

HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S MINUTES

May 23, 2023

A Meeting of the Howard County Board of Commissioners was convened in open and public session on the 23rd day of May, 2023, in the Boardroom, Howard County Courthouse, St. Paul, Nebraska.

Notice of the meeting was given thereof on the 17th day of May 2023, a proof of publication filed in the Clerk's office. Copies of the agenda were posted in the courthouse, delivered to each Commissioner, and kept current and available to the public at the Clerk's office.

Chairman Hirschman called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m. Roll Call: Gary Rasmussen, Aye; Kathy Hirschman, Aye; and Jessie Urbanski, Absent. Also present is County Clerk, Brenda Klanecky.

Chairman Hirschman 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.

Pledge of Allegiance- A number of County employees were present to recite the pledge of allegiance. Following the pledge of allegiance, Board Chair, Kathy Hirschman said a few words regarding the life of Jackie Synowski, County Treasurer, who passed away on May 20, 2023. Jackie was employed with the County since April, 1990. Jackie took over as County Treasurer in December, 2013. A moment of silence was held in her honor.

Public Comment- None.

County Road Discussion- Water Drainage Permit. Highway Superintendent, Janet Thomsen was present to discuss with the Board the need of a water drainage permit to keep track of landowner's water running through County ditches. Hirschman made a motion to approve the implementation of a Water Drainage Permit and authorize the Highway Superintendent to approve said permit. Rasmussen seconded the motion. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Absent.

Mail – An email was received from the National Opioid Official Settlement regarding the distribution of Settlement Fund for Payment Year 3 for Howard County in the amount of \$2,027.69.

Unfinished Business – None.

Public Hearing-Open Bids on Replacement of Structure No. C004720520 –Motion was made by Rasmussen to open the public hearing at 9:00 a.m. and seconded by Hirschman. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Absent. Those present for the opening of the Bids were Highway Superintendent, Janet Thomsen and Tom Bokenkamp, CEO of Ace/Eaton Metals. Two bids were received:

Ace/Eaton Metals - \$47,775.40

Delivery Date: August 1, 2023

Midwest Service & Sales - \$53,566.28

Delivery Date: August 23, 2023

Discussion was held regarding the materials used. County employees will be able to complete the project.

Rasmussen made a motion to close the Public Hearing at 9:12 a.m. and Hirschman seconded the motion. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Absent.

Rasmussen made a motion to approve the bid from Ace/Eaton Metals in the amount of \$47,775.40 and Hirschman seconded the motion. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Absent.

GCA Days-Ben Hancock – Ben Hancock was present on behalf of the Royal Coachmen to request the use of Paul Street on July 8, 2023, from 12:00 p.m. through 8:00 p.m. to hold their activities. The Royal Coachmen are in the process of obtaining liability insurance and agree to work with the Highway Superintendent, Janet Thomsen in obtaining road blocks. Hirschman made a motion to approve the request and Rasmussen seconded. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Absent.

Public Hearing – Request to renew Conditional Use Permit-2019-5 – Motion was made by Hirschman and seconded by Rasmussen to open the public hearing at 9:30 a.m. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Absent. Cherri Klinginsmith, Planning and Zoning Administrator and George Jensen were present to discuss the conditional use permit with the Board. The landowners are requesting to renew the conditional use permit and change the duration of the permit from one year to three years. It was noted that there have not been any complaints filed since the original permit was approved.

Motion was made by Rasmussen and seconded by Hirschman to close the public hearing at 9:35 a.m. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Absent.

Motion was made by Rasmussen and seconded by Hirschman to approve the renewal of the Conditional Use Permit-2019-5 with the change of the duration from one year to three years. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Absent.

Central NE Council on Alcoholism and Addictions-Budget Request – Celeste Heavilin Penner, Jessica Vickers and Megan Stapel met with the Commissioners regarding a budget request for fiscal year 2024. The Coalition is looking to sustain the school interventionist position at a full-time-capacity, serving all three school districts in Howard County. The amount needed and requested from the County is \$7,000.00 for FY2023-2024, (\$5,000.00-school interventionist travel) and (\$2,000.00 for travel for an additional intern for Centura Public Schools). In addition, the crime commission has been awarded grant money as well as monetary commitments from each of the school districts. Hirschman made a motion to approve the budget request of \$7,000.00 to be taken out of the opioid settlement fund and seconded by Rasmussen. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Absent.

Memorandum of Understanding- Nebraska Courtroom Technology Transfer Ownership – The agreement is by and between the Administrative Office of the Courts and Probation (AOC), and Howard County, Nebraska, (the county). The Memorandum of Understanding is created to facilitate transfer of audio-visual components, equipment, or full systems(equipment) to be used in courtrooms located in the Howard County courthouse. Rasmussen made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding and Hirschman seconded the motion. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye, Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Absent.

gWorks 911 Agreement – Motion was made by Rasmussen to approve the Support and Maintenance Services Agreement for Howard County NE 911, for one year commencing on July 1, 2023, in the amount

of \$8,757.00. Hirschman seconded the motion. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Absent.

Land Agreement Update – Hirschman gave an update on the land to be purchased from the Howard County Ag society. The Purchase Agreement has been signed by Kathy Hirschman, Board Chair. Currently, waiting for a signature from the Ag Society to proceed.

Code Red Contract- Allen Wilshusen – Allen Wilshusen, Howard County Emergency Manager and Matt Helzer, Utility Superintendent for the City of St. Paul were present to discuss the Code Red Contract. Police Chief, Dan Howard arrived a short time later. Discussion was had regarding the previous year’s use and what defines a general notification or an emergency notification. Rasmussen made a motion to approve the Standard Plus Package in the amount of \$4,450.00. The Contract will run from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024, including authorization to be given to the Emergency Manager to upgrade the plan to the unlimited plan if the non-emergency minutes are 60% used. Hirschman seconded the motion. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Absent.

Front Steps Update– Doug Elting, Contract Administrator with Berggren Architects provided the Board with a written copy of Observation Report Number 3. The last stone will be placed the week of May 29, 2023. New concrete is scheduled for three weeks and the handrail is to arrive in six to eight weeks.

Consent Agenda - Motion was made by Rasmussen and seconded by Hirschman to approve the Commissioners Meeting Minutes for 5/9/2023, Payroll and Claims: General-\$203,323.33 and Roads-\$65,027.47. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Absent.

There being no further business to come before the Board, motion was made by Hirschman and seconded by Rasmussen to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 a.m. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Absent. Meeting adjourned. The next regular meeting of the Howard County Board of Commissioners will be June 13, 2023.

Dated this 23rd day of May, 2023.

Kathy Hirschman
Howard County Commissioners

ATTEST: Brenda Klanecky
 Howard County Clerk