

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
August 25, 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, August 25, 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, Kevin D. Mackeprang District #5, Danny R. Schlote District #6, and James J. Borgmann District #7. Absent was Supervisor James Sokol, Jr. District #4. Chairman Mackeprang presiding.

Chairman Mackeprang 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. Cultural Resources Evaluation on BRO-7054(22), CN32313 Center West bridge project; 2. Final settlement towards financing of Project #ER 54(23) Emergency repair.

The minutes of the August 11 and August 17, 2022 meetings 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 Districts #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #4. Motion carried. Claims totaling \$237,613.65 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Chairman Mackeprang moves the Board recess at 9:56 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:14 a.m. with all members present except Supervisor James Sokol, Jr., District #4.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1. Motion by Supr. Miller, seconded by Supr. Liska to adopt **Resolution #2022 – 23** authorizing Chairman Mackeprang to sign the Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement – Bk1442 Supplemental Agreement No. 4 for Bridge project BRO-7054(19), Control Number 31821, "Verdigre North". By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #4. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION
PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT – BK1442
SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT NO. 4**

KNOX COUNTY
Resolution No. 2022 – 23

Whereas: Knox County and Mainelli Wagner & Associates, Inc. have previously executed a Preliminary Engineering Services agreement for a transportation project for which the Local Public Agency (LPA) would like to obtain Federal funds; and

Whereas: Knox County understands that it must continue to strictly follow all Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, policies, and guidelines applicable to the funding of this Federal-aid project; and

Whereas: Knox County and Mainelli Wagner & Associates, Inc. wish to enter into a Supplemental Preliminary Engineering Services agreement, setting out modifications and/or additional duties and/or funding responsibilities for the Federal-aid project.

Be It Resolved: by the Board of Supervisors of Knox County, Nebraska that:

Kevin D. Mackeprang, Chair of the Knox County Board of Supervisors, is hereby authorized to sign the attached Preliminary Engineering Services Supplemental Agreement No. 4 between Knox County and Mainelli Wagner & Associates, Inc.

Knox County is committed to providing local funds for the project as required by the Project Program Agreement and any Supplemental Project Agreements.

NDOT Project Number: BRO-7054(19)
NDOT Control Number: 31821
NDOT Project Description: Verdigre North

Adopted this 25th day of August, 2022 at Center, Nebraska.

The Board of Supervisors, Knox County, Nebraska:

Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/
Danny R. Schlote /s/

Virgil H. Miller /s/
Martin J. O'Connor /s/
Absent – James Sokol, Jr.

James J. Borgmann /s/
Patrick J. Liska /s/

Board/Council Member – Supr. Miller
Moved the adoption of said resolution
Member – Supr. Liska Seconded the Motion
Roll Call: 6 Yes 0 No 0 Abstained 1 Absent
Resolution adopted, signed and billed as adopted.

Attest: (Seal)

Joann M. Fischer /s/
County Clerk

Hwy. Supt. Barta continued with the following: 2. Oil Crew update; 3. Bridge Crew update; 4. Concrete box culvert project update; 5. Update on Weigand Bridge; 6. The 2022 Chevrolet Malibu car was delivered; 7. Ashfall road update.

Knox County Fair Director Jerry Nipp updated the Board on the recent 2022 Knox County Fair and future projects. The fair was well attended this year and the number of entries increased. Mr. Nipp said that the Knox County Ag Society requests an additional \$25,000 over the allocated 2021/2022. The Board thanked Mr. Nipp and the Ag Society as they are doing a good job. Motion by Supr. Miller, seconded by Supr. Schlote to adopt **Resolution #2022 – 24**, as per Nebraska Revised Statute §77-3443, the Knox County Board of Supervisors will allocate a final allocation of levy authority of \$175,000 to the Knox County Ag Society with the breakdown to be \$100,000 for General Expenses (~~0.003269~~ 0.004359 (corrected 9-8-2022) levy) and \$75,000 for Capitol Improvement (~~0.004359~~ 0.003269 (corrected 9-8-2022) levy) for a total levy of 0.007628 for budget year 2022/2023. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #4. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022 - 24

