

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Valley County Board of Supervisors was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 30, 2006 in their Courthouse meeting room. Roll call was taken with Collins, Sevenker, Ash, Cetak, Sintek, Cetak and Cullers present. The Clerk verified publication of meeting notice, posting of agendas in Courthouse and on website and faxing to the media. There were no changes or corrections of the April 25 or May 8 meeting, both were approved as published. The agenda was adopted on motion of Collins, seconded by Sintek. Carried. Yes: Collins, Sintek, Cetak, Ash, Baker, Cullers. No: none. Absent: none. There was no public comment.

Road Secretary, Sandy Simpson, presented the Road Payroll and Claims report for May. Payroll was \$32,702.93, accounts payable \$45,133.42. A transfer of \$27,456.65 from General Fund to Road Fund was needed to meet this month's expenses. To date, fuel expenses are \$10,048.90 over the budgeted amount, but the overall road budget is sufficient to cover the overage.

Road Supt. Leth reported that Easement 06-247 for the City of Ord was in order and said easement was approved on motion of Collins, seconded by Cetak. Carried. Yes: Collins, Cullers, Baker, Ash, Cetak, Sintek. No: none. Absent: none.

Leth's report included: completion of installation of button delineators on the Comstock road curve; he found 3 corners on the Jacobs' property, but County will have to pay for JEO to establish the 4th, he does not think quarter corners should be billed to County; discussion of fencing of Davis Creek Cemetery will continue at the next meeting after Leth inspects it; plum bushes obstructing view of traffic at corner on Loup City road need to be removed; state permit for ethanol plant access road has been received; asphalt quotes are up approximately 46¢ per gallon over last year, will do at least 1 of 3 asphalt projects scheduled, would be more costly to neglect the asphalt; working on new mix strip; road sign vandalism reported to Sheriff included 7 signs removed and others with obscene language written on them; continuing to spray spurge; noted information received from state regarding new federal regulations on bridge management.

Discussion was held regarding installation of a culvert near Sebesta's and the filling of ditches following a Game and Parks controlled burn near Ashton. Leth noted that the culvert installation is waiting completion of the state project to allow for angle changes that may be made and removal of trees. He also said he plans to fill the ditches near Ashton as he has in the past.

Chairman Sevenker skipped to item 10-F since Audrey Brittenham was present to request approval of using the Courthouse lawn for the "Art on the Courthouse Lawn" on July 1. Reminding her of the need to avoid the underground sprinklers when setting up their fencing, the Board approved the request on motion of Cetak, seconded by Baker. Carried. Yes: Cetak, Sintek, Collins, Cullers, Baker, Ash. No: none. Absent: none.

Hospital CEO, Larry Schrage presented the regular monthly Hospital report, focusing on current month and year-to-date revenues and expenses. He noted most expenses are fixed but revenues fluctuate with utilization. Loss of the ability to admit and readmit Nursing Home patients affected revenue and expenses were up due to the hiring of Donice Woodworth to help correct the problem. Employees were given a 4% increase which was not budgeted. Attorney fees were under budget this year. In order to be in compliance with federal law, a change was made in the administrator of the 403B plan from Sun America to Merrill Lynch. Funded depreciation was discussed with Schrage noting that Medicare reimbursement criteria plays a part in determining the amount of funded depreciation. He also noted that rates for bank financing of equipment are not above 5% except for the cars which are at 5.25%. The car purchase is saving \$60,00 per year. The nuclear camera is being installed today which will allow more convenient scheduling for providers and patients. Chairman Sevenker congratulated Schrage on his appointment by the Hospital Board to the CEO position permanently. Schrage said he accepted the position and the challenge. He said he has a vision for the Health Center and that his philosophy is that we serve the community not ourselves. His plan is to maximize the use of the existing facilities for the next year while working toward what is best for health care delivery. A copy of the Hospital By-Laws, as amended April, 2006 to reflect the legislative changes in the Open Meetings Act, was also presented.

Supervisor George Baker left the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Weed Supt., Darrell Kaminski, asked for and received Board approval to purchase a handheld GPS unit. He has priced them at Cabellas at a cost of \$79 to \$99 for one that only gives latitude and longitude, which is all he needs. Supervisor Collins asked if he had sent out spurge letters and Kaminski said he had sent letters and made calls.

At 10:00 a.m. the Board of Equalization was convened on motion of Cetak, seconded by Sintek. Carried. Yes: Cetak, Sintek, Collins, Cullers, Ash. No: none. Absent: Baker.

