



Nance County Board Minutes



March 22, 2022

A meeting of the County Board of Supervisors of Nance County, Nebraska was convened in open and public session on March 22, 2022 in the Supervisor's Room, Nance County Courthouse, Fullerton, Nebraska.

Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. with the following members present-Timothy Cornwell, Andrew Ditter, Robert Voichoskie, Ralph Horacek, Robert Small, Darren Nelson and Gary Juracek. Also present is County Clerk, Danette Zarek. Chairman advised those present of the open meetings act and its posting in the Supervisor's Room.

Notice of the meeting was given thereof by publication in the Genoa Leader Times on March 16, 2022.

Notice of the meeting was given to the Board and a receipt of their acknowledgment is on file in the Clerk's office.

The Pledge of Allegiance is recited.

Moved by Nelson and seconded by Voichoskie to approve the agenda.

Moved by Juracek and seconded by Small to approve minutes of the March 8, 2022 meeting.

Moved by Horacek and seconded by Juracek to approve all claims submitted.

GENERAL FUND

Advanced Correctional Healthcare, prescription-\$11.93; Antelope Co. Sheriff, Housing-\$1,800.00; Appera, supplies-\$14.52; Applied Connective Tech, svcs.-\$231.80; Black Hills Energy, gas-\$22.70; Ashley Boryca, mileage-\$19.43; Capital Business Sys, copies/lease-\$330.12/\$73.71; Ciancio Hardware, supplies-\$54.99; City of Fullerton, ambulance-\$250.00; City of Genoa, ambulance-\$250.00; Clearly, phone svc-\$642.74; Dan Cornwell, mileage/dues-\$121.98/25.00; Culligan, reverse osmosis-\$38.99; D&H Truck & Auto Parts, supplies & tools-\$355.84; Dollar General, supplies-\$40.50; Eakes, supplies-\$1,813.00; Ecolab, svcs-\$105.37; Election Sys & Software, supplies-\$1,050.00; Fillmore Co. Clerk, appraisal-\$1,253.95; Fullerton Area Ec. Dev.-Track Fund, renewal-\$100.00; Genoa Comm Hosp, svcs-\$449.48; Genoa Leader Times, pub-\$913.80; Sonya Glup, mileage-\$34.26; Hall Co. Veteran's Svc., quarterly pmt.-\$4,933.25; Doris Hardle, prior svc.-\$16.00; Heartland Disposal, svcs-\$220.08; Hometown Leasing, equip rental-\$410.62; Latimer Reporting, svcs-\$170.61; Len & Jo's, supplies-\$44.54; Loup Power Dist, electricity-\$1,348.46; MIPS, svcs-\$2,406.10; John Morgan, Review/Title VI & ADA salary -\$95.00/\$200.00; Nance Co. Court, costs claimed-\$49.00; Nance Co Journal, pub.-\$1,734.25; Nance Co. Treasurer, Employee Appreciation/Dues - \$1,140.00/\$50.00; NanceTrans, donation-\$750.00; Nebraska HHS, svcs-\$168.00; NE Asso. of Em Mngmt, regis.-\$110.00; NE Supreme Court, Salary Reimbursement-\$6,386.20; Olsson, svcs-\$2,163.50; Pappy's, fuel-\$6.29/\$993.91; Platte Co. Sheriff, housing-\$2,300.00; Steve Pritchard, mileage-\$160.85; Ramada Inn, room-\$156.00; Region 4 Behavioral Health Sys., contribution-\$3,065.25; Region IV, Inc., quarterly pmt.-\$1,128.75; Brad Schick, mileage-\$89.23; State of NE, network svc chg-\$498.64; State of NE Dept. of Corr. Svcs, svcs-\$1,264.90; Jerod L. Trouba, Atty. Fees-\$807.50; UNL, Laptop-\$730.74; US Bank , purchases/fuel-\$569.92/\$248.86; US Cellular, wifi backup-\$93.50; US Post Office, postage-\$232.00/612.00; Verizon, svcs-\$93.50; Vision Svc Plan, cobra-\$8.51; Wanek Pharmacy, prescrip.-\$61.58; WEX Bank, fuel-\$125.19; Brandi Yosten, Ct. Appt'd atty fees-\$446.50; Health Insurance-\$19,411.73; Retirement-\$6,411.95; Social Security-\$6,687.60; Disability-\$29.53; Life Insurance-\$29.18 First Concord-\$107.50;

