



# Merrick County Board Minutes



**October 27, 2020**

The Merrick County Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, October 27, 2020 a.m. in the Supervisors Room, County Courthouse, Central City, NE, with Kucera, Yrkoski, Dexter, Kreachbaum, Placke, 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 9:07 a.m.

Moved Weller, second Dexter to convene as Board of Supervisors at 9:07 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

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

**Minutes:** Moved Kucera, second Kreachbaum to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2020 as published. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Meeting reports:** Yrkoski attended the Central Nebraska Action Partners meeting in Loup City on October 12, 2020 and the Long Term Care meeting on October 13, 2020; Kreachbaum & Wiegert attended the 4H Building Overseers meeting on October 19, 2020 and Wiegert, Kreachbaum, and Kucera attend the wind turbine hearing on October 15, 2020.

**Official's report:** Assessor Myers said her office was busy entering levies they received from the County Clerk and from her office they will be transferred to the Treasurer's system. Sheriff Westman reported the Sheriff's dog has been recertified. There will be a jail standards inspection Monday and Sheriff Benson and Chief Deputy Benson will be in a meeting next week in Lincoln. The Sheriff's Office will host a trunk and treat in front of the Jail from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sheriff Westman attended the Sheriff's Conference the first part of October. Health and human service calls have increased including sexual assaults. They have made a lot of drug arrests also. Westman said the jail has 7 windows in the jail that need to be replaced because most of them do not close and one the glass is broken. The public cannot come into the jail and they are not doing any finger printing in order to keep the COVID out of the jail. They are doing all of the COVID testing outside. County Attorney Homolka said the Sheriff's Office was keeping her office very busy with a lot of drug arrests and mental health issues. Homolka attended the public hearing on the wind turbines and said the Planning and Zoning Commission Board should be commended for all of the work they put into the hearing. There is a subcommittee for the wind turbines and those people are Jess Brandes, David Miller, and Pat Robinson and if anyone has any questions, they should call them. Homolka said the union negotiations committee was to meet Friday with the union but they did not agree to that time so the meeting will be November 5, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

**Long Term Care:** Emily Triplett said their current census is at 29 with 4 referrals. They are looking for a night nurse and offering a \$5000.00 sign on bonus. They lost money in September due to the testing supplies which is well over \$30,000.00. Triplett said there were two employees that tested positive with COVID, 29 residents tested negative and one resident tested positive was is doing fine now.

RESOLUTION 2020-39: Moved Kucera, second Dexter to approve and have the Chairman sign

RESOLUTION 2020-39 to recommit for another three year membership in NIRMA/II. Roll Call: All Ayes.

RESOLUTION 2020-39 is on file in the County Clerk's Office for public viewing.

**Back door:** Safety committee will get proposals on replacing the back door to the courthouse.

**Windows:** A bid was submitted from KBL Construction for Pella Windows for \$1,002.80 a window. Each office five windows. The Board felt they should get more bids and more information on the kind of windows and measurements. The jail windows were bid at the same price but they need to be done for the cost of \$7,091.40 for 1 26x3 fixed frame, tan color, insulated dual tempered, 3 52x19 insulated dual tempered obscure low e, standard duracast block 1 116/53 and 1 66x53 Impervia windows by Pella. This cost is under the \$10,000.00 limit for needing more bids so the Board told the Sheriff to get the jail windows replaced.

**Hand rails:** Moved Placke, second Dexter to go with the bid of \$3,000.00 from KBL Construction to install hand rails between all three floors along the wall. Roll Call: All Ayes.



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**Dispatch interlocal:** Hamilton County did not send the interlocal because they wanted to readjust the interlocal according to their operating costs and the old interlocal is on call volume. County Attorney Homolka advised the board to table this until she get the paperwork from Hamilton County. Moved Weller, second Dexter to table the Dispatch Interlocal discussion until the County Attorney receives documentation from Hamilton County. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Datamaster fees:** The breathalyzer tests are \$40.00 and this fee is paid when the person is found guilty by the court. County Court then turns the money into the Treasurer to be put into the General Fund. There was a fund established for these monies to be used to maintain the Datamaster and purchase a new one when needed. The County Clerk will advise County Court to start putting the fees collected for the breathalyzers into the correct fund.

**Special Liquor License:** Moved Kreachbaum, second Yrkoski to approve and have the Chairman sign the Special Designated Liquor License for Prairie Creek Vineyards, LLC for the Wild Roots Christmas Market on December 5, 2020. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**October 2020 payroll:** The October 2020 payroll was submitted for approval: General: Gross: \$165,536.80, Net: \$113,768.14, Roads: Gross: \$60,190.38, Net: \$43,116.93, Juvenile Diversion: Gross: \$6,318.31, Net: \$4,028.06. Moved Placke, second Dexter to approve the October 2020 payroll as presented. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Adjourn:** Moved Yrkoski, second Dexter to adjourn at 11:08 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes.

/s/Roger Wiegert, Chairman

/s/Marcia Wichmann, County Clerk