The following Notices of Valuation Change for 2006 were presented: parcel #880009464 Darrell D. & Charlotte K. Gould Trust, parcel #880005404 Curtis C. & Susan K. Schauer, parcel #880007518 Mary Ellen & David J. Setlik, parcel #880036813 Ron Lutz, parcel #880036814 Aaron Jacobs, parcels #880017549 #880036449 Lex E. & Deborah A. Jeffres & Michael J. Jeffres, parcel #880025683 Carmen Jorgensen, parcel # 880036815 James D. Hawley, parcel #88001606 Valley County, parcel #880011557 R. Neal Pocock & Janis R. Severson, parcel #880017311 Deann Stephens, parcel # 880036274 Henry C. & Julie A. Streff. Following discussion, the above listed 2006 Notices of Valuation Change were approved on motion of Ash, seconded by Cullers. Carried. Yes: Ash, Cullers, Collins, Sintek, Cetak. No: none. Absent: Baker.

PAT Directive 06-3 was also presented.

At 10:15 a.m. the Board returned to regular session on motion of Cetak, seconded by Sintek. Carried. Yes: Cetak, Sintek, Collins, Cullers, Ash. No: none. Absent: Baker.

The bond renewal certificate for Ron Wolf, General Manager of Twin Loups Reclamation District was approved on motion of Ash, seconded by Collins. Carried. Yes: Ash, Cullers, Sintek, Cetak, Collins. No: none. Absent: Baker. Said certificate was signed by the Bond Committee.

Clerk Lindsey reported attending the BCBS meeting in Kearney on May 18th where she learned there is to be a 4% increase in premiums and a change to on-line enrollment. She also noted that the subgroup application had not yet been received so it will be on the June 13 agenda. The application deadline is June 15, 2006.

May Claims were approved on motion of Collins, seconded by Sintek. Carried. Yes: Collins, Sintek, Cetak, Ash, Cullers. No: none. Absent: Baker.

As advertised, the Public Hearing regarding the adoption of Quarantine and Isolation Regulations proposed by the Loup Basin Public Health Department, was opened at 10:30 a.m.. Supervisor Sintek, the County's LBPHD Representative, noted that all of the counties in the LBPHD received the same set of regulations. Local Physician's Assistant Bob Riley appeared and spoke regarding his concerns based on his research into the bird flu virus. He said there is no immunity to this disease and it is not a question of if, but when. He approved the adoption of the proposed Quarantine & Isolation Regulations. Sintek invited him to speak at the next LBPHD meeting. County Attorney Cullers said he had reviewed the regulations and that most of the burden was taken by LBPHD and suggested that a copy of the adopted regulations be provided to the County Sheriff. Sintek moved to adopt the proposed Quarantine and Isolation Regulations presented by the Loup Basin Public Health Department, seconded by Cetak. Carried. Yes: Sintek, Cetak, Collins, Cullers, Ash. No: none. Absent: Baker. The Public Hearing was closed at 10:45 a.m..

Brian Hergott of Beckenhauer Construction, Inc. was present to discuss their proposed invitation to bidders. Bids would be opened by Beckenhauers and presented to the Board at their next meeting. Supervisor Cullers noted that the Courthouse is on the Historical Register and Hergott said they would check with them regarding the proposed renovation. Hergott also suggested that the Board visit the Aurora Courthouse as they have installed the retro fit windows. There is one alternate proposal for both windows and heating/air-conditioning. The aluminum windows would have one operable window per office, the wood interior windows could each be adjusted to open or not, as desired. It will be necessary to lower ceilings in some areas to accommodate the air-conditioning units. Hergott assured the Board that they were making no commitment by advertising for bids. Concern was expressed with the short bid time, however, Hergott said many potential bidders are already aware of the project and that they would make calls to potential bidders if necessary. Ash moved to approve Beckenhauer's bid advertisement for the installation of replacement HVAC and

exterior windows for the Valley County Courthouse, seconded by Cullers. Bids are to be received by June 15 and reported to the Board at their June 27 meeting. Carried. Yes: Ash, Cullers, Collins, Sintek, Ash. No: none. Absent: Baker. Three sets of plans will be available for checkout in the Clerk's Office. The Clerk is to keep a list of those who check out the plans.

Region 26 Director, Alma Beland, appeared to ask the Board to adopt a resolution approving the application of Region 26 for Homeland Security grant funds. County approval is required in order for grant funds to be received. They are seeking a communications grant again this year, if there are funds left next year they may apply for an equipment grant. They are working with Platte Valley Communications to provide back up for Region 26 in the Valley County Sheriff's Office. A work station would be installed in the Sheriff's Office to allow everything to be switched over to the Sheriff's Office if Region 26 were to go down for any reason. It could also be used by the Sheriff's Office as a regular work station and there would be no cost to the County. The current tower is no longer sufficient, so they are looking at replacing it. Homeland Security funds in Nebraska last year were 18 million dollars, this year 4 million. Government is more likely to approve Grants for towers as they can use them too. Another part of the grant is for surveillance equipment for the Courthouses, 6 cameras and a monitor. The Counties would be responsible for maintenance. Resolution 06-13, authorizing Region 26 to apply for Homeland Security grant funds, was approved on motion of Ash, seconded by Collins. Carried. yes: Ash, Cullers, Collins, Sintek, Cetak. No: none. Absent: Baker.

