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PROCEEDINGS OF THE DODGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Regular meeting of the Dodge County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Missel at 9:04 A.M. on Wednesday, September 9, 2020 in Courtroom A of the Dodge County Judicial Center, Fremont, Nebraska with the following members present: Beam, Strand, Weddle, Backens, Missel, Saalfeld and Bendig. Absent: None. Prior to roll call, Chairman Missel announced the meeting to be an open public meeting and that he had a copy of the current open meeting laws available for anyone's review.

The Board unanimously declared the meeting legally convened.

The Board unanimously approved the agenda as printed and received and placed on file various county officials' reports, the July 2020 Profit & Loss Budget Performance Report & Financial Statements and Supplementary Information June 30, 2020 from Fremont Community Health Resources, correspondence accepting the offer of free radios from Snyder Rural Fire Department and Winslow Rural Fire Department, Notice of Annual Inspection of the Dodge County Holding facility on September 9, 2020 for the Nebraska Jail Standards Board, Certificate of Insurance for Eriksen Construction Co., Inc., NIRMA Safety Shorts for September 2020, Certificates of Insurance for Kohl Construction Inc., Lyman-Richey Corporation and M.E. Collins Contracting Co., Inc., four (4) Dodge County Moving Permits for Barnhart Crane to move a self-propelled crane over county roads, a Dodge County Moving Permit for Loy Woerman to move two (2) grain bins over county roads into Cuming County and correspondence from Nebraska Department of Economic Development regarding Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application #19EM005/Dodge County, Notice of Approval: CDBG RLF Emergent Threat (EM) Category.

The Board unanimously approved adding an emergency item to the agenda regarding an agreement for Project Contracting/Payment Process & Operation & Maintenance for Platte River Breach Repair Project – Dodge County. Chairman Missel stated that the emergency existed due to the timeline of the project. This agreement allows the county to receive the funding for this project.

The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the August 26, 2020 meeting as printed.

At 9:09 A.M., the Board recessed as a Board of Supervisors and convened as a Board of Corrections. Chairman Missel dispensed with roll all members being present.

Under any items of discussion, Supervisor Beam reported that there are currently 63 inmates in custody with 5 being held in Dodge County, 3 with the State of Nebraska, 3 under House Arrest and 52 being held in Saunders County. There were 113 bookings in the month of August.

At 9:10 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Corrections until Wednesday, September 23, 2020 at 9:05 A.M.

Immediately thereafter, the Board reconvened as a Board of Supervisors. Chairman Missel dispensed with roll all members being present.

The Board unanimously approved the wage & hour claims submitted in the amount of \$249,281.05

The Board unanimously approved the financial claims submitted in the amount of \$425,727.35. There were a lot of flood related claims and \$57,000 had to be transferred out of the loan account to cover them. The flood reimbursements that did come in helped keep the transfer out of the loan account much lower than it would have been.

The Board unanimously approved the request of Chief Deputy Sheriff Reynolds to declare one vehicle as surplus property and authorized the vehicle be taken to Jack Nitz & Associates for auction.

At 9:15 A.M., the Public Hearing on the proposed 2020/2021 County Budget was held. County Clerk Mytty said he thinks this is a workable budget and he is pleased with how it came out. He said the primary concern is receipt of federal disaster reimbursements. Supervisor Strand said this budget looks "rosy" and he asked if this is the first time in a while that the outlook has been so optimistic. County Clerk Mytty said the Road fund is the wild card, but he is expecting an extra \$100,000 in motor vehicle tax and \$1.7 million in disaster reimbursements that should help. With no further testimony given, Chairman Missel closed the public hearing.

The Board unanimously approved adding the allowable 2.5% plus growth in excess of 2.5% of restricted funds (\$529,821.90) for carryover to the 2021/2022 County Budget. Supervisor Weddle asked County Clerk Mytty if the Board needs to approve an additional 1% of restricted funds, which has been approved in past years very consistently. County Clerk Mytty didn't think that was necessary this year. This action results in a restricted funds limit base of \$9,776,277.47.

