

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
July 28, 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, July 28, 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. Borgmann 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.

Correspondence reviewed was: 1. Letter and report from Nebraska Jail Standards Division of the Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice regarding a recent jail inspection showing full compliance.

The minutes of the July 14, 2022 meeting were read and approved by Chairman Mackeprang.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Liska 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 \$298,056.55 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Jody Fuchtmann, Glenna Soucek, Chris Kreycik and Michael Chase representing concerned patriots against voter fraud met with the Board asking for support to do away with ballot counting scanners and to go with hand counting of ballots and to support voter i.d. No action was taken.

The Board set August 17, 2022 beginning at 8:30 a.m. as the date to review 2022/2023 budget proposals with officials and department heads.

The Board discussed a joint hearing to be held as per LB 644, setting a date and selecting a location. Superintendent Alexander with the Bloomfield Community School will be contacted to see if the hearing could be held at that school and possible dates.

At 10:15 a.m., Chairman Mackeprang opened the advertised bid opening on the Crofton North, C005410810 (Weigand Bridge) bridge and shoofly project. The Knox County Board of Supervisors reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to waive any irregularities in bids received. Bids received were: **Theisen Construction, Inc., Norfolk NE**, - bridge total \$1,066,962.06 shoofly total \$160,048.98, total for project \$1,227,011.04, shoofly start date August 15, 2022, shoofly end date September 4, 2022, bridge start date September 19, 2022, bridge end date December 2, 2022; **Herbst Construction, Inc., LeMars IA** – bridge total \$1,300,424.00 shoofly total \$221,989.00, total for project \$1,522,413.99, no shoofly start/end dates, bridge start date September 12, 2022, bridge end date 75 days after start; **Simon Contractors, North Platte NE** – bridge total \$1,265,000.00 shoofly total \$179,000.00, total for project \$1,444,000.00, shoofly start/end dates as required, bridge start date October 16, 2022, bridge end date December 30, 2022, both dependent on contract execution; KEA Constructors LLC, Milford NE – bridge total \$1,597,781.74 shoofly total \$187,978.49, total for project \$1,785,760.23 shoofly start date seven working days following COE 408 and borrow site approval, shoofly end date twenty-

one calendar days following start of construction, bridge start date November 1, 2022, bridge end date April 30, 2023 (181 calendar days). Hwy. Supt. Barta and Ramsey Robertson with Mainelli Wagner and Associates took the bids for review.

Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the Receipts Revenue List for July 14 through July 27, 2022. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Miller 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 and 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 \$355/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 with exception of law enforcement 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: ELECTED OFFICIALS: Supervisors- Supervisor/Chairman - \$2,279.26/month; 3 Supervisors - \$2,179.26/month; 3 Supervisor - \$2,179.26/month + \$355 opt out stipend/month; County Assessor Office - County Assessor - \$5,448.12/month; Deputy Assessor - \$23.57/hour + \$20 clothing allowance/month; 1 Clerk/Appraiser - \$18.55/hour + \$20 clothing allowance/month; 1 Clerk/Appraiser – \$17.91/hour + \$20 clothing allowance/month; 2 Clerks/Appraisers - \$16.50/hour + \$20 clothing allowance/month + \$355 opt out stipend/month; County Attorney Office - County Attorney- \$5,448.12/month; 1 Administrative Assistant - \$16.50/hour + \$355 opt out stipend/month; County Clerk Office- County Clerk, Election Commissioner & Ex-officio Register of Deeds - \$5,448.12/month; Deputy County Clerk - \$23.57/hour; 1 Office Clerk - \$23.00/hour + \$355 opt out stipend/month; 1 Office

