



Clay County Board Minutes



COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Courthouse, Clay Center, Nebraska, June 11, 2019 at 9:00 A.M.

The Clay County Board of Supervisors met June 11, 2019 as per public notice given in the Clay County News on June 5, 2019 a copy of the proof of publication being on file in the County Clerk's Office. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice of the meeting. Chairman Fintel presided with roll call showing the following present: Bitterman, Samuelson, Pavelka, Schmidt, Johnson, Shaw and Fintel. Minutes of the meeting held May 28, 2019 were mailed to the board members. All of the proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Chairman, Ivan Fintel stated that the open meeting law poster is posted on the west wall in the back of the room.

There was no Public Input.

Motion by Pavelka and seconded by Bitterman to approve the minutes of the meeting held May 28, 2019, as mailed. On roll call, yea: Samuelson, Pavelka, Johnson, Shaw, Bitterman and Fintel; abstain: Schmidt. Motion carried.

Thomas Roemmich II, Highway Superintendent reported on culvert work. The Board discussed calls/concerns they had received about roads.

The Road work report was presented. Motion by Schmidt and seconded by Samuelson to approve the Highway Superintendent's road work report for the month of May 2019. On roll call, yea: Pavelka, Schmidt, Johnson, Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson and Fintel. Motion carried.

For the EM update, Tom discussed options for putting up antennae in different parts of the county. 70' poles can be purchased from the power company for around \$1000.00 a piece and the power company would help set them. This would be cheaper than putting up a tower.

At 9:15 A.M. the bids for a motor grader were opened. Representatives from Murphy Tractor and Equipment Co., NMC, Inc. and Highway Superintendent Tom Roemmich II were also present. Bids were received for:

2019 Caterpillar 140M3 for \$280,808.00 and offered trade in value of \$90,150.00 for a 2011 Caterpillar 140M for a purchase price of \$190,658.00.

2019 John Deere 770GP for \$253,400.00 and offered trade in value of \$67,000.00 for a 2011 Caterpillar 140M for a purchase price of \$186,400.00 .

The Caterpillar bid included \$10,000.00 parts credit and 2 year/2000 hour basic CSA. Caterpillar has a 5 year/5000 hour premier warranty. Murphy Tractor has a 5 year/5000 hour comprehensive warranty.

The board made their decision after discussing the options with the Highway Superintendent.



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Motion by Johnson and seconded by Pavelka to accept the bid for a 2019 CAT 140M3 motor grader from NMC, Inc. with the 2011 Caterpillar Model 140M as trade for \$190,658.00. On roll call, yea: Schmidt, Johnson, Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson, Pavelka and Fintel. Motion carried.

Jay Bleier, Olsson, Inc. presented drawings of the proposed parking lot at the courthouse. Two options were presented. One has a single entrance; the other has an entrance and exit. The exit driveway would be placed between the two large trees on the south side of the lawn; a small tree would be moved. Either one can have straight in or slanted parking with multiple handicap spaces. The sidewalk on the west side of the courthouse leading to the street was also discussed. Jay proposed taking out the steps by the street and sloping the walk for handicap accessibility; 2 to 3 handicap parking spaces could be designated at street level as well. The condition of the soil under the current parking lot was discussed; a certain amount for over excavation could be included in the specs. Supervisor Johnson asked to table this discussion until the next meeting in order for Mr. Bleier to revise the plans and talk to the grant writer to see if funds are available for the handicap portion. The Letter Agreement was not signed at this time.

Jerad Fullerton presented the work/financial plan that included objectives/goals, plan of action, stipulations and restrictions and cost estimate for services. Jerad reported on calls and activities that he did over the past year. The cost estimate for services for the next fiscal year is 3% more than the previous year.

Motion by Schmidt and seconded by Shaw to accept the Work/Financial Plan between Clay County and the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Wildlife Services (USDA APHIS-WS) for 2019-2020 in the amount of \$6,931.93 and authorize the chairman to sign. On roll call, yea: Johnson, Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson, Pavelka, Schmidt and Fintel. Motion carried.

