



Clay County Board Minutes



COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Courthouse, Clay Center, Nebraska, May 17, 2022 at 9:00 A.M.

The Clay County Board of Supervisors met May 17, 2022 as per public notice given in the Clay County News on May 11, 2022 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: Eric Samuelson, James Pavelka, Gerald Schmidt, Dick Shaw and L. Wayne Johnson; absent: Scott Bitterman and Ivan Fintel. Minutes of the meeting held April 26, 2022 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 Schmidt and seconded by Pavelka to approve the minutes of the meeting held April 26, 2022 as mailed. On roll call, yea: Samuelson, Pavelka, Schmidt, Shaw and Johnson; absent: Bitterman and Fintel. Motion carried.

Thomas Roemmich II, Highway Superintendent reported that the crew is done working Road 324 and will move to Road X today. Roads 324 and 319 have been seeded; they will begin working with culverts in the fall. Tom discussed the upcoming removal of weight limits and requested approval to leave the weight limits on the asphalt roads that connect to the MARC, Sutton and Harvard for the reason that construction has begun on Highway 6 and he is already seeing increased traffic on these roads as drivers are bypassing the construction zone; the Board is in agreement to extend the weight limit period for these three roads and requested that Tom prepare and present a Resolution at the next meeting for the Board to review and possibly act on. Tom plans to visit the Director at the MARC today and hopefully also make a stop out at the Guards to discuss the possible upcoming road project. Chairman Johnson will try to be present with Tom during these meetings today if possible.

The Fee Reports had been emailed to the Board prior to the meeting. Motion by Pavelka and seconded by Shaw to approve the fee reports for the following county officials for the month of April 2022: County Clerk \$11,070.75; County Court \$7,493.15; Clerk of District Court \$13,670.46; County Sheriff \$7,742.17 and County Treasurer receipts numbered 22030107 through 22040052 in the amount of \$362,119.83. On roll call, yea: Pavelka, Schmidt, Shaw, Samuelson and Johnson; absent: Bitterman and Fintel. Motion carried.

Chairman Johnson had contact with the State Auditors office to get some additional guidance on some County bank accounts. He will share this information with Robin Gilbert, County Treasurer.

Cassie Aksamit addressed the Board regarding residents of Saronville that came into the County Clerk's office who have interest in purchasing an empty lot in Saronville that sits between parcels owned by said residents. Cassie met with Brenda Hansen, County Assessor, to get value and details for said lot to provide to the Board. The Board agrees that it sounds reasonable to proceed with selling this lot; however, Chairman Johnson will contact John Lyons, Clay County Attorney, to discuss proper procedure for this.

Sharon Hueftle, Director of South Central Economic Development District: presented the Board with the Annual Report of 2021 and informed the Board of the current projects and gatherings and also the Districts goals for future projects.



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Greg Shuck, Weed Superintendent presented his monthly report. There is a door at the Weed Department that is needing some repair – the Board gave Greg approval to find a contractor to repair said door. The Electronic recycling will be June 3rd from 1:00pm to 5:00pm.

Mike Carroll, Custodian reported that the lights in County Court, restrooms and his office have been replaced; the new electrical runs for District Court are finished; the handicap access door has new press buttons for opening; Mike requested approval to purchase a chainsaw for use to clean up trees when storms come through – the Board was okay with this; Mike advised the Board that the concrete approach at the Health Department is deteriorating and he would like to have it replaced in the near future – at this time Mike has painted the step of the approach again, and the Board will wait for Mike to get a bid for the concrete to be replaced; Mike would like to do some landscaping cleanup on the West and South side of the Courthouse by removing some flowers and replacing with bushes – the Board is okay with this.

Brady Rhodes with the Community IMPACT Network met with the Board. The Community IMPACT Network is a collaborative of non-profits and other agencies in Adams, Clay, Nuckolls and Webster Counties. This Network is under fiscal management of the United Way of South Central Nebraska and received funding from the Nebraska Children and Family Foundation. Their goal is to reduce poverty in the Clay County and surrounding county communities 30% by 2030. Brady also presented the Board with the projected costs for this over the next 8 years and the projected annual costs for Clay County. This plan brought about a request for some of the ARPA funds that have been granted to Clay County; the Board will discuss this further.

Jo Bair and Elizabeth Wilson with enCourage Advocacy Center sent information about the organization prior to the meeting. enCourage is proactive in creating a community free from violence, not just reactively responding to crises. The Green Dot program was recently launched and is providing additional resources for the community. This program is backed by research showing it is effective in decreasing violence. The budget request is the same as the past few years at \$5,000.00.

Motion was made by Shaw to add an additional 10% to the budget request and seconded by Schmidt to accept the budget request with the additional 10% of enCourage Advocacy Center in the amount of \$5,500.00 for fiscal year 2022-2023. On roll call, yea: Pavelka, Schmidt, Shaw, Samuelson and Johnson; absent: Bitterman and Fintel. Motion carried.

Dan Schwartzkopf, Jones Insurance Representative, met with the Board to discuss group health plan options for Clay County. The subgroup application from BlueCross BlueShield was also discussed. Due to the 17% rate increase, Cassie Aksamit is to provide Dan with census data so he can put together detailed plan options for Clay County to review at a future meeting.

Brenda Hansen, Assessor went over the Contract for Appraisal Services from Standard Appraisal Services, Inc. Motion by Shaw and seconded by Pavelka to approve the Contract for Appraisal Services with Standard Appraisal Services, Inc as presented and authorize the Chairman to sign the same. On roll call, yea: Schmidt, Shaw, Samuelson, Pavelka and Johnson; absent: Bitterman and Fintel. Motion carried.

Motion by Schmidt and seconded by Samuelson to adjourn this meeting at 11:39 A.M.; next regular meeting scheduled for May 24, 2022. On roll call, yea: Shaw, Samuelson, Pavelka, Schmidt and Johnson; absent: Bitterman and Fintel. Motion carried.



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