



Merrick County Board Minutes



November 25, 2019

The Merrick County Board of Supervisors met Monday, November 25, 2019 at 9:06 a.m. in the Supervisors Room, County Courthouse, Central City, NE, with Kucera, Kreachbaum, Yrkoski, Placke, Dexter, Weller, 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 9:06 a.m.

Moved Kreachbaum, second Dexter to convene as Board of Supervisors at 9:06 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

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

Minutes: Moved Dexter, second Yrkoski to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2019 as published. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Meeting reports: Weller, Placke, Yrkoski, Kucera, and Wiegert attended the handbook review meeting on Friday, November 22, 2019; Weller attended the Central District Health meeting on November 18, 2019 and the Bader Park meeting on November 19, 2019; Dexter listened to the South Central webinar on November 21, 2019 and then attended the South Central Board meeting on November 21, 2019; Yrkoski attended the Central Nebraska Partner meeting on November 19, 2019 and Long Term Care meeting on November 20, 2019; Kreachbaum attended the Mid Plains meeting on November 18, 2019 and Wiegert attended the NRD meeting on November 22, 2019.

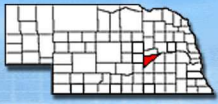
Official reports: Treasure Gilg gave the Board an update on the G.I. Fire Bond refunds saying she hopes to have all of them done by Wednesday. She will be sending out a letter with the refunds explaining why they are receiving the refund. Assessor Myers said that legislature had passed a bill regarding the conversion of soils. Attorney Homolka said they had the final meeting on the handbook revisions and that several revisions will be made to the handbook and it will be brought to the County Board for their approval. She is still finalizing the interlocal with Butler County for inmates and ask that it be put on the next agenda. December 2, 2019 will be drug court graduation.

Long Term Care: No one was present to give an update, but Yrkoski said at the Long Term Care meeting they said they had around 34 residents.

Senator Friesen: Senator Friesen told the Board that there was a lot of pressure for property tax relief. They are working on how to fund schools. The prison system, Friesen said is a mess. State is paying about \$4.00 an hour less than what counties are and so they cannot get enough staffing. Friesen has a safe keeper bill which is if the counties have someone with mental issues they could be sent to Lincoln. Finding treatment providers is a struggle and there is a definite need. Senator Friesen also went over partial payments for real estate that some counties do not accept partial payments but the County Board could pass a resolution so that they can. Friesen said that inmate health care has put more pressure on the counties.

Interlocal: Moved Kucera, second Yrkoski to approve and have the Chairman sign an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Central City and Merrick County relating to, among other things, dirt work and snow removal work effect November 1, 2019 through October 31, 2019. Roll Call: All Ayes.

5th Road: Highway Superintendent Meyer said that he had contacted Casey Sherlock at the NE State Surveyor's Office about how roads in Merrick County came about. Sherlock responded saying that the double lines on the old atlas indicate open public roads and has proven to be the best historical evidence of the existence of a public road. A land owner would like to have clarity regarding 5th Road going north on Elk Creek Road. Sherlock said that since 1899 there was an open public road that went up to the river and then turned and went east along the river to the north line of the section. Meyer said he has found no record of that road ever being closed. Over the years the County has bladed the road and it accesses Tom Santin's place. John Kellogg the adjoining land owner gave the Board a brief history of the road. Kellogg said that the driveway use to be on the west side of the road. The issue needing to be resolved is communication between the Santin's and Kellogg's. Kellogg would like clarity of the width and depth of the road. Tom and Mary Santin were also



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present. Mary Santin said they bought the place from Wayne Lanka and they originally had a route and box number, but a 911 address has been assigned to them which is 499 Elk Creek Road. Their mail box is on the corner of 5th Road and Elk Creek Road. Santin said their current 911 address is very confusing for delivery people because they end up at their neighbors down the road. Santin's are going to build a new home just west and north of their current home and so they had the Sheriff assign them a new address for that home. Their son is going to live in their current house. Santin is not opposed to moving the mail box. Santin said if the Board did a study and or closed 5th Road going north of Elk Creek Road, there would be a lot of other properties in the same situation. The Board said they felt they received enough information from the state and both property owners that they decide not to take any action.

Window bid: Highway Superintendent/Surveyor Meyer presented two bids for a window to be put in his office on first floor. The first bid was from Lesiak Construction, LLC for \$750.00 to open up the interior and exterior window opening and the second bid was from KBL Construction, Inc. for \$993.30 for labor and material to install a new 45 x 56 window in the Surveyor's Office. Moved Weller, second Yrkoski to accept the bid from KBL Construction, LLC for \$993.30 for labor and material to install a new 45 x 56 window in the Surveyor's Office. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Vieregg Township: Moved Placke, second Weller to appoint Sally Schuett, Monte Stelk, and Lynn Wiegert to the Vieregg Township Board until 2022. Roll Call: All Ayes.

November 2019 payroll: The November 2019 payroll was presented for approval: General Fund: Gross: 152,058.01, Net: \$106,143.05, Road Fund: Gross: \$59,569.75, Net: \$42,631.28, Juvenile Diversion: Gross: \$6,350.21, Net: \$4,155.82. Moved Kucera, second Dexter to approve the November 2019 payroll as presented. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Adjourn: Moved Kreachbaum, second Dexter to adjourn at 11:28 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes.

/s/Roger Wiegert, Chairman

/s/Marcia Wichmann, County Clerk