



Nance County Board Minutes



July 11th, 2023

A meeting of the County Board of Supervisors of Nance County, Nebraska was convened in open session on June 11th, 2023 in the Supervisor's Room, Nance County Courthouse, Fullerton, Nebraska.

Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:00am with the following members present-Timothy Cornwell, Andrew Ditter, Robert Voichoskie, Ralph Horacek, Steve Crouse, Gary Juracek, and Darren Nelson. Absent- None. Also present is County Clerk, Adrian Chlopek, Rodney Wetovick, County Attorney, Ben Bakewell, County Sheriff, and Ronda Malander, County Treasurer.

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 Nance County Journal on July 5th, 2023.

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 at previous Board of Equalization meeting.

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

Moved by Voichoskie and seconded by Nelson to approve minutes of the June 27th, 2023 meeting. Roll call vote: AYES- Voichoskie, Horacek, Nelson, Crouse, Ditter, Cornwell; NAYS- None; Abstain-Juracek. Motion carried.

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

SALARY CLAIMS

GENERAL FUND	\$58,479.32
ROAD FUND	\$37,928.23

The Board reviewed and approved the Monthly Fee reports of the County Clerk in the amount of \$2,402.91; Clerk of the District Court in the amount of \$91.14; and County Sheriff in the amount of \$1,202.82.

Dallas Schweitz approached the Board with concerns with trees dying out by his cabin along the Loup River. He stated that he has 15 trees that he feels have been sprayed, some as old as 40 years and 40 feet tall, Autumn Blazed Maple and others. He has contacted the NRD and the NE forest service and they are coming Friday July 14th to look at the trees and make report. Depending on what is suggested he might have samples taken to see what would have caused it. He then stated that he is then going to contact the Nebraska Department of Agriculture to report the over spray. Tony Bernt, Highway Superintendent and Chad Borowiak, weed superintendent discussed that Sandhills Management will have records of when the river was sprayed and the helicopter that sprayed. Schweitz explained that the board members were welcome to go down and look at the area. Once testing is done, will have to work with Sandhills Management to compare. Will revisit once testing has been done and more information has been gotten.

Dan Cornwell, Zoning Administrator gave an update on the Comprehensive Plan. It has gone thru the first draft. It has gone from 109 to 106 pages. It has been

reformatted and restructured to be easier to read. They have begun to review/update of the current zoning regulations and there are a few items they are considering changes as they continue to work on the Compressive plan. They will have a first draft review meeting and then after feedback is considered and updated will schedule a Public Hearing for consensus building to solicit public feedback in September or October. Will bring more updates as this process continues.

Board of Supervisors met with all department heads to discuss their budget proposals and other agenda items, as follows.

Tony Bernt, Highway superintendent, gives department updates. Project on 160th Ave they are working on finishing work. The road department building roof project is continuing, they are starting framing but still have rock that needs taken off. The 2-week estimate is going to take longer. There was some bad weather around Genoa last night and they are working on fixing some roads, etc. Discussion had on Macon Rd closure, will not start process until 160th project is open. Discussion had on budget proposal for Road Dept. Changes that were made or suggested: Noxious Weed Budget removed getting a new pickup from this budget. Discussion on Supplies-Chemicals line item, making sure that items are purchased in the current budget, not rolled to the next. Road Budget: Increase in wages, \$1.00 raise due to change in comp. time, another \$1.00 raise depending on evaluation and then another 3% raise this year. Discussion had on moving temporary employees to part times employees and increase the line item to cover the addition to the retirement that they would receive. Increase to the general liability line item by \$2,500 to \$42,500. Increase in Road Equipment parts and labor. Increase in Machine hire by others, for work out North west. Erosion line item has had an increase of \$10,000 due to the 160th project. Machinery fuel discussed and have an increase of \$70,000. Traffic sign line-item increase of \$5,000, due to the problem of signs being stolen. Discussed a public notice for assistance from the public. For the concern of the public safety and the budget for sign purchasing. Line item for equipment rental and truck rent has had a decrease. The right-of-way has increase of \$30,000, looking at fixing corner on bottom road to Belgrade. New machinery increases of \$50,000, due to purchase of scrapper and tractor. Looking at around \$390,000 increase from last year. Sinking bridge keeping \$100,000 in fund. Highway buyback is what we expect to bring in at \$229,833.15.

Ronda Malander, Treasurer in to discuss budget proposals. Looking at an increase of total budget, mainly due to wage and insurance increase. Trying to save on postage, due not send receipts to people for taxes. Increased travel expense to \$500 as Treasurers are required to have continuing education. Have left the money in the line item for furniture, will look at something new for better functionality.

Megan Zoucha, Assessor in to discuss budget proposals. Increase in wage and insurance. Have line item for hiring appraiser, have been doing more internally with residential and might need to hire appraiser for commercial this year. Lowered the maintenance/repair line item, as las year scanned all cards to make digital and that is done. Increase of travel, mileage, dues, regs. as they are required to have continuing education. Data processing equipment increased to \$1,200 in case there would be a computer issue.

