

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES

The Clay County Board of Supervisors met at the Courthouse, Clay Center, Nebraska on January 14, 2025 at 9:00 A.M., as per public notice given in the Clay County News on January 8, 2025 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, James Pavelka, Jesse Mohnike, Richard Shaw and L. Wayne Johnson.

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the meeting held December 31, 2024 were provided to the board members prior to the meeting. Motion by Pavelka and seconded by Mohnike to approve the minutes of the meeting held December 31, 2024. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

The Chairman asked if there was any other old business; there was none.

Motion by Bitterman and seconded by Pavelka there being no further old business, to adjourn the business meeting for the year 2024, Sine Die. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Shaw and seconded by Mohnike to appoint Cassie Aksamit to act as Temporary Chairman. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

The first order of business was the election of the Chairman for 2025. Pavelka nominated Johnson and Becker seconded the nomination. With no other nominations, Bitterman made a motion and Samuelson seconded to elect L. Wayne Johnson as Chairman for 2025. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

The next order of business was the election of the Vice-Chairman for 2025. Shaw nominated James Pavelka and Johnson seconded the nomination. With no other nominations, Johnson made a motion and Becker seconded to elect James Pavelka as the Vice-Chairman for 2025. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

The County Clerk, as acting temporary Chairman, announced that L. Wayne Johnson has been elected as Chairman of the Clay County Board of Supervisors and turned the meeting over to the Chairman.

Roll call was taken by Johnson to commence business for the 2025 year showing the following present: Scott Bitterman, Eric Samuelson, Glen Becker, James Pavelka, Jesse Mohnike, Richard Shaw and L. Wayne Johnson. Motion carried.

Motion by Johnson and seconded by Samuelson to appoint Cassie Aksamit as the NIRMA contact person for Clay County with L. Wayne Johnson as alternate for 2025. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Greg Shuck said he would be the representative on the RC&D board. Motion by Shaw and seconded by Pavelka to appoint Greg Shuck to serve on the Trailblazer RC & D board with Eric Samuelson as alternate for 2025. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Shaw and seconded by Pavelka to appoint Barb Barnett to represent Clay County on the South Central Economic Development District board with Glen Becker as alternate for the year 2025. On roll call, yea: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Fintel, Shaw and Johnson. Motion carried.

Motion by Pavelka and seconded by Becker to designate the Clay County News as the County's official newspaper for 2025. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Becker and seconded by Mohnike to designate the Clay County website as an additional method of publishing notice of meetings of the Board of Supervisors/Board of Equalization for the year 2025; other departments may use this method at their discretion. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Designation of the broadcast media for Clay County was discussed. Motion by Pavelka and seconded by Shaw to designate KHAS radio station and KSNBC Nebraska TV station as licensed broadcast media for 2025. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

The Treasurer submitted a list of banks that are available to hold the deposits and CD's for Clay County. Motion by Becker and seconded by Mohnike that the following banks be named as holding agencies for county funds for the year 2025: Cornerstone Bank branches in Clay Center, Edgar, Harvard, Glenvil, Sutton and York; Waypoint Bank in Clay Center; Astra Bank in Sutton; Pinnacle Bank in Fairfield; NPAIT (Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust affiliated with NACO); Henderson State Bank in Henderson; and NFIT – Union Bank and Trust. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Bitterman and seconded by Becker to appoint Haley Malone as the Clay County Emergency Manager for the year 2025 (January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025). Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Pavelka and seconded by Samuelson to appoint Thomas D. Roemmich, II as the Clay County Highway Superintendent for the year 2025 (January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025). Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Samuelson and seconded by Becker to appoint Barb Barnett as the Clay County Zoning Administrator for the year 2025 (January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025). Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Samuelson and seconded by Bitterman to appoint Greg Shuck as the Clay County Weed Superintendent for the year 2025 (January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025). Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Shaw and seconded by Bitterman to appoint Sara Mertens as the Clay County Health Department Director for the year 2025 (January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025). Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

There was no public input.

The Board of Supervisors and all in attendance had a moment of silence in recognition of the loss of County Employee Harry Kliwer.

Thomas Roemmich II, Highway Superintendent provided a report on the roads and requested permission to advertise for the 1 & 6 Year Road Plan, the asphalt overlay project and gravel bids for 2025.

Motion by Pavelka and seconded by Bitterman to advertise the public hearing for the 1 & 6 Year Road Plan to be held on February 11, 2025 at 9:15 A.M. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Bitterman and seconded by Pavelka to advertise for gravel bids to supply gravel for the county roads for the year 2025; bids to be opened on February 18, 2025 at 9:15 A.M. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Shaw and seconded by Pavelka to advertise for asphalt overlay project; bids to be opened on February 11, 2025 at 10:00 A.M. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Robin Gilbert, County Treasurer presented her semi-annual report.

Roger and Kaycee with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services Department were present to provide information on the conservation program to the Board.

Jeff Franklin, County Sheriff was present. The Board discussed conditions of the jail facility with the Sheriff.

The Fee Reports were sent to the Board prior to the meeting. Motion by Bitterman and seconded by Pavelka to approve the fee reports for the following county officials for the month of December 2024: County Clerk \$21,482.25; County Court \$4,498.03; Clerk of District Court \$17,074.74; Sheriff's fees \$2,584.14; County Health Department \$1,875.00 and County Treasurer receipts numbered 24120001 through 24120049 in the amount of \$10,553,591.11. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

A recommendation for appointment to the Clay County Health Department Board was received and reviewed. Motion by Shaw and seconded by Bitterman to appoint Mary Shipley to the Clay County Health Department Board to fill the vacancy upon the end of term of Laurie Kohmetscher in January 2025. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Cassie Aksamit, County Clerk, requested the Board review a claim of the Health Department to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services for licensure renewal in the amount of \$650.00. The Department mistakenly missed the submission of the claim in December 2024 and would like to have an early claim processed in January 2025 in order to avoid lapse of coverage, which would cause the department to have to put services on hold until the coverage would reinstate. Motion by Shaw and seconded by Becker to approve the claim as presented and authorize the Clerk to pay from the appropriate funds. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

The Board will review the various governing boards that they are currently serving at a future meeting.

Motion by Becker and seconded by Shaw to adjourn this meeting at 12:03 P.M.; next regular meeting scheduled for January 21, 2025. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike, Shaw and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.