

## HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S MINUTES

November 28, 2023

A Meeting of the Howard County Board of Commissioners was convened in open and public session on the 28th day of November, 2023, in the Boardroom, Howard County Courthouse, St. Paul, Nebraska.

Notice of the meeting was given thereof on the 22nd day of November 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 8:40 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 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** – Highway Superintendent, Janet Thomsen was present to discuss roads.

**Review Roads Dept. Job Applications-Executive Session-** Highway Superintendent, Janet Thomsen and Road Foreman, Ray Hurt were present to discuss Road Employee Applications. An applicant had been interviewed. Following discussion, Urbanski made a motion to offer the job to the applicant and Rasmussen seconded the motion. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye. Starting wages were discussed.

**Mail** – CNCAP Newsletter, Letter and Check from NIRMA, \$2,536.00, IRS Letter

### **Unfinished Business-** None.

**Road Department Building Plans** –Jerry Thompson, Rob Schultz, Janet Thomsen and Ray Hurt were present to discuss the building plans that were prepared. Two options were presented an 80' x 155' and 80' x 205' sized buildings. The larger building plan would include cold storage. Placement of features were also discussed. Urbanski made a motion to approve moving forward with the building plans and seconded by Rasmussen. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

**Extension Update-Doug Anderson** – Doug Anderson was present to update the Commissioners on the Extension Department. Mr. Anderson recommends Denise Rathman for the extension board. Mr. Anderson is looking to retire. He plans to go through one more fair season and will go from there. Discussed were future options for the County. The Extension Educator Position would be a priority.

**Quotes for Tower on Wausa Road** – Commissioners reviewed two quotes received from Tyger Wireless. One was to replace all of the lights with LED lights on the tower in the amount of \$27,812.00. The second quote was to rebuild the lighting system in the amount of \$8,307.48. Urbanski made a motion to rebuild the lighting system in the amount of \$8,307.48 and use ARPA funds to pay for it and seconded by Rasmussen. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

**Charter Communications-Franchise Renewal** – A letter was received from Charter Communications regarding the franchise renewal which expires October 1, 2026. Charter would like to meet with the Commissioners to go over the renewal process. It was decided to wait until Charter contacts the Board.

**Front Steps Change Orders 003 and 004 and Substantial Completion**- Jerry Berggren with Berggren Architects P.C. was present to discuss the Change Orders 003 and 004 and Substantial Completion. Each Commissioner was given a rule book put together by Mr. Berggren to explain the project and how everything works. The two treads that had to be replaced will be paid by Berggren Architects P.C., Mr. Berggren will send a letter to this affect. Also discussed was the tax credit program. Urbanski made a motion to approve Change Orders 003 in the amount of \$3,465.00 and 004 in the amount of \$6,430.00, the \$6,430.00 will be reimbursed by Berggren's and have been signed by both Berggren Architects P.C. and Mid-Continental Restoration Company Inc. and seconded by Rasmussen. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

**Resolution 2023-34 – Transfer Funds from Withholding Acct to General Acct** –Urbanski made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-34-Transfer Funds from the Withholding Account to the General Account in the amount of \$6,382.27, and seconded by Rasmussen. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

**Resolution 2023-35-Transfer Federal Natural Disaster Funds** – Motion was made by Urbanski and seconded by Rasmussen to approve Resolution 2023-35-Transfer of Federal Natural Disaster Funds to the Roads Account in the amount of \$28,012.26. Roll Call: Rasmussen, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

**Consent Agenda** -

The Board reviewed the minutes, payroll and claims as presented. Motion was made by Urbanski and seconded by Rasmussen to approve the Commissioner Meeting Minutes for 11/14/2023, Claims: General-\$231,993.03 and Roads-\$83,840.18 for a total of \$315,833.21. 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 11:12 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 December 12, 2023.

Dated this 28th day of November, 2023.

Kathy Hirschman  
Howard County Commissioners

ATTEST: Brenda Klanecky  
Howard County Clerk