SuAnn Engel, HR/Budget/Building to discuss budget proposals. HR increase due to wage and insurance. Building Fund discussion on remodel for road department office,

it is going to be a few years project. Building is a structural sound and just looking at option to start the remodel project. The capital outlay building fund decided to decrease the budget to \$30,000.00. Building and Ground Fund Looking at lowering event center electricity and raising water/garbage due to not sure how many time the garbage would need to be dumped at event center. Increase cleaning service, as the company is saying there will be an increase come January. Sinking building and lawn added \$5,000. County Surveyor budget is staying the same.

Engel to report for Steve Pritchard, Extension office budget proposal. Increase due to wages and insurance incentive.

Shirley Stuart-Monroe, County and District Court budget proposal. Increase in District Court for the inter-local agreement. No changes in county court or district judge fund.

Dan Cornwell, Zoning administrator budget proposal. Line item for comp. planning will need to be \$7,500 due to finishing the update of the Comprehensive Plan. Increase in wage to be comparable to other zoning directors. It is a part time job at around 16 hours a week, after plan is updated that could lower. Has 10 permits already this year last year 13 total. Looking at 12-16 hours a week.

Rodney Wetovick, County Attorney budget proposal. Increase wages and insurance but eliminated the part time clerical salary. Increase in rental equipment due to now renting a copier from Eakes.

Ben Bakewell, Sheriff budget proposal. Down 2 deputies, going to go a year without replacing one. Stated his staff is doing fine and they have hired a new one to start this year. Safety equipment increased due to payments on tasers and body cameras. Discussion on deputy salary line item. Bakewell purposes to raise salaries across the board of all deputies to \$34.50/hr. Discussion on leaving 1 deputy out of the budget this year, if we would need them and not have the budget, Bakewell states they will be fine and it can be revisited next year if needed, would like to train one new deputy at a time. Communication Fund had an increase with the agreement with the Communication center with Boone County. County Jail has a slight increase, concern with that one is an unknow with costs that could occur. Left some money the Sinking Sheriff Fund. Change in contracts with cities, made Genoa inline with Fullerton, Genoa will see a decrease of \$7,000. Contract covers 51% of the budget. Discussion on wages will continue to raise, compared to others in areas due to the shortage of staffing. With the contracts being 3 years, need to keep in mind the increases of insurance each year.

Jenna Clark, Emergency Manager budget proposal. Increase in wages and insurance with yearly increases but also due to marriage next year. Travel and lodging increase due to training in November in California. This will be reimbursed by Homeland Security Grant through East Central PET Region after training. Kept the budget for office equipment as will be needing a new laptop. Increase in workshops due to trainings needed. Adding a new line item for equipment rental for a copier. Sinking Emergency Mgt. fund was voted by advisory board to transfer excess funds from last fiscal year to this fund. Discussed with Board about training opportunity in Grand Island in August, for Local Elected and Appointed Officials about roles and responsibilities that officials play in a disaster and supporting emergency incident management. Clark, recommended that officials attend that it is a good half day conference.

Adrian Chlopek, Clerk budget proposal. Increase in wages and change in insurance due to hiring new employee. Supervisor fund- increase due to wages and insurance. Increased dues/subscrip. and travel due to board members attending trainings. Clerk- Increase in wages and change in insurance due to new employee needing health insurance. Taking insurance incentive to \$0.00 as it will not be needed. Increased dues/subscrip. and lodging due to attending more trainings. Election Commissioner- Increase in part time election workers wages due to increase in minimum wage. Increase in office supplies due to needing to purchase a new back up battery for the county machine for election. Did decrease dues and subscrib., last year it was higher due to not having the money the year before. Veteran's Service- Increase in wage. Miscellaneous General- Increase in liability insurance another \$2,000 to \$44,000. Change in photo copier maintenance lower due to moving leases to leased equipment line. Left publishing the same but expecting it to be lower due to the condensed minutes that are published in the newspaper. IT Maintenance has increased, we have a grant covering some but need to budget if we do not have the grant. Discussion on Nance County Transportation, they were not using and when called and asked they said they did not need the assistance at this time. Decided to take that line item to \$0.00 as they have not used it. County audit is a bit larger than what we spent last year, due to needing a single audit this year. VMP Flow through increase due to increase in cost. Economic Development- kept budget the same just took the difference in salary down to professional services. That can be used if needed for grant writers, etc and to still have the budget if something changes for staffing. Economic Development sinking fund transferred \$20,000 in excess funds from economic development fund.

Engel, discussed that the cash reserve for general and road was increased and that is reflected in our cash on hand. County valuation up \$51,000,000.00 from last year. Looking like asking for around \$270,000.00 more in taxes than last year. Levy last year was .296150, this year looking at .306386, about a 1 cent increase.

Moved by Horacek and seconded by Nelson to adjourn.

All motions, except where specified, had the following roll call vote: AYES- Voichoskie, Horacek, Nelson, Crouse, Juracek, Ditter, Cornwell; NAYS-None; Absent-None. Motion carried.

Timothy C. Cornwell
Chairman

Adrian F. Chlopek
County Clerk