

## VALLEY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES

The Valley County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, January 12, 2010 in the Courthouse Boardroom with Supervisor Sevenker acting as Chairman. Roll call: Vogeler, Baker, Waldmann, Cullers, VanSlyke, Sevenker, Cetak present. VanSlyke moved to leave the Chairman and Vice-Chairman the same as last year, Sevenker as Chairman and Cullers as Vice Chairman, seconded by Cetak. Carried. Yes: VanSlyke, Cetak, Vogeler, Waldmann, Cullers, Baker. No: none. Absent: none. Discussion was held regarding allowing the Chairman to vote. This topic will be on the next Board agenda. Publishing meeting notice and posting of agenda was verified by the Clerk. Minutes of December 29, 2009 meeting, included in the Board packets, were approved on motion of Cullers, seconded by VanSlyke. Carried. Yes: Cullers, Waldmann, Vogeler, Cetak, VanSlyke, Baker. No: none. Absent: none. Baker moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by Cullers. Carried. Yes: Baker, Cullers, VanSlyke, Cetak, Vogeler, Waldmann. No: none. Absent: none. Sevenker noted Open Meetings Act posted, public copies available. No public comment.

Resolution 10-01, providing authority for the County to restrict travel on county roads when necessary, was discussed and approved on motion of Vogeler, seconded by Baker. Carried. Yes: Vogeler, Cetak, VanSlyke, Baker, Cullers, Waldmann. No: none. Absent: none.

Road Supt. Meyer confirmed that Midwest Sales is agreeable to payment for replacement of a Valley County bridge east of North Loup over two fiscal years. Project will likely begin mid-spring. Old bridge is a truss bridge and will be dismantled and sold. Meyer reported: widening roads this week; snow removal tough on machines and time consuming; replaced pump on machine at cost of 2 or 3 thousand dollars; replaced oil furnace in Ord shop; filling out paperwork for FEMA reimbursement of snow removal costs due to Christmas blizzard; doing all they can to get the roads open. Board commended Road Dept. for their efforts. Discussion was held on providing access road to a new residence by changing existing County Road. Meyer will look into the process and report back at a future meeting.

Treasurer Suminski presented Month End Fund Report for December noting balances of \$231,442.57 General Fund, \$49,982.30 Road Fund and \$816,035.17 Inheritance Fund. Semi-Annual Report showing the beginning balances, collections, disbursements and ending balances, in both an individual and summarized format was presented. This information is required to be published. A new Pledged Security Notification was also presented for TierOne Bank.

Clerk Lindsey presented December Fee Reports for County Clerk and Clerk of District Court and reported 27 computer monitors and various other old electrical equipment was picked up by Secure Recyclers of Grand Island at a cost of \$10 per monitor. The cost was paid from Inheritance Funds and could be adjusted if the Board wished.

Jerry Berggren of Berggren Architects presented a contract between Valley County and Tri-Valley Builders of Grand Island for construction of a Courthouse fire escape which the County Attorney has reviewed and approved. Russ Canfield of Tri-Valley Builders was present and provided a list of subcontractors they plan to use on the project, including: Rick's Electric, Wadas Inc., Sack Lumber, Ord Glass & Paint, and Staab Welding. The original, signed contract will be filed with the County as well as the Certificate of Liability Insurance and Performance Bond. NIRMA will review the insurance bond. Notice to Proceed will not be issued until the Certificate and Bond are reviewed and approved. Discussion was again held on the discrepancy between Berggren's project cost estimate and the project bids which were about 50% higher than estimated. Berggren's fee is a percentage of the actual cost. Berggren noted that he has hired a professional estimator to review the elevator project. The elevator drawings are 80% complete and bids may be able to be advertised in late February. Change orders will be approved and signed by the Board, the contractor and Berggren. Berggren noted he feels some responsibility for such a large difference in the estimate and the bids and will work with the Board on his fees. Vogeler moved to approve contract Document A101-2007 for Valley County Fire Escape Project #906 between Valley County and Tri-Valley Builders and authorize Board Chairman Sevenker to sign the contract, seconded by Cetak. Carried. Yes: Vogeler, Cetak, Waldmann, Cullers, Baker, VanSlyke. No: none. Absent: none. Tri-Valley's bond covers the subcontractors. Canfield noted they are at least 2 months away from starting the project. Berggren will get copies of the bond and insurance to NIRMA for review.