WHEREAS, the Knox County Board of Supervisors shall adopt a resolution that determines a final allocation of levy authority for Knox County's subdivisions as per Nebraska Statute §77-3443, and

WHEREAS, the Knox County Board of Supervisors reviewed an income and expense report of the Knox County Ag Society and comparable funds allocated to ag societies in neighboring counties, and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, as per Nebraska Revised Statute §77-3443, the Knox County Board of Supervisors will allocate \$175,000.00 to the Knox County Ag Society with the breakdown to be \$100,000.00 for General Expenses (0.004359) and \$75,000.00 (0.003269) for Capitol Improvement for a total levy of 0.007628 for budget year 2022/2023.

DATED this 25th day of August 2022.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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

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

Absent
James Sokol, Jr., District #4

Danny R. Schlote /s/
Danny R. Schlote, District #6

ATTEST: (Seal)

Joann M. Fischer /s/
Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk

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

Janet Frank and a group of grass roots patriots met with the Board regarding election equipment integrity. A video was shown, and discussion ensued on the 2020 General Election Presidential results, election turnout and election process. Seven resolutions were presented to the Board by Mrs. Frank, however, she asked that all resolutions be tabled until the next Board meeting except for the resolution for retention of the 2020 General Election records. The Board took no action.

Chairman Mackeprang moves the Board recess for lunch at 12:45 p.m.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 1:22 p.m. with all members present except Supervisor James Sokol, Jr., District #4.

Economic Development Director Hanvey met with the Board on the following: 1. Motion by Supr. Liska, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to approve the Amendment of the Knox County Improvement Grant Application for Village of Niobrara and the Niobrara Promoters. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #4. Motion carried.

Zoning Administrator Doerr met with the Board on the following: 1. Motion by Supr. Miller, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the July 12, 2022 Planning Commission meeting minutes. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #4. Motion carried; 2. Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Schlote to approve Administrative Plat Application #P0193 Robert T. Neyens on a 5.03-acre tract split in the NW1/4 of Section 8, T29N, R5W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #4. Motion carried; 3. Motion by Supr. Miller, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to approve Administrative Plat Application #P0194 Jennifer Hoferer for a five-acre tract split in the SW1/4SE1/4 of Section 30, T30N, R5W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #4. Motion carried.

Extension Educator Hanefeldt and Amy Topp with the University of Nebraska met with the Board with an updated Interlocal Agreement and Constitution for the Provision of Cooperative Extension Services. Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to approve the Constitution and By-Laws of the Nebraska Extension Program. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #4. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Miller to approve the Interlocal Agreement for the Provision of Cooperative Extension Services with the University of Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #4. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to go into executive session at 1:42 p.m. so as to protect the reputation of an individual when discussing ~~personal~~ personnel (corrected 9-8-2022). By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #4. Motion carried. Chairman Mackeprang reiterated the executive session will be held so as to protect the reputation of an individual. The Board came out of executive session at 1:52 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to close the executive session at 1:52 p.m. that was held on personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #4. Motion carried.

Sheriff Henery met with the Board on the renewal of an Interlocal Agreement between the County of Knox and Village of Verdigre. Motion by Supr. Miller, seconded by Supr. Liska to approve an Interlocal Agreement between the County of Knox and the Village of Verdigre for Law Enforcement Services for a term of two years beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2024. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #4. Motion carried.