The 911 addressing for Valley County was discussed. Beland said they are very close but have not received the street information from Ord yet. She said they may need to go on to Blaine County and come back to Valley County later. The road to the Region 26 tower was also discussed.

Gene McCoy spoke in favor of renewing the Interlocal Agreement between Valley County and the City of Ord in support of the Valley County Economic Development Board. The VCED Board is asking the County and City for \$20,000 each per year, an increase of \$5000 per year for each entity. McCoy provided a printed list of accomplishments credited to the VCED Board, including the recruitment of Val-E-Ethanol and Timberline Total Solutions. He noted that due to increased activity more staff is needed. He said he felt the County had received a good return on their investment. Supervisor Cullers moved to approve renewing the agreement as presented, seconded by Collins. Carried. Yes: Cullers, Collins, Sintek, Cetak, Ash. No: none. Absent: Baker.

Bethanne Kunz, Economic Development Director asked the Board to approve the contract for the BECA Grant. She said there would be no cost to the County. The grant will be used to compile a data base of names and addresses of former area graduates to be used to encourage their return to Valley County. The contract was approved on motion of Ash, seconded by Cullers. Carried. Yes: Ash, Cullers, Collins, Sintek, Cetak. No: none. Absent: Baker. The grant award was \$17,000.

Renewal of the Lodging Tax Agreement between the County and the Ord Area Chamber was discussed. County Attorney Cullers noted that Lodging Tax Committee members Don Vancura and Larry Koelling were given copies of the proposed agreement and he had received no comments from them. Bethanne Kunz said that the Committee verbally approved the proposed agreement at their last meeting. The new agreement would cut some Chamber requirements on accountability and audits since the dollar amounts will be less and the Chamber is to receive \$4500 per year rather than \$6000, also due to the reduction in collections. Supervisor Sintek said he felt that the \$4500 should be paid from both the Promotion and Improvement Funds so that sufficient funding would remain in the Promotion fund to continue to support the local programs. Kunz said she would turn in claims from both funds. Sintek moved to approve the Agreement Between Valley County and the Ord Area Chamber of Commerce with regard to the Lodging Tax, seconded by Cetak. Carried. Yes: Sintek, Cetak, Collins, Cullers, Ash. No: none. Absent: Baker. Kunz reminded the Board of the event to be held at the Vets Club on Friday, June 2 where Wozab Grant funds will be awarded.

Pat Marsh appeared to request Board approval for the Farmers Market on the Courthouse lawn. She said they would try not to set up in the same spot every week to reduce damage to the lawn. The Board noted that Farmers Market members were responsible to leave the site clean each week. Following discussion, Cetak moved to approve the use of the Courthouse lawn for the

Farmers Market, seconded by Ash. Carried. Yes: Cetak, Ash, Cullers, Collins, Sintek. No: none. Absent: Baker. Marsh noted each member is required to carry \$100,000 liability insurance.

March Lodging Tax receipts of \$526.06 and May expenditures of \$4470.23 were noted.

County Attorney Cullers reported that the railroad has asked for written authorization that the County would pay for the crossing work at the ethanol plant access road. He has excerpts of Board minutes from November 30, 2005 and December 13, 2005 estimating the cost of the crossing work to be \$41,000 and the Board's understanding that this would be paid by sales tax funds.

The new Mortensen Site leases are awaiting legal descriptions of the property which will not be available until Gilmore has done the survey work

Supervisor Cullers, the County's Region 3 Representative, provided a printed report from the May 19th Region 3 meeting. She reminded the Board that Randy McCall will be on the June 13 Agenda to give a Region 3 report and answer any questions the Supervisors may have.

Mail Folder items available for review: NDOR letter on input for STIP, Loup Basin RC&D Newsletter, Valley County Health System Foundation Annual Report, Center for BioPreparedness Bulletin, CNCS Recap & Annual Report, NIRMA loss report & Newsletter, Karr Tuckpointing, JEO invitation, NACo T. Loewenstein Newsletters (4).

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m., to reconvene on Tuesday, June 13, 2006, at 9:00 a.m. in regular session and 10:00 a.m. as Board of Equalization. Complete minutes of the May 30 meeting and an agenda for the June 13 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