

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Valley County Board of Supervisors was called to order at 9:15 a.m. on November 30, 2004 in their Courthouse meeting room. The delayed start was due to County Government Day. Students from Ord, North Loup Scotia, and Arcadia met in the District Courtroom where they heard several speakers, including the County Board Chairman. The students were divided into groups to visit each County Office and sit in on the Board meeting.

Roll call was taken with Ash, Melia, Beran, Collins, Sintek, Cetak and Sevenker present. Notice of meeting was verified and the minutes of the Nov. 9 meeting were approved as published. The agenda was adopted on motion of Collins, seconded by Sintek. Carried. Yes: Collins, Sintek, Cetak, Ash, Melia, Beran. No: none. Absent: none. No public comment was offered.

Road Secretary, Sandy Simpson, gave the claims and balances report for November. The major expenses were fuel, tires, highway striping, and gravel. The fuel and gravel budgets are low, the parts budget is in good shape.

A road complaint received from the Comstock Postmaster has been taken care of. He reported that the County's annual reports to the State had been received and were in good order. A County truck was ticketed for "spilling the load" while hauling gravel, which is said to mean water running out of the back of the truck. The truck weight was okay. Fencing on County farm ground rented by James Knapp was discussed. The Board advised Leth that Knapp should come before the Board with any fencing proposal. Leth has received a request to clear trees out of the Y on the Sargent Road, as they could be a hazard. Following discussion, it was moved by Collins, seconded by Ash to authorize Leth to clean up the triangle on the Sargent Y. Carried. Yes: Collins, Ash, Melia, Beran, Sintek, Cetak. No: none. Absent: none.

Don Williamson, Hospital CFO, gave the Hospital report. He briefly discussed the monthly financials and statistics. There was a slight increase in swing bed and it is hoped that the updated obstetrical unit will result in greater use. Nursing home numbers are down and homecare numbers improved. Increased expenses were due in part to a raise in Workers Comp. He then discussed the recently completed audit. There is a small improvement in the current assets and a decrease in the interest bearing accounts due to paying legal fees. He noted that the Hospital Foundation financial statement must now be included in the Hospital's audit. The report estimating the Medicaid reimbursement at \$313,000 was filed last week and, if approved, should be received early next year. The Hospital continues to look at ways to increase revenue and decrease expenditures. The new Administrator, Neelam Bhardwaj, will begin work tomorrow.

At 10:00 a.m., the Board of Equalization was convened to hear the report of Appraiser Chad Martensen on motion of Ash, seconded by Collins. Carried. Yes: Ash, Collins, Sintek, Cetak, Melia, Beran. No: none. Absent: none. Martensen reported that all was going well with his work in Ord Township. Discussion was held regarding valuing old buildings that are no longer used for their intended purpose. Martensen suggested that if they were in good enough repair to be used for storage, their condition could be downgraded from average to fair to get more depreciation and if they were not usable at all they could be dropped. He said he would like to be done with Ord Township by the middle of February so that the Assessor's Office would have time to make any changes and preliminary hearings could be held. Following Martensen's report, the Board moved back into regular session on motion of Sintek, seconded by Ash. Carried. Yes: Sintek, Ash, Melia, Beran, Collins, Cetak. No: none. Absent: none.

Custodian, Rolland Cronk, reported that he had contacted Karr Tuckpointing and they are behind but plan to come eventually to provide an estimate on the Courthouse. His report continued as follows: water heater in dispatch room repaired, Wadas had to unclog a drain petcock in the boiler, timer switch is on order, looking for way to test ph level in boiler tank, discovered heating register in back of District Courtroom on west side has been disconnected for sometime, timer for lights on west Courthouse entrance installed and working, discovered light above lavatory on north wall in ladies restroom not wired correctly and will have Augustyn look at it, the Chamber is not planning to use the Courthouse lobby for their Christmas promotion this year so will need to look

elsewhere for decorating, snow removal was begun at 5:00 a.m. Monday morning and took until 10:00 a.m., the larger snow blower has been fixed. Chairman Sevenker provided a copy of the 2001 estimate from Karr Tuckpointing which totaled \$133,000. Cronk was advised to contact the City of Ord regarding the possibility of using a shed by the bowling alley for storage of County snowblowing equipment. The suggestion of providing Cronk with a key to the County shop was also discussed.