Clerk - \$17.91/hour; 1 Recording Clerk - \$17.91/hour; Clerk of District Court Office - Clerk of District Court - \$5,448.12/month; Deputy Clerk of District Court - \$23.57/hour + \$355 opt out stipend/month; County Sheriff's Office - County Sheriff - \$7,201.97/month + \$120 uniform allowance/month & \$50 phone/internet/month; 911 Coordinator - \$21.48/hour + \$60 uniform allowance/month; Chief Deputy Sheriff - \$4,650.39/month + \$40.19 other hours + \$120 uniform allowance/month + \$355/month opt out stipend; 1 Deputy Sheriff - \$4,556.60/month + \$39.75 other hours + \$120 uniform allowance; 1 Deputy Sheriff - \$4,556.60/month + \$39.75 other hours + \$120 uniform allowance/month + \$355 opt out stipend/month; 8 Part-time Deputy Sheriffs - \$25.35/hour (no insurance); 1 Administrative Assistant - \$19.50/hour + \$60 uniform allowance/month; 1 Head Jailer - \$25.25/hour + \$60 uniform allowance/month; 2 Jailors - \$20.92/hour + \$60 uniform allowance/month; 1 Jailer - \$20.08/hour + \$60 uniform allowance/month; 1 Jailer - \$19.69/hour + \$60 uniform allowance/month + \$355 opt out stipend/month; 1 Jailer - \$19.67/hour + \$60 uniform allowance/month; 1 Part-time Jailer - \$17.90/hour; County Surveyor Office - County Surveyor - \$83.33/month; County Treasurer Office - County Treasurer - \$5,448.12/month; Deputy County Treasurer - \$23.57/hour; 1 Office Clerk - \$17.91/hour; 1 Office Clerk - \$16.50/hour; 1 Office Clerk - \$16.00/hour + \$355 opt out stipend/month; Custodian - 1 Custodian - \$18.49/hour; Extension Office (Interlocal agreement) - 1 Office Manager - \$21.69/hour; APPOINTED OFFICIALS: ARPA Fund - SLFRF Administrator - \$23.00/hour + \$355 opt out stipend/month; Emergency Manager Office - Emergency Manager - \$4,220.67/month + \$355 opt out stipend/month; Highway Superintendent Office - Highway Superintendent - \$6,156.48/month + vehicle benefit; 1 Office Manager - \$23.57/hour; 1 Office Clerk - \$16.00/hour + \$355 opt out stipend/month; 1 Bridge Crew Foreman/Crane Operator - \$22.64/hour + \$35 clothing allowance/month; 1 Oil Foreman - \$22.09/hour + \$35 clothing allowance/month; 1 Substitute Oil Foreman - \$22.09/hour; 1 Mechanic - \$26.98/hour + \$35 clothing allowance/month; 7 Motorgrader Operators - \$19.78/hour + \$35 clothing allowance/month; 2 Motorgrader Operators - \$19.78/hour + \$35 clothing allowance/month + \$355 opt out stipend/month; 1 Motorgrader Operator - \$19.50/hour + \$35 clothing allowance/month; 2 Truck Drivers - \$19.78/hour + \$35 clothing allowance/month; 1 Truck Driver - \$19.78/hour + \$35 clothing allowance/month + \$355 opt out stipend/month; 1 Truck Driver - \$19.78/hour + \$35 clothing allowance/month; 1 Truck Driver - \$19.50/hour + \$35 clothing allowance/month; 1 Truck Driver - \$17.96/hour + \$35 clothing allowance/month; Planning/Zoning Office - Part-time Zoning Administrator - \$29.73/hour + \$45 cellphone allowance/month & \$25 internet allowance/month (no insurance); Veteran Service Officer Office - Veterans Service Officer - \$22.22/hour + \$355 opt out stipend/month; Weed Superintendent Office - Weed Superintendent - \$21.26/hour summer months + \$35 uniform allowance/summer months (no insurance); OTHER OFFICES: Development Agency Director Office (Interlocal agreement) - Development Agency Director - \$3,458.33/month + \$355 opt out stipend/month; Visit Knox County Director - \$16.50/hour.

Motion by Supr. Miller, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the Audit Engagement letter FY 2021/2022 with the Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts Office. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Liska to approve Administrative Plat Application #P0192 Ken Poppe for a 5.33-acre tract split in the NW1/4NE1/4 of Section 29, T32N, R2W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. 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 Planning Commission June 14, 2022 meeting minutes. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a list of Knox County businesses holding a lodging tax license.

Committee update was given by Chairman Mackeprang, Supr. Sokol, Jr. and Supr. Miller from the Building and Grounds Committee regarding a proposed change to the storage building.

The advertised public hearing scheduled for a reuse loan application from Crofton Car Wash was not held as additional information was needed by NENEDD.

Jerry Nunan, a contract CFO for the Santee Sioux Tribe, met with the Board regarding the proposed Santee Sioux Nation Broadband Initiative. Discussion was held on grants and funds from the FCC that would provide multiple opportunities for broadband for tribal members not served or in unserved areas, assisted the Tribe to acquire a small WIFI company, working with the NICC, FCC 2.05 license given, need for WIFI for distance learning, proposed towers, the service could serve both tribal and non-tribal people, phases of the project, and possibly using the existing towers utilized by the County, possibly using a wind tower to cover the eastern side of the Santee Sioux reservation, and subsidized service. Mr. Nunan will contact Emergency Manager Hintz for information on Knox Tower 1. More information will come in the near future.

Hwy. Supt. Barta and Mr. Robertson returned to the meeting with the bids for the Crofton North bridge and shoofly project. After a short discussion, motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Sokol, Jr. to accept the low bid from **Theisen Construction, Inc., Norfolk NE** with the bridge total at \$1,066,962.06, the shoofly total at \$160,048.98 for a project total of \$1,227,011.04, the shoofly start date to be August 15, 2022 and end date of September 4, 2022, and the bridge start date to be September 19, 2022 and end date of December 2, 2022. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. The Corps 408 permit has not been received yet on the project. Also, Mr. Gubbels with Theisen Construction said that they will give the white rock to the County after the shoofly is removed and the County would need to help haul it.

Hwy. Supt. Barta continued with the following: 1. Walton bridge update. All of the gravel has been delivered, the guard rails were installed, seeding will begin, and the adjacent landowner will be contacted regarding fencing. Hwy. Supt. Barta asked the Board if they would reconsider the additional thirteen culverts that were discussed at the last meeting. The Board took no action; 2. Bridge Crew update; 3. Oil Crew update; 4. Discussed possibly contracting propane for the County sheds that have propane supplied by N & B Gas. The Board took no action; 5. Mowing of roadsides was discussed. Landowners are to have mowed one time in July and many of the roads have not been mowed yet; 6. Update on Lazy River Acres.

Chairman Mackeprang moves the Board recess for Board of Equalization at 11:38 a.m.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 11:57 a.m. with all members present.

Chairman Mackeprang moves the Board recess for lunch at 12:00 p.m.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 1:00 p.m. with all members present.

The meeting was moved to the Courtroom to accommodate a large number of people for the discussion with Cedar-Knox Rural Water System/Lewis and Clark NRD on water demands. Supr. O'Connor conducted the forum. Discussion was held on water levels and depletion, usage of water where the System shows the average use is 250,000 gallons a day in the winter and 750,000 gallons a day in the summer, purification of nearly one million gallons daily, sedimentation problems, violation of water standards because of the levels of Trihalomethane, keeping up with water demands, test drilling taking place near Lindy and in Dolphin Township in Knox County and near Aten and Obert in Cedar County, water sources, need to update the water plant as it was built in the 1970s, aquafers, options researched to use water from Yankton and costs which included a 3% increase yearly, each site would have two wells, engineering and State requirements, maximum capacity of the new system to be 1.5 million gallons daily, difficulty of blending water that is run through two different treatment methods, water quality, funding through the State and grants, easements, classification of types of wells, recreation is a large part of the usage, effect on neighboring wells, updating pipes, and number of current meters on the System is nearly 1,000. Appreciation was extended to the staff of Cedar/Knox Rural Water System personnel present for their presentation and answers and there will be a meeting in December in Crofton with updates on the project.

The Board members returned to the Boardroom at 2:20 p.m.

Emergency Manager Hintz updated the Board on the following: 1. New FEMA disaster 4662-DR that was declared for the May 12, 2022 derecho storm; 2. Update on the Tri-County hazard mitigation grant.

