

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska  
January 27, 2022  
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 Thursday, January 27, 2022 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. O'Connor 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 Crofton Journal 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 January 13, 2022 meeting were read and approved by Chairman Mackeprang.

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 \$136,010.73 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the 2021 Annual Noxious Weed Reports. 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 10:42 a.m. with all members present.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1. Chairman Mackeprang signed a contract with Herbst Construction Inc., LeMars IA in the amount of \$751,734 from the original bid accepted on December 7, 2021 for a 130 ft. bridge for the FEMA Walton bridge project entitled Verdigre Southwest (Bridge) C005402505P and the agreed upon change order amount of \$375,258.70 for a longer 196 ft. bridge for a total of \$1,126,987.70. 2. Chairman Mackeprang signed the change order with Herbst Construction Inc., LeMars IA for changing the FEMA Walton bridge project entitled Verdigre Southwest (Bridge) C005402505P from a three-span 130 ft. x 26.334 ft. slab bridge on a 0 degree skew to a 196 ft. x 30.334 ft. slab bridge on a 30 degree skew in the amount of \$375,258.70; 3. Chairman Mackeprang signed a contract with A & R Construction Co., Plainview NE for the original bid amount of \$624,403.61 that was approved on December 30, 2021 for the construction of two concrete box culverts for STWD-CBMP(4): C005405805 and C005401905P (Creighton West) projects; 4. Discussion was held on hiring an additional employee for the Oil Crew during the summer months or hiring a full-time employee to work out of the Crofton County Shed during the winter and help with the Oil Crew during the summer; 5. Discussion was held on the Weigand Bridge; 6. Discussion was held purchasing long range business band radios for the Oil Crew. A quote from Netcom Inc., O'Neill NE was in the amount of \$10,491 for eight units. An ASSIST grant will be applied for through NIRMA for a partial reimbursement. The Board was in favor of proceeding with the purchase of the radios and applying for a NIRMA ASSIST grant; 7. A bridge bid letting will be held on February 1, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. in Neligh on the Ash Fall North (Antelope County/Knox County Line bridge project); 8. Senator Gragert had asked Hwy. Supt. Barta about using ARPA funds to dredge the Ponca Creek/Lazy River Acres area; 9. The County Sheds will now be named by the town they are located at instead of the District number; 10. Road employee evaluations will be held on February 10, 2022 starting at 1:00 p.m.; 11. An employee will be taking the examine to obtain his Highway Superintendent license; 12. The Shaw Bridge near Verdel has been selected for the Bridge Buyback Match Program. The bid letting may take place in the spring of 2023.

Zoning Administrator Doerr met with the Board on the following: 1. Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Sokol, Jr. to place on file the September 21, 2021 Planning Commission meeting minutes. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2. Discussion was held on the Zoning Fee Schedule. The Planning Commission reviewed the schedule and proposed the addition of a Certificate of Zoning Compliance with a fee of \$50 plus \$1 for every \$1,000 of estimated construction cost and a late fee of \$500. Consultant Keith Marvin had said that if a landowner who applies for a permit for a machine shed on ag land there is no permit fee however if the landowner wants to then add living quarters in the shed they could apply for that revision with a Certificate of Zoning Compliance and pay a permit fee. Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Liska to add to the Zoning Fee Schedule a Certificate of Zoning Compliance at \$50 plus \$1 for every \$1,000 of construction cost with the late fee to be \$500 and the effective date to be March 1, 2022. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 3. Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Miller to approve Administrative Plat Application #P0187 for a boundary adjustment on part of the NE1/4SE1/4 and the NW1/4 of Section 32, T31N, R6W, Knox County, Nebraska for Kenneth and Mary Tusha and Mlady Meadows. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 4. Discussion was held on per diem for the Planning Commission. Knox County pays \$25 per diem plus mileage. After researching the neighboring counties' per diem rates, it was found Knox County is on the upper scale of per diem paid to Planning Commission members; 5. The Planning Commission will review a new application for more campground area at Wolf Run at their next meeting.

Emergency Manager Hintz met with the Board on the following: 1. Review of the new CDC COVID Recommendations and available hospital beds; 2. Update on the BRIC grant for the Tri-County Hazard Mitigation and with the FEMA GO program; 3. There will be a Communications exercise on January 31.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to rescind the Knox County COVID Policy that was adopted September 30, 2021. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to follow CDC Recommendations regarding COVID-19 quarantine and isolation currently in place and any future updates and revisions, and to follow basic practices like staying home if sick and washing hands thoroughly. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Economic Development Director Harvey updated the Board on proposed legislation that may affect Visitor's Improvement.

Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Miller to go into executive session at 11:50 a.m. for a job evaluation. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Chairman Mackeprang reiterated that the executive session will be held on a job evaluation. The Board came out at 12:05 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Miller, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to close at 12:05 p.m. the executive session held on a job evaluation. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Chairman Mackeprang moves the Board recess at 12:05 p.m. for lunch.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 12:45 p.m. with all members present.

Discussion was held on converting from a Sick Leave and Vacation program to a Paid Time Off (PTO) program.

Supr. Schlote left at 1:50 p.m.

Discussion continued on PTO. No action was taken and will be further discussed at a future meeting.

Supr. Miller left at 2:05 p.m.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the Receipts Revenue List for January 13 through January 26, 2022. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #4, #5 and #7. Nays none. Absent were Districts #3 and #6. Motion carried.

Chairman Mackeprang appointed SLFRF Administrator to the Employee Handbook and Personnel System Review Committee.

The Board will make a quarterly visit to the County Jail at the next meeting.

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

**GENERAL FUND.** Bomgaars, parts, 2.79; CenturyLink, long distance, 71.29; Classic Carpet Care, mop rent, 44.00; Clerk of the Nebraska Supreme Court, appeals, 640.00; Creighton FCCLA, table fee, 40.00; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 57.47; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 208.00; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, backup/radios, 198.88; David A. Arens, meeting/mileage, 65.95; Dollar General, jail supplies/jail food/office supplies/janitor supplies, 146.10; Farmers & Merchants State Bank, safety deposit box rent, 30.00; First National Bank Omaha, gas/supplies/lodging, 2,505.34; Greg Kuhlman, meeting/mileage, 53.08; Jim Kotrous, meeting/mileage, 46.06; Joann Fischer, reimburse gas, 10.06; John Thomas, mileage/lodging/parking, 343.17; Keith Nielsen, meeting/mileage, 40.80; Knox County Register of Deeds, recording, 10.00; Knox County Treasurer, transfer to road, 117,281.31; Lincoln Marriott Cornhusker, lodging, 258.00; MOCIC, dues, 100.00; NACO Planning & Zoning, dues, 40.00; Nebraska County Assessor Association, dues, 60.00; Nebraska Weed Control Association, registration, 120.00; Neil Clausen, meeting/mileage, 57.76; Quality Printing, personal property post cards, 271.67; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 156.36; Rader Feed & Supply, ice melt, 683.55; Robert Larsen, meeting/mileage, 35.53; Robert Ganz, meeting/mileage, 37.87; Superior Turf Management LLC, lawn contract, 1,106.75; Verdigre Eagle, subscription, 33.00.

**ROAD FUND.** Black Hills Energy, heating fuel, 316.20; Bloomfield Auto Parts, shop supplies/snow fence supplies/fluid/filters/repairs, 187.59; Bomgaars, shop supplies, 351.55; Cedar Knox PPD, electricity, 249.42; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel/tordon, 1,158.47; Kimball Midwest, shop supplies, 625.98; Medical Enterprises Inc., drug test, 110.00; Nebraska Association of County Engineers, Highway Superintendent & Surveyors, registration, 110.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 211.02; Roger Lemke, clay, 600.00; Verdigre Farm Service, diesel/repair/shop supplies/fluids/tordon, 2,157.96; Village of Wausa, water/sewer/garbage, 159.95.

**CHILD SUPPORT FUND.** CenturyLink, long distance, 4.46; Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 156.69; Microfilm Imaging Systems Inc., scanner rent, 81.00.

**VISITOR'S PROMO FUND.** Northeast Nebraska Media Inc., publishing, 425.00; Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, publishing, 465.00.

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

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND.** NENEDD, administrative fees, 392.11.

**C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND.** Bohemian One Stop, meals, 750.00; CenturyLink, long distance, 4.46; First National Bank Omaha, dues/leadership/gas, 1,618.55; Gayle Krohn, leadership food, 45.00; Grandpa Dan's popcorn, meals, 4.00; Northeast Nebraska News Company, publishing, 226.60; The Barn at God's Country, rent, 150.00.

**911 EMERGENCY FUND.** CenturyLink, phone, 33.96; First National Bank Omaha, supplies, 96.52.

**911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND.** CenturyLink, phone, 390.55.

#### TOTALS

General Fund	\$ 124,754.79
Road Fund	6,238.14
Child Support Fund	242.15
Visitor's Promo Fund	890.00
Visitor's Improvement Fund	173.90

Economic Development Fund	392.11
C&C Development Fund	2,798.61
911 Emergency Fund	130.48
911 Wireless Service Fund	<u>390.55</u>
Total	\$ 136,010.73

Chairman Mackeprang adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 2:38 p.m. on January 27, 2022 until Thursday, February 10, 2022 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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