



# Colfax County Board Minutes



February 14, 2023  
Commissioners Meeting  
Minutes

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Colfax County, Nebraska was held in the Commissioners Room of the County Courthouse, Schuyler, Nebraska on the 14th day of February 2023. The County Board of Commissioners met at 8:30 a.m. Present were: Carl Grotelueschen, Jim Mejstrik and Terry V. Wendt, County Commissioners, Rita M. Mundil, County Clerk and Bruce J. Prenda, County Attorney. Notice of this meeting was given in advance thereof by posting written notice in at least three different public places as shown by the Certificate of Posting Notice. The availability of the proposed agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the board. Copies of the Open Meetings Act were posted and available to the public. All proceedings shown were taken while the meeting was officially convened and open to the public.

The chairman stated a copy of the Open Meeting Act statute is posted and available to the public.

Motion Wendt; second Mejstrik to approve the agenda. Voting YES: Grotelueschen, Mejstrik and Wendt. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

Motion Grotelueschen; second Mejstrik to approve the minutes of 1/24/2023. Voting YES: Mejstrik, Wendt and Grotelueschen. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

No report from the general assistance clerk.

Brenda Dolezal/Extension gave a report of the activities of her department; an update on the interviews for the 4-H Extension Educator position was given. Discussion was held on providing additional help for the County Fair.

The clerk provided the board with a copy of her monthly fees and STOP revenue received. Registrations are now open for the NACO Northeast District meeting on Friday, March 17, 2023, at the Lifelong Learning Center in Norfolk. Help wanted ads were placed in all county newspapers for the part-time custodian position. Accountability and Disclosure forms were distributed to all county officials. Correspondence from Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice states that the Colfax County Jail facility was determined to be in full compliance with the Standards at the time of the inspection. NIRMA sent notification of their expansion of Legal Resources for NIRMA Members.

The board received a copy of the monthly fee report from the district court clerk.

The vet service officer provided his 2022 Annual report, January monthly report, claim reimbursements for January 31, 2023, and February 14, 2023, which will be placed on file.

The sheriff provided a copy of his monthly report to the board, and it will be placed on file.

The board received a copy of the January public defender report.

The county attorney reported he will be renewing the contract for the traffic diversion program (STOP) with Traffic Safety Plus and Nebraska Safety Council Inc. He also reported that in March of 2022 Columbus Area United Way (CAUW) granted \$2,700 to Colfax County for Community Impact in Youth Mediation. To date, no dollars have been used. The county attorney indicated that he does not anticipate using the money for the grant purpose within the grant period and requested that the board release the full amount back to CAUW for alternative use in the community. Motion Mejstrik; second Grotelueschen to approve \$2,700 from Attorney Grant Fund to Columbus Area United Way. Voting YES: Wendt, Grotelueschen and Mejstrik. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

The board provided an opportunity for county employees to attend an "Agenda-less meeting".

Recessed at 9:20 a.m. and reconvened at 9:30 a.m.



# Colfax County Board Minutes



Ann Giebler with Legal Shield addressed the board on the benefits of LegalShield and IDShield for Colfax County employees.

The District Court Clerk introduced her new employee to the board. Motion Wendt; second Grotelueschen to approve Resolution 2-14-2023(1) for the appointment of Erika Lopez Ruiz as Deputy District Court Clerk as of February 1, 2023. Voting YES: Grotelueschen, Mejstrik and Wendt. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

The Zoning administrator gave a report of the activities of her department; their Planning Commission meeting for this month will be held February 15, 2023.

The highway superintendent reported no one from the public attended the January 31<sup>st</sup> public meeting to review projects to be placed on the One- & Six-Year Road Improvement plan. A new road employee will start March 1<sup>st</sup>. Discussion was held if Colfax County should partner with Platte County for a joint weed superintendent.

The board reviewed and considered two applications for permission to maintain a gate across County Road 17. Motion Grotelueschen; second Mejstrik to approve adjoining landowner Matt Kroeger's application to maintain a gate that presently exists across County Road 17, under certain terms and conditions (listed below) for a period of 120 days from today's date:

- A) that the gate be secured but not locked;
- B) that the gate provides absolute ingress and egress to:
  - 1. the Colfax County Roads Department to exercise ordinary care toward public and private use of the area, and for necessary signs and barricades, and
  - 2. adjoining landowners and Platte River Island landowners with an interest in use of an existing cable car tower to the south of the gate for access to their island property;
- C) if at any time Matt Kroeger no longer requests or requires the gate, he shall inform the Board within two weeks of its removal or change in present condition;
- D) the Board reserves the right to inspect the gate at any time, to request reasonable and necessary changes in the interest of public safety, and to take reasonable immediate action in the event of a declared emergency;
- E) this grant of permission can be revoked by the Board for any reason with 30 days' notice of intent to take such action.

Voting YES: Mejstrik, Wendt and Grotelueschen. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

The highway superintendent will contact the other non-adjoining landowner applicant whose application was denied.

Public comment was made on the Bryne Ditch right-a-way.

The clerk summarized the day's agenda and action taken.

Motion Wendt; second Mejstrik to adjourn BOC at 10:50 a.m. and to meet again February 28, 2023. Voting YES: Wendt, Grotelueschen and Mejstrik. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

I, Rita M. Mundil, duly elected and qualified County Clerk of said county, do hereby state that the above minutes were recorded by me, are true and correct to my knowledge, are recorded in the Commissioners Records and were completed for public inspection and publication on the 15th day of February 2023.

---

Rita M. Mundil, County Clerk