



Merrick County Board Minutes



June 22, 2021

The Merrick County Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at 9:05 a.m. in the Supervisors Room, County Courthouse, Central City, NE, with Kucera, Kreachbaum, Yrkoski, Placke, Dexter, Weller, and Wiegert present. County Attorney Shotkoski and Deputy County Clerk Strobel were 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 given 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 Kreachbaum, second Placke to convene as Board of Supervisors at 9:05 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion: Carried.

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

Minutes: Moved Dexter, second Yrkoski to approve the minutes from June 8, 2021 as published. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion: Carried.

Meeting Reports: Weller attended the Central District Health meeting on June 16th. Dexter attended the County Safety meeting on June 15. Dexter, Kucera, Wiegert and Placke attended the NACO meetings that were held in Kearney June 9th thru 11th. Placke also attended the Senior Citizen meeting June 15. Yrkoski attended the NACO meeting June 10th & 11th & also the Long Term Care meeting on June 16th. On June 17th, Yrkoski attended the Modern Livestock Facility tour in Polk County. Kreachbaum stated there was no 4-H building meeting this month, the next meeting will be scheduled in July before the fair.

Officials Reports: Sheriff Westman stated they are getting ready for their fundraiser, "Play 9 for K9 Golf Tournament" which will be held July 10th. Sheriff Westman would also like to make arrangements to present to the board, "The See It, Say It, Send It" Community Empowerment App currently being distributed to Merrick County residents.

Public Comment: Kris Bousquet the Director of Livestock Development for Alliance for the Future of Agriculture in Nebraska (AFAN) & Executive Director of the Nebraska State Dairy Association as well as, Allissa Troyer from the Department of Agriculture, Ag Promotions and Livestock Development for the State of Nebraska, presented a study of the economic impact of dairy processing expansion in Nebraska.

Long Term Care Update: Emily Triplett with Long Term Care presented the current census, visitation and staffing needed as well as a financial update. Triplett brought attention that they are needing a board member replacement. Triplett has reached out to three individuals for this position. Donna Jorgenson is willing to serve on the board for a member who has moved and will need to have approval of the board.

Veteran Service Board Member Approval: VSO Reimers stated that current board member Robert Fuelberth's term will be running out and has agreed to another five year term. Board to appoint committee member Rob Fuelberth to the Veteran's Service Officer Board for another 5 year term. Moved: Kucera, second Kreachbaum. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion: Carried

Resolution #2021-13: Treasurer Gilg came before the board for approval of Resolution #2021-13. Moved Placke, second Dexter to approve the signing of Resolution #2021-13 directing the County Treasurer to issue County Tax Sale Certificates striking parcel #6281.00 from the Resolution. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion: Carried

Special Designated Liquor Licenses: Moved Weller, second Kucera to approve Special Designated Liquor Licenses for Nite Crawlers Bar & Grill for wedding receptions on Saturdays, July 10 & 11 and Saturday's August 21 & September 4, 2021-all to be held at the 4H Building. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion: Carried

Special Designated Liquor License: Moved Kreachbaum, second Yrkoski to approve a Special Designated Liquor License for the Merrick County Ag Society for a beer garden Saturday, July 31, Monday, August 2, Tuesday, August 3 and Wednesday, August 4, 2021 at the Merrick County Fairgrounds. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion: Carried

Budgets: County Clerk Wichmann joined the board via conference call to present the board with the budgets submitted to her office for the boards' consideration. County Treasurer Gilg, also present during the discussion, stated she would like to see an increase in salaries in her office, making her clerical employees more comparable to the other offices of the courthouse. Clerk Wichmann agreed she would also like to see her office in the same standing. Sheriff Westman and County Surveyor/Highway Superintendent Meyer, District Court Clerk Good were also available to discuss their budget proposals.

Tammy Stuhr was available via phone for any inquiries from the board.

Budget Requests brought before the board: Motion Kucera, second Weller to approve the budget request of \$20,457.04, same as previous year, from Region III Behavioral Health. Roll Call: All Ayes, Motion: Carried. Motion



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Placke, second Kucera to approve Central Platte NRD, Midland Area on Aging and Grand Island Area Clean Community Systems budget requests. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion: Carried.

Extension Office Board Members: Moved Kucera, second Dexter to appoint Karen Benner and Cheyenne Rowe to the Extension Board. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion: Carried.

Noxious Weed Report: Weed Superintendent Koziol was not present.

Executive Session: Moved Kucera, second Dexter to go into Executive Session at 12:11 p.m. to discuss personnel for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion: Carried. Moved Kucera, second Dexter to go out of Executive Session at 12:27 p.m. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion: Carried.

Motion Kucera, second Weller to revoke the appointment of Kevin Koziol as Weed Superintendent effective immediately and advertise the position. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion: Carried.

June 2021 Payroll: The June 2021 Payroll was presented for approval: General Gross: \$165,973.93, Net: \$115,963.66; Roads Gross: \$56,145.33, Net: \$40,106.67; Juvenile Diversion: Gross: \$6,486.43, Net: \$4,134.25; Gross Totals: \$228,605.69, Net: \$160,204.58

Moved Kreachbaum, second Kucera to approve and sign the June 2021 payroll as presented. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion: Carried

Adjourn: Moved Kreachbaum, second Dexter to adjourn at 12:36. Roll Call: All Ayes. Motion: Carried
/s/Roger Wiegert, Chairman

/s/Trisha L Fate-Strobel, Deputy County Clerk