

December 12, 2023
Commissioners Meeting
Minutes

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Colfax County, Nebraska was held in the Commissioners Room of the County Courthouse, Schuyler, Nebraska on the 12th day of December 2023. The County Board of Commissioners met at 8:30 a.m. Present were: Carl Grotelueschen, Jim Mejsrik and Terry V. Wendt, County Commissioners, Rita M. Mundil, County Clerk and Bruce J. Prenda, County Attorney. Notice of this meeting was given in advance thereof by posting written notice in at least three different public places as shown by the Certificate of Posting Notice. The availability of the proposed agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the board. Copies of the Open Meetings Act were posted and available to the public. All proceedings shown were taken while the meeting was officially convened and open to the public.

The Chairman stated a copy of the Open Meeting Act statute is posted and available to the public.

Motion Mejsrik; second Wendt to approve the agenda. Voting YES: Grotelueschen, Mejsrik and Wendt. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

Motion Wendt; second Mejsrik to approve the minutes of 11/28/2023. Voting YES: Mejsrik, Wendt and Grotelueschen. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

The General Assistance clerk gave a report on the activities of her department, no need to enter executive session.

The Clerk provided the board with a copy of her monthly fees and STOP Revenue received. The board reviewed January 2024 items – (meeting dates, wages, and board chairman). Correspondence from Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice confirmed that on December 7, 2023, the Colfax County Jail facility will have its annual inspection for the Nebraska Jail Standards Board.

The board received a copy of the monthly fee report from the District Court Clerk.

The Sheriff's November monthly report was provided to the board and placed on file.

The Vet Service Officer provided his November monthly report and claim reimbursements for December 5, 2023.

The board received a copy of the November Public Defender report.

The agreements for Cooperative Extension Services for Colfax County and an Addendum to the Interlocal Agreement for the Provision of Cooperative Extension Services were reviewed by the University of Lincoln legal counsel and our County Attorney. Motion Wendt; second Mejsrik to authorize the Chairmen to DocuSign both agreements 1) Interlocal Agreement for the Provision of Cooperative Extension Services and 2) Exhibit A – Addendum to the Interlocal Agreement for the Provision of Cooperative Extension Services. Voting YES: Wendt, Grotelueschen and Mejsrik. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

No report from the Weed Superintendent.

The County Attorney explained the process of the FY2024 Community-Based Juvenile Service Aid CB application with the board. Motion Mejsrik; second Grotelueschen to authorize the chairman to sign the FY2024 Juvenile Service Aid CB Grant application with the crime commission for the Community-based Grant. Voting YES: Grotelueschen, Mejsrik and Wendt. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

Carol Ringenberg/Director of Development with Schuyler Community Development and Frank Uhlarik/Terracon appeared and updated the Board on the progress related to the Brownfield Grant/EPA Federal Grant.

The board provided an opportunity for county employees to attend an "Agenda-less meeting".

Public comment was made on solar/wind energy.

Graham Hillyard/Egis Technologies discussed and provided proposals of phone/network upgrades for the courthouse and camera/door access for the Sheriff department.

Motion Wendt; second Mejsrik to designate The Leigh World, Colfax County Press, Schuyler Sun and Howells Journal as newspapers within the county for publication of the official notices with The Howells

Journal responsible for publication of the county board minutes for calendar year 2024. Voting YES: Mejstrik, Wendt and Grotelueschen. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

A contract to provide Indirect Cost Allocation plan and indirect rate calculation for FY 2023 through FY 2028 with Maximus US Services, Inc. was reviewed. Motion Grotelueschen; second Mejstrik to approve the agreement between Maximus US Services, Inc. and Colfax County to provide a Central Services Cost Allocation Plan for FY 2023 through FY 2028. Voting YES: Wendt, Grotelueschen and Mejstrik. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

Motion Wendt; second Grotelueschen to recommend approval for a special designated liquor permit to Timberwolf Lounge and Grill for an event held January 19, 2024, at the Colfax County Fairgrounds. Voting YES: Grotelueschen, Mejstrik and Wendt. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

The Commissioners discussed the American Rescue Planning Act (ARPA) funding. Clarkson Fire District has submitted receipts of \$54,472.50 for consideration of reimbursement of fire and safety equipment they have purchased. Motion Grotelueschen; second Mejstrik to approve \$54,472.50 from the COVID Rescue Plan fund to the Clarkson Fire District. Voting YES: Mejstrik, Wendt and Grotelueschen. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

The Zoning Administrator gave a report on the activities of her department. An update of a boundary change was discussed. She will be attending the NACO conference this week.

The Zoning Administrator acknowledged receiving the Conservation Easement application on Eric Cerny placing 3.57 acres of grasslands located in part SE ¼ NE ¼ and a tract South of Creek in the SW ¼ in 15-18-4. This item is on the January 17th Planning and Zoning meeting agenda.

Recessed at 10:05 a.m. and reconvened at 10:15 a.m.

Bids received by the 4:00 p.m. – December 11, 2023, deadline were publicly opened and read. Two companies submitted bids. Motion Grotelueschen; second Mejstrik to reject all bids and readvertise for audit services for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, June 30, 2025, and June 30, 2026. Voting YES: Wendt, Grotelueschen and Mejstrik. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

The Nebraska Public Service Commission has completed their Audit for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 with our 911 Wireless Fund; a net adjustment of \$6,840.24 will need to be made from our (2910) E911 Fund to our (2913) Wireless Fund to be in compliance. Motion Mejstrik; second Grotelueschen to approve Resolution 12-12-2023 (1) authorizing the transfer of \$6,840.24 from (2910) E911 Fund to (2913) Wireless fund. Voting YES: Grotelueschen, Mejstrik and Wendt. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

Shannon Albracht/Albracht Disposal Services discussed with the board the possibility of Colfax County joining the Northeast Solid Waste Coalition. The board would like more information from the Coalition before any action is taken.


The Highway Superintendent provided an update on road and bridge projects.

The board interviewed the applicants for the Public Defender position; discussion was held on the Public Defender contract. The appointment of a Public Defender will be at our December 26th meeting with an effective date of January 1, 2024.

The clerk summarized the day's agenda and action taken.

Motion Mejstrik; second Wendt to adjourn BOC at 11:30 a.m. and to meet again December 26, 2023. Voting YES: Mejstrik, Wendt and Grotelueschen. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

I, Rita M. Mundil, duly elected and qualified County Clerk of said county, do hereby state that the above minutes were recorded by me, are true and correct to my knowledge, are recorded in the Commissioners Records, and were completed for public inspection and publication on the 15th day of December 2023.


Rita M. Mundil, County Clerk