



# Merrick County Board Minutes



**October 23, 2018**

The Merrick County Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 9:11 a.m. in the Supervisors Room, County Courthouse, Central City, NE, with Graves, Carlson, Kucera, Weller, Helgoth, Kreachbaum, and Wiegert present. County Attorney Lynelle Homolka was also present.

Notice of the meeting was given thereof by publications in the Republican Nonpareil and The Palmer Journal and the Merrick County Website. Proof of publication is filed in the Clerk's Office. Copies of the agenda were mailed to each Supervisor and kept current and available to the public at the County Clerk's Office.

Chairman Wiegert declared the meeting was preceded by publicized notice and having acknowledged and identified the location of the posting of the current copy of the Open Meetings Act, called the meeting to order and in open session at 9:05 a.m.

**Convene:** Moved Graves, second Carlson to convene as Board of Supervisors at 9:05 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

**Agenda:** Moved Weller, second Graves to approve the agenda as presented. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Minutes:** Moved Kreachbaum, second Weller to approve the minutes from October 9, 2018 as published. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Meeting reports:** Graves attended the Senior Center meeting and Long Term Care meeting on October 17, 2018; Kreachbaum had a get together with the new Emergency Manager; Helgoth attended the Action Partnership conference call on October 17, 2018 and Wiegert attended the Midland Area on Aging meeting on October 11, 2018.

**Official's reports:** Sheriff Westman said they just had a jail standards inspection and it went very well. County Attorney Homolka attended the attorney conference last week and this Friday, October 26, 2018 Senator Friesen will be here to speak to the Through the Eyes of a Child, which is a subcommittee to improve community service opportunities for youth at 9:00 a.m. Drug Court graduation will be November 5, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. Emily Triplett told the Board that the census at Long Term was at 27. They currently have three applications for the cook position. The quality rating is a one star right now and the low census does not help the rating. The financials are at a \$15,000.00 negative because there was the \$11,000.00 cost for the marketing study and there have been a lot of big expenses.

**Standard Maintenance Agreement:** Moved Helgoth, second Weller to approve the Maintenance Agreement with Stanard Appraisals. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Scents in the Courthouse:** Cynthia Catlett from the Roads Department said she is getting migraines from the different scents coming thru her vent in her office from Child Support and Juvenile Diversion. County Attorney Homolka said that they had all met on Monday and tried to resolve the issue. The thermostat in the Road Department also controls the temp in Child Support and Juvenile Diversion which is also a problem for temperature control in all of those offices. Homolka said she felt the cheapest way to fix the problem would be to have a heating & air person come and look at the duct work. The Board said to have McInlays come and look at it and report back to the Board on their findings.

**Diversion drain:** Kucera said that Marvin Fishler could not attend the Board meeting due to a conflict and had asked to have this tabled until the next meeting to discussion right of way along the diversion drain.

**Road maintenance:** Rod Wichmann talked to the Board and Highway Superintendent Mike Meyer about the maintenance of several roads in the county. He asked if the graders had taken a class and Meyer said they had. Greg Greving said that there are two guys in Chapman that would be very good teachers because they do a good job. Greving said that it is costing more money because of needing to put gravel on more often. You can see the difference in where the good graders go and where the ones that need help go. Meyer told them that in five good days the graders should be able to get over all of their roads. Bill Kurz said that he couldn't hardly get down a road with his combine because of all the trees growing in the ditches. Highway Superintendent Meyer said he would handle the issues.

**Public Hearing:** Moved Kucera, second Graves to open the public hearing on the Preferred Popcorn project funded by the Community Development Block Grant Program at 10:00 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Moved Kucera, second Graves to close the hearing at 10:06 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Annual road, street, and highway report:** Moved Kucera, second Weller to have the Chairman sign the NBCS/1A for 2017-2018 annual road, street, and highway report to be sent to Lincoln. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Surplus:** Moved Kucera, second Weller to approve of the Clerk of District Court surplus an old Panasonic TV with VHS that is 23 inches tall and 24 1/2 inches wide with a 20 inch screen as she see fit. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Electrical Agreement:** Moved Helgoth, second Kucera to approve and have the Chairman sign an electrical agreement between Russell Jacobi and the County for an electric utility for his farm between Section 15 & 16, Township 15, Range 4 and Highway Superintendent will correct where the line will go underground. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Extension job descriptions:** Moved Kucera, second Kreachbaum to approve the changes to the County Handbook for the Extension employees job descriptions. Roll Call: All Ayes.



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**Special Designated Liquor License:** Moved Weller, second Kreachbaum to approve the Special Designated Liquor License for Prairie Creek Vineyard for a Christmas Party on December 5, 2018 at the Prairie Creek Vineyards. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**RESOLUTION 2018-13:** Moved Kreachbaum, second Graves to approve and have the Chairman sign RESOLUTION 2018-13 to transfer \$16,000.00 from the General Fund to the Juvenile Diversion Fund that was budgeted for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. Roll Call: All Ayes. RESOLUTION 2018-13 is on file in the County Clerk's Office for public viewing.

**Vieregg Township bill:** Moved Kreachbaum, second Graves to have the Treasurer pay \$20,000.00 to the Road Department for maintenance and gravel. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**County burial:** Moved Kreachbaum, second Kucera to approve paying the bill for the county burial for Mr. Reha. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Audit agreement:** Moved Helgoth, second Graves to approve the Chairman signing the Audit Agreement with the State Auditors for fiscal year 2017-2018. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Supervisor/County Employee:** Helgoth has called Nebraska Disclosure Commission and talked to Frank Daly about whether a County Supervisor could also be a County employee. Mr. Daly said that there is no state statute to allow or disallow it but the county should have a policy in place. Attorney Homolka said that there would be conflict of interest but not sure if you can prohibit it but will check into the legality of it. Helgoth would like this put on the next agenda.

**October 2018 payroll:** The October 2018 payroll was presented as follows: General: Gross: \$142,860.87 Net: \$100,170.34 Roads: Gross: \$54,505.53 Net: \$39,064.30 Juvenile Diversion: Gross: \$5,599.76 Net: \$3,427.50. Moved Kucera, second Weller to approve the October 2018 payroll as presented. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Jail inspection:** Board went to the jail and did their quarterly jail inspection.

**Adjourn:** Moved Kucera, second Helgoth to adjourn at 11:40 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes.

/s/Roger Wiegert, Chairman

/s/Marcia Wichmann, County Clerk