

VALLEY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES

As advertised, the Valley County Board of Supervisors' regular meeting date was changed from Tuesday May 13, 2008 to Friday, May 9, 2008 due to the statewide Primary Election. The Board met in regular session at 9:00 a.m., Friday, May 9, 2008 in the Courthouse Boardroom. Roll call: Cetak, Sevenker, Vogeler, Baker, Cullers, Van Slyke and Waldmann were present. Clerk verified meeting notice was published and agenda posted. Minutes of the April 29 meeting were included in the Board packets. Chairman Sevenker felt the minutes should be corrected to add that the Board took no action as a result of the executive session. The April 29 meeting minutes were approved as corrected on motion of Van Slyke, seconded by Cullers. Carried. Yes: Van Slyke, Baker, Cullers, Waldman, Vogeler, Cetak. No: none. Absent: none. Agenda items 7A 4 and 10A 1-5 were added after the Board packets were sent but prior to the 24 hour deadline. Baker moved to adopt the agenda as presented at the meeting, seconded by Waldmann. Carried. Yes: Baker, Van Slyke, Cullers, Cetak, Vogeler, Waldmann. No: none. Absent: none. Sevenker noted posting of Open Meetings Act, public copies available. There was no public comment.

Sheriff Casey Hurlburt introduced Deputy Adam Miller who is to begin June 1. Hurlburt reported that 2 Sheriff's vehicles need to be replaced immediately; transmission is out of one and the other is not safe for law enforcement activities. He has found two 2003, fully equipped (except radio and radar) Crown Victoria vehicles with 49,000 and 56,000 miles on them at a cost of \$12,300 each in Kansas City. New ones would cost \$21,500 to \$23,000. Crown Victoria's are designed for police work. He would like to have video cameras in the vehicles for the protection of the public and officers and to provide evidence. It would cost \$1000 more per vehicle for the decal detailing, radio and radar. The vehicles he is putting out of service are 2000 Crown Victorias with 160,000 and 150,000 plus miles on them. Hurlburt has hired a second deputy, Paul Deaver, who has experience and training in grant writing. Cullers moved to approve the purchase of the two 2003 Crown Victoria vehicles at a cost of \$12,300 each, plus delivery and detailing costs, not to exceed \$28,000, to be paid from the Inheritance Tax Fund, seconded by Van Slyke. Further discussion included: delaying purchase of video cameras and applying for a grant to get them, concern that a lot of money is being spent in the Sheriff's Dept., recognition that issues being addressed are safety concerns. Cullers' motion carried. Yes: Cullers, Baker, Van Slyke, Cetak, Vogeler, Waldmann. No: none. Absent: none. Hurlburt told the Board that Miller was taking a substantial cut in pay to come to Valley County. Miller's wife has been hired as Administrative Assistant to Hospital CEO Larry Schrage and the Miller's would be getting their health insurance through the Hospital. He asked if the amount the County would have paid for Miller's health insurance could be applied to his salary instead. Discussion included: this has not been done in the past for other employees, it would set a precedent, a specific percentage of employee participation is required to qualify for the NACO/BCBS plan the County currently has, and the current Personnel Policy would need to be changed. Hurlburt said he has talked to North Loup regarding what services he could provide for them and that they seemed agreeable to increasing the amount they currently pay. He said he would ask for a minimum of \$18,000 per year. He is working toward meeting the Jail Standard requirements and suggestions from their last inspection. Carpet in the back office has been removed and he would like to replace carpet in the kitchen area with vinyl that can be scrubbed. Also has removed paint from showers which were thought to be stainless steel but are galvanized and in bad shape. Would like to put new doors in for the visiting room and weight room for security reasons so prisoners could be kept confined at all times. He invited Board members to look at the jail area to better understand what he wants to do and why. The amount budgeted in the Jail Administrator salary line item was incorrect and no funds remain, \$4500 was budgeted and \$5400 was needed. The Board directed that the remaining \$900 be paid out of the Misc. General budget. Hurlburt also questioned the amount budgeted in his salary line item but it was thought this was due to budgeting a calendar year raise for the fiscal year and it should be okay.

Frank Robak of Frontier Communications appeared at Hurlburt's request to discuss a change from dial-up to high speed internet service in the Sheriff's Office. Currently the internet and fax machine are the same number so both cannot be used at the same time which creates some problems. Robak said it would cost \$69.99 for a 2 year agreement which would be reduced to \$49.99 since the County is a Chamber member. Robak said Frontier is the local service provider but that the County is currently using NT&T services. The Clerk noted that a change for long distance call service was made several years ago due to poor billing service from Frontier and cheaper long distance rates. Robak said Frontier provides local repair and installation service and requests should be directed to Frontier. The Board agreed that Robak could give a proposal for service to the County.