Sheriff, Larry Ronzzo, presented his Fee and Activities Reports for October. Discussion was held regarding his use of the old jail area on the third floor for an evidence room if the current room on the first floor is converted into a handicap accessible restroom. Also discussed was the need to organize the storage areas and the law library.

Lodging Tax receipts for September were \$522.50 and the expenses for November were \$250.00. Attorney Cullers reported that he had spoken to Quattrocchi's, as the County's largest provider of hotel rooms, regarding the possibility of an additional tax that is allowed for construction purposes to benefit tourism. Cullers said that, while they were not against it, they felt that there needed to be more direct benefit realized to justify the current tax as well as any additional tax before they could support it.

The following informational items were noted: mileage reimbursement increase from 37.5 cents to 40.5 cents effective January 2005, the Household Hazardous Waste Collection Report, the summary of October expenses and the NACO Conference on December 7, 8 and 9.

The list of November Claims and Balances was reviewed and the November Claims were approved on motion of Collins, seconded by Cetak. Carried. Yes: Collins, Cetak, Sintek, Beran, Melia, Ash. No: none. Absent: none.

The December payroll date was moved up to December 21 on motion of Ash, seconded by Beran. Carried. Yes: Ash, Beran, Melia, Collins, Sintek, Cetak. No: none. Absent: none.

A request from Loup Basin RC&D regarding the County's interest in the proposed development of an information technology center was discussed. The County agreed that it was a good idea and a motion was made by Ash, seconded by Melia to support the proposal. Carried. Yes: Ash, Melia, Beran, Collins, Sintek, Cetak. No: none. Absent: none.

County Attorney, Randy Cullers, reported that he had spoken to Tom Krueger, the project manager for the survey billed to the County without prior notification. Krueger indicated that the County should have been notified, but that the establishment of a corner came up during a private survey and it was not convenient to stop and seek County approval before the work was done. He questioned whether the Village of Arcadia might be responsible for the removal of the corner marker during the installation of a culvert sometime in the past. Krueger provided a copy of a contract agreement for County approval, however, Cullers noted that it was not substantially different from the one we have and that the problem is that JEO is not meeting the terms of the contract. Dale Sall, the person with JEO who signed the contract with us, has been out for medical reasons and Cullers hopes to talk to him on his return. Cullers recommends that the bill for the survey in question remain unpaid until the matter is settled.

Cullers reported that he has been contacted regarding the COPS Grant for which the County was required to repay a small portion. It appears that a final report is needed and he will follow up on that to be sure it gets done.

Supervisor Ash, the County's Representative on the Region 26 Council, presented figures on how the cost to each County is determined based on population, valuation and usage. The figures also gave the budget breakdown for Region 26 and their revenue for fiscal year 04-05. Ash explained that a 5 year bond was taken out to pay the cost of hiring GeoComm to help in mapping the County for the enhanced 911 requirements and the computation of each County's share for the first year was illustrated. Valley County's share of this cost for the first year is to be \$6,486.14 in addition to their regular assessment, which this year was \$40,833.22. Ash also noted that Dean Meeks had been hired with an \$80,000 grant to help with the mapping.

The following Mail Folder items were available for review: Steve Todsens snow removal; Metal Roofing Specialists, Inc.; Central Nebr. Community Services; Michael J Pommer, CPA; Chamber

Newsletter; NPAIT; Nebr. DEQ Grants; Nebr. Game & Parks CD; Nebr. Machinery Invitation Dec. 8; McPherson Co. Courthouse Auction.

The Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m., to reconvene on Tuesday, December 14, 2004, at 9:00 a.m. in regular session and 10:00 a.m. as Board of Equalization. Complete minutes of the November 30 meeting and agenda for the December 14 meeting are available in the office of the County Clerk.

I, the undersigned County Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of proceedings had and done by the County Board, that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and available for public inspection at the office of the County Clerk; that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; that the said minutes were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body; that all news media requesting notification concerning meetings of said body were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

Jenette G. Lindsey, Valley County Clerk