

August 27, 2024

The Merrick County Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, August 27, 2024 at 9:05 a.m. in the Supervisors Room, County Courthouse, Central City, NE, with Kreachbaum, Dexter, Jarecke, Placke, Kucera, Wiegert, Weller, County Attorney Kunz and County Clerk Strobel present.

Notice of the meeting was given thereof by publications in the Republican Nonpareil, 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. 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 Wiegert to convene as Board of Supervisors at 9:05 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

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

Minutes: Minutes from August 13, 2024 will be approved at the next board meeting. Corrected minutes were sent to the papers and published on the website.

Meeting Reports: Weller-Bader Park, August 20; Dexter-Safety Committee August 20, Dexter, Placke, Wiegert, Kreachbaum Long Term Care Board August 21; Jarecke, CNCAP in Loup City, August 20; Kucera-Region III August 23.

Officials Reports: Assessor Myers informed the board certifications were sent out August 31 with all certifications are on the website. A settlement was offered for the two TERC cases with no response. HR Sedlacek is working on getting two openings filled in the courthouse. Treasurer Gilg explained borrowing funds with Resolution 2024-16 was not necessary as real estate taxes were being paid. General Fund currently has \$506,340.00. District Court Clerk Good stated the upgrades to the courtroom will be completed by September 6 with the cost being under the original estimate of \$1400.00. Currently there is a tentative letting date of September 23 for the Von Ohlen bridge and a permit application for new driveway is on the county website informed Highway Superintendent Kunze. Clerk Strobel: Office is currently working on the 7th and final petition as well as preparing for the General Election prep. Strobel also contacted SuAnn Engel in regards with the possibility of helping with the budget.

Public Comment: Three minutes was allotted for individual public comment by the Chairwoman. Each person used the time to voice their opinion on placing the Long-Term Care Bond on the November 5, General Election. Kathy Wagner-Archer, Merlene Paulson, Travis Kuchar, Howard Mesner, Dallas Zimelman, Loren Lippincott, Miles McGinnis, Brad Wells, Tracey Deichmann, Sara Wagner, Mandy Kuchar, Noah Broekemeier, Ken Anderson, Kirsten Hermansen-Ryan, Kirsten Fasbender, Don Placke, Mervin Fishler-Central City; Emily Tripplett-Osceola; Melissa Vandewalle-Cedar Rapids; Sally Berney, Sara DeCastro-Palmer; Kathy Wagner, Kim Wagner, Trent Wagner-Archer; Zandra Kalkwarf-Clarks.

Long-Term Care: Melissa Vandewalle provided the monthly update.

Discussion continued regarding the Long-Term Care bond, including tax implications across the county.

Moved Dexter, second Kreachbaum to approve the Long-Term Care bond to move forward to the November, General Election. Ayes-Placke, Dexter, Kreachbaum. Nays-Weller, Jarecke, Wiegert, Kucera, Motion denied with a vote of 3-4.

Moved Jarecke, second Placke to approve Resolution 2024-17 directing the disbursement of money from the Inheritance Fund for the Estate of Robert William Davis, PR 22-22. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Dexter, second Kreachbaum to have the Chairwoman sign the Permit to Perform Work on Public Right-of-Way for Telcom Construction. All Ayes

Security cameras at the Extension Building and Regional Jail will be tabled until next meeting. No action taken.

Discussion continued on the issues found with the last audit. Treasurer Gilg has been the liaison between Mark Avery with the State Auditor and Mitch Inman, Dana Cole & Associates. Third draft has been received and the county is still seeing incorrect entries.

Maintenance Supervisor Maw appeared before the board and informed them there was an issue with the contracts of the service supply. It appeared the Extension and Roads department contracts were signed

inadvertently by employees and hadn't been approved by the board. The Extension contract ends February 2025 (\$699.71) and the Roads contract (\$1411.45) will expire 2027 with Jackson Services. Moved Weller, second Wiegert to pay out Jackson Services \$2,111.16 for their contract. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Placke, second Jarecke to move into Executive Session at 11:32 a.m. for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Dexter, second Wiegert to move out of Executive Session at 11:39 A.M. Roll Call: All Ayes
Discussion continued with the budget.

Moved Kreachbaum, second Dexter to approve the 2023-2024 inventory as presented from the County Clerk, Election Commissioner, County Supervisors and County Court. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Jarecke, second Placke to approve payroll as presented. Roll Call: All Ayes

Adjourn: Moved Jarecke, second Dexter to adjourn at 12:00 p.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

/s/Carolyn Kucera, Chairwoman

/s/Trisha Fate-Strobel, County Clerk