

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Courthouse, Clay Center, Nebraska, July 11, 2023 at 9:00 A.M.

The Clay County Board of Supervisors met July 11, 2023 as per public notice posted in various locations on July 5, 2023 a copy of the notice being on file in the County Clerk's Office. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice of the meeting. Vice-Chairman James Pavelka presided with roll call showing the following present: Scott Bitterman, Eric Samuelson, Glen Becker, Ivan Fintel, Dick Shaw and James Pavelka; absent: L. Wayne Johnson. Minutes of the meeting held June 27, 2023 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.

Vice-Chairman, James Pavelka 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 Samuelson to approve the minutes of the meeting held June 27, 2023 as mailed. On roll call, yea: Samuelson, Becker, Fintel, Shaw, Bitterman and Pavelka. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

Several residents of the County were present at the meeting. Also present were Sheriff Franklin, County Attorney Jennifer Fleischer and Deputy Julich. Sue Hofstetter, Katie Dewees, Brooke Johnson, Nick Schaefer, Dayma Claycamp, James Voorhees, Kristin Tripe and Roseland Bush all voiced to the Board their concerns of illegal drug use, manufacturing and distribution along with purchases of potentially dangerous amounts of chemicals and batteries happening in and around Edgar.

Thomas Roemmich II, Highway Superintendent: provided his weekly road report; an update on the Federal Funds Purchase Program payment to arrive in the Spring of 2024 in the amount of \$244,069.82; the new motor grader is being delivered today; an update on his correspondence to CPI regarding their request to place a temporary driveway to the new CPI Facility on N Hwy 14; and reviewed the easement request of Hamilton Telephone.

Motion by Samuelson and seconded by Bitterman to approve the easement request of Hamilton Telephone to bury fiber optic & empty pipe starting at the SE corner of the SE ¼ of 4-8-6, thence 770 feet West, along the North side of Road 324. All vaults will be placed at the backside of the ROW. On roll call, yea: Becker, Fintel, Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson and Pavelka. Motion carried.

Barb Barnett, Planning and Zoning, presented her report for the 2nd Quarter along with a comparison of previous years; her preliminary budget request for FY 23-24, her request has lowered from last year; and advised the Board of the upcoming Town Hall Meeting on August 16th at the Clay County Fairgrounds along with the Survey available regarding the Comprehensive Plan Update.

Joni Bitterman, Clerk of the District Court presented her preliminary budget request for FY 23-24, her request has lowered from last year.

Haley Malone, Emergency Manager, presented the Board with two quotes for upgrading the emergency radios. Motion by Fintel and seconded by Bitterman to approve the quote from Platte Valley Communications in the amount of \$38,227.00 for the purchase of 14 sets of emergency response radios. Radios will be provided to the Clay County Sheriff's Department, Emergency Management, Tom Roemmich, Sutton Police Department and Harvard Police Department. Clay County will provide up two sets of radios to Sutton PD, Harvard PD, and any other Police Department in Clay County should officers be hired in the future. The radios will be purchased with ARPA funds. On roll call, yea: Fintel, Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker and Pavelka. Motion carried.

Malone presented the Board with a quote from Rapid SOS to upgrade our emergency response software to provide our emergency responders with an accurate location of any emergency call. The software will ping a direct address for a landline call and an address / location coordinates for a mobile line call. Motion by Shaw and seconded by Fintel to approve the quote from Rapid SOS for a 5-year term in the amount of \$2,988.00 per year, with a \$1,000.00 initial set up fee the first year, and authorize Haley Malone to sign the quote approval. On roll call, yea: Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Fintel and Pavelka. Motion carried.

The Fee Reports were emailed to the Board prior to the meeting. Motion by Bitterman and seconded by Shaw to approve the fee reports for the following county officials for the month of June 2023: County Clerk \$19,240.25; County Court \$7,909.75; Clerk of District Court \$6,690.00; Sheriff \$5,937.78 and County Treasurer receipts numbered 23060001 through 23060056 in the amount of \$632,904.81. On roll call, yea: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Fintel, Shaw and Pavelka. Motion carried.

Cassie Aksamit, County Clerk discussed the phasing out of the PERINS (Personally Owned Insurance) benefit option of the Employee 125 Cafeteria Plan. First Concord Group verified that Clay County has had zero participants in this benefit option for several years. Motion by Becker and seconded by Samuelson to authorize First Concord Group to remove the PERINS (Personally Owned Insurance) benefit option from the Employee 125 Cafeteria Plan for Clay County. On roll call, yea: Samuelson, Becker, Fintel, Shaw, Bitterman and Pavelka. Motion carried.

Robin Gilbert, County Treasurer: presented the semi-annual statement. Motion by Fintel and seconded by Shaw to accept the semi-annual statement from January 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023 as presented by the County Treasurer. On roll call, yea: Becker, Fintel, Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson and Pavelka. Motion carried.

Motion by Samuelson and seconded by Bitterman to adjourn this meeting at 10:58 A.M.; next regular meeting scheduled for July 18, 2023. On roll call, yea: Fintel, Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker and Pavelka. Motion carried.

Cassie Aksamit, Clay County Clerk

James Pavelka, Vice-Chairman