

## VALLEY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES

The Valley County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, December 11, 2007 in the Courthouse Boardroom. Roll call: Cetak, Sevenker, Baker, Cullers, Van Slyke, Waldmann present; Vogeler absent. Clerk verified meeting notice was published and agenda posted. Minutes of November 27, 2007 meeting, included in the Board packets, were approved on motion of Baker, seconded by Cetak. Carried. Yes: Baker, Cullers, Van Slyke, Cetak, Waldmann. No: none. Absent: Vogeler. Cullers moved to approve agenda, seconded by Waldmann. Carried. Yes: Cullers, Waldmann, Cetak, Van Slyke, Baker. No: none. Absent: Vogeler. Sevenker noted posting of Open Meetings Act and public copies available. There was no public comment.

To comply with state statute when advertising state road projects for bids in Valley County, NDOR requests the County to designate an official County newspaper each year. Van Slyke moved to designate the Ord Quiz, seconded by Cullers. Carried. Yes: Van Slyke, Baker, Cullers, Waldmann, Cetak. No: none. Absent: Vogeler.

Supervisor Vogeler arrived at 9:10 a.m.

Leth's General Report included: Michelin tires now cost \$1270 each so ordered a set of General tires at \$850 per tire to try out, counties who have used General tires report getting half the wear time of Michelin but Road budget cannot afford the Michelin's; received 911 posts, list of 911 signs provided by Midwest Service appear to be okay, Midwest will keep on file in case replacements are needed; grader blades are to leave factory the 18<sup>th</sup>; have been moving snow and sanding roads, used load of salt already and ordered more; County is not able to go over roads multiple times as the state does because County only has 2 trucks; will finish bridge inspections this week and send in report; one bridge in very poor condition located on Turtle Creek by Welniaks on minimum maintenance road, no dwellings, not a mail or bus route, used by Welniaks for calving. Discussed a new bridge at estimated cost of \$50,000, a vented ford for \$15,000 to \$18,000, or closing the road. Leth felt the Board should look at it.

Agenda item 8B was discussed at this time to include Leth. Sevenker reported that copies of the County's 911 road map purchased from Copycat Printing in Kearney were not acceptable as they did not pick up the lighter colored roads. Clerk reported that the Quiz is unable to make copies of the map. NDOR has supplied 911 road maps to Leth, he will check to see if he can get more copies. The Clerk will check with NRD to see if they are able to copy the existing map and continue to work with Region 26 and GeoComm on getting additional colored maps.

Brent Meyer of the Nebr. Dept. of Ag was not able to attend due to the weather. Valley County Weed Supt. Kaminski provided copies of Meyer's Evaluation Report in which Kaminski received 850 points out of 1000. Meyer plans to attend a January Board meeting. Kaminski also left copies of his inspection reports and weed notices for the Board to review.

Sevenker reported that Bill Clamp would not appear as he has made additional adjustments to the handicap accessible door at the east entrance and it is currently working.

Clerk Lindsey presented an amended Claims & Balances Report and an additional November Fund Request to reflect payment of Housing Grant funds previously approved by the Board but received after the deadline for the November 27 meeting agenda. Grant funds are required to be dispersed within 5 days of receipt. The Fund Request was approved by Chairman Sevenker.

Lindsey also notified the Board that she intends to enter into a 3-year contract, (copy in Board packets) with Election Systems and Software for their services and presented November Fee Reports for County Clerk and Clerk of District Court.

Supervisor Van Slyke reported that the Arcadia Legion is available on February 9 for a County employee recognition dinner. Discussion was held regarding choice of food and costs. Van Slyke will report costs to Clerk and employees will be notified.

Although the item was not on the agenda, Custodian Cronk reported that Joe Wadas has a core drill and will help him replace the railing on the east entrance steps if the Board approves. The Board approved.

Supervisor Cullers presented a copy of the partnership request to the City of Ord for use of a portion of the excess sales tax receipts to aid in the addition of an elevator, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor exit and fire sprinkler system in the Courthouse. The request was presented to the City at their last meeting. Supervisors Cullers, Sevenker, Baker and Waldmann were in attendance at that meeting. The City is not sure what the amount of excess sales tax will be and the County does not have exact figures for the cost of the Courthouse renovation. The City asked that the County keep them informed.

