

## **January 14, 2025**

The Merrick County Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Supervisors Room, County Courthouse, Central City, NE, with Kreachbaum, Jarecke, Dexter, Wiegert, Weller, Placke, County Strobel and County Attorney Kunz present. Kucera absent.

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.

Vice 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 9:00 a.m. Moved Kreachbaum, second Placke to convene as Board of Supervisors convene as Board of Supervisors at 9:00 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes Weller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Minutes: Moved Jarecke, second Placke to approve the minutes from December 23, 2024 as published.

Roll Call: All Ayes

Vice Chairman Wiegert called for reorganization of the Board for 2025. Moved Dexter, second Placke to reorganize as Board of Supervisors. Roll Call: All Ayes

Silent vote took place for the Board Chairperson position. Results four votes Kucera, two votes Wiegert and one vote Dexter. Moved Placke, second Dexter to approve the appointment of Kucera as Board Chairwoman with a vote of 4-2-1. Roll Call: All Ayes

Silent vote then took place for the Board Vice-Chairperson position. Results: three votes Wiegert and three votes Dexter. A second silent vote for Vice-Chairperson resulted in four votes Dexter, two votes Wiegert. Moved Jarecke, second Placke to approve the Vice-Chairman position to Dexter. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Placke, second Jarecke to appoint the County Board of Supervisors as the County Board of Equalization. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Wiegert, second Placke to designate paid holidays as in the prior year. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Placke, second Wiegert to set the County Board Meetings on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of every month with the exception of holding a meeting on Monday, November 10<sup>th</sup> due to the Veterans Day holiday on Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Jarecke, second Placke to designate the Palmer Journal, Republican Nonpareil and the Merrick County website as the official means of publication for Merrick County. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Placke, second Jarecke to designate Nebraska Cooperative Liquid Asset Securities System Trust ("Nebraska Class") as a county depository for Merrick County. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Wiegert, second Weller to designate Bank of Clarks, Farmers State Bank located in Silver Creek, Citizens Bank, Cornerstone Bank and Pinnacle Bank, Central City located in Central City and Pinnacle Bank Palmer located in Palmer as the County Depository Banks for Merrick County and NPAIT, NFIT (Union Bank & Trust) as depository. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Jarecke, second Placke to adopt blanket bond of Nebraska Intergovernmental risk Management Association (NIRMA) insured under Certificate of Insurance Master Policy. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Placke, second Wiegert to appoint the Board of Supervisors as the pre-designated Grievance Board along with elected officials and appointed officials. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Wiegert, second Kreachbaum to appoint Clerk Strobel as the NIRMA contact person. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Weller, second Wiegert to appoint Brent Kunze to the advisory committee for the NRD for 2025. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Wiegert, second Jarecke to appoint Brent Kunze as Merrick County Highway Superintendent and to designate him to negotiate Right of Way agreements for Merrick County 2025. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Kreachbaum, second Placke to appoint Jenna Church to the Emergency Management and Homeland Security Program of the East Central Region for Planning, Exercise, Training and Interoperable Communications. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Kreachbaum, second Jarecke to set the E-911 surcharge rates at \$1.00. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Kreachbaum, second Jarecke to keep the meal per diem to \$30.00 a day for travel/meetings. Roll Call: All Ayes

Vice-Chairman Dexter appointed the board members to the same committees as served in the prior year.

Vice-Chairman Dexter appointed the board to the following boards: Bader Park-Weller; Central NE Community Action Partnership-Jarecke; Central NE Housing Authority-Placke; Central Platte NRD-Wiegert; Emergency Management-Kreachbaum; Central District Health Board-Wiegert; Midland Area Agency on Aging-Wiegert, Alternate-Dexter; Mid-Plains Center for Behavioral Healthcare Services-Kreachbaum; Mid-Nebraska Individual Services-Kucera; Region III-Kucera; Senior Center-Placke; Merrick County Development District-Dexter, Alternate-Placke; Litzenberg Long Term Care Board-Placke, Jarecke, Kreachbaum; Extension Board Liaison-Kucera

Meetings: Dexter-January 3<sup>rd</sup> SCEDD board meeting

Officials Report: Anna Sedlacek informed the board two interviews were going to be conducted for the corrections position. January 28<sup>th</sup> personnel will start working on the handbook. Clerk Strobel stated that Mead Township had turned over their books due to wanting to dissolve. Strobel also mentioned Andrew Simmons will no longer be doing the budgets for the townships. Treasurer Gilg reported on the tax collections receiving 13.44% to date. Hamilton County now has DMV available at their courthouse.

