

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES

The Valley County Board of Supervisors met in regular session in their Courthouse meeting room on June 14, 2005 at 9:00 a.m.. Roll call was taken with Cetak, Cullers, Sintek, Ash, Collins, Baker and Sevenker present. Notice of meeting was verified by the Clerk and the minutes of the May 31, 2005 meeting were approved as published. The agenda was adopted on motion of Baker, seconded by Ash. Carried. Yes: Baker, Ash, Cullers, Collins, Sintek, Cetak. No: none. Absent: none.

Janis Pocock Severson spoke under Public Comment, thanking the Board for the westside Courthouse lights, noting that she would like to see signs for Bussell Park and public restrooms in Courthouse, landscaping at Agland, Cornerstone, Alco and Grocery Kart and noting that her road was too flat and needed more gravel.

Road Report began with discussion of the Road Closing Petition since Bethanne Kunz, Tom Kruml and Gaylord Boilesen were present. Statutory requirements were discussed and a motion was made by Ash, seconded by Cullers directing Road Supt. Leth to do a study of the road described on the petition as the portion of County Road No. 139, Book 1, Page 162, generally located east of the intersection of South Highway 11 and the North Section line of Section 4, T18N, R13W, Valley County, Nebraska, and continuing to the proposed entrance of the Val E Ethanol Facility to be constructed. Carried. Yes: Ash, Baker, Cullers, Collins, Sintek, Cetak. No: none. Absent: none. A resolution was prepared by Attorney Cullers for this purpose, said Resolution 05-14 directing Road Supt. Leth to do a study of the road was approved on motion of Cetak, seconded by Baker. Carried. Yes: Cetak, Ash, Baker, Cullers, Collins, Sintek. No: none. Absent: none.

The State's letter accepting the County's One & Six Year Plan was noted and with Leth's approval, Easements 04-214 Cook & Cook Inc and 04-215 Alvin W. Vavra were approved for refund on motion of Sintek, seconded by Collins. Carried. Yes: Sintek, Collins, Cullers, Baker, Ash, Cetak. No: none. Absent: none.

Leth reported a request from Dean Nelson for help with a drainage problem and he had a map of the area. This would be an extensive project and is a natural waterway. It was decided that Leth would call the Road Committee when he is ready to look at the area. A little more than a third of the of the roadside spraying is completed. The Board asked if Weed Supt. Kaminski should be doing it. Leth noted there was only one spay truck and they were spraying both trees and weeds. Leth reported: numerous slides on Comstock and Loup City roads after rain; hauled 400 yards of sand to arena for Fair Board for the June 22 state horse show; accompanied Clarence Larson as he appraised County property for NIRMA; the vehicle count on the Sargent Road for the Comstock Festival from June 6 to June 13 was 26,050; many repairs needed on this road are in the 1 & 6 year plan, others will be patched and some armour coated; no accidents were reported during the festival; good comments on the traffic lights, they will be taken down until next month; graveling again, Ulrich allowing gravel costs to be carried over to next budget year; would like second traffic counter for Comstock Road; leaving today for mid-year Highway Supt. meeting, required for credits toward license. Noted areas that need work on the Haskell Creek Road, Scotia Road, bridge #11510 needs work and several ditches that need to be cleaned out.

Planning & Zoning Admn. Nancy Glaubke presented Bernard Petska's request for a subdivision of 3 acres and the Planning Commission's recommendation of approval. A map, survey and arial photo of the area were provided. Glaubke noted that 2 Planning Commission members voted against the request due to their concern of too many small developments along the river. Petska agreed to the Commission's recommendation of a 33' setback rather than 25'. There will be no additional road maintenance required of the County. It was moved by Cetak, seconded by Sintek, to approve the Planning Commission recommendation to allow the subdivision of 3 acres requested by Bernard Petska located in Section 30, Township 19 North, Range 13 West of the 6th P.M., Valley County, Nebraska. Carried. Yes: Cetak, Sintek, Collins, Cullers, Baker, Ash. No: none. Absent: none

Bethanne Kunz of the Ord Area Chamber and Larry Koelling of the Lodging Tax Committee were present so agenda item 9E, Lodging Tax Report, was discussed at this time. The County was notified that an error was made in Lodging Tax disbursements and that Valley County will have to pay back \$19,166.84 that should have gone to another county. The Dept. of Revenue will withhold future Lodging Tax payments to Valley County until this amount is repaid. The March Lodging Tax of \$457.81 was received on May 31, however, the April collection of \$240.05 was withheld by the Dept. and applied to the repayment. It was noted that in January, due to a large collection, the County called to confirm that we were receiving the correct amount and were assured it was correct.

