

June 25, 2024

The Merrick County Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, June 25, 2024 at 9:05 a.m. in the Supervisors Room, County Courthouse, Central City, NE, with Jarecke, Dexter, Wiegert, Jarecke, Placke, Kucera, Weller, County Clerk Strobel and County Attorney Kunz 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.

Chairwoman Kucera 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 Dexter to convene as Board of Supervisors convene as Board of Supervisors at 9:05 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

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

Minutes: Moved Jarecke, second Dexter to approve the minutes from June 11, 2024. Roll Call: All Ayes

Meeting Reports: Dexter, Placke, Jarecke, Kreachbaum, Weller, Wiegert, Kucera-NACO county budget and county board workshop in Kearney June 12 and 13; Dexter and Kreachbaum met with Union Representatives June 11; Weller-Bader Park Board meeting June 18; Placke-Senior Center June 18; Dexter, Placke-Long Term Care Board June 19; Kreachbaum-met with Emergency Manager Church along with Boone and Nance counties June 13.

Officials Report: Treasurer Gilg received an \$80 check as a lighting incentive from City of Central City for the new lights on the second-floor. Gilg attended the treasurer meetings in Grand Island last week and she also presented the ARPA report. Highway Superintendent Kunze informed the board the new loader had been delivered; roads employees are working on a lot of washed-out roads. There are a few drainage issues and are currently working with a few private land owners. Kirk Schwarz began his employment with the roads department. Clerk Strobel stated she attended the NACO budget meeting June 12 and the County Clerk workshop June 12 and 13 in Kearney. Attorney Kunz has been communicating with Dana F. Cole & Associates regarding the audit that was handed over to the county.

Zelle Human Resource representative Sedlacek has spoken to three CPA firms that have responded and are interested in preparing the audit and budget for the county. Sedlacek also stated an offer has been extended to Troy Woods as the part time Extension janitor with a formal offer being presented at the July 9th meeting.

Public Comment: Jody Mohr, CEO of Merrick Medical appeared before the board with Kendra Jefferson to introduce herself to the board.

Midland Area on Aging Casey Muzic presented the annual budget request, this year's request is \$11,0002.00. Muzic also explained the services provided for the fiscal year which include congregate and home delivered meals, transportation rides and social activities.

Emergency Manager Church presented the findings for new E911 signage for the county. Moved Jarecke, second Weller to purchase posts and signs with three lines from Midwest Service and Cornhusker State Industries for a total of \$36,537.50 using ARPA funds. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Kreachbaum, second Dexter to approve the renewal of the Region 44 Interlocal Agreement. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Placke, second Dexter to open the Gravel Bid opening at 10:01 a.m. Roll Call; All Ayes

Central Sand & Gravel: F.O.B. \$18.15/T Area 1 & 2, Fill Sand F.O.B. \$4.30/T Area 1 & 2; Hooker Bros. F.O.B. \$14/T Area 1 & 2, Mud Rock F.O.B. \$10.00/T Area 1 & 2, Fill Sand F.O.B. \$4.00/ T Area 1 & 2; Overland Sand & Gravel: Gravel F.O.B. \$16.75/T Area 1 & 2, Mud Rock F.O.B. \$17.50/T Area 1 & 2, Fill Sand F.O.B. \$5.65/T Area 1 & 2; Vontz Paving Gravel F.O.B. \$17.00/T Area 1 & 2, Fill Sand F.O.B. Area 1 & 2 \$8.00/T.

Moved Dexter, second Kreachbaum to accept the bids as presented. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Weller, second Jarecke to approve the Special Designated License for Dubs Pub for a September 28, 2024 from 3:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. at the 4H Building for a wedding reception. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Jarecke, second Wiegert to approve the chairwoman to sign Resolution 2024-12 transferring funds to the Merrick County Sheriff's Office Sinking Fund. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Kreachbaum, second Jarecke to approve the chairwoman to sign Resolution 2024-13 transferring funds to the Merrick County Road Department Sinking Fund. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Jarecke, second Dexter to approve the Gas Line Agreement with Black Hills Nebraska Gas, LLC. Roll Call: All Ayes

Highway Superintendent stated a resident of the Clarks Lakes approached him regarding the private lake development and maintenance. No action taken.

Prairie Island Township surety bond was discussed. Treasurer Gilg received an email from Jeff Schrier from the State Auditors office stating a surety bond would no longer need as the township is no longer operating and all of their assets have been turned over to the county.

Moved Kreachbaum, second Jarecke to approve the county to pay the First Concord Administrative Fee of \$5 per person per month for employees enrolled in the FSA. Roll Call: All Ayes

Building and Grounds maintenance supervisor Maw presented two quotes for service supplies for the courthouse, roads department and extension building. Quotes were made available from Vestis (Aramark) and Jackson Services. Moved Weller, second Jarecke to approve the chairwoman to sign the Vestis (Aramark) contract for the fiscal year 2024-2025. Roll Call: All Ayes

Cash-In-Lieu discussion tabled until the July 23rd meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Special Designated Liquor license applications for the 4H building was discussed. Moved Jarecke, second Dexter directing the County Attorney to send out letters to reserved contracts regarding a possible issue with liquor sales. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Dexter, second Wiegert to move into Executive Session at 11:29 a.m. for contract negotiations and needless injury to the reputation of an individual.

Moved Dexter, second Wiegert to move out of Executive Session at 11:41 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Dexter, second Wiegert to approve the chairwoman to sign the Planning & Zoning Interlocal Agreement with Hamilton County. Roll Call: All Ayes

Budget discussion continued. Moved Jarecke, second Dexter to approve up to a 2.5% wage increase effective July 1, 2024 for the employees with the possibility of another increase before final budget is approved. Roll Call; All Ayes

Moved Placke, second Dexter to moved into Executive Session at 12:13 p.m. for contract negotiations. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Dexter, second Jarecke to move out of Executive Session at 12:40 p.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Kreachbaum, second Dexter to approve the new agreement between Merrick County and Local Union #1597 as presented. Roll Call: All Ayes

GENERAL	EAKES OFFICE PLUS	SUPPLIES	\$1,611.14
	KEARNEY POLICE DEPARTMENT	L.E. TRAINING	\$311.00
	MARIA RODRIGUEZ	SUPPLIES	\$253.84
TOTAL			\$2,175.98

Moved Jarecke, second Dexter to approve the Kearney Police Department, Maria Rodriguez and County Court Claims as presented. Roll Call: All Ayes

General Gross: \$86,589.41, Net: \$60,782.18; Roads Gross: \$31,004.77, Net: 23,123.80; Juvenile Diversion Gross: \$3,391.49, Net: \$2,295.45

Moved Kreachbaum, second Dexter to approve the payroll as presented. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Dexter, second Kreachbaum to adjourn at 12:59 p.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

/s/Carolyn Kucera, Chairwoman

/s/Trisha L Fate-Strobel, County Clerk