Emergency Manager, Ryan Simpson, appeared to request Board approval of the purchase of 2 lap top computers through State Surplus at a cost of \$200 to \$300 each. He would keep one at home to use for updating the LEOP (Local Emergency Operation Plan) and other work that takes up a lot of space on the computer so that he would not have to use his personal computer. He would use the other one in his vehicle for weather related or emergency issues and would like to have a cell phone that could be used to provide internet access. The Board said if he had sufficient funds in his budget they had no objection.

Road Supt. Leth provided copies of a letter and policy statement from the NDOR Bridge Division requiring that any bridge constructed or reconstructed on a public road have the plans, load rating and a scour and hydraulic study signed by an engineer effective May 1, 2008. Leth said he can no longer construct or repair bridges without hiring an engineer. Access road for Mortensen Industrial Site not yet completed; Melia is to rotovate the Springdale Hillside Cemetery next week, after which Leth will seed and fence it; project C88119B is completed, truss bridge has been sold and will seed area and remove silt fence once grass is up; hauling gravel, will go over budget for gravel; many water problems; will need a couple of culverts on road to Ted Nelsons; will check on state culverts from highway project. Vogeler noted some areas where gravel was not sufficiently spread out and was too deep for safe driving. Leth said this was a contract haul and he has told them 100 yards to the mile, he will check on this. Van Slyke said he received a call from the School District regarding the need for gravel on the road to Nevriy's to allow the school bus to travel it. Leth said that he had ordered the gravel and it should have been delivered, he will check on that.

A recess was called at 10:45 a.m., the meeting reconvened at 10:55 a.m. with all Board members present.

A copy of the current Ground Lease used for lots in the Mortensen Industrial Site and a copy of proposed Development Restrictions put together by the Mortensen Site Covenant Committee were provided to the Board. Vogeler noted that this information is to be given to County Attorney Clark for his opinion and asked that the Board review them too. This item is to be on the next meeting agenda to receive suggestions and comments.

Baker said he has talked to Clamp regarding repair of the Mortensen Site monument and about securing the Courthouse benches to the pads. Clamp will provide a cost estimate for both.

Bob Huddleston and Wayne McDermott of Wells Fargo Insurance Service had called Clerk Lindsey and suggested that they send health questionnaires to be completed by each employee so that they could provide a firm quote based on this information. No questionnaires have been received. The Board was not comfortable with requiring the questionnaires and felt it was probably too close to renewal time to evaluate a health insurance proposal.

Chairman Sevenker indicated that Budget Accountant Abel cannot attend the next County Board meeting but will put some information together regarding how the merger of the Rural and City Fire Dept. would affect the County budget. This item is to be on the next meeting agenda.

Baker reported that he plans to contact Architect Glen Mannes regarding the Courthouse elevator project later this month to see when he might be able to come to a County Board meeting and that he will send pictures of the outside of the Courthouse as requested by Mannes.

Board noted the reminder of the BCBS informational meeting dates and the Budget Seminar on May 29.

At 11:10 a.m. Waldmann moved to go into Board of Equalization, seconded by Cullers. Carried. Yes: Waldmann, Cullers, Baker, Van Slyke, Cetak, Vogeler. No: none. Absent: none. The Assessor and Clerk were present.

Tax List Correction #3720 for Harlan & Betty Green, due to the denial of 2007 homestead exemption by the State Tax Commissioner, was presented for Board approval. Cetak moved to approve Tax List Correction #3720, seconded by Vogeler. Carried. Yes: Cetak, Vogeler, Waldmann, Cullers, Baker, Van Slyke. No: none. Absent: none. Also presented was the Findings & Orders from TERC which advised that the County was in compliance with land valuation requirements and that no adjustments would be ordered for tax year 2008. The required value range for residential property is 92% to 100%, Valley County is at 93%; commercial property requirement is also 92% to 100%, Valley County is at 95%; required range for agricultural property is 69% to 75%, Valley County is at 74%.

Assessor Arnold said she has scheduled GIS demonstrations from 2 companies following the May 27th Board meeting at 1:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Cetak moved to go out of BOE and return to regular session, seconded by Van Slyke. Carried. Yes: Cetak, Vogeler, Waldmann, Cullers, Baker, Van Slyke. No: none. Absent: none.

Candy Kuntz of Miller & Assoc., General Administrator of the Housing Assistance Grant, appeared to present a new applicant for down payment and rehab housing assistance and invoices for her services as well as Housing Administrator, Community Development Services. Kuntz noted that there is the potential for 3 additional applicants. She also said the money allotted for rehabilitation is running out and she is checking with the state to see if it can be

increased by reallocating some of the down payment assistance funds. Vogeler moved, seconded by Cullers, to approve VC-08-DPA for \$10,900 and VC-08-HR for \$5000. Carried. Yes: Vogeler, Cetak, Waldmann, Cullers, Baker, Van Slyke. No: none. Absent: none. CDS invoices in the amount of \$1250 Housing Administration and \$200 Lead Based Paint testing were approved on motion of Vogeler, seconded by Cetak. Carried. Yes: Vogeler, Cetak, Waldmann, Van Slyke, Baker, Cullers. No: none. Absent: none. The Miller & Assoc. invoice for \$1200 General Administration was approved on motion of Van Slyke, seconded by Baker. Carried. Yes: Van Slyke, Baker, Cullers, Waldmann, Vogeler, Cetak. No: none. Absent: none.

