

Osceola, Nebraska
January 24, 2023

Pursuant to notice published in the January 19th, 2023 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 Boss to reappoint Darla Winslow as one of Polk County's representatives on the Four Corners District Health Board for a term of one year. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Boruch, aye; Westring, aye. The reappointment was for only one year to help create a stagger in the expiration dates of the terms for the district health board.

The use of a time clock for county employees instead of time sheets was discussed by the Board. Assessor Krance provided information about the time clocks used in Merrick County while she was employed there. No action was taken pending the acquisition of additional information from other counties currently using time clocks.

The Board formally accepted the resignation of Bob Carey as the Deputy Emergency Manager.

The listing of the former Yungdahl's Apothecary building for sale was discussed by the Board. Health Department Director Darla Winslow was also present for the discussion as the building could be a better location for the Polk County Health Department. Chairman Westring has talked to the owner and they are accepting offers on the building from any interested parties until February 1st. A motion was made by Boss to make a formal offer on the property located at 309 Commercial Street in Stromsburg. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye. The amount of the offer will be equal to the owner's asking price.

Hospital Administrator Joe Lohrman updated the Board on the activities of the hospital. December's revenues were up and the operating expenses down from November's financial activity, resulting in an operating and overall gain for the facility. The remodeled OB area is in use and the project came in under budget. The humidifier for the surgery suite has been repaired and potentially the HVAC system is in need of either repairs or replacement in that area of the hospital. The search continues for a new CEO for the facility. The Foundation for Annie Jeffrey's annual Beer and Wine Fest fundraiser will be held on Sunday, February 12th.

A motion was made by Boruch authorizing Highway Supt. Theis to sign all necessary documents in regards to leasing a new 2023 Caterpillar skid loader from Nebraska Machinery Company. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Westring, aye; Boss, aye.

Highway Supt. Theis, Road Foreman Curt Ericson and Tyler Boden updated the Board on the work being done in the Road Dept. Snow removal following last week's storm went well with the crew going out on the roads at 4:00 a.m. on Thursday. The Q Boulevard overlay project which was done jointly with Platte County came in under the estimate. Various rural road signs were stolen over the weekend. Several years ago a policy was adopted to reimburse to those road employees who purchased steel toed boots to be worn on the job \$40 to account for the difference in price between regular and steel toed boots. The crew is suggesting that the amount of the reimbursement be reviewed and possibly increased to reflect current prices for the footwear.

At 11:20 a.m., a motion was made by Boruch to go into executive session to discuss personnel. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye. Also present were Highway Supt. Theis, Road Foreman Ericson and the County Clerk. At 11:30 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 only personnel matters were discussed.

A motion was made by Boss to sign the updated Weed Control Board Authority Roster as presented by Weed Supt. Carlson. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote

