



Merrick County Board Minutes



June 23, 2020

The Merrick County Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, June 23, 2020 a.m. in the Supervisors Room, County Courthouse, Central City, NE, with Kucera, Yrkoski, Placke, Dexter, Kreachbaum, 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 10:12 a.m.

Moved Dexter, second Placke to convene as Board of Supervisors at 10:12 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

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

Minutes: Moved Weller, second Dexter to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2020 as published. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Gravel Bid Hearing: Moved Placke, second Dexter to open the hearing for gravel bids at 10:13 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes. Bids were as follows: Vontz Paving, Inc., Hastings, NE: Area 1 Gravel F.O.B. \$11.15 per ton and Area 2 \$11.15 per ton; Mud Rock F.O.B. Area 1 \$13.25 per ton and Area 2 \$13.25 per ton; Fill Sand F.O.B. Area 1 \$3.75 per ton and Area 2 \$3.75 per ton; Overland Sand and Gravel, Central City, NE: Gravel F.O.B. Area 1 \$11.75 per ton and Area 2 \$11.75 per ton; Mud Rock F.O.B. Area 1 \$12.00 per ton and Area 2 \$12.00 per ton; Screen Mud Rock F.O.B. Area 1 \$20.25 per ton and Area 2 \$20.25 per ton; Fill Sand F.O.B. Area 1 \$3.00 per ton and Area 2 \$3.00 per ton. Moved Dexter, second Placke to go out of the hearing at 10:20 a.m.

Roll Call: All Ayes. Moved Dexter, second Weller to approve all of the gravel bids. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Meeting reports: Weller attended the Bader Park Meeting on June 16, 2020 and a finance meeting with Central District Health June 22, 2020; Yrkoski had a teleconference meeting with Central Nebraska Community Action Partnership on June 16, 2020; Kreachbaum had a Mid Plains Behavioral Health meeting on June 17, 2020; Kucera attended the Extension Board meeting on June 17, 2020 and Wiegert attended the interlocal meeting with Hamilton County regarding dispatch.

Official's reports: There were no official's reports.

Region 3 Letter of Agreement: Moved Kucera, second Dexter to approve and have the Chairman sign a Letter of Agreement between the Regional Governing Board for Region 3 Behavioral Health Services, and Merrick County. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Grand Island Clean Community: Moved Weller, second Dexter to approve and have the Chairman sign a letter of support for Grand Island Area Clean Community System. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Updated grant award: Moved Kucera, second Kreachbaum to approve and have the Chairman sign an updated copy of the grant award for Juvenile Diversion. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Electric Agreement: Moved Weller, second Yrkoski to approve and have the Chairman sign an electrical agreement between Merrick County and Norman Krug to install an electric and wire for new grain bin service between Section 8 & 5, Township 12, Range 7. Roll Call: All Ayes.

RESOLUTIO 2020-21: Jess Brandes read a letter from the Small Energy Wind System and Commercial/Utility Grade Wind Energy System Sub Committee which consists of Jess Brandes, David Miller and Pat Robinson asking for an extension on RESOLUTION 2020-6. Moved Kreachbaum, second Yrkoski to approve and have the Chairman sign RESOLUTION 2020-21 to add a 6 month extension to RESOLUTION 2020-6 adopting a moratorium on accepting any applications or permit requests for new small and/or commercial utility grade wind energy systems due to COVID-19 restrictions. Roll Call: All Ayes. RESOLUTION 2020-21 is on file in the County Clerk's Office for public viewing.

D.A. Davidson: Moved Kreachbaum, second Placke to approve and have the Chairman sign the letter of engagement with D.A. Davidson regarding the County Bonds. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Hearing date: Moved Kucera, second Weller to set a new hearing date for a public hearing regarding the sale of part of the NE ¼ in 21-13-6 for Tuesday, July 14, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.. Roll Call: All Ayes.



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LEOP: Moved Weller, second Dexter to approve the LEOP for Merrick County in RESOLUTION 2020-23 presented by Emergency Manager Denise Ziemba. Roll Call: All Ayes.

COVID 19 Event & Gathering Safety Plan: Extension Education Stuhr presented a COVID 19 Event and Gathering Safety Plan that she had done online after meeting with Central District Health, to the Board. She went over all the questions and her answers with the Board and said that this would cover the County regarding gatherings. If anyone would want to rent the Youth and Education Center they would need to have the health department's approval. County Attorney Homolka said that she did not like questions 19, 20, and 68 because the County cannot require people to wear face masks. Moved Kucera, second Weller to approve the COVID 19 Event and Gathering Safety Plan with the face mask requirement removed from questions 19, 20, and 68. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Fair Board COVID 19: Russ Kucera, representing the Ag Society he would like to see Merrick County moved to phase III and by August phase IV. We are currently at phase II and most of State is at phase III already. Merrick County has a very low amount of cases and no deaths, but because Merrick County is in the Central District Health region, they are still in phase II. Need to go to phase III now to get to phase IV by August. Merrick County will have some kind of fair but a nicer fair is can get to phase IV. Kucera would like the County Board to support going to phase III and let Senator Friesen, Governor Ricketts, and Central District Health Director Theresa Anderson know. Moved Kreachbaum, second Dexter to draw up a letter of support releasing Merrick County and let Merrick County go into phase III and send letter to Senator Friesen, Governor Ricketts, and Central District Health Director Theresa Anderson. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Auditor contract: Moved Weller, second Kreachbaum to approve and have the Chairman sign a 3 year contract with the State Auditors to do the 2019-2020, 2020-2021, and 2021-2022 audit for \$14,750.00 a year. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Budget: County Clerk Wichmann had told the Board last year that she no longer wanted to do the budget. Kucera called accountant and he will do all of the budget starting next year except for entering numbers. Clerk Wichmann will enter all numbers into the budget system and get them to the accountant. This year the Clerk will enter the numbers, get figures to the accountant, look over budgets and let Board know who is over and where so the Board can decide what to do. The accountant will do all of the mathematical figures and prepare the rest of the budget. Wichmann told the Board that they had all of the office budgets except for Veteran Service. Wichmann also told the Board that the Bond budgets they received were before the refinancing. If the Board refinances, they would need to budget more for the bond payments because there would probably be an extra payment on both bonds because of the refinancing.

June 2020 payroll: The June 2020 payroll was presented for approval: General: Gross: \$159,140.66 Net: \$111,656.56, Roads: Gross: \$61,855.67 Net: \$45,031.27, Juvenile Diversion: Gross: \$6,093.58 Net: \$3,960.32. Moved Kucera, second Dexter to approve and sign the June 2020 payroll as presented. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Adjourn: Moved Kreachbaum, second Dexter to adjourn at 12:40 p.m. Roll Call: All Ayes.

/s/Roger Wiegert, Chairman

/s/Marcia Wichmann, County Clerk