

HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S MINUTES

June 11, 2024

A Meeting of the Howard County Board of Commissioners was convened in open and public session on the 11th day of June, 2024, in the Boardroom, Howard County Courthouse, St. Paul, Nebraska.

Notice of the meeting was given thereof on the 5th day of June, 2024. 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. A proof of publication is filed in the Clerk's office.

Chairman Hirschman called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Roll Call: Gary Rasmussen, Aye; Kathy Hirschman, Aye; and Jessie Urbanski, Aye. Also, present is County Clerk, Brenda Klaneky.

Pledge of Allegiance- The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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 –David Dominguez was present to discuss flooding issues on 14th Avenue and with his property after heavy rains fell on May 30, 2024. Mr. Dominguez provided photos to show the Board regarding the issue. Mr. Dominguez spoke about a neighbor that had straightened a creek which has caused his property to flood. Ms. Thomsen will meet with Mr. Dominguez this afternoon to check out the road and bridge that have been affected. Also discussed, was planting crops on County Road Right- A-Way.

Highway Superintendent, Janet Thomsen was present to report to the Board regarding flood damage during the recent heavy rains on May 30, 2024. All of the roads are currently open. Ms. Thomsen stated the roads department is currently grading the minimum maintenance roads. Another issue is large piles of cornstalks that have washed in and need to be removed. They have approximately 13-20 areas affected by the flooding that will need repaired. Preliminary paperwork has been sent to FEMA regarding the flood damage.

Mail – Meeting notices from the City of St. Paul regarding public hearings to amend the redevelopment plan for the Middle Loup Subdivision and the National Opioid Settlement for Kroger Co.

Unfinished Business- None

Vacate Dush Acres–Planning and Zoning Administrator, Cherri Klinginsmith was present to discuss the vacate of Dush Acres (3.6 acres). The Dush and Bear vacates are being done to change to a multi-lot subdivision. Rasmussen made a motion to approve the vacate of the Dush Acres Subdivision and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

Vacate Bear Subdivision – Ms. Klinginsmith was present to discuss the vacate of Bear Subdivision which is 3 acres. Motion was made by Urbanski and seconded by Rasmussen to approve the vacate of Bear subdivision. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

Vacate Tract NW1/4 21-14-11-Mark & Patti Van Pelt–Ms. Klinginsmith was present to discuss the vacate of Tract NW1/4 21-14-11, by Mark and Patti Van Pelt. The current tract is 2.9 acres, where their

residence is located. Urbanski made a motion to approve the vacate of tract NW1/4 21-14-11, Mark and Patti Van Pelt Subdivision, and seconded by Rasmussen. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

Mark & Patti Van Pelt Administrative Subdivision- This administrative subdivision is where the Van Pelt's residence is located. The lot will include both the house and septic system in the subdivision. Motion was made Urbanski and seconded by Rasmussen to approve the Mark & Patti Van Pelt Administrative Subdivision. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

MPVP Administrative Subdivision –Ms. Klinginsmith was present to discuss the application for the MPVP Administrative subdivision. This is in the same quarter as the Mark & Patti Van Pelt Administrative Subdivision. This would allow for two houses in the quarter. Urbanski made a motion to approve the MPVP Administrative Subdivision and seconded by Rasmussen. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

Disaster Declaration – Emergency Manager, Allen Wilshusen was present to discuss the signing of the Disaster Declaration which Mr. Wilshusen had Ms. Hirschman sign on May 31, 2024 for the floods that took place on May 30, 2024. This has been submitted. Mr. Wilshusen and Michelle Woitalewicz attended an informational meeting with NEMA at City Hall on June 7, 2024.

NIRMA Renewal – The annual policy renewal is \$143,703.00. Last year's annual premium was \$155,888.00. The premium is \$12,185.00 less from last year. The Board reviewed the deductibles. Urbanski made a motion to approve the annual policy renewal and to leave the deductibles where they are currently set and seconded by Rasmussen. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

Region 3-FY2024/2025 County Match Request – Rasmussen made a motion to approve the Region3-FY2024/2025 County Match Request in the amount of \$17,194.25 and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

Surplus Equipment-Dog Kennel-Sheriff's Dept. – Sheriff Mike Hoff was present to discuss surplus equipment-two dog kennels and presented a letter to the Board to remove the kennels from the Sheriff's inventory. The canine ownership was previously transferred to former Sheriff Busch. Kennels that were installed at Mr. Busch's residence, one was donated by American Fence in the amount of \$1500.00 and the other was paid by the County in the amount of \$1251.00 for a total of \$2751.00 are currently on the Sheriff's inventory. Rasmussen made a motion to remove the kennels from the Sheriff's inventory and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

Sheriff Hoff-Body and Car Cameras – Sheriff Hoff spoke to the Board regarding the purchase of body and car cameras. Sheriff Hoff received a quote from Axon for 8 body cameras (buy 7 and get the 8th one free) in the amount of \$5,821.12 annually for a total of \$29,105.60 for a 5- year contract. They will receive updates and repair during the contract period. The car cameras are also a 5-year contract at \$18,926.88 annually for a total of \$94,634.40. The storage of video is included in the cost. Hirschman raised a concern of the additional \$24,748.00 annually that would need to be added to the Sheriff's budget. Also discussed was cost to install the cameras in the Sheriff's vehicles and if we will be looking to replace any of the current fleet. Urbanski made a motion to approve the 5-year contracts for the body cameras (\$29,105.60) and car cameras (\$94,634.40) with Axon and seconded by Rasmussen. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

Security Cameras-Dispatch/Courthouse – The Sheriff received a bid from Urban Security Solutions LLC for a security camera for the courthouse and the Platte Valley quote for the dispatch camera replacement. Rasmussen made a motion to accept the quotes to add an additional security camera to the courthouse to increase coverage with additional monitoring at the 911 Center and to replace the security camera at the 911 Center and seconded by Urbanski. Roll call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

Valley County/Howard County Jail Contract – The contract was not ready to be signed. This item will be placed on a future agenda.

Jessica Hancock-Cell Phone Allowance – Motion was made by Hirschman and seconded by Urbanski to deny Jessica Hancock cell phone allowance. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

Executive Session- Personnel-Sheriff Hoff- Present were Sheriff Mike Hoff, Trev Sharman, Paul Tartaglia and Malik and Shelby Bear Heels. Urbanski made a motion and Rasmussen seconded the motion to go into executive session at 10:50 a.m. to discuss personnel. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye. Hirschman stated that the Board was going into executive session to discuss personnel at 10:50 a.m. Urbanski made a motion and Rasmussen seconded the motion to come out of executive session at 11:28 a.m. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye. No action taken.

Consent Agenda - The Board reviewed the claims dated 6/11/2024, and the minutes dated 5/28/2024, (BOE and Regular Meetings), Clerk, District Court and Treasurer Reports. Motion was made by Urbanski and seconded by Rasmussen to approve the claims dated 6/11/2024, minutes dated 5/28/2024, and Clerk, District Court, and Treasurer Reports. General-\$228,532.35, Roads-\$108,770.51, Tourism Improvement Fund-\$2,850.00, Tourism Promotion Fund-\$5,640.00, American Rescue Plan-\$32,214.80, 911 Emergency Management Fund-\$830.70, and E911 Wireless Holding Fund-\$10,380.83 for a total of \$389,219.19. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

There being no further business to come before the Board, motion was made by Urbanski and seconded by Rasmussen to adjourn the meeting at 11:51 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 June 25, 2024.

Dated this 11th day of June, 2024.

Kathy Hirschman
Howard County Commissioners

ATTEST: Brenda Klanecky
Howard County Clerk