Osceola, Nebraska August 23, 2022

Pursuant to notice published in the August 18th, 2022 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.

The county budget was reviewed by the Board.

Hospital Administrator Joe Lohrman and CFO Marcus Augustin updated the Board on the activities of the hospital. July's inpatient activity was similar to the previous months while the outpatient revenues were down, resulting in a loss for the month of July. COVID numbers are steady to decreasing and the Phase II of the OB project is progressing well. The replacement of the roof over the older portion of the building is now complete. The migration to the new computer system, Thrive, was made on August 10^{th.} The move was necessary to keep in compliance for Medicare and is proving to be challenging for both staff and patients.

Jeff Banholzer, Chief Deputy Probation Officer for District 5, presented their annual report to the Board regarding the probation services provided to Polk County residents. As a result of the lower census and utilization numbers, Polk County's share of the funding request for the district's expenses is lower than last year.

At 11:00 a.m., the bids received for the Osceola Northwest and Osceola Northwest #2 box culvert projects were opened as advertised. Bids were received from five different contractors and a motion was made by Boruch to award both projects to A & R Construction Co., pending the review and approval of the Nebraska Dept. of Transportation. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye. The projects will be partially funded by the State.

Supt. Theis presented a list of four pieces of equipment owned by the Road Dept. that are no longer used and can be declared surplus. A motion was made by Boruch to declare the 2004 John Deere motorgrader, the 1967 Michigan loader, the 1967 Oliver 1750 tractor and the 1981 Bush Hog 7' shredder as surplus property and authorize their disposal at an online auction. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye.

Highway Supt. Theis also updated the Board on the work being done in the Road Dept. Brian McDonald with JEO will look at a bridge on Center Road to help develop a plan for making repairs to it.

Weed Supt. Carlson updated the Board on the activities of the Weed Dept. Recertification as a custom applicator has been successfully completed as well as continuing education hours as Weed Superintendent. General weeds continue to be sprayed in the right-of-way and it is possible that a drone may be used to spraying some phragmites. Before fall spraying begins, precipitation is needed for the application to be most effective. Brush spraying in the right-of-way will begin after the soybeans begin to mature.

At 11:40 a.m., a motion was made by Boss to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Boruch, aye; Westring, aye. Also present was Mark Gabel. At 12:15 p.m., a motion was made by Boruch to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Westring, aye; Boss, aye. Chairman Westring stated for the record that no formal action was taken and that only personnel matters were discussed.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 12:15 p.m. to meet again on September 6th and 20th, 2022. An agenda of the meetings will be available at the office of the County Clerk.

Approved:	/S/ Debra S. Girard	/S/ Jerry Westring
	County Clerk	Chairman