Moved Kreachbaum, second Wiegert to approve the addendum to agreement between IBEW and County of Merrick. This Addendum shall become effective January 9, 2025 through June 30, 2027. This addendum states that any Holiday not in the Union agreement, that is observed by the Merrick County Government, will automatically apply to the bargaining unit as well. Roll Call: Ayes-Weller, Placke, Kreachbaum, Wiegert and Dexter. Nays-Jarecke. Motion carried with a vote of 5-1.

Moved Placke, second Wiegert to appoint Ashley Hake and Karen Benner to the Extension Board. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Jarecke, second Kreachbaum to approve the SDL Application received from the Independent Club JAP, LLC for February 1, 2025 at the 4-H Building for the Chamber Gala 4:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Jarecke, second Kreachbaum to hire RDG Planning & Design. Roll Call: Ayes-Placke, Wiegert, Jarecke, Kreachbaum, Dexter; Nays-Weller. Motion carried with a vote of 5-1.

Moved Weller to pursue private ownership of Long-Term Care. The county will organize a committee to reach out to private investors that may include Bryan Health to own the beds. The county will continue to maintain and remain open until a private investor has a new facility constructed. If the new owner did not want to own the current facility the county would sell the facility separately. Motion died due to lack of second.

Moved Jarecke, second Kreachbaum to move forward in hiring RDG Planning & Design. Roll Call: Discussion regarding Long-Term Care continued with two fee proposals received from CMBA Architects for a lump sum of \$85,600 and RDG Planning & Design for Phase 1 \$28,000.00 for the building assessment.

Moved Jarecke, second Kreachbaum to hire RDG Planning & Design. Roll Call: Ayes-Placke, Wiegert, Jarecke, Kreachbaum, Dexter; Nays-Weller. Motion carried with a vote of 5-1.

Treasurer Gilg presented the Semi-Annual Report.

Moved Jarecke, second Wiegert to approve the Enhancement Grant Application for Juvenile Diversion. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Jarecke, second Weller to approve the County Bridge Match Program between Merrick County and State of Nebraska, Department of Transportation. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Wiegert, second Kreachbaum to approve the Structure No C0006122410 Replacement with Oak Creek Engineering. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Wiegert, second Weller to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> Road Asphalt Overlay with Oak Creek Engineering.  
Roll Call: All Ayes

Discussion on the possibility of paying claims twice a month instead of once a month. No action taken.  
Moved Placke, second Wiegert to move into Executive Session at 10:49 a.m. for contract negotiations.  
Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Placke, second Jarecke to move out of Executive Session at 11:16 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Place, second Weller to increase the Highway Superintendent's annual salary to \$72,300.00 effective July 1, 2024. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Jarecke, second Wiegert to approve the December Fees as presented by District Court, County Sheriff and County Clerk offices. Roll Call: All Ayes

