



Merrick County Board Minutes



March 26, 2019

The Merrick County Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at 9:05 a.m. in the Supervisors Room, County Courthouse, Central City, NE, with Kreachbaum, Kucera, Dexter, Weller, Placke, Yrkoski, and Wiegert present. County Attorney 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.

Moved Kucera, second Kreachbaum to convene as Board of Supervisors at 9:05 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

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

Minutes: Moved Kucera, second Kreachbaum to approve the minutes of March 12, 2019 as published. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Meeting reports: Weller attended the Bader Park meeting on March 19, 2019; Yrkoski attended the Central Community Action Partnership meeting on March 19, 2019 and the Long Term Care meeting on March 20, 2019; Kucera attended the Mid Nebraska meeting on March 20, 2019 and Dexter, Placke, Yrkoski, Kreachbaum, Kucera, and Wiegert attended the Central District Meeting in Aurora, on Thursday, March 21, 2019.

Official's report: Treasurer Gilg reported on the tax sale on March 4, 2019. There were 88 parcels sold for 2017 taxes and there are 76 remaining parcels for \$11,669.25 left that were not sold. Gilg also brought up LB463 that deals with Treasurer's Deeds involving title searches, owners being served, and County Board approval of publication. Highway Superintendent Meyer said that muddy roads are a big problem now. They did put rock on the east end of L Road so that Overland and the County could get in and out of there. They closed Prairie Island last night. There are 30 different sites that culverts washed out. Meyer said he will be turning in 150 sites and some of those have been combined because of the location of the damage.

Long Term Care update: Emily Triplett said they have three referrals right now and three Medicare residents. Wood River is going to close permanently and they may see some residents coming this direction. Financially they are pretty solid. March was a little rough because of insurance costs. They are exploring doing pharmacy through the hospital. Kent Carlson has agreed to be on the Long Term Care Board filling the vacancy.

Electric agreement: Highway Superintendent Meyer said the paperwork for the Electric Agreement has an incorrect range on it. It should be Range 6 not Range 5. No action was taken and this will be put on the next agenda.

National Day of Prayer: Moved Kucera, second Dexter to approve the National Day of Prayer be held on the front courthouse lawn on Thursday, May 2, 2019. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Retain counsel contract: Moved Kreachbaum, second Yrkoski to approve and have the Chairman sign the resolution to retain counsel to secure legal advice for labor and employment related matters with Woods and Aitken L.L.P. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Payroll: The March 2019 payroll was presented for payment: General: Gross: \$142,619.97 Net: \$100,573.28 Roads: Gross: \$57,462.71 Net: \$41,088.49 Juvenile Diversion: Gross: \$3,995.29 Net: 1,884.64. Placke said she had submitted a claim for wages in the Assessor's Office from when she first took office in 2003. She was told that since she was not being sworn in until after the first of the month that her wages would be prorated and she could collect that amount at the end of her term. Placke said that she left that office in January 2019 and so those wages should be due to her now. The amount submitted was \$639.51 after current taxes were subtracted. The gross amount was \$700.50. According to the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act and the State Nebraska's Wage and Hour Act the does not apply. This came from the attorneys at Woods & Aitkens LLP. County Attorney Homolka said that a claim for these wages should have been turned in within the first four years of Placke taking office as Assessor in 2003, but if the County Board wants to pay this they can. The taxes would have to be figured off of the 2003 tax rates and then adjusted at the federal and state level for the 2003 year. Moved Kucera, second Weller to approve the March 2019 payroll minus the Assessor's Office payroll. Roll Call: All Ayes. Moved Kucera, second Weller to approve the Assessor's payroll except for Jan Placke's claim for \$639.51 for 2003 wages due to the recommendation of legal counsel. Roll Call: Ayes: Kreachbaum, Dexter, Yrkoski, Weller, Kucera, and Wiegert. Nays: None. Abstain: Placke.

Executive session: Moved Kucera, second Dexter to go into executive session at 10:12 a.m. to discuss strategy regarding pending litigation. Roll Call: All Ayes. Moved Kucera, second Yrkoski to go out of executive session at 11:49 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Adjourn: Moved Kreachbaum, second Kucera to adjourn at 11:50 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes.



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/s/Roger Wiegert, Chairman

/s/Marcia Wichmann, County Clerk