

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Valley County Board of Supervisors was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on December 28, 2004 in their Courthouse meeting room. Roll call was taken with Sevenker, Ash, Melia, Beran, Collins, Sintek and Cetak present. The Clerk verified publishing and posting notice of meeting. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published. Ash moved, Cetak seconded adoption of the agenda. Carried. Yes: Ash, Cetak, Sintek, Collins, Beran, Melia. No: none. Absent: none. There was no public comment.

In the absence of Secretary Sandy Simpson, Supt. Leth reported the Road Dept. Claims and Balances. The Road Fund balance is \$88,226.97, December payroll was \$31,985.07 and the claims were \$31,985.07. The larger claims were for diesel and gravel. Discussion was held regarding the cost of the County hauling their own gravel.

Leth reported that they are about out of used oil and would be interested in getting some if anyone knew of an available supply. They are cutting trees and have cut a radius around the bottom of the Y on the Sargent Road. The State has received his application for a Class A license. Applications will be reviewed on January 1 and February 25 and the license should be granted by March. He has begun work on the 1 & 6 Year Plan. Due to budget constraints, will try to estimate costs for each project and the Board will have to make choices. Two projects from last year were not completed, one at Arcadia and one at Harry Walahoski's. The State sends him a list of bridges they have rated as to the need for replacement, currently they show 2 needing replacement.

Tom Krueger, Manager of the Hastings Office for JEO Consulting Group, the County's appointed Surveyor, appeared to speak to the Board regarding the surveying duties that are required of the County. In short, State Statute requires the County Surveyor to set Government corners within the County, regardless of whether they are within a village, town, city or rural. Krueger indicated that when a request is received, he goes out to see if the corner can be found. If it can be found, he bills the requester. If it needs to be established, he bills the County. He will send a letter to the County, notifying them of a request to establish a corner and will contact the County Road Dept. to use County equipment and personnel if digging is required. Currently he is working on the survey of the recently sold Hulinsky property in the northern part of the County. This area has many corners that need to be established. He estimated a cost to the County of \$3000 to \$5000 for this project.

Custodian Rolland Cronk's report included: need for additional heat in District Courtroom as one register in back of the room is not working, existing extension cords used to plug in electric heaters are unsafe, would like to ask Augustyn to make a 15 foot extension cord that would be safe to use with an electric heater; copies of snapshots were presented showing unsafe wiring conditions in the ladies and mens restroom on the ground floor and in the Custodian's Office, the restroom wiring involves a light above the sink and mirror and includes a surge protector which could be used by the public and presents a potential hazard ; expressed some safety concerns with electric heaters currently in use in the Courthouse, some are grounded some are not, suggests looking to purchase newer, safer type; presented copies of snapshots of old surplus office equipment found when cleaning the basement, asks Board direction on disposal; tuckpoint inspection has been made, but no report or estimate received yet; has concern with snow melting on the east side of the Courthouse, dripping and freezing on the entrance ramp; the salesman from MARC will test the boiler for what chemical additives are needed; would like to attend a boiler seminar offered in Grand Island in June; asks Board direction on disposal of old election booths found in basement; toilet in jail cell leaking, Blaha was to look at, not sure if that's been done or what was found, cell cannot be used until repair is made. Board advised that the restroom wiring appeared to be unnecessary and should be disconnected, approved having an extension cord made by Augustyn and getting an estimate on repairing the disconnected radiator in the District Courtroom. They also approved the disposal of the old office equipment and voting booths unless something appeared to be of antique value. Chairman Sevenker said he would look at the items.

At 10:00 a.m., during the above discussion, Supervisor Ash left the meeting to attend a funeral. This is an excused absence.

The Clerk was asked to contact Fire Marshall Don Fast regarding his promised written approval of the east side entrance ramp.

Chad Martensen was recognized, indicating that he thought he was to appear at the last meeting of each month. The Clerk apologized for not including him on this agenda. Discussion was held regarding the removal from the tax rolls of old buildings valued at \$100 or less. The Board agreed that this should be done and will take the appropriate action at their next meeting when this item will be noted on the agenda.

Hospital Board Chairperson, Kara Fischer, is unable to present the Hospital Report. Each Board member received a written copy of the report as usual.

Nancy Glaubke, Planning & Zoning Admin., was also unable to appear. Her written request for reappointment of 3 Planning Commission Members indicated that all 3 had been contacted and were willing to serve another 3 year term. Beran moved to reappoint Larry Koelling, Keith Peterson and Linda Wadas to the Valley County Area Planning Commission for a three year term. The motion was seconded by Collins. Carried. Yes: Beran, Collins, Sintek, Cetak, Melia. No: None. Absent: Ash.

The Sheriff's report was delayed until he could be present later in the meeting.

