

## HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S MINUTES

September 26, 2023

A Meeting of the Howard County Board of Commissioners was convened in open and public session on the 26th day of September, 2023, in the Boardroom, Howard County Courthouse, St. Paul, Nebraska.

Notice of the meeting was given thereof on the 20th day of September 2023, 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 8:30 a.m. Roll Call: Gary Rasmussen, Aye; Kathy Hirschman, Aye; and Jessie Urbanski, Aye. Also present is County Clerk, Brenda Klanecky.

### **Pledge of Allegiance -**

Chairman Hirschman also 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** – Items brought to the Highway Superintendent's attention were Hardy Road – trees, St. Paul Road and 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Loup River Road to St. Paul Road, 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue and the south side of the road east of the Cotesfield Cemetery.

**Roadside Ditches and County-Right-of-Way** - Highway Superintendent, Janet Thomsen was present to discuss roadside ditches and County Right-of-Ways with the Board. Landowners are required to mow road ditches twice a year. Ms. Thomsen also advised that landowners be aware of County Right-of-Ways and not infringe upon them when putting up temporary fencing, parking farm equipment or storing hay bales, etc.

### **Engineering Study- 15<sup>th</sup> and Arthur; 11<sup>th</sup> and Odell; and Page and Eastbound 18<sup>th</sup> (two intersections)-**

Ms. Thomsen and the Board discussed engineering studies on 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Arthur Road, 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Odell Road and Page Road and Eastbound 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue. It was discussed that the County could remove brush and thickets at the intersection of 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Arthur Road to provide a better view of traffic. Urbanski made a motion to proceed with engineering studies at the intersections of 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Odell Road and Page Road and 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue (two intersections) for the purpose of placement of stop signs and seconded by Rasmussen. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

**Trees-Intersection of 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Wausa Road-** Discussion was held regarding trees needing to be trimmed from the roadway and the County Right-of-Way. Roads Department will contact the landowner and take care of trimming of trees on the road and County Right-of-Way.

**Job Applications-Executive Session-Possible Action**-Road Employee Applications- Janet Thomsen was present to discuss road employee applications. Motion was made by Rasmussen and seconded by Urbanski to go into Executive Session to review the road employee applications at 8:55 a.m. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye. Hirschman stated the Board was going into

Executive Session at 8:55 a.m. to review applications received for the Roads Department. Present in Executive Session were Rasmussen, Hirschman, Urbanski and Thomsen.

Motion was made by Urbanski and seconded by Rasmussen to come out of Executive Session at 9:12 a.m. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye. Urbanski made a motion to have Ms. Thomsen offer an applicant a position with the Roads Department. Rasmussen seconded the motion. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

**Mail – LATCF Payment** -The second payment of \$50,000.00 was received.

**Unfinished Business-** None.

**Courtroom Update** – Clerk Magistrate, Lisa Johnson has not heard back from Eakes with the final numbers and had no other updates for the Board. The electrician has been contacted and is planning to start on the project in October.

**Assignment of Service Agreement-Left Click Investments-** Urbanski made a motion to approve the signing of the Assignment of Service Agreement with Left Click and seconded by Rasmussen. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

**Nightcrawlers Bar & Grill-SDL Application-** Following discussion, motion was made by Urbanski and seconded by Rasmussen to approve the SDL application for a wedding reception taking place at the Howard County Fairgrounds on October 28, 2023. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

**Maximus-Certificate of Cost Allocation Plan** –Urbanski made a motion to approve the signing of the Maximus Certificate of Cost Allocation Plan as presented and seconded by Rasmussen. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

**Steps Update** –The Clerk received an email from the contractor that the handrail is finished. They plan to be here on Monday, October 2, 2023 to complete the front steps. The Board discussed an agreement before the final payment is paid on the project.

**Elevator Update** –The Clerk received an email from Spectrum that a new phone line will be installed in the elevator on Monday, October 2, 2023. The State Inspection will be scheduled after the phone line is installed.

**Consent Agenda** Motion was made by Urbanski and seconded by Rasmussen to approve the Commissioner Meeting Minutes for 9/12/2023, Claims: General-\$230,184.03, Roads-\$92,640.90, and Inheritance-\$160,050.00 for a total of \$482,874.22, and the Sheriff's Report. 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 9:53 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 October 10, 2023.

Dated this 26th day of September, 2023.

Kathy Hirschman  
Howard County Commissioners

ATTEST: Brenda Klanecky  
Howard County Clerk