<b>GENERAL</b>	ANIMAL HEALTH INTERNATIONAL NEBR	SUPPLIES	\$297.00
	APPLIED CONNECTIVE TECHNOLOGIES	SERVICE AGREE	\$240.00
	AT&T MOBILITY	PHONE SERVICE	\$1,139.54
	BENCHMARK GOVERNMENT SOLUTIONS	TRAINING	\$558.80
	BLUE360 MEDIA	LIBRARY	\$298.35
	BOB BARKER COMPANY, INC	JAIL SUPPLIES	\$7.38
	BOMGAARS	EQUIPMENT	\$113.45
	BRYAN HEALTH	PRISONER HC	\$297.77
	CANDLEWOOD SUITES	LODGING	\$2,998.80
	CARDIO PARTNERS INC	EQUIPMENT	\$1,257.48
	CASH-WA DISTRIBUTING	PRISONER FOOD	\$1,768.29
	CENTRAL CITY MALL	FUEL	\$17.00
	CENTRAL CITY MALL	PRISONER FOOD	\$161.45
	CENTRAL PLAINS VALUATION LLC	MAINTAINANCE	\$3,696.00
	CENTRAL TRUE VALUE	SUPPLIES	\$44.69
	CENTRAL TRUE VALUE	SUPPLIES	\$39.90
	CENTRAL TRUE VALUE	EQUIPMENT	\$45.98
	CENTURY LINK	PHONE SERVICES	\$315.92
	CITIZENS BANK & TRUST COMPANY	RENTAL FEE	\$8.00
	CITY OF CENTRAL CITY	OLD HOSP-UTIL	\$2,994.19
	CITY OF CENTRAL CITY/ UTILITIES	UTILITIES	\$2,676.68
	CITY OF G.I. UTILITIES DEPT	UTILITIES	\$15.75
	CLAY COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT	COURT EXPENSES	\$24.42
	CULLIGAN OF GRAND ISLAND	WATER SERVICE	\$346.00
	DAWSON COUNTY SHERIFF	BOARDING	\$1,350.00
	DES MOINES STAMP	SUPPLIES	\$76.00
	ED DEXTER	MILEAGE	\$39.93
	DISTRICT 5 PROBATION	24-25 SUPPORT	\$15,041.65
	DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF	COURT EXPENSE	\$33.50
	EAKES OFFICE PLUS	SUPPLIES	\$59.21
	EAKES OFFICE PLUS INC.	SUPPLIES	\$112.09
	EAKES OFFICE PLUS	EQUIP RENTAL	\$333.67
	EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	SUPPLIES	\$113.26
	EAKES OFFICE PLUS/COCRT	SUPPLIES	\$202.87

EAKES OFFICE PLUS	SUPPLIES	\$880.96
EAKES OFFICE PLUS	EQUIP RENTAL	\$824.98
VIRGINIA FAHNESTOCK	UNIFORMS/ALTER	\$64.00
TRISHA FATE-STROBEL	PHONE/TRAVEL	\$159.48
FIRST CONCORD BENEFITS GROUP, LLC	HRA PLAN BUYD	\$512.00
FIVE NINES TECHNOLOGY GROUP, INC	CYBERSECURITY	\$6,864.18
FLATLAND MOBILE SERVICE	MAINTENANCE	\$378.04
FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS	PHONE SERVICE	\$64.17
GALLS, AN ARAMARK COMPANY	UNIFORMS	\$360.76
GALUSHA ELECTRIC	SUPPLIES	\$105.76
GI AREA CLEAN COMMUNITY SYSTEM	24-25 SUPPORT	\$2,000.00
SHARON GILG	PHONE	\$126.88
GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS	PHONE SERVICE	\$95.88
HALL COUNTY CORRECTIONS	BOARDING	\$440.00
HAMILTON CO SHERIFF	BOARDING	\$4,000.00
HAMILTON TELECOMMUNICATIONS	PHONE/INTERNET	\$3,545.58
DEAN HARTWIG	SUPPLIES	\$34.99
HEARTLAND DISPOSAL	TRASH SERVICE	\$302.94
HOLIDAY INN OF KEARNEY	LODGING	\$124.95
HOMETOWN LEASING	EQUIPMENT	\$355.87
JACKSON SERVICES	SERVICE SUPPLY	\$209.09
JIM'S U-SAVE PHARMACY	PRISONER MEDS	\$38.32
KEARNEY & DESIMONE LAW, LLC	ATTY FEES	\$16,376.41
RUSSELL KREACHBAUM	MILEAGE	\$209.04
AARON J KUNZ	TRAVEL	\$108.54
LEXIPOL, LLC	TRAINING	\$358.61
DOUG MAW	PHONE	\$86.76
MCILNAY & CO	SUPPLIES	\$478.97
MEMORIAL COMMUNITY HEALTH	PRISONER HEALT	\$408.00
MERRICK CO. CLERK	DEED FILING	\$36.00
MERRICK CO. COURT	CO COURT COSTS	\$414.00
MERRICK CO. HIGHWAY DEPT.	TRANSFER FUND	\$205,000.00
MERRICK CO. SHERIFF	COURT EXPENSES	\$55.32
MERRICK CO. TREASURER	POSTAGE	\$174.82
MICROFILM IMAGING SYSTEMS, INC	EQUIPMENT	\$35.00
MID NEBR. INDIVIDUAL SERVICES	24-25 SUPPORT	\$7,668.00
MID-NEBRASKA DISPOSAL, INC	TRASH DISPOSAL	\$166.60
MIDWEST CONNECT	SUPPLIES	\$351.00
DARLENE MILLER	RETIREMENT	\$192.00
MIPS INC.	SUPPLIES	\$323.80
MIPS INC.	COMP SUPPORT	\$7,315.26
MURPHY'S EXTERMINATING, INC	EXTERMINATING	\$80.00
JENNIFER MYERS	MILEAGE	\$129.16