The Board unanimously adopted and authorized the appropriate signatures on a Resolution approving the 2020/2021 County Budget as presented on August 12, 2020. The Resolution was read into the record by Supervisor Backens.

No further transfers are needed. At the August 12, 2020 meeting of the Dodge County Board of Supervisors, the Board unanimously approved and authorized Chairman Missel and County Clerk Mytty to sign a Resolution to transfer \$386,091.00 from the Inheritance Fund to the Road Fund to lower property taxes and match the highway allocation and to transfer \$13,909.00 from the Inheritance Fund to the Veterans Aid Fund to lower property taxes.

A Public Hearing was then held on the proposed setting of Dodge County's tax request for fiscal year July 1, 2020 thru June 30, 2021. Chairman Missel opened the hearing for any testimony. County Clerk Mytty reiterated to the Board that the tax request this year is lower than the tax request was last year. This is why there must be a public hearing to change that amount, otherwise it would remain the same as last year. With no testimony for/or against the proposed tax request, the Board unanimously passed a motion adopting a Resolution setting Dodge County's tax request at \$10,924,813 (Tax Rate (\$'s/\$100 of value) = \$0.229101) for fiscal year July 1, 2020 thru June 30, 2021.

The Board authorized the necessary signatures on price quotes for specialty services work at the Judicial Center and the location for the Prime Site for the Dodge County Public Safety Radio System. Electric service work with a proposed cost of \$9,000.00 and heating and cooling system work with a proposed cost of \$16,916.00 are

included in these price quotes. This work will be funded with dollars that have already been approved.

The Board unanimously accepted the recommendation of the Elkhorn Township Appointment Committee and approved the appointment of the following Elkhorn Township residents to a term to end January 4, 2023 to the Elkhorn Township Board: Roxie Kracl, Bryan Maschmeier and Robert Reed. Chairman Missel said he appreciates the selection committee for volunteering to go through the selection process and he appreciates the Elkhorn Township residents that stepped up to serve. County Clerk Mytty will send a letter notifying the three residents of their appointments to the township board and the next actions that need to be taken. Chairman Missel asked if there is any training that could be provided for the new board members. County Clerk Mytty said hopefully the CPA that took over the books will be able to help with this in regards to budget development; they need to have the township budget submitted by September 20, 2020. Highway Superintendent Scott Huppert stated that he needs to talk to the new board to let them know where all of their road maintenance equipment is and what the plan is going forward. Chairman Missel requested Superintendent Huppert attend the first meeting of the new Elkhorn Township Board. Mike Bechtel, an Elkhorn Township resident, spoke up asking when and if Dodge County could grade their roads. Superintendent Huppert told him that his workers will be out there as soon as the rain stops.

The Board took up discussion on the aforementioned emergency item that was added to the agenda regarding an agreement for Project Contracting/Payment Process & Operation & Maintenance for Platte River Breach Repair Project – Dodge County. Chairman Missel told the Board their approval of this agreement is necessary for the project to move forward and he read the first page of the agreement into the record. The City of Fremont will take an easement on the damaged area at the Rod & Gun Club. Supervisor Bendig asked what happens if the project costs exceed the estimated amount of \$612,380. Chairman Missel said the bid is solid and he doesn't anticipate them exceeding that amount. He also said the three partners (City of Fremont, Lower Platte North NRD and Dodge County) assisting the Fremont Rod & Gun Club with this project are also agreeing to go up to a local share of \$50,000 each by signing this agreement. Lowell Schroeder with the Northeast Nebraska Economic Development District is also looking for other funding that may even cover that amount so the local share wouldn't be needed. The Board unanimously approved and authorized Chairman Missel to sign the agreement.

Committee Reports – Supervisor Strand informed the Board that there will be work done on the courthouse starting late in the week of September 14 so there may be a crane around the building for that.

