

February 13, 2024
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 13th day of February 2024. The County Board of Commissioners met at 8:30 a.m. Present were: Carl Grotelueschen, Jim Mejstrik 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 Wendt; second Grotelueschen to approve the agenda. Voting YES: Grotelueschen, Mejstrik and Wendt. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

Motion Mejstrik; second Wendt to approve the minutes of 1/23/2024. Voting YES: Mejstrik, 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.

No report from the Weed Superintendent. Correspondence from Nebraska Association of County Officials notified the Board that the required twenty hours of continuing education was not met by our Weed Superintendent. Dates and locations of education programs being offered for the year 2024 were listed. The Chairman will discuss the importance of obtaining the licenses and acquiring the 40 hours of continuing education with our Weed Superintendent.

The Clerk provided the board with a copy of her monthly fees and STOP revenue received. Registrations are now open for the NACO Northeast District meeting on Friday, March 15, 2024, at the Lifelong Learning Center in Norfolk. Accountability and Disclosure forms were distributed to all county officials. Correspondence from Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice states that the Colfax County Jail facility was determined to be in full compliance with the Standards at the time of the inspection. Northen Natural Gas sent information of modifications and expansion of the existing Schuyler tie-over regulator facility in Colfax County. Lower Elkhorn NRD sent notification they have two programs/applications available for local municipalities to solve natural resource problems and create recreational opportunities for citizens located within the boundaries of this NRD.

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

The Vet Service Officer provided his 2023 Annual report, January monthly report and claim reimbursements for January 30, 2024, which will all be placed on file.

The Sheriff provided a copy of his monthly report to the board, and it will be placed on file.

The Board received a copy of the January Public Defender report.

The inmate log from Platte County was provided to the board and will be placed on file.

The Vet Service Officer provided a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs and Colfax County which will allow the continued use of their license for VetraSpec. VetraSpec is the program used to file all the Veterans paperwork. Motion Grotelueschen; second Mejstrik to approve the MOU between the Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs and Colfax County for the continued use of their license for VetraSpec. Voting YES: Wendt, Grotelueschen and Mejstrik. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed two proposals to paint the offices of the Clerk and Assessor. Both proposals do not include the moving of furniture. Motion Grotelueschen; second Wendt to approve Lopez Painting to paint the offices of the Clerk and Assessor for labor only in the amount of \$5,000.00. Colfax County will directly pay Sherwin Williams for the paint to receive the government discount. Lopez Painting will pick up the paint. Voting YES: Grotelueschen, Mejstrik and Wendt. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

The board reviewed three proposals for air conditioning units for the dispatch office/radio rooms. Motion Grotelueschen; second Mejstrik to approve Diamond Heating & Air proposal in the amount of \$12,795.00 for three air conditioning units/installation. Voting YES: Mejstrik, Wendt and Grotelueschen. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

The County Attorney provided an Open Carry In Public Buildings article from NIRMA along with an amended Firearm Shooting Range Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for the Board to review. The agreement is with the City of Schuyler, City of Columbus, and Colfax County. Motion Grotelueschen; second Mejstrik to authorize the

Chairman to sign the Amended Firearm Shooting Range Interlocal Cooperation Agreement. Voting YES: Wendt, Grotelueschen and Mejstrik. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

The Board provided an opportunity for county employees to attend an “Agenda-less meeting”.

Recessed at 9:35 a.m. and reconvened at 9:40 a.m.

Stephanie Bell/Extension Educator reported that Megan Novak has agreed to begin serving the remaining 2 years of a three-year term vacancy on the Colfax County Extension Board. Motion Wendt; second Mejstrik to appoint Megan Novak to serve the remaining 2 years of a three-year term on the Colfax County Extension Board. Voting YES: Grotelueschen, Mejstrik and Wendt. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

The Clerk Magistrate addressed the Board on acquiring a different security system for the 3rd floor.

The Zoning Administrator reported that the Planning & Zoning public hearing to add Short-term Rentals will be continued to their February 21, 2024, meeting. The public hearing for the Resolution to add Short-term Rentals to the Colfax County Zoning Regulations will be at the Board of Commissioners’ February 27th meeting.

Motion Wendt; second Mejstrik to open a public hearing at 10:00 a.m. for the purpose of hearing testimony of support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observation to amend Section 7.03.03 Temporary Signs. Voting YES: Mejstrik, Wendt and Grotelueschen. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

The Zoning Administrator reported that the Resolution is an amendment to the Colfax County Zoning Regulations – Section 7.03.03 Temporary Signs to read: 1) Temporary signs may be for a continual period. Said temporary signs shall be removed upon the conclusion of the purpose. 2) Temporary signs shall not be placed within the rights-of-way of Colfax County. The recommendation of the planning commission is to approve said Resolution.

No opposition to amending Section 7.03.03 Temporary Signs was given.

Motion Grotelueschen; second Mejstrik to close the public hearing at 10:05 a.m. Voting YES: Wendt, Grotelueschen and Mejstrik. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

Motion Grotelueschen; second Wendt to accept the recommendation of the planning commission and approve Resolution 2-13-2024 (1) amending Section 7.03.03 Temporary Signs to the Colfax County Zoning. Voting YES: Grotelueschen, Mejstrik and Wendt. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

Motion Grotelueschen; second Mejstrik to open a public hearing at 10:05 a.m. for the purpose of hearing testimony of support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observation to update Section 8.11 Adult Entertainment. Voting YES: Mejstrik, Wendt and Grotelueschen. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

The Zoning Administrator reported that the Resolution is to update Article 8: Supplemental Regulations, Section 8.11 Adult Entertainment to the Colfax County Zoning Regulations. The Board asked if the County Attorney was able to review the addition to Article 8: Supplemental Regulations. The County Attorney did not review the Resolution. The recommendation of the planning commission is to approve said Resolution.

No opposition to update Section 8.11 Adult Entertainment was given.

Motion Grotelueschen; second Mejstrik to close the public hearing at 10:10 a.m. Voting YES: Wendt, Grotelueschen and Mejstrik. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

The Board is tabling any action on the Resolution to update Article 8: Supplemental Regulations, Section 8.11 Adult Entertainment until the County Attorney has reviewed the Resolution. This item will be placed on February 27th agenda.

Bids for Wolfe Jetty Project C19(562) that were received by the 10:15 a.m. deadline were publicly opened and read. Thirteen companies submitted bids. Discuss, consider and/or take action will be decided within thirty days.

The Emergency Manager reported on the Closeout of FEMA Disaster 4387. Disaster 4387 was declared on June 28, 2018, for Severe Storms, Tornadoes, Straight-line Winds and Flooding with an incident period of June 17 through July 1, 2018.

The Highway Superintendent reported he is interviewing for a full-time truck hire. An update on road/bridge projects was given.

The Board reviewed a letter of support of a Federal Grant to fund a planning study of the 30/64 Corridor Project. Motion Grotelueschen; second Mejstrik to authorize the Chairman to sign the letter of support for a Federal Grant to fund a planning study of the 30/64 Corridor Project. Voting YES: Mejstrik, Wendt and Grotelueschen. Voting NO: None. Motion carried.

Jarod Dendinger/Applied Connection addressed the Board on their company's technology services. Currently they work with the Sheriff's office with our camera system. Phone systems is another service they provide and would like the opportunity to submit a proposal for the courthouse. The Board agreed for them to submit a proposal.

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

Motion Grotelueschen; second Wendt to adjourn BOC at 11:05 a.m. and to meet again February 27, 2024. Voting YES: Wendt, Grotelueschen and Mejsrik. 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 14th day of February 2024.


Rita M. Mundil, County Clerk