

## **January 28, 2025**

The Merrick County Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Supervisors Room, County Courthouse, Central City, NE, with Kreachbaum, Jarecke, Dexter, Wiegert, Weller, Jarecke, Kucera, County Clerk Strobel and County Attorney Kunz present. Placke 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.

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 Dexter to convene as Board of Supervisors convene as Board of Supervisors at 9:00 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

Jarecke absent 9:05 a.m.

Agenda: Moved Dexter, second Wiegert to approve the agenda as presented. Roll Call: Ayes-Kreachbaum, Weller, Dexter, Wiegert, Kucera.

Minutes: Moved Dexter, second Weller to approve the minutes from January 14, 2025 with the corrections of the RDG discussion being duplicated and Dexter attending SCEDD meeting January 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Roll Call: Ayes-Kreachbaum, Wiegert, Dexter, Weller. Abstain-Kucera

Jarecke present 9:08 a.m.

Meeting Reports: Long Term Care-Dexter and Kreachbaum January 15<sup>th</sup>; Central District Health-Wiegert January 27<sup>th</sup>; Region III January 24<sup>th</sup> and MNIS conference call January 28<sup>th</sup>-Kucera.

Officials Reports: Assessor Myers reported she had received final notice on the 2024 TERC hearings.

Anna Sedlacek, Human Resources, stated the handbook meeting will be held after the board meeting today. There are also corrections officer and deputy positions that are being currently interviewed and tested. Treasurer Gilg presented the Distress Warrant Report. The report shows 34 distress warrants totaling \$15,052.30 were giving to the Sheriff's Department. 33 warrants were collected with one warrant returned unsatisfied in the amount of \$40.22 due to the passing of the individual.

Clerk Strobel informed the board the random IRS Audit on 1099's from 2021 has been completed.

Potential withholding tax to be paid to the IRS from the county was \$19,997.00, however all eight entities reported back to Strobel resulting in a zero balance to be paid to the IRS. Highway Superintendent Kunze gave an update on construction projects. Von Bridge will possibly begin in the next two weeks, there is no update on 22<sup>nd</sup> & V Bridge and currently working on easements on the Bader Park Bridge.

Attorney Kunz provided an update on the Child Support position.

Brady Myers, Lane Moetl, Chloe Jefferson and McKenna Moetl the Merrick County Ambassadors for 4-H were present for the 4-H Proclamation Signing. Chairwoman Kucera signed the proclamation marking February as Merrick County 4-H month.

Jennifer Kearney appeared before the board to discuss her Public Defender contract. Moved Dexter, second Wiegert to approve Kearney's contract with a start date of February 1, 2025 in the amount of \$10,000.00 per month. Roll Call: All Ayes

Melissa Vandewalle provided an update on Long-Term Care.

Treasurer Gilg presented the Distress Warrant Report.

A quote from Heins Lawn was received for fertilizer application. No action taken at this time.

A handout was presented by Kreachbaum for requesting bids to install an audiovisual system in the Merrick County Youth & Agriculture Education Center. No action taken at this time.

Captain Bauer informed the board the ESU Pursuits quote on the fleet has been decreased by a total of \$5600.00.

Hillary Betka, Planning & Zoning came before the board to discuss the Flood Plain Administrator position. Betka explained an individual Interlocal Agreement may have to be written up if Hamilton County so chooses to add Flood Plain Administrator to the Planning and Zoning Interlocal.

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

Moved Wiegert, second Placke to adjourn at 10:12 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

/s/Carolyn Kucera Chairwoman

/s/Trisha L Fate-Strobel, County Clerk