



Clay County Board Minutes



COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Courthouse, Clay Center, Nebraska, June 15, 2021 at 9:00 A.M.

The Clay County Board of Supervisors met June 15, 2021 as per public notice given in the Clay County News on June 9, 2021 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 L. Wayne Johnson presided with roll call showing the following present: Scott Bitterman, Eric Samuelson, James Pavelka, Gerald Schmidt, Dick Shaw, Ivan Fintel and L. Wayne Johnson. Minutes of the meeting held May 25, 2021 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, L. Wayne Johnson stated that the open meeting law poster is posted on the west wall in the back of the room. All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Pavelka and seconded by Samuelson to approve the minutes of the meeting held May 25, 2021 as mailed. On roll call, yea: Samuelson, Pavelka, Schmidt, Fintel, Shaw, Bitterman and Johnson. Motion carried.

Thomas Roemmich II, Highway Superintendent reported that the work on Road 317 is about done and then they will move to the Edgar road. The upcoming budget will have increases in operating expenses. A check for one half of the payment from the railroad has been received. Tom asked for a motion to advertise for a public hearing.

Motion by Fintel and seconded by Bitterman to advertise for a public hearing to be held July 13, 2021 at 9:10 A.M. for the purpose of vacating part of Road G between sections 1 & 2, T7N-R8W from the north section line, south for 1600 feet to the south edge of the BNSF ROW line. On roll call, yea: Pavelka, Schmidt, Fintel, Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson and Johnson. Motion carried.

Dylan Ikkala, Development Manager Apex Clean Energy, Inc., Max Jabrixio and Renner Winston updated the Board on the Big Allis Solar project. They are involved in a dispute resolution with the Southwest Power Pool over increased costs. There are two options at this point. A. if the dispute resolution determination is in their favor, there will be a slight delay in the project moving forward. B. if the determination is not in their favor, they will pull out of the queue and refile which would set the project back until 2025 or 2026. If option B occurs, the landowners who signed leases would have the option of extending the lease or they could choose to let the lease lapse.

The Fee Reports had been emailed to the Board prior to the meeting. Motion by Fintel and seconded by Shaw to approve the fee reports for the following county officials for the month of May 2021: County Clerk \$24,550.50; County Court \$8,820.27; Clerk of District Court \$177,694.72 and County Treasurer receipts numbered 21040071 through 21040072 and 21050001 through 21050044 in the amount of \$295,101.30. On roll call, yea: Schmidt, Fintel, Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson, Pavelka and Johnson. Motion carried.

The letter from NIRMA explaining the billing statement and different options for deductibles and increased liability was discussed. It was decided to stay with what we have.

Building repairs at the Services Building were discussed. Nothing was decided.

Jerad Reimers the district coordinator for Congressman Smith's Grand Island office joined the meeting via conference call. He told them that the congressman's office is available to assist



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with any problems or roadblocks that they may run into with any of the Federal programs. The congressman sits on the Ways & Means committee dealing with tax policy and he is opposed to the 30 x30 proposal.

Jeff Franklin, County Sheriff reported that the tax sales are this afternoon. Some of the officers will be doing prisoner transport for district court tomorrow. He is waiting on bids to either fix or replace the roof on the jail.

Michele Bever, Executive Director South Heartland District Health Department presented the annual report for 2020. The report included a spotlight on Covid 19, information on Community Health Assessment/Community Health Improvement Plan, six Areas of Work, Financial Report for July 2019-2020 and 2020 Pandemic Summary. The department was awarded national accreditation through the Public Health Accreditation Board in March. Michele also answered questions from the Board.

Jerad Fullerton presented the work/financial plan and the Cooperative Service Agreement 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 approximately \$300.00 more than the previous year.

Motion by Shaw and seconded by Fintel to accept the Work/Financial Plan and Cooperative Service Agreement between Clay County and the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Wildlife Services (USDA APHIS-WS) for 2021-2022 in the amount of \$7,496.40 and authorize the chairman to sign. On roll call, yea: Fintel, Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson, Pavelka, Schmidt and Johnson. Motion carried.

Michael Sindelar, Extension Educator presented a programming update. He reported on upcoming training opportunities, crop scouting activities and that he is on the planning committee for Husker Harvest Days.

Ted Griess, County Attorney told the Board that he had looked at some maps from the Department of Transportation that shows public roads in the NAD that don't match any other maps or how the roads are used. A task force will be formed to study this.

Motion by Schmidt and seconded by Shaw to adjourn this meeting at 11:10 A.M.; next regular meeting scheduled for June 22, 2021. On roll call, yea: Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson, Pavelka, Schmidt, Fintel and Johnson. Motion carried.

Deb Karnatz, Clay County Clerk

L. Wayne Johnson, Chairman