Nebraska HHS representatives Yolanda Nuncio, Ann Kuwata and Kay Rehtus were present to discuss changes in the local HHS offices. Sevenker noted that Valley County was disappointed that they were not officially informed of the changes by the state but were left to hear of it by rumor. Nuncio said this was not intentional but that they wanted to their information together before they went to the counties and that they have been discussing these changes for 2 years. According to Nuncio, they are looking for the best way to make reforms. Access Nebraska is the name of the plan. RFQ's were published to invite interested parties to participate. Caleb Pollard, Valley County Economic Development Director was also present and noted that VCED did receive information regarding the

consolidation of HHS offices. He said there were about 53 pages of requirements and VCED determined that the GLVA building did not meet the specs. Supervisor Nuncio said the Ord HHS Office will not be closed but will be classified as a satellite office, open 2 days per month. A kiosk will be provided to permit citizens to use a phone and computer to access HHS services. Their intent is for the County to continue to provide office space but it could be smaller than the current office and she suggested that a small room in the Courthouse be made available to them. Nuncio said there will be 4 full-time offices in the Central Service Area; in Grand Island, Kearney, Hastings and Broken Bow, and three satellite offices open 2 days per month; in Ord, Clay Center and Holdrege. Kuwata noted they are moving away from cases being assigned to a specific worker to a team effort so that any staff person can work on any case. The plan will not be fully implemented until 2012. Supervisor Cullers noted the County's disappointment with the manner in which this was handled, in that County Boards that have supported the HHS program for many years were not notified by HHS of the impending changes. Kuwata said there will need to be a full-time worker in Ord as long as Mid-Nebraska is here. Nuncio said they will provide information to the County as they get it as far as dates for implementing the changes. The Clerk was directed to include the McCartney lease for the current Ord HHS office on the next agenda.

At 11:20 a.m., the Board of Equalization convened on motion of Cetak, seconded by Waldmann. Carried. Yes: Cetak, Vogeler, Waldmann, Cullers, Baker, VanSlyke. No: none. Absent: none. The Treasurer and Clerk were present.

Hearing was held for 3 applicants requesting exemption from motor vehicle taxes: St. Johns Lutheran Church for a 1999 Jayco travel trailer used for Laborers for Christ camping; Mid-Nebraska Individual Services for 1999 Sable/GS, 1999 Chev, 2002 Sable/GS, 2004 Ford, 2004 Ford pickup, 2007 H&H trailer used to deliver services to developmentally disabled and to deliver and pick up contract work; Loup Basin RC&D Council for a 2000, 4 wheel utility trailer used for environmental cleanups and LBRC&D workshops. Notice of Hearing was sent to each applicant, none were present for the hearing. Treasurer recommended approval of all three requests. Following discussion, Cullers moved to approve all three Motor Vehicle Exemption applications presented, seconded by Baker. Carried. Yes: Cullers, Baker, VanSlyke, Cetak, Vogeler, Waldmann. No: none. Absent: none.

At 11:25 a.m., the Board moved back into regular session on motion of Cullers, seconded by VanSlyke. Carried. Yes: Cullers, Baker, VanSlyke, Cetak, Vogeler, Waldmann. No: none. Absent: none.

There was no County Attorney report.

Agenda item 9A was included on the agenda in error as it is to appear on the January 26, 2010 agenda.

The claim and fund request for payment of the BCBS premium were approved on motion of VanSlyke, seconded by Cullers. Carried. Yes: VanSlyke, Baker, Cullers, Waldmann, Vogeler, Cetak. No: none. Absent: none. The Clerk reported receipt of grant drawdown funds of \$1071 in payment of the elevator portion of the latest Berggren billing statement. The grant requires disbursement of grant funds within 10 days. The Board gave their informal approval for disbursement of the \$1071 with their formal approval to be given at the January 26 meeting when it will be on the agenda. The Current Expenditures Summary Report for December 2009 and the individual Expenditures Report for the Board's budget was available for review.

A letter received from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services regarding a claim for County reimbursement of payments made to a former County employee was reviewed. The Clerk noted that she had contacted BCBS regarding the letter and was informed that the County can authorize BCBS to provide information to CMS to show that the former employee was not employed by the county at the time the medical expenses were incurred and claimed. Following discussion, Vogeler moved to authorize Chairman Sevenker to sign the letter authorizing BCBS to receive information on this matter and to act on the county's behalf to settle the matter with CMS and the letter providing coverage and employment termination information on the former employee, seconded by Cetak. Carried. Yes: Vogeler, Cetak, Waldmann, Cullers, Baker, VanSlyke. No: none. Absent: none.

