



# Merrick County Board Minutes



## **January 27, 2015**

The Merrick County Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, January 27, 2015 at 9:15 a.m. in the Supervisors Room, County Courthouse, Central City, NE, with Graves, Kucera, Carlson, Weller, Kreachbaum, Helgoth, and Wiegert present. Also present was County Attorney Lynelle Homolka.

Moved Graves, second Kreachbaum to convene as Board of Supervisors at 9:15 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 9:15 a.m.

**Agenda:** Moved Kucera, second Carlson to approve the agenda as presented. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Minutes:** Graves said that Jefferson's name still showed on the Board and Clerk Wichmann said that Pat Carlson had called and said that the Platte Peer Group would be taking over the Dark Island Trail not Bader Park. Moved Graves, second Helgoth to approve the minutes with the corrections. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Meeting reports:** Graves attended a NIRMA meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup>; Weller and Wiegert attended the Bader Park meeting; Kreachbaum attended the Mid-Plains Center for Behavioral Healthcare Services, Inc.; Kucera attended the Mid NE Individual Services meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> and a Region 3 meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup>; Wiegert, Carlson, and Kucera had an insurance meeting with Strong Financial on Monday, January 26, 2015.

**Officials report:** Treasurer Bolte presented her 6 month report and let the Board know that she was authorizing her Deputy, Angela Kosmicki to be put on the Treasurer's checking accounts for the County. Extension Educator Tammy Stuhr said that they had interviewed four highly qualified people last night and had offered that job to one of them and they have accepted. Graves told Stuhr that the County's insurance company, NIRMA would insure the new 4H building when they get the keys. The County is looking at about \$3,000.00 a year for the insurance. Planning & Zoning Myers said the Nebraska Planning & Zoning Conference will be March 11, 12, and 13 at Kearney, NE and said that if any of the Supervisors would like to attend they should let her know. Sheriff Campbell handed out the instructions for filling out an Employment of Immediate Family Members Disclosure Statement NADC Form C-4 and explained that the instructions say that a public official may employ, recommend the employment of or supervise the employment of an immediate family member if they make a written disclosure with the person in charge of keeping records, County Clerk, for the governing body which is the County Board or a disclosure on the record to the governing body, the County Board. Sheriff Campbell said that his wife was hired for part time by others in his office and approved by the County Board and that he was told by Attorney Pam Bourne, who is a labor attorney, said he could not advertise for the full time position because there wasn't an actual physical position open. He had also talked with the County Attorney and the County Clerk. He did not think he was doing anything wrong and the C-4 Form was filed out and turned in but it was not found in the County Clerk's Office, but was found in the County Attorney's office. Campbell said that he could have continued with the lawsuit but did not have \$8,000.00 to spend, so he settled. Campbell said that dispatchers or jailers doing transports do not have to be armed. The prisoner's are shackled and transport belted. Campbell said his people are jail certified and have taken classes, including an 8 hour prisoner transport class above and beyond the state requirement. The employees in the corrections facility in Hall County and the State Penitentiary are not armed either. Campbell said his door is always open and would like anyone with questions or concerns to come to him personally and he would be glad to visit with them. County Attorney Homolka said that she has had a criminal jury trial for the last couple of days and that she had attended the Nebraska County Attorney Association meeting and had been appointed to the NCAA Board of Directors.

**4H presentation:** Kaylee Hostler and Chase Samuelson gave the Board an oral presentation on 4-H.

**Weed update:** Weed Superintendent Kevin Koziol gave the Board a brief over view and presented his updated evaluation for the weed district. Moved Graves, second Kreachbaum to sign the updated evaluation for the weed district. Koziol also needs the Board's approval to send out personal notices. Moved Helgoth, second Kreachbaum to authorize Koziol to send personal notices out for the County. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Joint Jurisdiction Commission:** Moved Graves, second Carlson to appoint Linda Riblett to the Hall/Merrick County Joint Jurisdiction Commission. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**4H Proclamation:** Moved Graves, second Kreachbaum to approve the Chairman signing the 4-H Proclamation declaring February as 4-H month. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**Payroll concerns:** Highway Superintendent Meyer voiced some concerns his employees had with the payroll conversion and he was assured by the Board, County Clerk, and the County Attorney that no one was being shorted any pay and that the 11 days in December at the end of the month in 2015 would be paid out in January 2016 payroll.



# Merrick County Board Minutes



**Health insurance:** Strong Financial presented the rates for United Health Care to the Board in comparison to the other insurance company rates. Moved Kucera, second Carlson to go with Coventry Health Insurance Option B. Roll Call: All Ayes. Moved Helgoth, second Graves to leave the county share and employee share as it is now for the February premium and the county make up the difference. Roll Call: All Aye. The new insurance will cost about \$20,000.00 more a month than what was budgeted for health insurance. Moved Kreachbaum, second Carlson to authorize the County Treasurer and County Clerk to transfer \$120,000.00 from the Inheritance Fund to the General Fund to cover the increase of insurance premiums for the new health insurance for the fiscal year 2014-2015 last six months. Roll Call: All Ayes.

**County burial:** An application for burial assistance was presented that met the County's General Assistance requirements. Moved Kucera, second Helgoth to approve the application for burial assistance. Roll Call: All Ayes

**RESOLUTION 2015-2:** Resolution 2015-2, a resolution adopting a payroll period conversion option #2, direct adjustment was presented to the Board for approval and signatures. The sheriff's department is wanting to go to being paid for hours actually worked instead of doing option #1 of taking 11 months to get to being paid for actual hours worked and being able to use more than 8 hours of vacation, holiday, and comp pay to do this. This option will be given to any employee of the County who chooses to do this. Moved Graves, second Kreachbaum to approve the signing of RESOLUTION 2015-2 adopting a payroll period conversion option #2, direct adjustment was presented to the Board for approval and signatures adopting a payroll period conversion option #2, direct adjustment. Roll Call: All Ayes. RESOLUTION 2015-2 is available in the County Clerk's Office for public viewing.

**RESOLUTION 2015-1:** RESOLUTION 2015-1 is adding the County Clerk, Sheriff's Administrative Assistant, Corrections, and Dispatch Supervisor to the people who are required to be available 24 hours a day for emergency situations, and they must be able to be reached during office hours and non-office hours to be duly compensated for the use of personal technological equipment. This resolution would also increase the reimbursement to \$40.00 a month instead of \$30.00. This was tabled until the next Board meeting on Tuesday, February 10, 2015.

**January 2015 payroll:** The January 2015 payroll was presented to the Board for approval: General: Gross: \$105,577.51 Net: \$75,410.53 Roads: Gross: \$48,819.02 Net: \$33,654.06 Juvenile Diversion: Gross: \$2,946.67 Net: \$2,072.21. Moved Kucera, second Carlson to approve the January 2015 payroll. Roll Call: Ayes: Carlson, Graves, Kreachbaum, and Wiegert. Helgoth, Kucera, and Weller Ayes on the ones they signed and Nay: Helgoth, Kucera, and Weller to the ones they did not sign.

**Quarterly jail visit:** The County Board did their quarterly jail visit.

**Adjourn:** Moved Kucera, second Weller to adjourn after visiting the jail at 1:30 p.m. Roll Call: All Ayes.

/s/Roger Wiegert, Chairman

/s/Marcia Wichmann, County Clerk