Osceola, Nebraska
September 29, 2020

Pursuant to notice published in the September 24th, 2020 issue of the Polk County News, the Board of County Commissioners convened at 7:00 p.m. in special session 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.

Chairman Westring turned the meeting over to Stacen Gross of SCG Consulting Services who introduced panelists Rachel Pensick with the Columbus/Platte County Joint Communications Center and Mike Epley with Platte Valley Communications. Representatives from all of the fire departments, emergency medical services, and cities and villages in the county were also in attendance for the presentation. All three panelists provided information about current joint communication centers in operation around the state, with a focus on the structure and operation of the Columbus/Platte County Joint Communications Center. The Columbus/Platte County center has at least 3 dispatchers working at one time with the ability to add a fourth during peak times. Should Polk County choose to go with Columbus/Platte County for joint communications, no equipment will be removed from the Sheriff's Office as Columbus/Platte County will be able to interface with our current equipment. Also present to provide information and answer questions was James Almond with the Public Service Commission; Tim Hofbauer representing the NRIN governing board; and Ken Kurtenbach, a member of the Columbus/Platte County Joint Communications Board and a Lindsay volunteer EMS member. During the presentation, questions posed by the various attendees were addressed and information was shared by the Polk County dispatchers in attendance.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 8:20 p.m. to meet again on October 6th and 20th, 2020. 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