SLFRF Administrator Nix updated the Board on the 2022/2023 budget draft and the final tax request. The draft shows this year's tax request is \$7,422.93 less than last year and the levy would be 0.157603 which is 0.004234 less than last year. Knox County will not have to participate in the LB644 hearing as the allowable growth and tax request falls below the threshold of LB644.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to adopt **Resolution #2022 – 25** that as per Nebraska Statute §77-3443, the Board allocates final allocation of levy authority to the Knox County Ag Society and the Knox County Rural Fire Districts, but no allocation of levy authority will be given to the Knox County Townships for budget year 2022/2023. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #4. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022 - 25

WHEREAS, the Knox County Board of Supervisors shall adopt a resolution that determines a final allocation of levy authority for Knox County's subdivisions as per Nebraska Statute §77-3443, and

WHEREAS, the Knox County Board of Supervisors has allocated levy authority to the Knox County Ag Society and the Knox County Rural Fire Districts but no allocation of levy authority to the Knox County townships, and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, as per Nebraska Revised Statute §77-3443, the Knox County Board of Supervisors will allocate a final allocation of levy authority to the Knox County Ag Society and the Knox County Rural Fire Districts but no allocation of levy authority will be given to the Knox County Townships for budget year 2022/2023.

DATED this 25th day of August 2022.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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

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

Absent
James Sokol, Jr., District #4

Danny R. Schlote /s/
Danny R. Schlote, District #6

ATTEST: (Seal)
Joann M. Fischer /s/
Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk

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

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Liska to adopt **Resolution #2022 – 26** allocating up to 4.5 cents of levy authority to the Knox County Rural Fire Districts as per Nebraska Statute §77-3443 noting that the Creighton, Niobrara, and Crofton Rural Fire Districts chose levies of 4.5 cents, Bloomfield and Wausa Rural Fire Districts 3.5 cents

and Verdigre Rural Fire District 3 cents. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #4. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2022 - 26

WHEREAS, the Knox County Board of Supervisors shall adopt a resolution that determines a final allocation of levy authority for Knox County's subdivisions as per Nebraska Statute §77-3443, and

WHEREAS, the allocated amount to the rural fire districts was 4.5 cents, and WHEREAS, the Knox County fire districts belong to the Mutual Fire Organization (MFO), and

WHEREAS, that under legislation in 2018 the fire districts in an MFO had to have one year where the levies were the same for all members and could be different for the next two years, and

WHEREAS, the Knox County rural fire districts were allocated 4.5 cents by the Knox County Board of Supervisors in 2019/2020, and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, the Knox County Board of Supervisors will allocate up to 4.5 cents to the Knox County rural fire districts as per Nebraska Revised Statute §77-3443 for budget year 2022-2023 noting that not all rural fire districts will use the 4.5 cents, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Knox County rural fire districts have chosen the following levies: Creighton Rural Fire District – 4.5 cents; Bloomfield Rural Fire District – 3.5 cents; Verdigre Rural Fire District – 3 cents; Niobrara Rural Fire District – 4.5 cents; Wausa Rural Fire District – 3.5 cents; and Crofton Rural Fire District – 4.5 cents.

DATED this 25th day of August 2022.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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

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

Absent
James Sokol, Jr., District #4

Danny R. Schlote /s/
Danny R. Schlote, District #6

ATTEST: (Seal)
Joann M. Fischer /s/
Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk

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

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Liska to place on file the Receipts Revenue Listing for August 11 through August 24, 2022. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #4. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Liska to approve the Knox County Board of Supervisors Meeting Guidelines that is an update to the 2013 Guidelines. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #4. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the 2021/2022 Office Inventories. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #4. Motion carried.

Knox County Clerk Fischer informed the Board that the Clerk's Office will no longer be the Knox County Spelling Bee Coordinator and Tabitha Gilsdorf and Laura Hauger at the Bloomfield School have volunteered to take over the duties of the Knox County Spelling Bee. Mrs. Fischer discussed with the Board the cost of trophies and sending the Knox County 7th/8th grader winner to the Omaha competition. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Schlote to continue paying the costs of the Knox County Spelling Bee trophies and up to \$200 to the parents of the 7th/8th grade winner for representing Knox County at the Omaha competition. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #4. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Liska to approve the addition of Krista Nix, SLFRF Administrator/Office Clerk, on the signature card of the checking accounts of the County of Knox and the Knox County Clerk at the Farmers and Merchants State Bank. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #4. Motion carried.

