

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
February 9, 2023
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 February 9, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. Present were Supervisors Martin J. O'Connor District #1, Patrick J. Liska District #2, David L. Pierce 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.

Deputy County Clerk 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 Niobrara Tribune 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 26, 2023 meeting were read. Chairman Mackeprang approved the January 26, 2023 meeting minutes.

Correspondence reviewed was a letter from Mark Simpson, President of Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition.

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 \$479,843.62 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of January 24 through February 7, 2023. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Liska to appoint Jean Henes of Creighton as the "spirited citizen" representing Knox County on the North Central District Health Department Board of Directors. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the Clerk of District Court January 2023 Fee Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to accept and place on file the following township officers' appointments: Chris Rohrer as Bohemia Township Treasurer; Todd Strom as Central Township Treasurer; Brady Wortman as Creighton Township Chairman; Christopher Moline as Dowling Township Clerk; Kathleen M. Peschel as Herrick Township Treasurer; and Dean Wieseler as North Frankfort Township Clerk. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the Sheriff's Report of Collection of Taxes from October 30, 2022, through January 25, 2023. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the Knox County Treasurer's Report of Collection of Delinquent Personal Property Taxes FY 2021 & Prior. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Chairman Mackeprang moves the Board recess for Board of Equalization at 9:57 a.m.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:35 a.m. with all members present.

Chairman Mackeprang opened at 10:35 a.m. the One and Six Year Road Hearing. Hwy. Supt. Barta presented the following information: maps on the bridge and road projects completed in 2022 and future projects, budget review, revenue, expenditures, machinery purchased, and new staff. Also a letter from Attorney Ryan Cwach regarding Kohles Acres was submitted. Township Officers present were Jefferson Township Board member Jim Kotrous, Dolphin Township Board members Dale Van Heek and David Kube, and Herrick Township Board members Roger Palu and Joyce Woodbury. Township Board members discussed problems with electric fences in the road right of way, statutes that address fencing in the right of way, mowing of roads, and trees in the right of way. Chairman Mackeprang closed the One and Six Year Road Hearing at 11:22 a.m.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1. Discussion was held on compensating Road employees pushing snow when the Courthouse is closed due to inclement weather. Motion by Supr. Sokol, Jr., seconded by Supr. Liska to pay the Road employees for the hours the Courthouse is closed for inclement weather plus for the hours the Road employees work while the Courthouse is closed because of inclement weather. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2. Discussion was held on equipment repairs; 3. Discussed purchasing used loaders, costs and options; 4. Motor grader and wingbits were ordered; 5. The Nebraska Department of Transportation will not renew the permit for the Lazy River Acres sign along Highway 12 and the sign needs to be removed; 6. Road employees will be traveling to Hartington after lunch for a safety meeting.

Emergency Manager/Zoning Administrator Jelinek met with the Board on the following: 1. The Board was informed that Knox County does not have a permit process for installing driveways along County roads. A new fee of \$20 for the permit and a late fee of \$200 was proposed along with an application form. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Pierce to approve the permitting of installing driveways along County Roads, the application form and the fee of \$20 per permit and \$200 late fee for not filing the permit or obtaining a permit prior to installing the driveway. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2. The public hearing that was to be held on the Devils Nest Replat of Lots 2652, 2653 and 2654 in Block 1 of Devils Nest Subdivision at this meeting will not take place as not all of the required materials were submitted. The hearing will be held at a later date.

Economic Development Director Hanvey met with the Board on the following: 1. Niobrara State Park Superintendent Cogan Thompson submitted an amendment to their original Improvement Funds Grant application that was approved for a Frisbee Golf area in the Niobrara State Park. The Park has been gifted several 30-foot Yurts so Supt. Thompson submitted an amendment to replace the Frisbee Golf project with the costs to install the Yurts and needed plumbing, electricity and concrete. The Board took no action as the amendment did not contain proposals or quotes for the needed materials to install the Yurts; 2. Update on the Placemaking subgrant that was approved for Knox County.

Chairman Mackeprang moves the Board recess at 12:09 p.m. for lunch.

Supr. Sokol, Jr. left the meeting at 12:09 p.m.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 1:00 p.m. with all members present except Supr. James Sokol, Jr. District 4.

Extension Educator Hanefeldt met with the Board on the following: 1. The Knox County Extension annual report was reviewed. Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the Knox County Extension Annual Report. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #4. Motion carried; 2. Amy Topp with the University of Nebraska presented Strategic Direction that is focused on Nebraska's sustained success.

Officials' update was given by the following: 1. County Clerk Fischer gave an update on wages and benefits that were effective January 1, 2023; 2. Emergency Manager Jelinek is researching options for a command trailer; 3. Deputy County Clerk Nix gave an update on the progress of the surplus sale; 4. Sheriff Henery had received a written request for viewing tapes from the security camera. Deputy County Attorney Knox Jensen said a security camera policy will be drafted that will be first reviewed by the Courthouse Security Committee and then presented to the Board for their consideration; 5. Hwy. Supt. Office Manager Fritz asked the Board for their responses to several cybersecurity questions on the application for renewal of NIRMA insurance.

