



Clay County Board Minutes



COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Courthouse, Clay Center, Nebraska, June 14, 2022 at 9:00 A.M.

The Clay County Board of Supervisors met June 14, 2022 as per public notice given in the Clay County News on June 8, 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: Scott Bitterman, Eric Samuelson, James Pavelka, Ivan Fintel, Dick Shaw and L. Wayne Johnson; absent: Gerald Schmidt. Minutes of the meeting held May 31, 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 Fintel and seconded by Bitterman to approve the minutes of the meeting held May 31, 2022 as mailed. On roll call, yea: Samuelson, Pavelka, Fintel, Shaw and Bitterman; abstain: Johnson; absent: Schmidt. Motion carried.

Thomas Roemmich II, Highway Superintendent reported that the guys continue to work on the Sutton road; Tom informed the Board of a fire on the engine of a motor grader – the report was already made to the insurance company and the repairs are complete – Tom planned to pick up the motor grader today; Tom discussed the two motor graders that are on order and asked the Board how these were to be paid for, Chairman Johnson asked Tom look into the ARPA funds that are available for Road equipment and they will discuss the best option for the purchase of the equipment after Tom gets that information.

John Lyons, County Attorney presented two Resolutions to the Board to consider. The first Resolution was to close existing Cornerstone bank accounts that were managed by the previous County Attorney and have the funds transferred into the County Treasurer's funds to follow instruction of the State Auditor's Office. John will also prepare a Resolution to provide the Fund Lines needed for the Treasurer's Office to continue to operate said accounts. Motion by Fintel and seconded by Pavelka to adopt Resolution #22-12 to close existing Cornerstone bank accounts that were managed by the previous County Attorney and have the funds transferred into the County Treasurer's funds. On roll call, yea: Pavelka, Fintel, Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson and Johnson; absent: Schmidt. Motion carried.

The second Resolution was to amend the County Attorney Contract to increase the wages of the County Attorney. Said Resolution was not approved. Instead, it was decided that the wages would be increased to what the upcoming set salary for the County Attorney is. Motion by Bitterman and seconded by Shaw to move the County Attorney annual salary to \$70,000.00 plus mileage at the IRS rate effective July 1, 2022. On roll call, yea: Fintel, Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson, Pavelka and Johnson; absent: Schmidt. Motion carried.

John brought up the status of the contract with NextLink and believes that even though Clay County engaged in a contract with DataCC in 2020, it is John's belief that said contract did not transfer to NextLink during NextLink's acquisition of DataCC. John is going to continue to look into this and report back to the Board at a future meeting.

Allen Harpham, Flatwater Technologies presented a quote to the Board to acquire the IT and Network Security services for Clay County. Harpham had made a visit to all Clay County Department locations to determine the best technician service options and put together a plan for making the switch to simplifying our workstation technician services and making sure that Clay County has the best option for Network Security. Motion by Bitterman and seconded by Fintel to move forward to switching the Clay County IT and Network Security services to Flatwater Technologies. On roll call, yea: Shaw, Bitterman, Pavelka, Fintel and Johnson; abstain: Samuelson; absent: Schmidt. Motion carried.



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Joni Bitterman, Clerk of the District Court presented her preliminary budget request. The Board had no questions.

Gene Ulmer, Certified Public Accountant for Clay County was present to provide some budgetary worksheets to the Board and offered advice on things the Board can use to consider when receiving the preliminary budget requests of the County Departments.

Dan Schwartzkopf, Jones Insurance presented insurance rate options that he was able to obtain for Clay County. These options were for health coverage only so Schwartzkopf will look at rates for additional coverages such as Dental, Life, Long Term Disability, etc. and bring these rates to the Board again so there is a direct comparison of benefits if the Board does choose to switch benefit coverage in the future.

Mike Boden, Benefits Representative of NACO presented insurance rate options that he was able to obtain for Clay County. Discussion was had on the possibility of continuing some of the benefits provided by NACO even if the County were to decide to move the health insurance benefit elsewhere.

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 May 2022: County Clerk \$8,831.25; County Court \$8,565.53; Clerk of District Court \$43,178.86; County Sheriff \$2,122.04 and County Treasurer receipts numbered 22050001 through 22050058 in the amount of \$370,702.46. On roll call, yea: Bitterman, Samuelson, Pavelka, Fintel, Shaw and Johnson; absent: Schmidt. 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.

The Board revisited the budget request of Horizon Recovery. Motion by Fintel and seconded by Shaw to approve the budget request for 2022-2023 from Horizon Recovery in the amount of \$6,000.00. On roll call, yea: Samuelson, Pavelka, Fintel, Shaw and Bitterman; nay: Johnson; absent: Schmidt. Motion carried.

Cassie Aksamit, County Clerk asked the Board to make a decision on the employee health and dental deductibles and the cash-in-lieu benefits. The Board decided to leave these the same as last year.

Motion by Fintel and seconded by Pavelka to adjourn this meeting at 12:32 P.M.; next regular meeting scheduled for June 21, 2022. On roll call, yea: Pavelka, Fintel, Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson and Johnson; absent: Schmidt. Motion carried.

Cassie Aksamit, Clay County Clerk

L. Wayne Johnson, Chairman