A contract was signed with the Ord Area Chamber to assist the County with tourism promotion and an additional 2% tax for improvements was approved based on our past revenue. Repayment of this sizable amount plus the drop in future tax collections will have a significant effect on Valley County tourism projects. The Lodging Tax Committee recommended that the County try to work out a repayment agreement allowing us to receive a portion of our monthly collections and protecting the additional tax for improvements that will begin to be collected in July. The County Attorney will be asked to draft a letter to the Dept. of Revenue with the County's proposal and Kunz will provide a copy of the Lodging Tax Committee meeting minutes with their recommendations for a repayment plan.

At 10:05 a.m. the Board of Equalization was convened on motion of Ash, seconded by Cullers. Carried. Yes: Ash, Baker, Cullers, Collins, Sintek, Cetak. No: none. Absent: none. The Assessor, Deputy Assessor and County Clerk were present.

A tax correction for Jorge & Lucy Grado, adding a flat value of \$500 for a mobile home that was missed in 2004, was approved on motion of Ash, seconded by Baker. Carried. Yes: Ash, Baker, Cullers, Collins Sintek, Cetak. No: none. Absent: none. The Assessor's Certificate of Assessment Roll completion filed with the County Clerk was noted as were the Notices of Valuation Change for County property. The Agland and Cornerstone properties are now valued as commercial. Property Valuation Protest hearing dates were set for the regular Board Meetings on June 28 and July 12 at 10:00 a.m. when the Board of Equalization is convened and a special meeting on July 11 at 8:00 p.m. on motion of Ash, seconded by Cetak. Carried. Yes: Ash, Baker, Cullers, Collins, Sintek, Cetak. No: none. Absent: none. The \$100 flat value for older outbuildings will not be implemented until the Ord Township reappraisal is entered. A letter of resignation from Assessor Debra Y. Waits, effective July 1, 2005, was regrettably accepted on motion of Collins, seconded by Baker. Carried. Yes: Collins, Sintek, Cetak, Ash, Baker, Cullers. No: none. Absent: none. Waits began working in the Assessor's Office in 1985 and was appointed Assessor in 1988. The Board complimented her work, expressed their appreciation for her years of service to the County and their sympathy for the health problems that led to her resignation. Waits indicated that she plans to continue to work in the office on a part-time basis. Deputy Assessor Pam Arnold was willing to serve and was appointed County Assessor effective July 1, 2005 to fulfill the remaining term on motion of Cetak, seconded by Ash. Carried. Yes: Cetak, Sintek, Collins, Cullers, Baker, Ash. No: none. Absent: none. The Board moved back into regular session on motion of Cetak, seconded by Sintek. Carried. Yes: Cetak, Sintek, Collins, Cullers, Baker, Ash. No: none. Absent: none.

Fee reports for County Clerk and District Court were reviewed. Clerk Lindsey also reported as Election Commissioner on progress in complying with Federal HAVA legislation requiring centralized state voter registration and handicapped accessible voting. The Nebr. Secretary of State's Office is using federal funds received for implementation of this legislation to assist the counties. To date we have received a computer, printer, scanner and barcode reader for the state centralized voter registration program. In the near future the state will be providing an electronic voting machine for each polling site and a central counting machine. This equipment is sizable and will require climate controlled storage. Lindsey asked about use of the current evidence room on the first floor if a third floor room can be cleared for use by the Sheriff. The Board had no objection so she will discuss this with Sheriff Ronzzo. She also informed the Board that, while the central counting machine will eliminate the need for precinct counting boards, extra help may be needed on receiving boards and at the Clerk's Office on election night. The new system will require optical scan ballots. The Election Commissioner budget for the 2005-2006 fiscal year will be based on a lot of estimated costs.

