.S. Cellular, cell phones, 186.92; US Cellular, cell phones, 357.60; Virginia Buerman, prior service, 27.00.

**ROAD FUND.** Salaries, 68,701.82; Ace Irrigation & Mfg. Co., culvert, 1,890.00; B's Enterprises Inc., signs/object markers/bolts/nuts, 905.50; Bomgaars, shop supplies/oil/filter, 569.47; Bruce Peters, prior service, 24.00; City of Bloomfield, water, 28.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 5,169.00; County of Knox Employee Benefit Acct. c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 13,125.00; David L. Bauer, prior service, 36.00; First National Bank Omaha, lodging, 265.53; Freeman Oil Company LLC, diesel, 1,584.90; Great Plains Communications, phone, 546.24; Grossenburg Implement Inc., filter/fluids, 268.80; Kayton International, shop supplies, 87.45; Larry Pilar, prior service, 21.00; Lincoln National Life Ins. Co., insurance County pays, 113.24; Linn Post & Pipe Inc., shop supplies, 28.62; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 50.14; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 335.15; Powerplan, repairs, 1,386.25; Principal Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 775.80; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 4,500.70; RL Morse LLC, gravel/haul, 2,153.92; Roger Lemke, clay, 450.00; Rose Equipment, repairs, 391.35; Speece Lewis Inc., bridge inspections, 38,750.00; U.S. Cellular, cell phones, 401.41; Village of Niobrara, water/sewer, 39.06; Village of Verdigre, water/sewer/garbage, 85.04; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 10,662.94.

**FLOWAGE EASEMENT ROAD FUND.** JEO Consulting Group Inc., engineering fees, 2,240.00.

**CHILD SUPPORT FUND.** CenturyLink, long distance, 4.33; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 51.03; Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 156.69; Matthew R. Fischer, reimburse supplies, 15.96; Quill Corporation LLC, office supplies, 269.06.

**VISITOR'S IMPROVEMENT FUND.** First National Bank Omaha, internet, 173.90.

**ROD PRESERVATION/MODERNIZATION FUND.** MIPS, computer program, 268.88.

**COUNTY INSURANCE FUND.** Name Redacted, reimburse deductible, 250.00.

**COVID AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND.** Salaries, 3,102.00.

**C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND.** Salaries, 4,444.76; CenturyLink, long distance, 4.33; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 331.97; County of Knox Employee Benefit Acct. c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 875.00; Creative Revolution Marketing Agency, website, 150.00; First National Bank Omaha, gas/meals/leadership/dues, 537.84; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 51.03; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 5.96; Principal Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 43.10; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 300.02; Stacy Miller, mileage, 23.58; US Cellular, cell phones, 155.72.

**INHERITANCE FUND.** Doerr & Klein P.C. court appointed attorney, 451.86; Rodney W. Smith, public defender contract, 2,083.33.

**911 EMERGENCY FUND.** CenturyLink, phone, 6.92; CenturyLink, phone, 34.04; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 109.15; Three River Telco, phone, 17.71.

**911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND.** CenturyLink, phone, 391.41; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 563.03; Three River Telco, phone, 203.70.

TOTALS	
General Fund	264,584.48
Road Fund	153,346.33
Flowage Easement Road Fund	2,240.00
Child Support Fund	497.07
Visitor's Improvement Fund	173.90
ROD Pres./Mod. Fund	268.88
County Insurance Fund	250.00
Covid American Rescue Plan Act Fund	3,102.00
C&C Development Fund	6,923.31
Inheritance Fund	2,535.19
911 Emergency Fund	167.82
911 Wireless Service Fund	1,158.14
Total	\$435,247.12

Chairman Mackeprang adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 12:30 p.m. on December 7, 2021 until Thursday, December 30, 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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