

Pursuant to notice published in the January 11th, 2024 issue of the Polk County News, the Board of County Commissioners convened at 9:30 a.m. with all members present. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Chairman Westring informed those in attendance that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room.

A motion was made by Boruch to amend the agenda to add an item of an emergency nature pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statute §84-1411(1)(e), with such item being to discuss and act on an agreement for independent contractor services for snow plowing and road maintenance. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Westring, aye; Boss, aye. The added agenda item will be discussed during Highway Supt. Their's appointment with the Board.

A motion was made by Boss that Jerry Westring be elected as Chairman for 2024. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Boruch, aye; Westring, abstain.

A motion was made by Boss that Ron Boruch be elected as Vice Chairman for 2024. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, abstain.

The County Board membership of various boards was reviewed. Board members will continue as members of the boards they are presently serving on.

After some discussion regarding holidays observed by the County, a motion was made by Boruch to recognize all federal holidays as county holidays, including Juneteenth which had previously not been observed. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Westring, aye; Boss, no. Motion carried.

The Polk County website (polkcounty.nebraska.gov) will be used as an additional method of providing notice of the County's meeting. The website will also provide closing information for holidays and inclement weather.

The Board signed the annual signature report for the Secretary of State's office.

Claims were audited and a motion was made by Westring that claims be allowed and warrants drawn against the various funds in the amounts listed below. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Westring, aye; Boss, aye; Boruch, aye.

GENERAL FUND

General Fund	Salaries	\$75,622.08
Augie's Autobody Repair	Service	\$150.00
Marilyn K Buhl	Service	\$36.00
Central Square Technologies, LLC	Service/Supplies	\$286.74
Central Valley AG	Supplies	\$849.19
City of Osceola	Utilities	\$540.43
City of Stromsburg	Utilities	\$515.55
Clearly	Service	\$658.65
Clearly***	Service	\$363.23
Jennifer Conkel	Mileage	\$86.46
Connect America	Service	\$222.00
Cubby's, Inc.	Service	\$430.02
Culligan of York	Rent	\$29.50
Eakes Office Solutions	Supplies/Service	\$833.07
Economy Hometown Market	Supplies	\$103.71
Cheryl Erickson	Mileage	\$118.55
Fort Dearborn Life Insurance Co.	Life Insurance	\$149.75
Frontier Cooperative Company	Supplies	\$1,334.84
Gary's Plumbing LLC	Supplies	\$28.58
International ASSN of Chief Police	Service	\$190.00
Jodi Krance	Mileage	\$152.98
Lancaster Co. Sheriff	Service	\$18.00
LexisNexis Matthew Bender In c.	Supplies	\$192.71
Lifeline	Service	\$154.00

Loffler	Service	\$988.58
M & O Door Products, LLC	Service	\$1,856.72
Mentink Electric	Supplies	\$173.03
Microfilm Imaging Systems, Inc.	Rent	\$90.00
Midland Telecom Inc.	Service	\$2,659.26
MIPS Inc.	Supplies	\$25.85
NALBOH	Service	\$250.00
Osceola Food Mart	Supplies	\$262.53
Osceola Tire & Service	Service	\$136.54
Paper Tiger Shredding	Supplies	\$50.00
Pinnacle Bank Visa	Service/Supplies	\$256.31
Pinnacle Bank Visa	Supplies	\$369.31
Pinnacle Bank Visa	Service	\$21.57
Pinnacle Bank Visa	Service	\$582.50
Pinnacle Bank Visa	Notary	\$157.97
Platte County Detention Facility	Service	\$1,298.16
Polk County Extension Tax Account	Reimbursement	\$179.03
Polk County Health Ins. Deductible	Health Insurance	\$5,348.03
Polk County Extension Tax Account	Reimbursement	\$168.40
Polk County Clerk	Retirement	\$5,166.08
Polk County Rural Public Power District	Service	\$218.84
Polk County Tax Deposit Account	Social Security	\$5,639.74
Polk County Sheriff	Fees	\$167.81
Rally Auto Parts	Service	\$3.00
Region V Services	Service	\$2,405.75
Region V Systems	Service	\$5,522.50
Shelby Auto Clinic	Service	\$361.50
Shelby Lumber Co. Inc.	Service	\$50.76
Smith Electric	Service	\$501.15
Sparrow Publications, LLC	Service/Subscription	\$281.16
Ruth N. Stromberg	Retirement	\$168.00
Jaci Swantek	Mileage	\$64.85
Milton J Toy	Mileage	\$49.78
Trouba Law Offices, LLC	Service	\$1,156.75
VVS, Inc. Canteen	Supplies	\$38.92
VYVE Broadband	Service	\$625.45
Toby Watts	Refund	\$45.00
Windstream Nebraska Inc.	Service	\$283.21
Darla Winslow	Mileage	\$270.51
911 Custom	Service	\$54.98
Windstream Nebraska Inc.	Service	\$283.21

