

Osceola, Nebraska  
November 28, 2023

Pursuant to notice published in the November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 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.

At 9:35 a.m. a motion was made by Boruch to go into executive session to discuss possible litigation. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Westring, aye; Boss, aye. Also present were Marcus Augustin, Nataly Boruch and the County Clerk. At 9:40 a.m., a motion was made by Boss to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye. Chairman Westring stated for the record that no formal action was taken and only possible litigation issues were discussed.

Marcus Augustin and Nataly Sanley updated the Board on the activities of the hospital. The month of October was the highest revenue month on record for the facility but expenses were up as well. An operating and overall gain for the month were realized. Augustin is waiting for the cost report from the auditor which is due to Medicare by the end of the month. A grant has been received from Pinnacle Bank and the Dinsdale Foundation to assist with the purchase of new equipment for the hospital. The dermatology clinic has been delayed until December due to some technical issues on the part of the provider. The purchase of a ventilator is being researched and the Butler County hospital respiratory therapy staff is willing to work with the Health Center to use the equipment should a patient need it. A recent pop-up boutique fundraiser at the hospital netted approximately \$700 and the Annie Jeffrey Thrift Store will be relocating to the former Fields and Frills location in Osceola in late December with an mid January opening date at the new space. The employee council at the hospital donated Thanksgiving dinner meals to several local families and plan to support the Center For Survivors giving tree for the Christmas holiday.

Applications for appointment as county depository banks received from Pinnacle Bank, Cornerstone Bank, Heritage Bank, and the Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust (NPAIT) were reviewed. A motion was made by Boruch to adopt a resolution approving Pinnacle Bank of Osceola and Shelby, Cornerstone Bank of Stromsburg and Polk, Heritage Bank and NPAIT as depositories for county funds. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye. An application was also received from Union Bank and Trust's NFIT program but, at this time, the Treasurer does not have any funds on deposit with NFIT. Should the Treasurer wish to place funds on deposit with NFIT, accepting their application to be a depository will be revisited by the Board.

The bids received for a new motor grader were reviewed. Because the Sany motor grader bid by A1 Iron Corp. is not American made and American Rescue Plan Act funds will be used to fund the purchase, the Board removed the A1 Iron Corp bid from consideration. After verifying where the other motor graders were made, a motion was made by Boruch to accept the bid of Nebraska Machinery Company for a Caterpillar 140AWD machine that is made in Little Rock, Arkansas. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Westring, aye; Boss, aye.

Highway Supt. Theis and Foreman Ericson also updated the Board on the work being done in the Road Dept. The bridge inspections should be completed this week. Information has been received from JEO regarding the proper way to repair the bridge just east of Osceola on the dump road and the crew will wait until next spring to make the repairs. The culverts for the L Road project should be delivered this week and next week while the culvert project on O Road should start tomorrow.

Weed Supt. Carlson brought the Board up to date on the activities of the Weed Dept. The blades have been put on the ATV and the side by side for snow removal around the courthouse and Sheriff's Office. Repairs are needed to the sidewalk at the Weed Dept. and will be made next spring. The shop has been winterized and he is working on the required state reports, organizing the chemical room and the custom spray list for next season.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 12:00 p.m. to meet again on December 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023. 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