

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 9:02 A.M. on Wednesday, March 8, 2023 in the Board Room of the Courthouse, Fremont, Nebraska with the following members present: Beam, Weddle, Strand, Backens, Missel, Tawney and Bendig. Absent: None. Prior to roll call Chairman Missel announced the meeting to be an open public meeting and that the current open meeting laws are posted on the wall and 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 county officials' reports, Official Bond and Oath for Jeremy Horvatic, Treasurer, Logan Township Board, Official Bond and Oath for Sandra L. Christensen, Clerk, Platte Township Board, local Extension Programming and Financial Summaries for 2022 from University of Nebraska Extension Service in Dodge County, Certificates of Insurance for Midwest Crane Service LLC and Union Township, Reinstatement of Workers Compensation Policy for Cedar Valley Corp., LLC, NIRMA Safety Shorts for March 2023, Notice of a Special Use Permit Application received by Douglas County's Planning Commission to be heard on March 15, 2023 to request to lease property out through Airbnb and/or VRBO for short term leasing, Minutes of Dodge County Planning Commission meeting on February 21, 2023 and Moving Permit for Barnhart Crane to move a self-propelled crane over county roads on February 20 thru 24, 2023.

The Board, with Supervisor Tawney abstaining since he was not present at the February 22, 2023 meeting, unanimously approved the minutes of the February 22, 2023 meeting as printed.

At 9:05 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 76 inmates in custody with 61 being held in Saunders County, 10 in Washington County, 3 under house arrest and 2 at the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services. County Attorney Hopkins reported that negotiations are ongoing with Washington County regarding housing inmates for Dodge County. She also reported that she sent a letter to District Court asking them to consider strict home confinement with electronic monitoring for inmates they send to jail for a short period (2-4 days). She went on to say that many of these inmates have extreme medical needs that require more attention from staff.

At 9:07 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Corrections until Wednesday, March 22, 2023 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 as submitted in the amount of \$260,997.29.

The Board unanimously approved the request for CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) Funds on Project 19-EM-001 Ames Dike Repairs and authorized Chairman Missel and County Clerk Gilfry to sign the request for General Administration Costs of \$3,330.00 (to NENEDD). This is the final payment for Project 19-EM-001 Ames Dike Repairs.

The Board unanimously approved the financial claims as submitted in the amount of \$311,711.00.

The Board unanimously approved all bank depositories for Dodge County funds listed on the 2023 Approved Dodge County Depositories list except for Public Trust Advisors (PTA). PTA requested to be added to the approved list of depositories for 2023. Chairman Missel said he and County Treasurer Bargstadt agree that PTA needs to establish themselves in Nebraska; they have done business in Colorado and other states, but not Nebraska. Supervisor Strand said he prefers Dodge County to use local financial institutions as depositories. Included in the motion was authorization for Chairman Missel and County Clerk Gilfry to sign the 2023 Approved Dodge County Depositories list.

Committee Reports – Chairman Missel reported that he and County Clerk Gilfry attended a meeting regarding funding for the east (Fremont) drainage project. This is a federal project with 75%/25% cost share. Based on these initial discussions, it appears this project will meet much of the criteria to move forward. Chairman Missel said it would be beneficial to address these drainage issues and improve the drainage system around Fremont. He added that this is just one of many drainage projects being studied in Dodge County; it is a slow process. Chairman Missel asked County Attorney Hopkins to comment on the status of the New National Opioid Settlements. She reported that there are monies coming to Dodge County, but the disbursement of these funds relies on clear data to justify the need. She added that Dodge County does not have good data for need justification, so she is working with individuals that can help her find reliable resources for data that will justify Dodge County's need for these opioid settlement dollars; the settlement funds can be used for data collection and surveillance.

Zoning Administrator Jean Andrews told the Board about the NIRMA webinar being held March 9, 2023 entitled "Spring Cleaning: How to Ensure Your Employee Handbook is Tidy". She also reminded the Board about the NIRMA regional meetings held in April; registration for both can be done at NIRMA.info.

Highway Superintendent Scott Huppert reported that two new employees started on March 6, 2023 and one recently gave notice that he is leaving. Employees are patching potholes and sealing cracks when and where possible over the next 2-3 weeks. The berm on the Scribner Elkhorn Riverbank Stabilization project is nearly complete. He is working with the City of Scribner to determine who will rebuild the road leading to the dike that got washed out; Dodge County will maintain this road once it is rebuilt. Superintendent Huppert has heard nothing from Graham Construction about Yager Road. Dodge County still owes them for ditch work and 20% more for increased costs, but Superintendent Huppert is not satisfied with the concrete work done on this project. Contractors working on county roads (C, D, E, F) around the 275 By-Pass at Scribner are tearing up the roads and recently dumped crushed concrete onto the roads

causing motorists to get flat tires. The contractor has torn out the abutments and is driving pilings on the Elkhorn River Bridge. The United States Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) is still claiming the ditch on the west side of County Road 18. Therefore, Dodge County will have to move 14 OPPD power poles on the east side to satisfy right-of-way specifications when this section of road is realigned and repaved. The pavement can be finished and the poles can be moved after that.

At 9:30 A.M., a Public Hearing was held to consider the request of Greg Beebe of Beebe Seed Farms Inc. of 1291 Old Lincoln Hwy., North Bend, NE 68649 to obtain a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to store and apply Biosolids as per Article 20 Section 2. Conditional Uses 2.25 located in the west ½ Section 18, Township 17 North, Range 7 East in West Platte Township, Zoning District PRC, Platte River Corridor. Zoning Administrator Jean Andrews reported that the Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of this CUP for Beebe Seed Farms Inc. Hearing no testimony for or against the request, the Board unanimously accepted the recommendation of the Planning Commission and approved the CUP based on the conditional use conforms to the intent and purpose of the regulations and the use conforms to the regulations of the district in which it is located.

At 9:35 A.M., the Board unanimously passed a motion to go into closed session to discuss general assistance claims

At 9:48 A.M., the Board unanimously passed a motion to go back into open session from the discussion of the claims. No action was taken on any of the claims as a result of the closed session.

At 9:51 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Supervisors until Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at 9:00 A.M.

At 10:00 A.M., the Board convened as a Board of Equalization. Chairman Missel dispensed with roll all members being present.

The Board unanimously approved 2022 tax roll correction #5580.

At 10:05 A.M., a Public Hearing was held to consider the request from Bluffs Trinity Lutheran Church, parcel ID No. 270131579, PT TL 7 (SE ¼ SE ¼) 1A 22-18-7 for tax exemption on real and personal property (Form 451) for tax year 2023. Deputy Assessor Brandy Marshall said this was originally filed on time, but on the wrong form. It is a new permissive exemption, so it requires a public hearing. The parsonage is being used for church purposes; the tenant works for the church. Hearing no other testimony for or against the request, the Board unanimously accepted Assessor Churchill's recommendation, approved the exemption application and instructed Assessor Churchill to process the application.

At 10:06 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Equalization until Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at 10:00 A.M.

Micki Gilfry
Dodge County Clerk