

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES

The Clay County Board of Supervisors met at the Courthouse, Clay Center, Nebraska on December 17, 2024 at 9:00 A.M., as per public notice given in the Clay County News on December 11, 2024 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. 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 and presided with roll call showing the following present: Scott Bitterman, Eric Samuelson, Glen Becker, Jim Pavelka, Richard Shaw and L. Wayne Johnson; absent: Ivan Fintel.

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the meeting held December 10, 2024 were provided to the board members prior to the meeting. Motion by Pavelka and seconded by Shaw to approve the minutes of the meeting held December 10, 2024. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

There was no public input.

Thomas Roemmich, II, Highway Superintendent presented the mechanic's report for November and the roads report.

An Easement request was received by Windstream Nebraska, LLC to bury copper cable/line starting at a point 2750' of Road 305, depending on location of cable trouble, on the West side on Q Road, placing 620' of 12 pair buried cable North from pedestal 1032/832CA or placing 690' of 12 pair buried copper cable from pedestal 1032/801CA to new pedestal 1032/815CA, along the East side of the Northwest Quarter of Section 9-5-6. Motion by Shaw and seconded by Pavelka to approve the easement request as presented. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Shaw, Bitterman and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

An easement request was received by Black Hills Nebraska Gas, LLC to bury 4" steel gas pipeline crossing Road K approx. 50 feet South of North Ave Intersection from the NE ¼ NE ¼ of Section 9-7-7 to the NW ¼ NW ¼ of Section 10-7-7. Motion by Samuelson and seconded by Bitterman to approve the easement request as presented. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Becker, Pavelka, Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

An easement request was received by Black Hills Nebraska Gas, LLC to bury 4" steel gas pipeline crossing North Ave approx. 75 feet West of Road L Intersection from the NE ¼ NE ¼ of Section 10-7-7 to the SE ¼ SE ¼ of Section 3-7-7. Motion by Becker and seconded by Samuelson to approve the easement request as presented. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Pavelka, Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

An easement request was received by Black Hills Nebraska Gas, LLC to bury 4" steel gas pipeline crossing North Ave approx. 364 feet East of Road K Intersection from the NW ¼ NW ¼ of Section 10-7-7 to the SW ¼ SW ¼ of Section 3-7-7. Motion by Samuelson and seconded by Bitterman to approve the easement request as presented. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

An easement request was received by Black Hills Nebraska Gas, LLC to bury 4" steel gas pipeline crossing North Ave approx. 95 feet West of Road K Intersection from the NE ¼ NE ¼ of Section 9-7-7 to the SE ¼ SE ¼ of Section 4-7-7. Motion by Samuelson and seconded by Bitterman to approve the easement request as presented. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Jennifer Fleischer, County Attorney was unable to attend the meeting.

Kreighton Baxter, Chief Deputy Sheriff, provided the Board with the quote for the safety equipment for the Sheriff's Department from Axon Enterprises, Inc in the amount of \$116,783.60. Motion by Samuelson and seconded by Bitterman to authorize the purchase of the equipment as presented on a 5 year payment plan. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Shaw, Bitterman and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Jeff Franklin, County Sheriff presented his monthly report.

Mike Boden, Judd Allen and Greg Mooney were present from the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) to continue discussion of the County's health insurance option plans. The County Board will continue to review the options presented at future meetings.

The Fee Reports were sent to the Board prior to the meeting. Motion by Bitterman and seconded by Samuelson to approve the fee reports for the following county officials for the month of November 2024: County Clerk \$6,404.25; County Court \$5,926.56; Clerk of District Court \$39,387.96; County Sheriff \$11,193.65; County Health Department \$2,285.11 and County Treasurer receipts numbered 24110001 through 24110046 in the amount of \$413,243.99. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Becker, Pavelka, Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Cassie Aksamit, County Clerk, presented requests of the Clerk of the District Court and County Attorney for items to surplus. Motion by Samuelson and seconded by Pavelka to approve the following for surplus: purple desk chair removed from the District Court Office, desk, credenza, 2 desks and 2 reception chairs removed from the County Attorney's Office. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Pavelka, Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Discussion of the ARPA Funds reiterated that in the Fiscal Year 2024-2025, the County Board approved expenditures from the Road Fund 0300 of the box culvert project #321 on County Road U and part of the County's fiscal responsibility of the railroad bridge project on County Road X, with the intention that upon completion of said road projects, the Road Fund would be reimbursed by obligation of the remaining ARPA Funds. The projects were completed in the Fall of 2024. Motion by Becker and seconded by Shaw to adopt Resolution #24-18 which authorizes the Clay County Treasurer to make a journal entry to reassign \$497,999.63 of expenditures of the Road Fund 0300 for the box culvert project #321 on County Road U and part of the County's fiscal responsibility of the railroad bridge project on County Road X over to the ARPA Fund 2580. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Shaw, Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried. (Resolution is on file in the Clerk's Office)

Cassie Aksamit, Clay County Clerk, advised the Board of a new payment process for the County Employee HRA Claims that is being activated by Mid-American Benefits. All claims will still go through the monthly claims process; however, an ACH account will be 'pre-loaded' to assist with quicker payment to providers. Motion by Becker and seconded by Pavelka to authorize Cassie Aksamit, the Clay County Clerk, to open an ACH Account at Cornerstone Bank for the purposes of managing the Clay County Employee HRA claims. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Samuelson and seconded by Becker to adjourn this meeting at 11:02 A.M. Next regular meeting scheduled for November 26, 2024. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Shaw, Bitterman and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Cassie Aksamit, Clay County Clerk

L. Wayne Johnson, Chairman