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

GENERAL FUND. Bear Graphics, recording paper, 728.54; Bohemian One Stop, gas, 99.22; Bomgaars, jail supplies/supplies/spray, 208.07; Centurylink, long distance, 65.54; Classic Carpet Care, mop/towel rent, 44.00; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 349.62; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, radios/backup, 524.38; DAS State Accounting Central Finance, teletype, 448.00; David A. Arens, meeting/mileage, 68.75; Dean Wilken, meeting/mileage, 49.38; Doug DeShazer, meeting/mileage, 62.50; First National Bank Omaha, gas/supplies/meals/postage, 6,370.55; Floor Maintenance & Paper Supply Co., janitor supplies, 853.44; Greg Kuhlman, meeting/mileage, 55.00; Jim Kotrous, meeting/mileage, 45.00; Keith Nielsen, meeting/mileage, 41.88; Knox County Fair Board, fair entrance, 40.00; Knox County Treasurer, transfer from General Fund to Road Fund, 117,281.31; Loffler, printer contract, 521.59; Monica McManigal, reimburse board meals, 79.65; Neil Clausen, meeting/mileage, 60.00; Northeast Nebraska News Company, subscriptions, 79.00; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 12.16; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 182.97; Robert Larsen, meeting/mileage, 36.25; Robert Ganz, meeting/mileage, 38.75; Security Shredding Services Inc., shredding, 105.00; Steve Swoboda, install cabinets, 750.00; Yankton Fire & Safety Co., inspection, 302.00.

ROAD FUND. B's Enterprises Inc., signs/Tyvek pants, 4,165.00; Bloomfield Auto Parts, shop supplies, 41.75; Bohemian One Stop, gas, 1,071.63; Burns Lumber Co, LLC, ash gro, 2,047.50; Cedar-Knox PPD, electricity, 87.21; CHS Wausa, diesel, 2,431.91; C-Mart LLC, gas, 675.99; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 398.71; Crofton Journal/Niobrara tribune, publishing, 156.00; First National Bank Omaha, repairs, 1,098.99; Freeman Oil Company LLC, diesel, 2,561.50; Grossenburg Implement Inc., filters/repairs/oil/grease/tractor rent, 6,854.86; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 5,303.02; Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fees, 2,157.50; Midwest Seeds of Creighton LLC, brome grass, 366.50; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 141.03; Netcom Inc., radios, 4,200.00; Northeast Nebraska News Company, publishing, 8.50; Riverside Hydraulics Inc., repairs, 18.55; Rohrer Welding, shop materials, 265.01; Russ Crosley, garbage, 46.00; Steffen Service, gas, 108.65; Verdigre Eagle, publishing, 32.50; Verdigre Farm Service, diesel/tire repair/shop supplies, 10,108.41; Vic's Service LLC, gas/tire repair, 658.54; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 34,841.14; Yankton Fire & Safety Co., inspection, 225.75.

FLOWAGE EASEMENT ROAD FUND. Allen Wavrunek, easement, 1,386.00; Herbst Construction Inc., bridge contract, 27,600.02; Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fees, 43,073.50.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. CenturyLink, long distance, 3.86.

VISITOR'S PROMO FUND. First National Bank Omaha, advertising, 93.95; Legendary Graphics LLC, koozies, 600.00; Miles Partnership, publishing, 2,000.00.

VISITOR'S IMPROVEMENT FUND. First National Bank Omaha, internet, 183.90.

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

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. CenturyLink, long distance, 3.86; First National Bank Omaha, leadership/meals/subscription/gas, 712.26; Kelly Hanvey, reimburse meal, 27.00; Legendary Graphics LLC, embroidery, 90.00; NENEDD, KCDA registration, 10.00; Northeast Nebraska News Company, subscription, 39.50.

INHERITANCE FUND. Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 129.65; Mainelli Wagner & Associates Inc., engineer fees, 9,510.00; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel, 147.56.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. CenturyLink, phone, 32.06; First National Bank Omaha, fair giveaways, 1,000.03; Police Legal Sciences, dispatch pro, 57.60.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. CenturyLink, phone, 368.70; Police Legal Sciences, dispatch pro, 662.40.

TOTALS

General Fund
Road Fund

\$ 129,502.55
80,072.15

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|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Flowage Easement Road Fund | 72,059.52 |
| Child Support Fund | 3.86 |
| Visitor's Promo Fund | 2,693.95 |
| Visitor's Improvement Fund | 183.90 |
| County Insurance Fund | 750.00 |
| C&C Development Fund | 882.62 |
| Inheritance Fund | 9,787.21 |
| 911 Emergency Fund | 1,089.69 |
| 911 Wireless Service Fund | <u>1,031.10</u> |
| Total | \$ 298,056.55 |

Chairman Mackeprang adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 2:30 p.m. on July 28, 2022 until Thursday, August 11, 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