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

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 209,058.78; Applied Connective Technologies, IT contract/cabling, 4,352.96; Bloomfield Medical Clinic, medical treatment, 280.00; Bloomfield Pharmacy, meds, 12.80; Bob Barker Company, supplies, 53.09; Center Garage, batteries, 336.95; Classic Carpet Care, mop/towel rent, 40.00; Clerk of District Court, filing fees, 36.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 15,710.21; Country Bliss Flooring LLC, install carpet, 1,927.00; County of Knox Employee Benefit Account HealthCare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 38,641.37; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, teletype, 448.00; Eakes Office Solutions, copier agreement/office supplies, 569.22; Ecowater, bottled water, 481.00; Elizabeth Doerr, contract hours, 1,170.00; First National Bank Omaha, van gas, 115.00; Flower Basket, spelling bee trophies, 162.00; Gragert's, jail food, 1,460.18; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 1,996.04; Hagge Glass, van windshield, 292.09; Hefner Hardware, supplies, 38.63; Jeannoutot Plumbing, toilets/clean sewer line, 1,386.53; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, paint/supplies, 90.96; Knox County Sheriff, service fees, 34.44; Kristine Kumm, mileage, 30.79; The Lincoln National Life Ins. Co., insurance County pays, 299.78; Madison County Clerk, judges expense, 111.55; Marvin Planning Consultants, comprehensive plan, 2,000.00; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 40.50; MIPS, computer program, 683.65; Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition, annual membership, 1,000.00; NACO, registration, 25.00; NACT, dues, 50.00; Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center, training, 395.20; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 2,198.71; Northeast Nebraska News Co., publishing, 130.65; Pitzer Digital LLC, publishing, 306.43; Postmaster, postage, 126.00; Principal Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 2,285.82; Psychological Associates of Yankton LLC, evaluation, 1,375.00; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 462.61; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 14,091.05; Security Shredding Services, shredding, 157.50; Sucha Repair, tires, 620.00; Superior Turf Management LLC, lawn services, 1,106.75; University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension, showworks renewal, 225.00; US Cellular, cell phones, 466.35; US Cellular, cell phones, 320.10; Verdigre Eagle, envelopes/publishing, 538.73; Wayne County Clerk, judges expense, 5,529.63.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 83,114.47; Aspen Equipment, repairs, 345.59; B's Enterprises Inc., signs/post driver, 6,030.00; Big Red Mini Mart, gas, 94.31; Bohemian One Stop, gas, 360.22; Center Garage, tire repair, 20.00; City of Bloomfield, water, 28.00; C-Mart, gas, 258.05; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 6,101.94; County of Knox Employee Benefit Acct. c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 17,775.32; Farmer's Pride, diesel, 4,016.00; Freeman Oil Company LLC, diesel, 1,928.25; Great Plains Communications, phone, 543.25; Grossenburg Impl. Inc., filters/equipment rental, 4,008.72; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 5,656.61; J&K Auto, gas, 71.00; Kevin Barta, meals, 90.00; Larry Pilar, prior service, 42.00; Lincoln National Life Ins. Co., insurance County pays, 113.24; Linn Post & Pipe Inc., shop supplies, 16.75; Main Street Grocery, shop supplies, 12.08; Mike Jelinek, mileage, 37.99; N&B Gas Co., propane, 2,420.18; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 97.47; North American Truck & Trailer Inc., repairs, 304.09; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 474.39; Northeast Nebraska News Company, publishing, 7.33; Powerplan, repairs, 6,938.93; Principal Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 806.76; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 5,470.17; Riverside Hydraulics Inc., repairs, 267.29; Russ Crosley, garbage, 46.00; Tyndall Motors Inc., repairs, 446.68; U.S. Cellular, cell phones, 499.71; Vic's Service LLC, gas/repairs, 455.35; Village of Niobrara, water/sewer, 43.50; Village of Verdigre, water/sewer/garbage, 85.04; Village of Wausa, water/sewer/garbage, 159.95; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel, 878.31.

FLOWAGE EASEMENT ROAD FUND. JEO Consulting Group Inc., engineering fee, 1,262.50.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 51.65; Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 160.38.

VISITOR'S PROMO FUND. Salaries, 2,945.25; Yankton Daily P&D, advertising, 465.00.

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

ROD PRESERVATION/MODERNIZATION FUND. MIPS, computer program, 274.06.

COUNTY INSURANCE FUND. Name Redacted, reimburse deductible, 92.59; Name Redacted, reimburse deductible, 250.00.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND. NENEDD, admin fees, 18.75.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 3,833.33; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 285.20; First National Bank Omaha, dues/travel/meals/office supplies, 271.85; Gayle Krohn, leadership cupcakes, 30.00; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 51.65; Legendary Graphics, embroidery, 48.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 5.96; Nebraska Development Network NE, dues, 50.00; Northeast Nebraska News Company, publishing, 63.32; Principal Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 44.82; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 233.44; Stacy Miller, meal, 12.00; US Cellular, cell phone, 162.14.

INHERITANCE FUND. Cedar County Transit, contract, 2,000.00; Rodney W. Smith, public defender contract, 2,083.33.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. CenturyLink, phone, 6.07; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 106.34; Three River Telco, phone, 17.71.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 534.21; Three River Telco, phone, 203.70.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE HOLDING FUND. OPTK Networks, regionalization network, 761.48.

TOTALS

General Fund	\$313,270.05
Road Fund	150,064.94
Flowage Easement Road Fund	1,262.50
Child Support Fund	212.03
Visitor's Promo Fund	3,410.25
Visitor's Improvement Fund	183.90
ROD Pres./Mod. Fund	274.06
County Insurance Fund	342.59
Economic Development Fund	18.75
C&C Development Fund	5,091.71
Inheritance Fund	4,083.33
911 Emergency Fund	130.12
911 Wireless Service Fund	737.91
911 Wireless Service Holding Fund	<u>761.48</u>
Total	\$479,843.62

Chairman Mackeprang adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 2:08 p.m. on February 9, 2023, until Thursday, February 23, 2023 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
