

HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S MINUTES

April 23, 2024

A Meeting of the Howard County Board of Commissioners was convened in open and public session on the 23rd day of April, 2024, in the Boardroom, Howard County Courthouse, St. Paul, Nebraska.

Notice of the meeting was given thereof on the 17th day of April, 2024, 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 8:43 a.m. Roll Call: Gary Rasmussen, Aye; Kathy Hirschman, Aye; and Jessie Urbanski, Aye. Also, present is County Clerk, Brenda Klanecky.

Pledge of Allegiance- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited during the Board of Equalization meeting.

Chairman Hirschman 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- None.

County Road Discussion – Highway Superintendent, Janet Thomsen was present to discuss the following:

Randy Hansen-Window Claim –A claim was received from Randy Hansen for an incident that took place in February. Rasmussen made a motion to deny the claim and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye. Claim will be turned over to NIRMA.

County Right-of-Way and Pivots Watering County Roads - Ms. Thomsen placed notices in the paper this week regarding County Right of Way and also another regarding pivots watering County Roads. Also discussed, was road work currently being done and conditions of roads.

Mail –Verisk, Medical Center is having training for Suicide Prevention, NACO-Open Meetings Law, LB287 and LB43, and the Opioid Settlement from Janssen. The Cyber-security Grant applied for was not approved.

Unfinished Business- None

Extend Minimum Maintenance Road-Jon Kuck– Jon Kuck and Highway Superintendent Janet Thomsen were present to discuss the road with the Commissioners. Superintendent Thomsen conducted a road study. The road would need to be extended 412 feet to go from the end of the local road to Mr. Kuck's property. To conform with Howard County's regulations, the road would need to be upgraded from a minimum maintenance road to a local road to build a residence on the Kuck's property. It was suggested to have the landowner be responsible for the upgrade of the road and expenses. The road would then need to be inspected by the Roads Department to make sure it is updated to local State standards before the road classification is upgraded. Rasmussen made a motion and seconded by Urbanski that Howard County will enter into an agreement with the landowner and that the landowner will be responsible for the upgrade of the road to meet the classifications of the local State standards only up to the access of the property with the expenses to be the responsibility of the landowner. Roll

Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye. This item will be placed on a future agenda when a contract has been drawn up for the parties to sign.

Swear In Sheriff Hoff –Lisa Johnson, Clerk Magistrate was present to swear in Michael Hoff as Howard County Sheriff. Many friends, family members and courthouse employees were present for the swearing in. Congratulations Sheriff Hoff.

Taser Gun Contract/Release Canine-Sheriff's Department –Sheriff Hoff was present to discuss a Taser Gun Contract from October 2023. The total contract was for \$30,814.80. Sheriff Hoff had contacted the company. This item will be placed on the next agenda when we get a new contract.

Sheriff Hoff wrote a letter to release K9 Justice to Thomas Busch effective March 12, 2024. Rasmussen made a motion to release ownership of K9 Justice to Thomas Busch effective March 12, 2024. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

Gas Choice –After comparing the different rates, Urbanski made a motion and seconded by Rasmussen to go with Symmetry for one year on all three locations. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

Open Window Bids –Window companies present were Obermiller Seamless, North Country and Pella. Other companies sending sealed bids were State Glass and J-Tech.

State Glass-Aluminum Windows-All Fixed-\$225,685.00

J-Tech-Endur Windows-Triple Pane Glass Vinyl tilt in sashes-\$178,426.00

Obermiller Seamless-Marvin Windows-Fiberglass with wood interior-\$385,800.00

North Country-Triple Pane Glass-PVC Vinyl windows-50-year warranty-\$125,992.00

Pella Windows-Fiberglass-Includes installation, Glass Warranty 20 years, Parts 10 years-\$165,971.90

North Country and Pella Windows gave presentations of their product.

Mr. Obermiller recommended that the County go with the Pella windows. Pella Windows was asked if the windows were all tempered glass. Their current bid includes the first floor and the stairways with tempered glass. To have all tempered glass windows would add around another 10% to the current bid. The installers would be local. Urbanski made a motion to approve the bid from Pella Windows with the stipulation to add tempered glass to floors 2, 3, and 4, (all windows in the courthouse), with a possible 10% increase for the additional tempered glass and seconded by Rasmussen. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye. The project should be completed by Fall, 2024.

Viterra Quit Claim Deed –Urbanski made a motion to approve the Deed from Viterra to the County of Howard for a 14-foot-wide strip of land on the east side of the block where the current County Roads Department is located in St. Paul at the cost of \$1.00. Urbanski made a motion to approve the Quit Claim Deed from Viterra to the County of Howard for \$1.00 and have Hirschman sign the Form 521, and seconded by Rasmussen. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

Lukasiewicz Feedlot Discussion-Planning and Zoning- Planning and Zoning Administrator, Cheri Klinginsmith was present to discuss a complaint from Lynda Berggren against the Kevin Lukasiewicz Feedlot, regarding manure runoff from the feedlot into the State and County road ditches. Ms.

Klinginsmith contacted Mr. Lukasiewicz to take care of the complaint. These complaints are presented to the Planning and Zoning Board as well as the Commissioners. NDEE requires that berms with vegetation are required. Ms. Klinginsmith will follow up with Mr. Lukasiewicz.

Executive Session-Personnel-Sheriff Hoff- The items to discuss did not warrant going into executive session. Items will be discussed at a future meeting when more information is available.

Consent Agenda - The Board reviewed the payroll and claims dated 4/23/2024, and the minutes dated 4/9/2024 and 4/16/2024. Motion was made by Urbanski and seconded by Rasmussen to approve the payroll and claims dated 4/23/2024: General-\$218,748.63 and Roads-\$60,255.27, for a total of \$279,003.90, and the minutes dated 4/9/2024, and 4/16/2024. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

There being no further business to come before the Board, motion was made by Rasmussen and seconded by Urbanski to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 a.m. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye. Meeting adjourned. The next regular meeting of the Howard County Board of Commissioners will be May 9, 2024, due to the Primary Election on May 14, 2024.

Dated this 23rd day of April, 2024.

Kathy Hirschman
Howard County Commissioners

ATTEST: Brenda Klanecky
Howard County Clerk