Discussion ensued on the Cedar County Transit grant that will end in December 2022 and if Knox County wants to contribute to the costs of continuance of the service into Knox County. Cedar County Transit Manager Nikki Pinkelman will meet with the Board at the September 8, 2022 meeting.

Committee updates were: 1. SLFRF Administrator Nix said the Applied Connective Technologies will be bringing the microphones for the Boardroom in time for the next meeting; 2. Chairman Mackeprang gave an update on the North Central District Health Department.

Officials' update was given by Sheriff Henery who said that he had nominated former Sheriff James Janecek to the Nebraska Law Enforcement Hall of Fame to which he was accepted. The Board commended former Sheriff Janecek on fifty years of law enforcement experience.

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

GENERAL FUND. Bartak Glass Inc., jamin door repair, 225.00; Bob Barker Company Inc., supplies, 48.26; Centurylink, long distance, 67.68; CMart LLC, gas, 101.44; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 479.54; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, radios/backup, 282.88; Dean Wilken, meeting/mileage, 49.38; Dollar General, jail

supplies, 57.30; Eakes Office Solutions, copier agreement, 125.74; F&M State Bank, annual ach fee, 240.00; First National Bank Omaha, gas/supplies/meals/postage, 5,326.92; Greg Kuhlman, meeting/mileage, 55.00; JEO Consulting Group Inc., hazard mitigation, 7,836.00; Jim Kotrous, meeting/mileage, 45.00; Keith Nielsen, meeting/mileage, 41.88; Knox County Treasurer, transfer to road, 117,281.31; Moody Motor Company Inc., oil/repair, 86.40; Neil Clausen, meeting/mileage, 60.00; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 88.00; Postmaster, postal permit fee, 275.00; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 308.93; Robert Larsen, meeting/mileage, 36.25; Robert Ganz, meeting/mileage, 38.75; Roger's Auto Repair, wiper blades, 40.00; Verdigre eagle, publishing, 24.00.

ROAD FUND. Black Hills Energy, heating fuel, 70.04; Bomgaars, shop supplies, 431.07; Cedar-Knox PPD, electricity, 82.58; C-Mart LLC, gas, 95.57; First National Bank Omaha, hats/t-shirts/teeth, 3,997.02; Hrbek Construction, equipment rental, 4,387.50; Jebro inc., demurrage, 160.00; Kevin Barta, title/tire fee, 22.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 134.12; Omaha Slings Inc., repairs, 1,598.51; Pease General Store, shop supplies, 41.50; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 187.14; Steffen Service, gas, 185.00; Verdigre Eagle, publishing, 32.00; Village of Center, water/sewer, 34.00.

FLOWAGE EASEMENT ROAD FUND. Herbst Construction Inc., bridge contract, 89,218.18.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. CenturyLink, long distance, 4.23.

VISITOR'S PROMO FUND. Flagship Publishing Inc., publishing, 400.00; Rowan Productions, videography, 576.50.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND. NENEDD, admin fees, 203.73.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. CenturyLink, long distance, 4.23; Dollar General, supplies, 33.20.

INHERITANCE FUND. Pitzer Digital, publishing, 170.10; Slowey Construction Inc., crushed asphalt, 1,461.62.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. Applied Connective Technologies, unifi switch, 37.02; CenturyLink, phone, 32.04.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. Applied Connective Technologies, unifi switch, 425.69; CenturyLink, phone, 368.40.

TOTALS	
General Fund	\$ 133,220.66
Road Fund	11,458.05
Flowage Easement Road Fund	89,218.18
Child Support Fund	4.23
Visitor's Promo Fund	976.50
Economic Development Fund	203.73
C&C Development Fund	37.43
Inheritance Fund	1,631.72
911 Emergency Fund	69.06
911 Wireless Service Fund	794.09
Total	\$ 237,613.65

Chairman Mackeprang adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 2:52 p.m. on August 25, 2022 until Thursday, September 8, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. for the 2022/2023 Knox County Budget hearing and 2022 Final Tax Request Hearing and until after the public hearings 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
