Osceola, Nebraska
August 24, 2021

Pursuant to notice published in the August 19th, 2021 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 law enforcement contract with the City of Osceola was reviewed. An annual cost increase of 3% was included in the interlocal agreement. A motion was made by Westring to approve the Law Enforcement Contract with the City of Osceola as presented. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Westring, aye; Boss, aye; Boruch, aye.

A motion was made by Boruch to declare 2005 Chevrolet Venture van used by the Polk County Health Department as surplus property and to authorize its disposal at a junkyard. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye.

Hospital Administrator Joe Lohrman and CFO Marcus Augustin updated the Board on the activities of the hospital. The facility showed both an operating and overall loss for the month of July and Augustin reported that the financial audit went very well. The health fair is still scheduled for October 5th but the local Covid numbers will be monitored to see if a cancellation or postponement of the event is warranted. The renovations needed for the OB project are now out for bid.

The bid for new motorgraders opened at last week's meeting were reviewed. After considerable discussion, a motion was made by Westring to purchase a 4 wheel drive motor grader and an all wheel drive motor grader from Nebraska Machinery Company, trading in a 2003 Caterpillar motor grader. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Westring, aye; Boruch, aye; Boss, aye.

Highway Supt. Theis also updated the Board on the work being done in the Road Dept. Millings will be placed along the shoulders of C Road later this week and NEMA will be performing site inspections next week as follow up work for the 2019 flooding disaster.

Weed Supt. Carlson brought the Board up to date on the activities of the Weed Dept. Right-of-way spraying continues with over 250 miles sprayed so far. Spot checks by the Nebraska Dept. of Agriculture have located a few small areas of noxious weeds. Brush that is affecting the visibility of road signs will be either cut or sprayed and approximately 30 miles of brush have been sprayed. Fall thistle inspections and fall spraying will begin soon. The Board authorized Supt. Carlson to purchase a new snow blade for the ATV used to remove snow from the courthouse sidewalks.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 12:00 p.m. to meet again on September 7th and 14th, 2021. 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