The meeting recessed at 10:30 a.m. and reconvened at 10:45 a.m. with all Board members present.

Maintenance of the Mortensen Monument was discussed. Supervisor Baker provided pictures of the monument showing damage to the monument and weeds that obscured it from view. Road Supt. Leth noted that he mows the weeds around the monument in the summer but that he would mow a larger area from now on. This item is to be addressed again in April 2008.

Membership dues to Ord Area Chamber were discussed and approved on motion of Cullers, seconded by Vogeler. Carried. Yes: Cullers, Waldmann, Vogeler, Cetak, Van Slyke, Baker. No: none. Absent: none. Chamber membership includes the option of a website link which led to discussion of the County website. The Clerk is to check with NOL as to costs and options for adding more information to the County website.

Following discussion and review of the preliminary draft audit and the management representation letter provided by Dana Cole, Vogeler moved to authorize Chairman Sevenker to sign the letter, seconded by Cetak. Carried. Yes: Vogeler, Cetak, Waldmann, Cullers, Baker, Van Slyke. No: none. Absent: none.

November Lodging Tax receipts and expenses were presented as was the November Current Expenditures Summary Report.

Notice of the Presidential Declaration of December 24, 2008 as a federal holiday was provided. The Board elected to stay with the previous plan to close Courthouse offices at 1:00 p.m.

County Attorney Clark reported that the County's Motion for Summary Judgment in the Ammerman lawsuit was granted by Judge Noakes and that the Plaintiff has 30 days to appeal. Clark also reported that, because the Plaintiff voluntarily dismissed the County from the Bhardwaj lawsuit, the County is unable to seek repayment of costs.

Supervisor Waldman reported as the County's Rep on the RC&D Council that they are considering starting an endowment fund in case government funding runs out and that the Junk Jaunt is about ready to go on it's own and should be self-supporting.

Supervisor Van Slyke reported as the County's Rep on the Region 26 Board that they are considering a new building to meet state requirements and that grant funds should be available for this.

At 11:40 a.m. the Board recessed to conduct the quarterly jail inspection and will reconvene at 1:00 p.m. for discussion of agenda item 13 which is scheduled to be heard at that time.

At 1:00 p.m. the meeting reconvened with all Board members present for discussion of agenda item 13, Courthouse Elevator Project/5-Year Plan for fire sprinklers and 3<sup>rd</sup> floor exit. CNEDD Executive Director Laurie Hansen, Fire Marshall Don Fast and LVRPP Director Chuck Fuhrer were also present for the discussion. Hansen noted that it was not necessary for the Historical Society to be present for the discussion as the 5-year plan was being considered as a means to allow the Fire Marshall to sign off on the elevator project for purposes of the grant application and the grant will be written for the elevator only. She also provided pictures of the Holt County Courthouse showing their outside stairway exit from the upper floors. Fast provided printed information that gave the required specifications for a new stairway and said he would be willing to consult with the builder. He also said: the best location for outside stairway would be as far as possible from existing inside stairway; that he had no objection to use of the jail roof as a landing; that in his experience the Historical Society does not raise objections when there is a safety issue; that a landing is required at each floor; that the 5-year plan could be in the form of a letter of intent signed by all the Board members; that the fire sprinkler is of primary importance due to the effect the existing open stairways inside the Courthouse would have on smoke; windows would not provide sufficient exits, exit doors would be required from each floor. Fuhrer said he has not initiated the application process for interest free loan funds through the USDA REDL Grant Program as he was awaiting word from the County regarding their plans. The next application deadline is the end of March and he will submit at that time. The project must meet certain requirements. Hansen noted the possibility that USDA may be able to help with the engineering of the outside stairway. She also noted that the letter for the 5-year plan will be needed for the environmental study, a requirement of the grant application, and she plans to have the study done soon.

Following the discussion, the Clerk was directed to draft a letter to State Fire Marshall John Falgione noting the Board's consultation with Don Fast and their intent to complete the elevator, fire sprinkler system and outside stairway exit from the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor within 5 years and submit it at the Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> Board meeting for their approval and signatures.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m., to reconvene on December 27, 2007 at 9:00 a.m. in regular session. Complete minutes of the December 11 meeting and an agenda for the December 27 meeting are available for public inspection 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, Valley County Clerk