Alec Baillie, Director of the Loup Basin Tech Center, was present to discuss what they have to offer the area and asked for County support. They are working to get a 501C designation which will require development of by-laws and setting up a Board. They are looking at an 8 member board and would like each of the 9 counties in the RC&D area to appoint a representative who would attend one meeting each month. He also discussed LB1208 passed in 2006 which provides funds to K-12 school districts to improve their technological equipment. A state network will be provided to improve communication access. Colleges will be able to provide classes to high school students throughout the state. He is hoping to find a way to utilize the LBTC to assist in this program. County taxpayers support the Community Colleges and he asked the Board to help convince the Colleges to use some of their tax dollars to help provide such things as distance learning through places like the Loup Basin Tech Center. A follow-up class to the recent computer training class offered to County employees through a UNL Extension grant program was discussed. Baillie will provide a questionnaire for employees to fill out to see if there is sufficient interest. Follow-up classes would not be covered by a grant. Baillie said they charge \$125 per hour for use of the facility and a per-pupil fee depending on the number of people and the instructor's fee. Government entities receive a discount.

County Attorney Clark, who had been in District Court, had no report. Discussion was held regarding the issue of allowing employees to receive cost of health insurance if they opt not to go on the County's policy.

Supervisor Cullers left the meeting just ahead of noon.

Discussion was held regarding surplus furniture items found in the process of expanding the Sheriff's Office and moving the Road Office and the Probation Office. The old roll top desk and the old barrister's bookcase are to be kept in the Courthouse. The remaining items will be listed and marked for sale or bid within the next few weeks.

Following discussion, Cetak moved to approve use of the Courthouse lobby on July 6, the Downtown Renovation Celebration, for an informational display by Valley County Foundation and offering tours of the Courthouse at that time; use of the Courthouse lobby on July 2 at 7:00 p.m. for the Republican Party convention. Motion seconded by Waldmann. Carried. Yes: Cetak, Vogeler, Waldmann, Van Slyke, Baker. No: none. Absent: Cullers.

Resolution 08-12, Public Unit Resolution of Authority, required by TierOne Bank to authorize the Sheriff's bank account, was approved on motion of Van Slyke, seconded by Waldmann. Carried. Van Slyke, Baker, Waldmann, Vogeler, Cetak. No: none. Absent: Cullers.

The Claims and Fund Request for payment of the May BCBS premium of \$24,230.33 was approved on motion of Vogeler, seconded by Baker. Carried. Yes: Vogeler, Baker, Van Slyke, Cetak, Waldmann. No: none. Absent: Cullers.

Informational items reviewed included: receipt of April Expenditures Summary Report; CNEDD 2008 Membership Dues of \$2439 will be addressed through the claims process; receipt of BCBS 2008 rate summary indicating 8.46% premium increase; receipt of Certificate of Liability Insurance for Ziemba Roofing Co.

Discussed budget overages in Relief Fund through which indigent medical, living or burial expenses as well as the HHS office rent and utilities are paid. Funding through Misc. General, Inheritance Tax or amending the budget was discussed. Vogeler moved, seconded by Baker, to pay Relief expenses from the Inheritance Tax Fund for the remaining 2 months of the FY. Carried. Yes: Vogeler, Cetak, Baker. No: Waldmann, Van Slyke. Absent: Cullers.

Discussed the Unreimbursed Medical program the County provides for employees. At the time of Ronzzo's resignation he had withdrawn more than he had contributed. This is a liability which the County agreed to when the program was established, but Board would like to see if the employee could pay the overage amount direct to the account. The Clerk will check on this.

Discussion was held regarding the email communication from Mike Dobesh regarding state water issues and the suggestion that Counties get together to address the issue. Vogeler and Van Slyke felt this should be looked into further. Vogeler will contact Dobesh and report to the Board.

Van Slyke noted that Region 26 is already developing a Hazard Mitigation plan and wonders why Lower Loup NRD is going to the expense of developing another one. He will get more information from Region 26 regarding this and report to the Board.

Mail Folder items available for review: Chamber/VCED Newsletter, May 14 agenda and April minutes.

Meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m., to reconvene on May 27, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. in regular session and 11:00 a.m. as Board of Equalization. Complete minutes of the May 9 meeting and an agenda for the May 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