At 12:00 noon the meeting recessed for lunch, to reconvene at 1:00 p.m. At 1:00 p.m. the meeting reconvened with all Board members present.

Laurie Hansen and Curie Mincer of CNEDD were present to discuss the requirements for the elevator grant which expires July 29, 2010 and construction must be completed by then. Jerry Berggren was present for the discussion regarding a time line for construction of the elevator and the need to request an extension for the grant. Hansen said they will request an extension until Sept. or Oct. Berggren plans to advertise for bids in February to be opened on or before March 24, 2010. Board could approve bidder at the last March meeting, sign a contract and issue the Notice to Proceed in April. He estimates it would take 3 months to get the elevator which would leave 3 months to install it if an extension until September is allowed. Need to be sure Fire Marshall is okay with installing the elevator before the fire sprinkler system. Bidding the elevator and the fire sprinklers separately was discussed. A penalty

clause will need to be included in the elevator bid to protect the grant funds. The RDLG application for an interest free loan through LVRPP was discussed. Hansen will check into the status of the application. Berggren felt elevator cost estimates would be available for the Feb. 9 meeting. Berggren, Hansen and Mincer will attend the Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> meeting to determine the grant extension date that will need to be requested from the state.

Hansen informed the Board that CNEDD can administer certain federally funded projects, including road projects. She also noted there is currently no Valley County representative on the CNEDD Board. Discussion was held regarding the requirements for serving on the CNEDD Board. Hansen will check into this and report to the County.

Discussion was held on the latest revision of the County Personnel Policy. The intent is to clarify requirements for full and part time employment and clarify and comply with the County's Drug Free Workplace Policy. Following discussion, Vogeler moved to add 2a to define full time employment as working a minimum of 40 hours per week except for elected and appointed officials; 2b to define part-time employees as those working fewer than 40 hours per week; and change item 19 Health Insurance to require county employees to average 40 hours or more actual working hours per week in order to qualify for County health insurance coverage and if employee fails to maintain an average of 40 hours worked per week for any 6 month period the insurance benefit may be removed, seconded by Waldmann. Carried. Yes: Vogeler, Waldmann, Cullers, Baker, VanSlyke, Cetak. No: none. Absent: none. Attorney Clark felt the Drug Free Workplace Policy is okay and he prepared the form referenced in the policy for employees to sign. It was noted that item #4, Overtime, was missing the reference to Dept. Heads that was approved by the Board at an earlier meeting. Following discussion, Cullers moved to approve the County Personnel Policy with the noted corrections, seconded by Vogeler. Carried. Yes: Cullers, Waldmann, Vogeler, Cetak, VanSlyke, Baker. No: none. Absent: none.

Committees and Board Representatives will remain the same for now.

Requests for funds from VCDED for private sponsorships and Loup Rivers Scenic Byway for a bird watching brochure were reviewed. No action was taken.

The Nebraska Public Service Commission Order regarding permanent funding for wireless enhanced 911 and the email communications from NACO and Region 26 on this subject were discussed. VanSlyke will report on this following the next Region 26 meeting.

March 6, 2010 was agreed upon for the date of the County Recognition dinner at the Vets Club in Ord. Cullers will get information on food and costs for the next meeting.

Discussion of County Officials salaries for the 2011-2014 term included: comparison to other counties, family health insurance is a benefit provided by Valley County for elected officials, law allows Boards whose members have staggered terms to set their salaries prior to each statewide election, County income depends on valuation which is difficult to estimate. Following discussion, Cullers moved to approve the elected official's recommendation of \$1,000 increase per year for 2011-2014 and to freeze the Supervisors' salary at \$6000 per year for 2011 and 2012 to be reevaluated in January 2012 for 2013 and 2014, seconded by VanSlyke. Carried. Yes: Cullers, Baker, VanSlyke, Cetak, Vogeler, Waldmann. No: none. Absent: none. Resolution 10-02 is to be completed by the Clerk based on the motion made by Cullers, seconded by VanSlyke regarding official's salaries and said Resolution was approved on motion of Baker, seconded by Vogeler. Carried. Yes: Baker, VanSlyke, Cetak, Vogeler, Waldmann, Cullers.

At 3:35 p.m. the Board conducted the quarterly jail inspection. There were no Mail Folder items.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m., to reconvene on January 26, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. in regular session. Complete minutes of the January 12 meeting and an agenda for the January 26 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.

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Jenette G. Lindsey, Valley County Clerk