The Board unanimously received correspondence from NIRMA (Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Association) regarding the Annual Membership Meeting for Election of Board Members, October 2, 2020 – Online/Remote Meeting via Zoom Conferencing Services. Zoning Administrator Jean Andrews reminded the Board that this meeting is only for the election of four (4) board members to the NIRMA Board of Directors due to the limitations associated with a remote meeting. Chairman Missel will also be participating in this virtual meeting.

The Board unanimously received NIRMA correspondence regarding nominations for four (4) positions on the eleven-member Board of Directors.

The Board unanimously approved and authorized Chairman Missel to sign a letter of endorsement supporting the reappointment of Jean Andrews to another term on the NIRMA Board of Directors. Ms. Andrews thanked the Board and other county departments that regularly assist her for supporting her in her role on the NIRMA Board.

Highway Superintendent Scott Huppert updated the Board on current highway projects. The last FHWA project in Ames has met with some conflict with the State regarding the reimbursement amount. The allowable amount on the project was \$200,000 and approximately \$100,000 was used with the exception of that which was spent on culverts and dirt work to get the roadway on right-of-way. The State will rewrite the project so the county will get paid what they are due including culverts and dirt work. The FEMA project on Ridge Road is ongoing with the south part almost complete. The bridge deck is not considered to be flood related damage, so that expense will be on the county. There have been a lot of complaints about the ditches and culverts on Ridge Road; many people didn't want them. The Highway Department has put signs up on Big Island Road to notify residents of the road work that OMNI construction will begin in approximately two (2) weeks. A NRCS project on the bridge on Road 10 is going on and it's the last bridge to be worked on for this project. Work being done on County Road 19 is being worked on by Dodge County Highway Department employees. They are building the roadway up about 1 ½' to match up with the work being done at the Rod & Gun Club. There is no water running in that area now, which the locals are pleased about. Superintendent Huppert has filed 60 day time extensions on projects for the townships that needed them. Employees continue to work on culvert installations and ditch cleanouts; there have been many requests for culverts. The county will be supplying the rip rap and dirt for the Scribner embankment project. The sand will be pushed back out to the bank and a couple of jetties that were a hindrance will be eliminated. Supervisor Bendig asked if Superintendent Huppert is happy with the reimbursements coming from NEMA. He said there are lots of letters needed to supply the details and documentation that continues to be requested.

At 10:03 A.M., the Board recessed as a Board of Supervisors and convened as a Board of Equalization. Chairman Missel dispensed with roll all members being present.

The Board unanimously approved tax roll corrections #5173 & #5174.

Dodge County Assessor Debbie Churchill was present to let the Board know that all employees in the Dodge County Assessor's Office met with a deputy to be trained on the use of a stun gun. The employees and deputy all signed off on the training and a copy of this is in every employee file. They also had vests made with "Dodge County" on them for when they go do business out in the public.

At 10:06 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Equalization until Wednesday, September 23, 2020 at 10:00 A.M.

Immediately thereafter, the Board reconvened as a Board of Supervisors. Chairman Missel dispensed with roll all members being present.

Closed session to discuss general assistance claims was not necessary. The claims were emailed to all of the Dodge County Supervisors and they can contact County Clerk Mytty if they have any questions or concerns.

A short recess was taken at this time.

At 10:15 A.M., the Public Hearing to consider a Resolution to vacate an Unnamed platted street part of Block 1 and part of Block 2 of the L.J. Abbotts' Subdivision in the SE ¼ SW ¼ of Section 2, Township 17 North, Range 8 East in Dodge County was held. With no testimony for/or against the road vacation, the Board unanimously adopted the Resolution and authorized the necessary signatures on the document to vacate the unnamed platted street.

At 10:19 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Supervisors until Wednesday, September 23, 2020 at 9:00 A.M.

Fred Mytty
Dodge County Clerk