ROAD FUND

Road Fund	Salaries	\$31,794.58
Annie Jeffrey Memorial Co. Health	Supplies	\$1,015.12
Augie's Autobody Repair	Service	\$60.00
Central Valley AG	Supplies	\$329.06
Cintas	Supplies	\$90.08
City of Osceola	Service	\$99.05
City of Stromsburg	Utilities	\$302.36
Cubby's, Inc.	Supplies	\$411.21
Fort Dearborn Life Insurance Co.	Life Insurance	\$76.39
Frontier Cooperative Company	Supplies	\$973.72
Darrell D Gabel	Retirement	\$132.00
Gary's Plumbing LLC	Supplies/Service	\$134.00
Leroy Gerrard	Retirement	\$84.00
David Ienn	Retirement	\$84.00
Island Supply Welding Company	Supplies	\$260.70
Midland Telecom Inc.	Service	\$38.79
Midwest Service & Sales Co.	Equipment	\$22,140.00
Polk Co Clerk Retirement Deposit	Retirement	\$2,011.15
Polk Co. Tax Deposit Account	Social Security	\$2,406.30
Osceola Food Mart	Supplies	\$4.99
Polk Light & Water	Service	\$113.38
Powerplan	Service	\$6,801.50
Rally Auto Parts	Service/Supplies	\$288.52
Thomas L Rodene	Retirement	\$84.00
Sapp Bros. Inc.-Clarks	Supplies	\$13,841.82
Shelby Lumber Co. Inc.	Supplies	\$56.48
Dan Theis	Reimbursement	\$106.99

Tire Outlet, Inc.	Supplies	\$2,262.34
Truck Center Companies	Service	\$3,107.16
David Udey	Retirement	\$96.00
Mark S Udey	Retirement	\$60.00
Village of Shelby	Utilities	\$91.63
Windstream Nebraska Inc.	Service	\$220.69

INHERITANCE TAX FUND

Applied Connective Technologies	Service	2,574.22
Central Plains Valuation, LLC	Service	2,750.00
DAS State Acct-Central Finance	Service	\$572.75
MIPS Inc.	Service	\$2,286.55

911 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND

Windstream Nebraska	Service	\$521.35
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WEED FUND

James Carlson	Reimbursement	\$80.00
City of Osceola	Utilities	\$98.30
Constellation New Energy Gas Division	Service	\$27.70
Frontier Cooperative Company	Fuel	\$247.38
Gary's Plumbing LLC	Supplies	\$62.15
Osceola Tire & Service	Service	\$75.24

The following fees for the month of December were earned by the various offices and submitted to the County Treasurer. County Treasurer receipts show fees earned were credited to the appropriate county funds.

Jodie L. Roberts, Clerk of Dist. Court \$150.00

The Board approved the collateral pledged by Polk County banks and held in custody by the County Treasurer.

A motion was made by Boruch to reappoint Daniel J. Theis (License Number S-1365, Class A) as Highway Superintendent for calendar year 2024. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Westring, aye; Boss, no. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Westring to reappoint James L. Carlson as Weed Superintendent for calendar year 2024. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Westring, aye; Boruch, aye; Boss, aye.

A motion was made by Boss to reappoint Jerry Westring as Zoning Administrator for calendar year 2024. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Boruch, aye; Westring, abstain.

A motion was made by Boruch to appoint Debra S. Girard to prepare the 2024-2025 county budget. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye.

A motion was made by Boss to approve the reappointment of John Girard to the Annie Jeffrey Memorial County Health Center Board of Trustees. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye.

A motion was made by Boruch to approve the reappointment of Steven J. Peterson to the Annie Jeffrey Memorial County Health Center Board of Trustees. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye.

A motion was made by Boss to transfer \$23,000 from the Highway Bond Fund to the Inheritance Tax Fund as budgeted. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye.

At 10:15 a.m., a motion was made by Boss to go into executive session to discuss personnel. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Boruch, aye; Westring, aye. Also present were Custodian Melissa Carey, the County Attorney and the

County Clerk. At 10:20 a.m., a motion was made by Boruch to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye. Chairman Westring stated for the record that no formal action was taken and that only personnel matters were discussed.

Weed Supt. Carlson updated the Board on the activities of the Weed Dept. A motion was made by Boss authorizing the Chairman to sign the Activity Report, the Noxious Weed Infestation Report, the Noxious Weed Control Plan, the Budget Report, and the Nebraska Invasive Plant Watch List Infestation Report as presented by Weed Supt. Carlson. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Boruch, aye; Westring, aye. The number of infested acres increased by approximately 44 acres.

Highway Supt. Theis updated the Board on the work being done in the Road Dept. Emergency Manager Watts was also present for the update. The road crew continues to work on opening county roads following the snow storms over the past week. Some roads remain closed but all rural residences should have at least one route to take to get to a paved road. Due to the amount of drifting in some areas, especially the east/west county roads, Highway Supt. Theis would like to hire some private contractors to help with snow removal. County Attorney Johnson has drafted an agreement for independent contractor services which was reviewed by the Board. A motion was made by Boss that because the Governor has declared a State of Emergency for the snow storms over the last week, and because it is an emergency that the County contract with individuals to supplement the Roads Department, the agreement drafted by County Attorney Johnson for independent contractor services should be approved and County Highway Supt. Theis authorized to negotiate with the contractors and sign the agreements on behalf of Polk County. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye. Theis also reported that some of the machines were having fuel issues due to the extremely cold conditions.

Emergency Manager Watts informed the Board that approximately 13 people were rescued during the storms and subzero weather. Some of the stranded motorists were housed at the Osceola Fire Station while others were taken to Gresham from the area of the curves on Highway 69 south of Shelby. Internet, cellphone service and landline telephone service all experienced outage issues at various times during the weekend which provided communication challenges following the snow storm. Members of the State Road Department, County Road Department, Sheriff's Department and local residents played vital rolls in rescuing the stranded motorists. Watts also noted that the Polk County Emergency Management Facebook page added over 800 new followers over the weekend.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 11:35 a.m. to meet again on January 23rd and February 6th, 2024. An agenda of the meetings will be available at the office of the County Clerk.

Approved: _____ /S/ Debra S. Girard _____
County Clerk

_____ /S/ Jerry Westring _____
Chairman