



Merrick County Board Minutes



April 27, 2015

The Merrick County Board of Supervisors met Monday, April 27, 2015 at 9:05 a.m. in the Supervisors Room, County Courthouse, Central City, NE, with Graves, Helgoth, Kucera, Kreachbaum, Carlson, Weller, and Wiegert present. County Attorney Homolka was also present.

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.

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

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

Minutes: Moved Kucera, second Carlson to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2015 as printed. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Meeting reports: Carlson, Kucera, Graves, Weller, Kreachbaum, Helgoth, and Wiegert attended the NIRMA meeting in Kearney on April 17th. Graves attended the Hospital Board meeting on the 22nd and the Senior Citizen meeting on the 23rd; Weller attended the Bader Park meeting on the 21st of April; Kreachbaum attended the Emergency Management meeting in Fullerton on the 22nd and will be attending the Mid Plains Center for Behavioral Healthcare Service later on Monday evening; Helgoth and Wiegert attended the 4-H Building Committee meeting in the courthouse on the 21st of April.

Official's reports: County Attorney Homolka discussed LB605 with the Board. Kreachbaum had stated he went to the Curt Friesen event which the Chamber and Farm Bureau held.

Small Tract Split: Jen Myers with Planning & Zoning came before the board for approval of a small tract split in the SW ¼ of Section 23, Township 12, Range 8 for Mike and Connie Neville because their son is building a house. The Planning & Zoning Board approved the split. Moved Graves, second Kucera to approve the small tract split in the SW ¼ of Section 23, Township 12, Range 8 for Mike and Connie Neville.

Health Insurance: Cynthia Catlett discussed her concerns with the new insurance program. She was notified that after two months of receiving certain prescriptions, they would then have to be by mail order only and this would be mandatory. Carlson stated that unfortunately, this is not a choice because eventually all of the insurance companies will go to mail order prescriptions for higher costing medicine.

Dump Truck/Digger Truck: Highway Superintendent, Mike Meyer approached the board about the possibility of purchasing a dump truck and a digger truck. Meyer stated he budgeted \$180,000.00 for the purchase of a new truck. He is looking at one in Minnesota that they would sell for \$67,000.00 with a box, they would have to add a pusher and possibly cut down the box if needed. Another truck is located in Iowa which has more miles and is \$89,500.00, they have not heard back from them. Meyer told the board he would need to advertise five days prior to purchasing. Moved Kucera, second Carlson to continue to pursue looking into the purchase of a dump truck. Roll Call: All Ayes. OPPD has a 2003 Freightliner on auction. He told the board the digger would come in handy when they would need to dig holes in frozen ground and could act as another boom truck. Homolka stated per statute that 2/3rds of the board would have to approve the purchase. Moved Graves, second Carlson for approval of Meyer able to bid up to \$35,000.00 at the auction of the digger. Roll Call: All Ayes.

Road Department: Kucera brought to the boards attention the very poor conditions of L Road and that the road actually had to be closed over the weekend due to rain. Helgoth asked Meyer when the Riverside roads get gravel and he stated that they gravel the mail routes.

Grant for 4-H Building: Tammy Stuhr was unable to attend the board meeting, but was available via phone. Stuhr said that the grant was previously wrote for \$625,000.00 but would like to write and ask for \$500,000.00 from the Merrick County Foundation. Stuhr informed the board that a notice will be going out that the 4-Her's will be selling brick as a fund raiser and that a county wide informative mailing (flyer) would be going out hopefully, by May 15th to the county tax payers. These may go out earlier if they received some help in preparing the mailings. Stuhr was told to apply for the grant in the amount of \$625,000.00.

Building & Grounds Position: Kucera confirmed they did hire an individual for the maintenance position and the person did accept the position, but then declined the job the next day. The board discussed the possibility of combining the cleaning service with the maintenance position and then changing the wage. The current cleaning contract will be up in June of this year. Moved Kucera, second Weller to advertise that the board would be accepting applications for a combined maintenance/cleaning position. Roll Call: All Ayes. Moved Graves, second Weller to have Heins Lawn &



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Landscape continue mowing the courthouse lawn and apply the first step of the fertilizer application. Roll Call: All Ayes.

SCEDD: Sharon Hueftle gave her annual report on the South Central Economic Development District. Hueftle stated that if anyone knows or needs assistance with a community project, not to hesitate to call them and they will either help or direct them to someone who can.

Payroll: The April 2015 payroll was presented for approval: General: Gross: \$105,144.89 Net: \$74,400.51 Roads: Gross: \$46,860.62 Net: \$31,761.77 Juvenile Diversion: Gross: \$2,836.17 Net: \$1,964.65. Moved Kucera, second Helgoth to approve the April 2015 payroll.

Roll Call: Ayes: Kreachbaum, Carlson, Wiegert, Graves; Kucera to only the ones she signed, Helgoth only the ones he signed and Weller only the ones he signed.

Adjourn: Moved Kucera, second Helgoth to adjourn at 12:15 p.m. following the quarterly visit to the county jail. Roll Call: All Ayes.

/s/Roger Wiegert, Chairman

/s/Trisha Fate-Strobel, Deputy County Clerk