

May 9, 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 9th day of May 2023. The County Board of Commissioners met at 8:30 a.m. Present were: Carl Grotelueschen, Jim Mejstrik and Terry V. Wendt, County Commissioners and Rita M. Mundil, County Clerk. 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 Mejstrik; second Wendt to approve the agenda. Voting YES: Grotelueschen, Mejstrik and Wendt. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

Motion Wendt; second Mejstrik to approve the minutes of 4/25/2023. Voting YES: Mejstrik, Wendt and Grotelueschen. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

The General Assistance Clerk gave a report on the activities of her department, no need to enter executive session.

The Clerk provided the board with a copy of her monthly fees and Central Nebraska Community Action Partnership Annual Report 2022 (no STOP Revenue received). Correspondence from Northeast Nebraska Area Agency on Aging stated the county's share for 2024 Fiscal Year will be \$5,052.00.

The board received a copy of the monthly fee report from the District Court Clerk.

The Sheriff provided a copy of his monthly report which will be placed on file.

The Vet Service Officer provided his April monthly report and April 25, 2023, claim reimbursements of services for Colfax County Veterans which will all be placed on file.

The board received a copy of the April Public Defender report which will be placed on file.

The Treasurer provided a change of safekeeping receipts from Homestead Bank.

The Weed Superintendent reported he attended a meeting with the Lower Platte Weed Management Area in Wahoo. A grant was written to provide tablets which will have the program of Weed Mapper on them.

Brenda Dolezal/Extension introduced Stephanie Bell/4-H Youth Educator who has been working on a part-time basis and will transition to full time July 1st. Summer workshops are being planned along with county fair preparation.

The county attorney entered the meeting at 8:50 a.m.

The Treasurer reported with the help of NACO and four surrounding treasurers her office is up to date with daily balancing and the distributions to the political subdivision will be done prior to the deadline. Advertisement for the deputy position is posted.

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

Susie Jarecki/CASA Connection Director gave a brief presentation of what CASA Connection is and how the funds she is requesting go toward the volunteer program that helps children who are in the court system. The CASA Connection Director asked for our continued support of \$10,000.00 per year for the CASA Program. 2022 full year and 1st quarter CASA reports were also provided to the board.

Recessed at 9:40 a.m. and reconvened at 9:45 a.m.

The 2023/2024 renewal for the health and dental benefits offered to NACO members will have a 3.98% increase in health and dental benefits. The board reviewed Colfax County's benefits/options for employees of Colfax County who may need to have more health coverage than their single plan and how to make it more affordable. The following are the options to our 2023-2024 NACO Blue Cross/Blue Shield endorsed program.

- 1) Cash in Lieu of \$500.00 (for employees who opt out of County's health coverage) will be available to employees who can prove - coverage through Medicare, TRICARE, Medicaid or other employer-sponsored coverage
- 2) The county will pay \$800.00 toward the premium of Employee & Spouse, Employee & Children or Employee & Family
- 3) The counties deductible is \$2600; once the employee has \$500 applied toward their individual \$2600 deductible by BCBSNE, the next \$2100 that is applied toward the \$2600 deductible is paid at 100% by the county (administered by Mid-American Benefits, Inc.), to the provider of service

Motion Mejstrik; second Grotelueschen to approve the 2023 NACO Subgroup Application Form which shall provide eligible county employees health and dental coverage through the NACO endorsed program provided by BCBS. Coverage will provide a PPO-\$2600 deductible on Health and a Dental PPO Plan. Once the employee has \$500 applied toward their \$2600 deductible by BCBSNE, the next \$2100 that is applied toward the \$2600 deductible is paid at 100% by the county (administered by Mid-American Benefits, Inc.), to the provider of service. The county pays 100% of the employees' insurance and an additional \$800.00 toward Child/Spouse/Family coverage with the employee responsible for the rest of the premium. Voting YES: Wendt, Grotelueschen and Mejstrik. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

The board reviewed the Board Nomination Form to the Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN) Board of Directors for the East Central Region. Motion Grotelueschen; second Wendt to vote for Shelly Holzerland for the Board of Director on the NRIN Governance Board for the East Central Region. Voting YES: Grotelueschen, Mejstrik and Wendt. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

The Zoning administrator reported on new permits issued. Two public hearings will be held May 23, 2023.

Jenny White/Schuyler Library Director provided their annual Library report to the board.

The Highway Superintendent reported by July 1st the county road shops on the North end of the county will have internet access. No one has applied for the motor grader openings. An update on road projects was given.

Discussion was held on purchasing a 2023 Ford F150 pickup by state bid. Motion Mejstrik; second Wendt to authorize the purchase of a 2023 Ford F150 ½ ton pickup by state bid for the purchase amount of \$52,135.00 with Anderson Ford of Lincoln. Voting YES: Mejstrik, Wendt and Grotelueschen. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.


Public comment was made on Project C19(545) – County Road 16 and Highway 30.

The board reviewed an agreement between the State of Nebraska, Department of Natural Resources and Colfax County for funding costs pursuant to planned restoration of flood reduction structures of the Platte River Wolfe Bank Jetty Restoration Project. The Legislature has appropriated money from the Jobs and Economic Development Initiatives (JEDI) Fund and determined this project is eligible for funding. This agreement will be placed on the May 23rd agenda.

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

Motion Mejstrik; second Wendt to adjourn BOC at 11:45 a.m. and to meet again May 23, 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 10th day of May 2023.


Rita M. Mundil, County Clerk