The Clerk reported on recovery of election costs. As directed by State Statute, the total chargeable cost of the election is calculated and divided by the number of precincts to establish a per precinct cost. The per precinct cost is then prorated by the inked ballot inch in each precinct for each political subdivision. The total chargeable costs for the 2004 General Election are \$12,776.15. The County's share of the chargeable amount comes to \$9239.66 and \$3536.49 can be billed to the various political subdivisions who participated in the election.

Discussion was held on the request of James Knapp, current leasee of the County Farm, for reimbursement of the cost of fencing he installed on the County Farm. A list of materials and their cost was provided by Knapp. Don Wagner, an adjoining landowner, has agreed to pay half of the cost of the fence installed along his property line. The Board felt that the County should have been consulted prior to the installation of the fence and that the type of fence that was installed was more costly than required by the intended use. Following discussion, it was moved by Collins, seconded by Sintek to reimburse James Knapp \$612.60, 1/2 of the cost of materials on the portion of the fence adjoining Wagner. Carried. Yes: Collins, Sintek, Cetak, Melia, Beran. No: none. Absent: Ash.

Trine McBride, of CNCS and the Valley County Housing Committee, and Bethanne Kunz appeared to request that the County act as grant applicant for the Home Ownership Program For Down Payment Assistance. An update on the housing rehabilitation program which was begun in Valley County in 2003: to date 32 houses in Valley County have benefited from this program and \$861,000 has been paid to local contractors and building supply merchants. The proposed grant application would be for \$215,300. An additional amount of \$6,600 would be contributed by CNCS and \$15,000 would be required of the homebuyers (\$1000 from each of 15 homebuyers). The program provides a deferred loan for 20% of the total purchase price or \$14,500, whichever is less. A lien is filed against the property, in favor of the County, for the amount of assistance provided. CNCS takes care of all paperwork and will provide any necessary upfront funding and wait for state reimbursement. It was moved by Melia, seconded by Collins, to approve the County acting as grant applicant for the Home Ownership Program For Down Payment Assistance. Carried. Yes: Melia, Collins, Beran, Sinek, Cetak. No: none. Absent: Ash.

Sheriff Ronzzo appeared to present the November Fees and Activities Reports for his office. He also answered questions from the Board regarding patrolling, reimbursement claims for meals, payment of medical costs for prisoners, uniform allowance and storage costs. He and his officers do not patrol state highways, but will issue tickets when using a state highway enroute to their destination. The County has always reimbursed for meals, mileage and lodging, however, he does not always claim the reimbursement. The County is required to pay medical costs for prisoners. The County pays a uniform allowance to he and each of his officers of \$100 every two months. The storage cost is only \$108 per year and Ord City allows him the use of their impound yard. Chairman

Sevenker noted that the list of Claims and Balances provided to the Board by the Clerk's Office is not very clear due to the abbreviations used for the description of the expense. The Clerk explained that this is done to reduce the cost of publication and it could be modified for the Board.

December claims were discussed. County Attorney Cullers explained that there is little the County can do about the cost of Court Appointed Attorneys other than hiring a Public Defender and that is no guarantee of savings. December claims were approved on motion of Collins, seconded by Cetak. Carried. Yes: Collins, Cetak, Sintek, Melia, Beran. No: none. Absent: Ash.

The following informational agenda items were reviewed: property tax notices on the County Farm and leased Airport land, the airport collects the lease payments for the airport land and pays the taxes on it, County issues checks for taxes in April and August; Lodging Tax reported for October was \$5427.74; County Board Workshop registrations available, Feb. 9-11, 2005 at the Kearney Holiday Inn Convention Center at a cost of \$70.00 per person, registration deadline Jan. 21, 2005; Chairman Sevenker will be conducting a tour of the Courthouse on Jan. 6 for the Leadership Quest participants.

The County Attorney had no specific report

Supervisor Allen Cetak, County Representative on the Mid-Nebraska Individual Services board reported that a new CEO has been hired following the resignation of Bass.

Since this was the last meeting for Supervisors Dale Melia and Dick Beran, they were recognized for their years of service to the County. Melia has served on the County Board for 20 years and Beran for 8 years. County employees donated a gift for each of them with their name and years of service inscribed. Melia's was presented at the County's dutch-treat Christmas party, but Beran was unable to attend the party so his was presented at this time.

The following items were available for review in the mail folder: Loup Basin RC&D, CNEDD Meeting Minutes, Nebr. Dept. of Roads' 2004 Annual Report, Agri Affiliates, Inc., Tillotson Enterprises, Inc..

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m. to reconvene on Tuesday, January 11, 2005, at 9:00 a.m. in regular session and 10:00 a.m. as Board of Equalization. Complete minutes of the December 28 meeting and an agenda for the January 11 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 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, County Clerk