

March 14, 2023

The Merrick County Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 9:16 a.m. in the Supervisors Room, County Courthouse, Central City, NE, with Kreachbaum, Jarecke, Placke, Dexter, Weller, Kucera, Wiegert, County Clerk Strobel, County Attorney Shotkoski present. Norm Balliet, Barry Marsh, Tyson Benner, Katie Benner, Emily Soll, Courtney Retzlaff and Ryan Dettman were also in attendance.

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 9:16 a.m. Moved Placke, second Dexter to convene as Board of Supervisors at 9:16 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

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

Minutes: Moved Dexter, second Kucera to approve the minutes from February 28, 2023 as published. Roll Call: All Ayes:

Meeting Reports: Dexter: March 2nd zoom round table leadership training, March 3rd Merrick County Economic Development Board, March 7th Safety Board Committee and March 9th zoom meeting with NIRMA. Placke met with Chris Anderson March 9th to continue discussions regarding utility bill of the old hospital. Jarecke: March 7th Central Nebraska Action Community Partnership orientation in Loup City; Kreachbaum- Mid Plains Behavioral March 1st.

Officials Report: Treasurer Gilg gave an update on the Tax Sale that was held March 6th, 27 parcels sold for approximately \$30,000.00 with 19 bidders present. Clerk Strobel informed the board she had a zoom meeting with NIRMA on March 9th, revisions will need to be made to the County Handbook regarding verbiage. March 16th MIPS will be installing the new budget program in the Clerk's office.

Moved Placke, second Dexter to appoint Chris Starostka, Rick Harrahill and Linda Riblett to the Merrick County Joint Planning Commission for a 3-Year term. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Kucera, second Jarecke to appoint Marvin Fishler and Richard Spiehs members to the Merrick County Board of Adjustment for a 3-Year Term. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Weller, second Kucera to approve the Chairman to sign the SDL Application from Nitecrawlers Bar & Grill for March 23rd, County Fairgrounds for NE Corn Growers Association meeting; Scotty's for May 2nd 1774 Riverside Road North-wedding reception. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Moved Placke, second Dexter to approve the Chairman to sign the Electrical Agreement between Merrick County and Doug Retzlaff-Sections 24 & 13, Township 15, Range 8. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Jarecke, second Dexter to approve the Irrigation Pipe Line Agreement between Merrick County and Doug Retzlaff-Sections 24 & 25, Township 15, Range 5. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Dexter, second Weller to approve the Chairman to sign the Electrical Agreement between Merrick County and Dennis and Paul Jarecke-Sections 3 and 4, Township 15, Range 5. Roll Call: Ayes- Kreachbaum, Kucera, Placke, Dexter, Weller and Wiegert. Abstain-Jarecke. 7-0-1 Motion Carried

Captain Bauer approached the board regarding future fuel purchases for the Sheriff's Department. Moved Kreachbaum, second Weller to switch from Wex Bank to Pinnacle Bank for future fuel purchases with an overall \$25,000.00 limit. Roll Call: All Ayes

Discussion was held regarding future budget preparation while Clerk Strobel explained all of the benefits the new MIPS budget program will provide. No action taken.

Captain Bauer provided a power point handout to the board members regarding the comparison of salaries between the Central City Police Department and the current salaries of the County Deputies. Moved Weller, second Jarecke to approve a \$3.00/Hr. increase for all of the County Deputies and the Captain beginning March 19, 2023. Roll Call: All Ayes

Discussion concerning the utility billing and payments for Long-Term Care and the former hospital. No action taken.

Moved Dexter, second Weller to reject the Boiler Rental bids received from Rasmussen and utility separation project from Rutt's Plumbing/Heating and to cancel the contract with Prochaska & Associates.

Roll Call: All Ayes.

Discussion continued concerning the management and ownership of Long-Term Care. Several members of the committee that was formed at the Town Hall Meeting were also in attendance to give a brief update.

Payroll: General Gross: \$55,164.89, Net: \$39,819.13; Roads Gross: \$26,709.56, Net: \$19,282.48;

Juvenile Diversion Gross: \$3,047.92, Net: \$2,145.96. Moved Kucera, second Weller to approve the February/March bimonthly payroll. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Moved Kreachbaum, second Dexter to adjourn at 11:44 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

/s/Roger Wiegert, Chairman

/s/Trisha L Fate-Strobel, County Clerk