



# Merrick County Board Minutes



## **August 27, 2013**

The Merrick County Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, August 27, 2013 at 9:05a.m. in the Supervisors Room, County Courthouse, Central City, NE with Graves, Hahn, Jefferson, Helgoth, Weller, and Wiegert present. Kucera was absent. Also present was County Attorney Lynelle Homolka.

Moved Graves, second Graves to convene as Board of Supervisors at 9:05 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

Notice of the meeting was given thereof by publications in the Republican Nonpareil and The Palmer Journal and on the Merrick County website. Proof of publication is filed in the Clerk's Office. Copies of the agenda were mailed to each Supervisor and kept current and available to the public at the County Clerk's Office.

Chairman Wiegert declared the meeting was preceded by publicized notice and having acknowledged and identified the location of the posting of the current copy of the Open Meetings Act, called the meeting to order and in open session at 9:05 a.m.

**Agenda:** Clerk Wichmann said that there was a typing error on the agenda that on RESOLUTION 2013-30 it should say Hwy 92 not 93. Moved Weller, second Helgoth to approve the agenda as amended. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Minutes:** Helgoth said that his vote on the road agreement should have been yes and Weller said that there was a typing error in the irrigating county roads and it should say There have been prosecutions or There has been. Moved Weller, second Graves to approve the minutes as amended. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Meeting report:** Graves attended a two day meeting for NIRMA last Thursday and Friday; Weller attended the Bader Park meeting; Helgoth attended the Central Community Service meeting last Tuesday in Loup City, Keystone meeting in Columbus, visited the pumping station in David City, and last Friday attended safety meeting in York by Bold Nebraska.

**Official's reports:** Highway Superintendent, Meyer said that Terry Bailey's wife had passed away and that their thoughts and prayers were with the family. They started the overlay in Clarks yesterday. County Attorney Homolka said that she had an issue two weeks ago and tried to research it and the camera recording was not working properly. She called and found out how to reboot the system and it seems to be working now, but a technician was supposed to have been here but has not heard from him. Homolka suggested that maybe the Board would like to appoint someone to take care of the recording system because she is not in a position to do so being the County Attorney. Moved Weller, second Graves to have the Sheriff's Office be the records custodian for the video recording in the courthouse. Roll Call: All Ayes. Chairman Wiegert told the Board that he had received a call for Probation and they are having a meeting in York on September 3, 2013 regarding their space issue. Probation would like someone from Merrick County to attend because there is no space issue in Merrick County and would like to have someone there to collaborate that. Graves and Hahn said they would attend the meeting.

**Emergency Management:** Jan Zurcher, Emergency Manager, and Todd Thalken, officer with the Columbus Police Department came before the Board to explain the Wireless E911 fund and the Holding Fund and how they work. A percentage of the money in the Wireless E911, which from cell phone usage, has to be used for equipment and there are eight counties that need new E911 systems. Merrick County is one of them and the County's cost projection is \$133,000.00 but should budget \$140,000.00 for things that could come up. This equipment would be installed and running in six months. The County will have to pay for the system up front and if they do not have the money, the Public Service Commission would advance the County the money that they are short. The contract would be a seven year contract. The total amount of the contract for the eight counties is \$1,600,000.00. There is \$51,000.00 in the Wireless Fund that can be moved to the Holding Fund now for this. All eight counties would need an interlocal which County Attorney Homolka would need to look over before the County would sign. Call Works is the vendor. Weller said it sounds like we can make it work and Graves said it sounds like we have to make it work. Zurcher will get the interlocal to Homolka for her to review.

**Budget:** Gene Ulmer with Alvin Alms & Company presented an excel form to each Board member with preliminary figures and explained the budget to the Board. Ulmer said that levy would drop and the unused restricted funds would grow to a million if the Board wants them too. Ulmer explained to the Board that this is something that would be a good idea to do because it is a one time deal to raise the roof on the authority. The current figures on the budget are requesting over 7% more in taxes than last year. The Board agreed to let the unused restricted funds grow and then Ulmer went over changes to some of the funds to balance the expenditures and revenues. The Board will vote to allow the 1% increase of unused restricted funds before adopting the budget on September 10, 2013. The Board will have a budget hearing and budget summary on September 10, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. and a special hearing to set the final tax request at 10:45 a.m. on September 10, 2013.



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**RESOLUTION 2013-29:** Highway Superintendent Meyer presented RESOLUTION 2013-29 authorizing Meyer to do a study on the closing of 22<sup>nd</sup> Road between Section 15, Township 14, Range 5 and Section 16, Township 14, Range 5, beginning at the north R.O.W. line of Highway 30 at the Union Pacific Railroad crossing on 22<sup>nd</sup> Road going North 1800 feet to State Highway 92. Moved Jefferson, second Helgoth to approve RESOLUTION 2013-29. Roll Call: All Ayes. RESOLUTION 2013-29 is on file in the County Clerk's Office for public viewing. Meyer went on to tell the Board of his findings and that to put crossing arms up would be a large expense.

**RESOLUTION 2013-30:** Highway Superintendent Meyer presented RESOLUTION 2013-30 to hold a public hearing on September 24, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. to consider the vacation or abandonment of 22<sup>nd</sup> Road between Section 15, Township 14, Range 5 and Section 16, Township 14, Range 5, beginning at the north R.O.W. line of Highway 30 at the Union Pacific Railroad crossing on 22<sup>nd</sup> Road going North 1800 feet to State Highway 92. Moved Weller, second Graves to approve RESOLUTION 2013-30. Roll Call: All Ayes. RESOLUTION 2013-30 is on file in the County Clerk's Office for public viewing.

**August 2013 payroll:** The August 2013 payroll was presented to the Board for their approval. A change was made to an employee's payroll due to duplication of time on the time sheet by the computer in that office: General: Gross: \$ 99,201.30 Net: \$71,617.42 Roads: Gross: \$47,041.38 Net: \$30,852.25 Juvenile Diversion: Gross: \$2,331.33 Net: \$2,043.18. Moved Weller, second Graves to approve the August 2013 payroll with the change made. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Adjournment:** Moved Weller, second Helgoth to adjourn at 12:00 noon. Roll Call: All Ayes.

/s/Roger Wiegert, Chairman

/s/Marcia Wichmann, County Clerk