Employees from the courthouse met with the Board proposing office hour changes. Information on the hours of other courthouses across the state was compiled. The majority feel that an hour long lunch hour is unnecessary. They would like the courthouse to be opened a half an hour earlier to better serve the public on their way to work/school. The offices would be open over noon with employees taking a staggered lunch. Opening a half hour early and with a shorter lunch break, the closing time proposed is 4:00 p.m. in order to keep the current working hours and not require any budgetary adjustments. There was discussion that there could be exceptions and that it could be necessary for offices to be open longer hours during certain times (as dictated by the State, etc.) and all were in agreement with this. Offices with more than one employee would be expected to be open over the noon hour. As a state employee, Julie Bergen, Clerk Magistrate will talk to the State about the change in hours and report back to the Board as to how it will affect her office and the courts.

Motion by Johnson and seconded by Samuelson to change the Courthouse and Health Department office hours to 8 A.M. to 4 P.M. with a half an hour lunch; offices to remain open over the lunch hour; effective July 15, 2019. On roll call, yea: Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson, Pavelka, Schmidt, Johnson and Fintel. Motion carried.



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Deb Karnatz, County Clerk presented the budget requests for the County Clerk, Election Commissioner, Register of Deeds and the County Equipment Sinking Fund. There is no increase in the operating budget of the County Clerk. There will be a decrease in the Election Commissioner budget. The other two functions are non-tax functions; expenditures are being requested from available funds.

Brenda Hansen, County Assessor presented the budget request for her office. The request is less than last year. Brenda also told the Board that the public can now submit personal property schedules online. She said she was a little disappointed that more people hadn't used the online submission but is hopeful that utilization will increase in the future.

Motion by Shaw and seconded by Pavelka to enter into closed session at 10:45 A.M. for a strategy session with respect to real estate purchase. On roll call, yea: Bitterman, Samuelson, Pavelka, Schmidt, Johnson, Shaw and Fintel. Motion carried.

Chairman Fintel went into the main hall and announced the board was going into closed session.

Motion by Bitterman and seconded by Pavelka to go out of executive session and resume regular session at 11:07 A.M. On roll call, yea: Samuelson, Pavelka, Schmidt, Johnson, Shaw, Bitterman and Fintel. Motion carried.

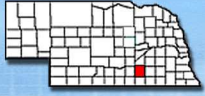
Brad Slaughter, V.P. Ameritas Financial discussed county bonds. He told the Board that up until recently it hasn't been advantageous to refinance. Brad presented a uniform schedule and an accelerated schedule. He will come back next week with more information and a resolution.

Interviews for the Emergency Manager position were conducted. Tim Lewis and Mitchell Naiman were interviewed.

The Fee Reports were distributed. Motion by Schmidt and seconded by Johnson to approve the fee reports for the following county officials for the month of May 2019: County Clerk \$13,871.70; County Court \$11,315.27; Clerk of District Court \$35,786.59; Sheriff's fees \$9,412.00 and County Treasurer receipts numbered 19040047 through 19040057 and 19050001 through 19050036 in the amount of \$226,583.04. On roll call, yea: Pavelka, Schmidt, Johnson, Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson and Fintel. Motion carried.

A Letter of Agency was presented to authorize Clearly to provide telephone services to the Courthouse offices. Motion by Johnson and seconded by Bitterman to authorize the chairman to sign the Clearly Letter of Agency. On roll call, yea: Schmidt, Johnson, Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson, Pavelka and Fintel. Motion carried.

The Board discussed whether or not to add an extra meeting day in July in order to review properties. July 18th will be advertised as the designated extra day if needed.



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The Clerk advised the Board that, after consulting with Gene Ulmer, the hearing to amend the Health Fund budget will be June 25, 2019 at 10:30 A.M. The two offices that had overspent budgets will be taken care of at that time as well.

Employee wages were discussed for the upcoming budget year. A 3% increase will be given to Gene Ulmer, CPA the county's budget preparer to see if that will work for the upcoming fiscal year.

The need for a vehicle for the Emergency Manager was discussed. Friesen's are supposed to be getting pricing and options to the Board.

The NIRMA renewal letter and statement were discussed. Supervisor Johnson feels that the county could save money by increasing the deductible on all categories. NIRMA will be notified of this request.

Motion by Johnson and seconded by Pavelka to adjourn this meeting at 1:25 P.M.; next regular meeting scheduled for June 18, 2019. On roll call, yea: Johnson, Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson, Pavelka, Schmidt and Fintel. Motion carried.

Deb Karnatz, County Clerk

Ivan Fintel, Chairman