Osceola, Nebraska
January 28, 2020

Pursuant to notice given in the minutes of the meeting of January 21st, 2020 and published in the January 16th, 2020 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 on the wall of the Commissioner's room.

The quarterly inspection of the jail was postponed until the next meeting of the Board.

Hospital Administrator Joe Lohrman updated the Board on the activities of the hospital. December was an average month for the facility, reporting both an operating and overall loss. A meeting was held with the local providers to see if any services provided by the hospital need to be updated. They are looking to add home sleep studies in addition to the studies conducted at the hospital. A timeline for the OB remodeling project is being drafted with bids possibly being opened in April and construction to begin in July. Bids have been received for a new roof on the original part of the hospital which was last re-roofed about 18 years ago. The current call light system is outdated and must be upgraded and repairs are needed for one of the scopes. The Foundation's annual "Hearts On Fire" fundraiser will be Sunday, February 9th.

At 10:00 a.m., a motion was made by Boruch to open the hearing on the issue of continuing to elect the County Surveyor. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye. No interested persons appeared. At 10:15 a.m., a motion was made by Boss to the close the hearing. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Boruch, aye; Westring, aye. A motion was made by Boruch to adopt a resolution that the position of County Surveyor for Polk County will continue to be an elected, not appointed, position. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye.

Larry Dix, the Executive Director of NACO, presented County Treasurer Barb Swanson with the 2019 NACO County Official of the Year award. The selection of County Official of the Year was originally announced during the annual meeting of NACO last month. Congratulations to County Treasurer Swanson.

Jocey Boruch met with the Board to present a proposal for telephone and internet service for the courthouse using a fiber connection. Due to the weather conditions in Kansas, the two other representatives were unable to attend. Several other officials and department heads with offices within the courthouse were in attendance for the presentation. Action on the proposal was tabled to allow time to review the proposal and needs of the offices within the building.

Pat Davis and Lee Grossnicklaus, representing the Shelby Village Board and Ken Everingham, Mayor of Stromsburg, met with the Board to discuss the possibility of obtaining a drug dog for the Sheriff's Dept. Sheriff Ladwig was also present. Neighboring counties and the City of Columbus have drug dogs and information will be sought from them concerning the costs involved in obtaining and maintaining a dog for their departments.

Supt. Theis updated the Board on the work being done in the Road Dept. Representatives from FEMA will be here again tomorrow to gather more documentation on costs associated with the repairs to the county roads and bridges following last spring's flooding. Additional safety signage for the shops needs to be ordered and the maintenance agreements for the county roads shared with bordering counties need to be updated.

Weed Supt. Carlson presented the Board Roster for approval. A motion was made by Boruch authorizing Chairman Westring to sign the Weed Control Authority Board Roster as presented. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 12:15 p.m. to meet again on February 4th and February 18th, 2020. 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