NACA C/O LINDY COLEMAN	DUES	\$100.00
NACO	REGISTRATION	\$210.00
NEBRASKA CLERKS OF DISTRICT COURT	DUES	\$50.00
NE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	INSTITUTIONS	\$183.00
NE WEED CONTROL ASSOCIATION	REGISTRATION	\$150.00
NNTC	PHONE SERVICE	\$269.73
NSA/POSAN	DUES	\$30.00
O'REILLY AUTO PARTS	CAR REPAIR	\$163.02
PALMER JOURNAL	PUBLICATION	\$376.52
PALMER VETERINARY CLINIC	ANIMAL CONTROL	\$236.99
PALSER SERVICE	CAR REPAIR	\$2,629.81
PAPER TIGER SHREDDING	PAPER SHRED	\$173.00
PINNACLE BANK-VISA	FUEL	\$35.06
PINNACLE BANK-VISA	FUEL	\$549.84
PINNACLE BANK-VISA	FUEL	\$664.27
PINNACLE BANK-VISA	FUEL	\$448.07
PINNACLE BANK-VISA	FUEL	\$286.55
PINNACLE BANK-VISA	FUEL	\$596.20
PINNACLE BANK-VISA	FUEL	\$131.29
PINNACLE BANK-VISA	SUPPLIES	\$4,226.35
PLATTE VALLEY COMMUNICATIONS, INC	CAR REPAIR	\$664.95
POAN	EQUIPMENT	\$120.50
PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS ASSOC OF NE	CONFERENCE	\$250.00
QUADIENT LEASING USA, INC	POSTAGE RENTAL	\$516.99
KIMBERLY J QUANDT, AAL	ATTY FEES	\$2,422.80
RAPID FIRE PROTECTION	EQUIPMENT	\$375.00
TOM REIMERS	MILEAGE	\$96.48
RHD PUBLISHING, LLC	PUBLICATION	\$1,075.00
SACK LUMBER	SUPPLIES	\$14.97
SCEDD	SUPPORT	\$2,000.00
SHERRY SIWINSKI	MILEAGE	\$19.26
EMILY SOLL	MILEAGE	\$112.56
STATE OF NEBRASKA-DEPT OF ADM SRVC	TELETYPE	\$1,715.60
STERLING COMMISSARY LLC	JAIL SUPPLIES	\$164.97
STORE MORE STORE	EQUIPMENT	\$825.36
GLORIA TAGGE	RETIREMENT	\$156.00
THOMSON REUTERS-WEST	LAW LIBRARY	\$1,002.84
TRAV'S USAVE PHARMACY	PRISONER MEDS	\$140.02
STEPHEN R.W. TWISS	FEES	\$98.00
VALLEY COUNTY SHERIFF	BOARDING	\$50.00
PINNACLE BANK	DUES	\$503.90
KARA WELLS	MILEAGE	\$119.26
WHITNEY, NEWMAN, MERSCH,	ATTORNEY FEES	\$4,979.07