ROAD FUND

Ag & Industrial Equip., parts-\$750.96; Appera, supplies-\$102.87; Applied Connective Tech., svcs.-\$30.60; B's Enterprises, Inc., supplies-\$9,720.00; Black Hills Energy, heating fuel-\$267.90; Casey's, fuel-\$955.30; Cedar Valley Lumber, supplies-\$1.25; Ciancio Hardware, parts-\$97.90; City of Genoa, water/sewer-\$28.00; Clearly, svcs-\$45.34; Columbus Tire & Svc, tires-\$694.96; Comm Feed & Seed, supplies-\$58.30; Cornhusker Cleaning, supplies-\$68.40; Cornhusker PPD, electric-\$142.92; D&H Truck, parts-\$187.21; Eakes, supplies-\$323.46; Front Runner Fab, labor-\$400.00; Garrett



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Enterprises, repair-\$55.60; Duane A. Goelz, reimbursement-\$100.00; Grainger, parts-\$1,211.88; Heartland Disposal, garbage svc-\$43.75; Hometown Leasing, equip-\$64.99; Len & Jo's, supplies-\$8.28; Loup Power District, electricity-\$494.18; Midwest Svc & Sales, signs-\$21,363.65; MIPS, svcs-\$113.14; Nance Co. Journal, pub.-\$14.85; NE Machinery Co., parts & labor-\$24,828.65; Pappy's, fuel-\$448.08; PowerPlan, parts-\$573.17; Prairie Creek Twnshp, road maint.-\$2,500.00; Sapp Brothers, fuel-\$12,030.87; Smith & Sons Repair, parts & labor-\$1,456.76; T & R Parts, parts-\$76.02; Tom's Auto Care, parts & labor-\$478.88; Tools Plus Ind., supplies-\$106.62; Twisted Metal Welding, parts & labor-\$97.86; US Cellular, website-\$69.69; Verizon, phone-\$42.84; Verizon Connect NWF, phone-\$194.28; Village of Belgrade, water & sewer svc-\$30.00; Donald Voichahoske, reimbursement-\$100.00; Health Insurance-\$12,345.79; Retirement-\$3,482.51; Social Security-\$3,806.78; Disability-\$13.62; Life Insurance-\$17.80 First Concord-\$70.00;

SINKING-ROAD EQUIPMENT FUND

Caterpillar Fin.Svcs Corp, pmt.-\$63,577.21

APPRAISAL FUND

USPS, envelopes-\$2,081.00

VMP FLOW THROUGH FUND

Loup Power, electric-\$82.00;

K-9 FUND

Countryside Vet Clinic, boarding-\$241.32;

911 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND

Century Link, phone-\$153.01/\$248.49; Clearly, 911-\$22.67; Frontier Citizens, phone-\$50.01; Great Plains Comm., phone-\$82.40; Loup Public Power, electricity-\$28.33;

BUILDING FUND

Integrated Security Solutions, svcs-\$420.00; RT Plumbing, svcs-\$4,904.00; Midwest Restaurant Supply, repairs-\$709.35;

SALARY CLAIMS

GENERAL FUND \$41,821.04

ROAD FUND \$28,208.50

Rodney Wetovick, County Attorney, present.

