



Howard County Board Minutes



HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S MINUTES

May 24, 2022

A Meeting of the Howard County Board of Commissioners was convened in open and public session on the 24th of May 2022, in the Boardroom, Howard County Courthouse, St. Paul, Nebraska.

Notice of the meeting was given thereof on the 18th day of May 2022, a proof of publication filed in the clerk's office. Copies of the agenda were posted in the courthouse, mailed to each Commissioner, and kept current and available to the public at the Clerk's office.

Chairman Boehle called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. Roll Call: Dave Boehle, Kathy Hirschman, AYE; Gary Rasmussen, Aye. Also present is County Clerk Shawn Burkhardt. Absent is County Attorney Dave Schroeder. Chairman Boehle also stated to those in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is available for review and indicated the location of such Copy in the room where the meeting is being held.

Public Comment

No public Comment

County Road Discussion

Highway Superintendent Janet Thomsen was present to discuss County Roads. Thomsen gave an update on the installation of a culver riser. Thomsen reported on the gravel currently available, currently the county is hauling gravel out of Ord, none of the providers in county currently have gravel available. Over the previous weekend there was damage to several signs in the Cushing area that the department had to be repaired Thomsen reported. Also noted was damage to a bridge due to a tractor incident that resulted in fertilizer being deposited on the bridge. Thomsen was directed to report the incident to the DEE.

Mail

A Thank You note was received from the Village of Farwell for the use of county equipment & volunteer assistance from two Road Department employees.

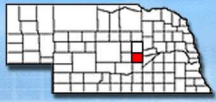
Unfinished Business

SCEDD representative LeAnn Jochum gave an update on the endeavors from the South-Central Economic Development Department is currently undertaking. Among the issues addressed was broadband and the available grants that are currently a 3 to one match for Broadband expansion, which ARAPA funds may be used for.

Approve request to pay claims twice in June

Due to June being the end of the current fiscal year the board was addressing a request to pay claims twice in June. Motion was made by Hirschman and seconded by Rasmussen to approve the request to pay claims twice in June. Roll Call; all Ayes

Midland Area on Ageing Budget Request



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Casey Mazie with Mid-land area on Ageing presented a request of \$16609.00 for the upcoming budget year. Mazie also reviewed the utilization of the services offered and the impact on Howard County residents. The organization is utilizing technology to improve efficiency. Motion was made by Hirschman and second by Rasmussen to approve the request for funding of \$16609.00 in the 22-23 fiscal year's budget. Roll Call; All Ayes.

Veterans board Appointment – Bryce Pearson

Motion was made by Hirschman and second by Boehle to approve the request by the Veterans service officer Don Schuda to appoint Bryce Pearson to the board. Roll Call; All Ayes.

Public Hearing – CUP #2019-5 N ½ of the tract in the NW ¼ of 5-16-10

At 9:15 Motion was made by Hirschman and 2nd by Rasmussen to open the public Hearing Roll call All Ayes. Planning & Zoning Administrator Cheri Klinginsmith was present and reviewed the request for a conditional use permit by George Jensen, renter and Chris & Andrew Mudd, landowners. Klinginsmith reviewed the request as well as the Planning & Zoning board's approval of the CUP. At 9:20 a motion was made by Hirschman, and second by Rasmussen to close the public hearing. Roll Call; All ayes.

Extension Budget discussion – Doug Anderson

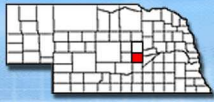
Extension Educator Doug Anderson gave an update regarding the contract position that will result in a claim for \$1000.00 to be paid to Sherman County general fund. The position will be responsible for programing and workshops. Anderson was questioned by Commissioner Hirschman about the Summer work study through the University that the county had in previous years. Anderson reported that he wanted to go with a paid position and not a work study as it is not a great help until after a third year of service, and he hopes a paid employee will return every summer. Anderson stated that the Extension office manages did not like the work study help. Anderson stated that an internship is possibly in the works with the 4-H councils pledging \$500 each toward the intern's cost. Hirschman stated that the budget line item is "Work aid" that the \$1000 claim would be paid out of.

Treasure update Citizens Bank Account signatories

Howard County Treasurer Jackie Synowski requested permission to update the office's account signatories as Marissa Thompson is leaving the employment of the county. Motion was made by Rasmussen and second by Hirschman to remove Marissa Thompson as a signatory on all the County Treasures accounts with Citizens Bank. Roll Call; All ayes.

Approve assistance to city for Recycling Trailer

The proposal to assist the City of St Paul with the recycling trailer hauling was discussed. St Paul City Utilities Superintendent Matt Helzer was present to discuss the logistics of hauling the trailer. County employee Pat Koperski will be doing the hauling with a Count Department of roads truck. Discussion was held regarding the



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fiscal responsibility of supporting the recycling program. The board would like to readdress the support at the September 13th meeting. Motion was made by Hirschman seconded by Rasmussen to cooperate with the city to haul the trailer every other time with a county vehicle and County employee. Roll Call; All ayes.

NACO Medical / Dental plan rates Sub-Group Application

Options were discussed for the Blue Cross Blue Shield Health & Dental plans offered by NACO. All County Officials were requested to be present to review the options and give feedback. The County Attorney as well as the Sheriff were both unavailable as they were reported to be out of the State. NACO representative Judd Allen was contacted via phone to answer questions. Judd questioned the Cash in Lue offering as several county employees that are over age 65 are taking the county health insurance as opposed to the Cash in Lue offered which affects the rates offered by BCBS due to the average age of the pool of participants. Judd stated that as of August of last year there were 5 employees over 65 that were on the county's health insurance. Further discussion was held regarding the plan options. Motion was made by Hirschman and second by Rasmussen to go with the plan with a \$2600 deductible with copay and to maintain the \$2000 buy down of deductible for the health insurance, and the Option 3 dental plan. Roll Call; All ayes.

Complaint filed with Howard County Planning & Zoning

Planning and Zoning Administrator Cherri Klinginsmith presented the board with a complaint filed in her office which Klinginsmith is reviewing. The Complaint was filed by Shelly Helgoth regarding recent runoff on her property that contained manure that was coming from an adjacent property owned by Mamot feedlot. Shelly Helgoth was also present to answer questions regarding the complaint. Klinginsmith is awaiting analyses of samples submitted to Extension. The complaint will also be addressed at the upcoming Planning & Zoning Board meeting. Klinginsmith stated that the culverts need to be cleaned out as they are only half open. The board asked Klinginsmith to contact the Nebraska Department of Environment & Energy to review the complaint. Highway Superintendent Thomsen also joined the discussion and reviewed ways the Road Department may be able to assist. The board will follow when more information is available.

CONSENT AGENDA

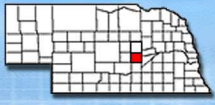
Motion was made by Hirschman and second by Rasmussen to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2022, minutes, and payroll and payroll claims in the amount of \$233352.29 which were audited, and checks drawn on their regular funds. Roll Call; all Ayes

Executive Session Land Negotiation / Possible action

At 11:08 motion was made by Hirschman, and second by Rasmussen to go into executive session. Roll Call; All Ayes. At 11:29 Motion was made by Hirschman and second by Boehle to come out of executive session with no action taken. Roll call; All Ayes.

There being no further business to come before the Board, motion was made by Rasmussen, second by Hirschman to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 Roll Call, All ayes. The next regular meeting of the Howard County Board of Commissioners will be June 14, 2022.

Dated this 24th day of May 2022.



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Dave Boehle

Howard County Commissioners

ATTEST:

Shawn Burkhardt

Howard County Clerk