	ROGER WIEGERT	MILEAGE	\$76.92
	WILLOW RISING, INC	SUPPORT	\$2,500.00
	ZELLE LLC	HR	\$5,123.95
<b>TOTAL</b>			\$334,845.23
<b>ROADS</b>	1 TO 1 TECHNOLOGIES	EQUIP REPAIR	\$29.99
	ACE IRRIGATION & MFG., CO.	SUPPLIES	\$50,733.33
	AURORA CO-OP ELEVATOR CO.	DIESEL	\$5,115.75
	BEATRICE SAND & GRAVEL	GRAVEL	\$443.13
	BLACK HILLS ENERGY	GAS SERVICE	\$250.54
	BOMGAARS	REPAIR	\$233.86
	BOSELMAN ENERGY INC	SHOP	\$15,044.30
	CANDLEWOOD SUITES	#11660	\$124.95
	CENTRAL TRUE VALUE/ROADS	REPAIR	\$8.99
	DIAMOND LIME, LLC	GRAVEL	\$862.50
	EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	SUPPLIES	\$279.09
	ERICKSON SEPTIC & BACKHOE	BUILDING REPAIR	\$7,152.71
	FARM & HOME PUBLISHERS LTD	SIGNS	\$245.00
	FRONTIER COOPERATIVE	DIESEL	\$1,876.84
	GALUSHA ELECTRIC	BLDG REPAIR	\$2,032.38
	GRAND ISLAND ACE HARDWARE	SHOP	\$81.50
	GRAND ISLAND ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY	REPAIR	\$28.34
	GRAND ISLAND CLINIC	D & A TEST	\$180.00
	JIM L GRAVES	RETIREMENT	\$168.00
	GROSSHANS, INC./ROADS	REPAIR	\$93.43
	HAMILTON TELECOMMUNICATIONS	PHONE	\$155.24
	HANSEN INTERNATIONAL TRUCK INC	REPAIR	\$436.69
	BUCKY HERMAN	LAND RENTAL	\$720.00
	ISLAND SUPPLY WELDING CO.	SHOP	\$276.35
	MERRICK CO. TREASURER	ROADS	\$7.59
	MID-NEBRASKA DISPOSAL, INC	TRASH DISPOSAL	\$70.10
	MILLER TIRE PROS & SERVICE	TIRES	\$1,556.00
	MIPS INC.	COMP SUPPORT	\$272.46
	MURPHY TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT CO.INC	REPAIR	\$28.62
	MURPHY'S EXTERMINATING	EXTERMINATE	\$90.00
	NEBR. MACHINERY CO.	REPAIR/CONTRACT	\$1,300.62
	NE MOTOR FUELS DIVISION	FUEL TAX	\$861.00
	NSG LOGISTICS, LLC	ICE CONTROL	\$1,870.31
	LEE NEEL	UTILITIES	\$75.00
	NT&T/SHOP	SHOP PHONE	\$80.57
	OVERLAND SAND & GRAVEL	GRAVEL	\$786.58
	PALMER JOURNAL	PUBLICATION	\$35.47
	PALMER SERVICE CENTER	FUEL	\$1,168.90

	PALSER SERVICE/ROADS	TIRE REPAIR	\$702.50
	PINNACLE BANK-VISA	#9553 ROADS	\$441.38
	RDO TRUCK CENTER COMPANY	REPAIR	\$41.36
	RHD PUBLISHING, LLC	PUBLICATION	\$22.05
	SACK LUMBER CO./ROADS	REPAIR	\$128.91
	SAPP BROS. INC	DIESEL	\$1,249.31
	SOUTHERN POWER DISTRICT	ELECTRICITY	\$668.03
	T & R AUTO PARTS	SHOP SUPPLY	\$45.67
	VERIZON	PHONE SERVICE	\$303.05
	VERIZON WIRELESS	PHONE/RENTAL	\$237.44
<b>TOTAL</b>			\$98,585.84

<b>JUV DIV</b>	EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	SUPPLIES	\$80.22
	STACEY HARLOW	MILEAGE	\$52.53
	MERRICK CO. TREASURER	JV	\$4.14
	US CELLULAR	PHONE SERVICE	\$264.14
	3RD MILLENNIUM CLASSROOMS	EDUCATION	\$135.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			\$536.03

<b>DRUG CRT</b>	DISTRICT 5 PROBATION	DRUG COURT EXP	\$100.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			\$100.00

<b>4H BLDG</b>	CITY OF CENTRAL CITY	UTILITIES	\$1,626.65
	NEBRASKA FIRE SPRINKLER	INSPECTION	\$350.00
	NEBRASKA HEATING & AIR, INC	DIAGNOSTIC FEE	\$162.39
<b>TOTAL</b>			\$2,139.04

Moved Weller, second Placke to approve the January claims as presented. Roll Call: All Ayes

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

Moved Wiegert, second Placke to adjourn at 11:24 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

/s/Ed Dexter, Vice-Chairman

/s/Trisha L Fate-Strobel, County Clerk