SuAnn Engel updates the board on the SLFRF funds. B-D from Columbus will have a bid in by the next board meeting. She confirmed with Wonder Woman Painting that her bid does not include the paint. She estimated that the paint necessary to paint the courthouse hallway walls would cost \$600-\$700, which still brings her estimate well below the other bid received – NIRMA is having a Cyber Security Seminar that Engel has registered for – She reminds the board that the second half of the SLFRF funds will be available this summer – She attended the Northeast district meeting on Friday. Cyber security was discussed. They suggested that the counties budget every 3-4 years to update computers for cyber security reasons – Talked a bit about Infrastructure. The money is going to be put into grants. The grants are going to be very competitive and hard to get – Reminded counties before using SLFRF funds for matching grants, they need to be sure the grants allow for matching funds. T. Cornwell has talked to the Fullerton Mayor regarding the city using their SLFRF funds to help pay for new ambulances and Fullerton is agreeable, but he has not received anything in writing. Genoa City Council did not meet last night – bids received from Lifeline Emergency Vehicles and North Central Emergency Vehicles for new ambulances were reviewed. There is a bill in legislature, that sets up a grant for emergency vehicles. Nance County would be able to apply for such grant and hopefully get drawn. The board will put off selecting a company at this time and find out more about the legislative bill and hopefully get one more bid submitted – Engel also reports that



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she has got the chiller for sale on Facebook. She has had inquiries and also received one bid for the chiller.

T. Cornwell and Juracek attended a Rural Broadband meeting last Thursday. Several counties are interested in the rural broadband opportunities. Some have even chosen to use all of their SLFRF funds on the broadband. There is approximately 44 miles of backbone system to be installed in Nance County, which would provide 90% of County coverage. Now they are looking to the county to commit to contributing to the project to qualify. No commitment is made at this time.

In 2008 a Resolution was passed approving the appointment of John Morgan as Special Acting County Attorney for the purposes of inheritance tax and setting a fee for such appointment. The resolution is no longer necessary as the County Court appoints the Special Acting County Attorney and approves their fees applied for. Therefore, Resolution #22-2 appealing Resolution #08-10 is read into record. Moved by Juracek and seconded by Nelson to approve said Resolution. The full resolution may be viewed in the County Clerk's office during normal business hours.

Jenna Clark, Region 44 Emergency Manager, comes before the board for updates for the past couple of months. Platte County Emergency Manager, who is part of the Planning Exercise Training (PET) Region that Nance County belongs to, has applied for a grant for all counties in the PET Region that would fund phishing training for cyber security – She has attended multiple rounds of meetings to put together a Hazard Mitigation Plan through the NRD. The final plan for Nance County has been submitted. Once received, the board of supervisors will need to adopt the plan by resolution – The EMPG grant, which pays a portion of Jenna's salary is underway. She had a mini audit/desk review in January and the grant is on track – There is a severe weather spotter training to be held tomorrow evening at the Fairgrounds Events Center – She has started on the County's Local Emergency Operations Plan, which is due the end of the year. They have moved the plan to an online system called "Bold Planning". She enters all of the information into the system. She has completed 75% of the information. NEMA will be coming to help her finish up.

Scott Russell, road foreman, gave updates in the road department. The last 3 days they have been working on a road project for Cottonwood Township. The road is on 570th St. straight West of 120th Ave. They have removed all trees and stumps and are now building up the road. They are using the dirt from the ditch to build up the road – They have received a bid from B-D out of Kearney for the repairs to the road building. The bid is \$165/square foot to put on a new roof, fixing the blocks at the top of the building, and fixing the offices, making everything ADA compliant. (\$1.8 million). The bid for a completely new building is \$250.00/square foot (\$2.7 million). B-D noted that the bids may be somewhat inflated. There is no money in the budget for any such expense except the inheritance tax fund or the SLFRF funds. An option to get a bid for a temporary fix to allow additional time to make a decision on a permanent solution – As soon as it dries up, the road department will begin to work on the scheduled projects throughout the county.

Randy Zmek came before the board to give the board an overview of his findings and concerns with the contaminants and dewatering projects that have been going on with the Cornhusker Army Ammunition site near Grand Island for 40 years. Present is Barb Micek with the Nance County Journal, Steve White with NTV News, and Ashley Boryca. The dewatering projects drain into Moores Creek & Silver Creek near Grand Island and those creeks drain east into Merrick and Nance Counties. A group was developed to look closer into this. He shared information that they have found. They put together a poster and shared it with Merrick & Nance County residents, which included websites to a couple of articles. He and his group would like to know if the water in these areas is contaminated and if it is, he would like to get the public educated so that they will have the knowledge to manage their wells and their lives.

