

August 13, 2024
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 13th day of August 2024. 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 Grotelueschen; 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 7/23/2024. Voting YES: Mejstrik, Wendt and Grotelueschen. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

The General Assistance Clerk provided a report on her department activities, indicating that there was no need for an executive session.

The Clerk provided the Board with a copy of her monthly fees, STOP Revenue received and the Leigh Library annual report. The fall NACO Northeast District Meeting will be held on Friday, September 13, 2024, at the Lifelong Learning Center - Northeast Community College.

The Board received the District Court Clerk monthly report.

The Vet Service Officer submitted his July monthly report along with claim reimbursements for July 16th and July 30th, to be filed.

The Board received the July Public Defender monthly report.

The Sheriff submitted his monthly report to the Board, which will be filed.

Travis Prochaska from the Extension office reported on the county fair and mentioned that the office is now preparing for the state fair.

The Weed Superintendent reported on training he received in Kearney.

Candace Meredith from NACO provided an overview of the resources, training, and conferences available to member counties. She summarized the NACO Board's stance on amendments to LB34, emphasizing the importance of reaching out to our Senators to oppose a zero percent cap that would hinder counties' ability to deliver essential mandated services. Additionally, she provided an update on the construction of a new NACO West location in Ogallala.

The County Attorney was not present, and no report was provided.

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

Recessed at 9:25 a.m. to resume at 9:30 a.m.

The Board members met with individual offices to review their proposed FY24-25 county budgets. They also received tax requests from the political subdivisions under the County Board's authority. The Board has until September 1st to approve or deny the requests. Motion Grotelueschen; second Mejstrik to acknowledge the tax requests received from the political subdivision that fall under the authority of the County Board. Voting YES: Wendt, Grotelueschen and Mejstrik. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

The Columbus Area United Way is requesting \$10,000.00 annually for three years to support transit services between Platte County and Colfax County. A discussion was held to approve \$5,000.00 for this fiscal year only, due to a proposed zero percent cap for counties under the property tax reform package. Motion Grotelueschen; second Mejstrik to allow Columbus Area United Way the amount of \$5,000.00 for budget year 2024-2025. Voting YES: Grotelueschen and Mejstrik. Voting NO: Wendt. Motion carried.

Michaela L. Valentin from OPPD introduced Chris Meeks as a new Government and Community Relations Strategist for OPPD. Over the next ten years OPPD wants to expand their energy portfolio so they can double their generating capacity.

The Zoning Administrator reported on zoning permits issued. Kit Held will be stepping down from the Planning & Zoning Commission, and the Planning Commission has recommended Jaime Meinke as his replacement. Motion Wendt; second Mejstrik to approve the appointment of Jaime Meinke to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Voting YES: Mejstrik, Wendt and Grotelueschen. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

Public comments on wind energy were made.

Northeast Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition (NNSWC) convened on July 11, 2024, and approved Colfax County's application letter. A resolution was presented for the Board's approval of the Third Amended and Restated Interlocal Solid Waste Management Agreement of NNSWC, originally adopted on October 1, 2023, authorizing the Chairperson to sign the agreement. Additionally, a resolution was presented to appoint a representative and alternate representative from Colfax County to serve on the NNSWC Board of Directors.

Motion Mejstrik; second Wendt to approve resolution 8-13-2024(1) authorizing the Chairperson to sign the Third Amended and Restated Interlocal Solid Waste Management Agreement of NNSWC, adopted October 1, 2023. Voting YES: Wendt and Mejstrik. Voting NO: Grotelueschen. Motion carried.

Motion Mejstrik; second Wendt to approve resolution 8-13-2024(2) appointing Terry V. Wendt as the representative of Colfax County to the NNSWC Board of Directors and, in the event of his absence, then Jim Mejstrik shall be declared as the alternate representative to the Board and shall act and vote on behalf of Colfax County. Voting YES: Grotelueschen, Mejstrik and Wendt. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

Public comment if wind turbine blades are allowable waste with Northeast Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition.

The Sheriff was not present to discuss the TextMyGov proposal. This item will be added to the August 27th agenda.

The Highway Superintendent provided an update on road and bridge projects, reporting that paint striping is completed. He will complete the Annual Certification Form of the 2024 Federal Fund Purchase Program with NDOR and obtain quotes for replacing the overhead door at the Richland shop.

The Board reviewed the County Annual Certification of Program Compliance form and Resolution 8-13-2024(3) authorizing the Chairman to sign the certification. Motion Mejstrik; second Wendt to approve Resolution 8-13-2024 (3) authorizing the Chairman to sign the County Annual Certification of Program Compliance to Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards 2024. Voting YES: Wendt, Grotelueschen and Mejstrik. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

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

Motion Grotelueschen; second Mejstrik to adjourn BOC at 11:00 a.m. and to meet again August 27, 2024. Voting YES: Grotelueschen, Mejstrik and Wendt. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

A meeting of the Board of Equalization of Colfax County, Nebraska was held in the Commissioners Room of the County Courthouse, Schuyler, Nebraska on the 13th day of August 2024. The County Board of Equalization met at 11:00 a.m. Present were Carl Grotelueschen, Jim Mejstrik and Terry V. Wendt, County Commissioners, Rita M. Mundil, County Clerk and Bill White, County Assessor. Notice of this meeting was given in advance 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. A copy of the Open Meetings Act was posted and available to the public. All proceedings shown were taken while the meeting was officially convened and open to the public.

The Board acknowledged one tax list correction submitted by the County Assessor: Property ID: 1209986.00-RE, Statement number: 2351.

Motion Wendt; second Mejstrik to adjourn BOE at 11:05 a.m. Voting YES: Mejstrik, Wendt and Grotelueschen. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

I, Rita M. Mundil, 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 14th day of August 2024.



Rita M. Mundil, County Clerk