Treasurer, Janet Suminski, reported the May receipts and fund balances. County General is in good shape since Road transfers are now made on an as needed basis. She confirmed with the State Auditor that the highway allocation match required by the County is less than was originally thought. The match requirement is 1/4 of the total allocation and motor vehicle fees count toward the match. By her calculation the County would meet the match requirement with a transfer of \$25,638.30, however, she planned to transfer \$50,000 so that monthly transfers would not be necessary. There is nothing to be gained by carrying a large surplus in the Road Fund as they can only spend the amount budgeted. This helps keep an adequate amount in the General Fund, resulting in fewer transfers from the Inheritance Tax Fund to meet monthly expenses. New Pledged Security Notification from

State Bank of Cairo was given as a result of reinvested CD money. Suminski noted that County surplus funds are invested as a lump sum and interest is credited to the County General Fund.

Following discussion, the BCBS Subgroup Application, renewing employee health insurance with the same benefits as last year but with a 5% premium increase, was approved on motion of Collins, seconded by Baker. Carried. Yes: Collins, Cullers, Baker, Ash, Cetak, Sintek. No: none. Absent: none.

No bids were received for providing handicap accessible restrooms on the first floor of the Courthouse. Following discussion, the Board decided that if the work cannot be done locally, the County needs to contact Siemans and get started on needed repair and maintenance work in the Courthouse. A list of projects in order of priority as determined by the Board are: restrooms, windows, heating/cooling system, electrical, tuckpointing, elevator & fire sprinkler system. The County can contribute questions for a new survey to be conducted by the Economic Development Board this fall. This could include questions seeking public opinion on Courthouse repair and maintenance issues. The Board agreed that Inheritance Tax Funds should be used for windows and restrooms and directed the Clerk to invite the Siemens Representative to the next Board Meeting.

The request of Veterans Service Officer, Charles Cox, that Everett Lech be appointed to the Valley County Veterans Service Committee for a 5 year term was approved on motion of Collins, seconded by Ash. Carried. Yes: Collins, Ash, Baker, Cullers, Sintek, Cetak. No: none. Absent: none.

Elizabeth Fischer's letter on behalf of the OHS Dance Team requesting use of the Courthouse lobby each Wednesday afternoon in July from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. to serve sundaes and floats for a free will donation to the cancer walk was discussed. The "Coffee Break for Cancer" project was approved on motion of Collins, seconded by Sintek. Carried. Yes: Collins, Sintek, Cetak, Ash, Baker, Cullers. No: none. Absent: none.

A letter from the Nebr. Energy Office explaining that a recent law change has no effect on Counties that have no Energy Code and the Summary Report of current expenditures for May 31, 2005 were reviewed.

County Attorney Cullers reported that, according to the Sheriff and State Patrol, the number of citations issued during the Comstock Festival was down and no accidents were reported in Valley County. A request has been received to build a cabin on a minimum maintenance road in the NW corner of the County. The County could require the requester to sign a waiver that would attach to the property so that the County would not be forced to maintain the road even if the land were sold. It will be presented for Board review at a later date. He advised that it is important to follow proper procedure for the requested road closing. He also reported on the County Attorney's roll in child support enforcement. The earlier Lodging Tax discussion was reviewed as Attorney Cullers was in District Court at that time. He advised that since no bids were received for the handicap restroom project, we may yet be able to use this project as matching funds if we were to receive a grant for Courthouse renovation. We should check with Heidi Phillips or Glen Gates.

Supervisor Cullers left the meeting at 11:40.

Under Committee Reports, Supervisor Baker presented a written report given to him regarding hospital finances. The Clerk is to send a copy of the report to Neelam Bhardwaj and invite her to the next Board meeting to comment on it. The Clerk was also directed to include the Economic Development survey on the next agenda for the Board to propose questions they would like included on the survey.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m., to reconvene on Tuesday, June 28, 2005 at 9:00 a.m. in regular session and 10:00 a.m. as Board of Equalization. Complete minutes of the June 10 meeting and an agenda for the June 28 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.