Renee McCarthy with ATT First Net gives a presentation to the board. After a few minutes into the presentation, the board realized the presentation was previously given to the board and the First Net devices have already been demoed by the sheriff's office and the emergency manager. Neither



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the sheriff or the EM were present for the discussion. T. Cornwell told McCarthy the board will discuss the matter with those individuals before making any decisions.

At the annual reorganizational meeting the reappointment of the representatives to the Nance County Economic Development was over looked. Discussion held. Moved by Voichoskie and seconded by Small to appoint Horacek, Nelson and Juracek as the Board of Supervisors representatives to the Nance County Economic Development.

Ben Bakewell, County Sheriff, present.

Dan Cornwell, Zoning Administrator, gave an update on where we are at on Conservation Easements (CE). On January 27, 2021 President Biden signed an Executive Order "Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad", typically called 30 x 30 program. On April 21, 2021 15 Governors led by Nebraska Governor Ricketts sent a letter to the Biden Administration opposing the Executive Order. On April 27, 2021 the Nance County Board of Supervisors passed resolution #21-14 opposing the federal government's 30 x 30 land preservation goal. On July 24, 2021 Governor Ricketts signed an Executive Order #21-08 to stop 30 x 30. On average, land in WRP (Wetlands Reserve Program) is assessed 40% lower than it would be as agricultural land. This significant value reduction shifts the property tax burden to other landowners. Nebraska law gives the Board of Supervisors the ability to approve or deny CE based on whether they conflict with the county's comprehensive plan. The appropriate governing body (County Board of Supervisors) must first refer the proposed acquisition to and receive comments from the Local Planning Commission. The planning commission has 60 days to provide comments. If no comments are received the proposed acquisition will be deemed approved. The CEs are permanent unless stated otherwise. D. Cornwell gave examples of CEs that have been denied by other counties. On October 20, 2021 Nance County received its most recent CE from the Beck Trust. The Supervisors referred the CE to the Planning and Zoning (P&Z) for comments. Dec. 6, 2021 the P&Z met to review/discuss the CE and then recommended that the Supervisors approve the easement. Dec. 14, 2021, the Board of Supervisors, at the recommendation of the P&Z, approved the Beck Trust CE request. A legislative hearing on LB1135 was held on February 11, 2022. LB1135 seeks to change the following aspects of CEs: i) Change comment timeline from 60 to 90 days; ii) Remove "perpetually" language and replace with "Easements may not exceed 99 years" – preferably 30 years; and iii) easement properties are not exempt from property tax. T. Cornwell attended this hearing. To date this bill has not made it out of committee. Prior to the Beck approval, Nance County had 2% of its land in CEs. A list of those was presented to the board. All but two of these CEs are perpetual. On March 16, 2022 D. Cornwell, convened a strategy meeting to discuss the CE issue/concern to figure out how to amend the comprehensive plan and to develop a strategy/plan moving forward. He will work with Rod Wetovick, Co. Attorney, to craft amendment language or an addendum for the P&Z to consider for recommendation to the Board of Supervisors for approval. He intends to have the language ready to present to the P&Z by April 22, 2022 and present the P&Z recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to approve at their April 26, 2022 meeting.

Judd Allen with the National Association of County Officials (NACO) appears before the board. He helps the counties with the NACO health insurance. He does not yet know if the health insurance premiums will increase this year or not. He hopes to have that information out to the counties in early May. He also wanted to present an option for county employees to increase the amount of life insurance for themselves and their families. Nance County does already have a supplemental insurance for the additional life insurance. If Nance County decides, after the insurance rates come out, to continue with the NACO health insurance, and the life insurance rates are comparable, NACO could just roll over those employees from the current plan to the NACO plan.

Moved by Horacek and seconded by Small to adjourn.

All motions except where specified had the following Roll Call: AYES-Ditter, Voichoskie, Horacek, Small, Nelson, Juracek, Cornwell; NAYS-None. Motion carried.



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Timothy C. Cornwell
Chairman

Danette Zarek
County Clerk