

# Boone County Board Minutes



## BOONE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS MAY 30, 2017 ALBION, NEBRASKA

The Boone County Board of Commissioners of Boone County, Nebraska, met in regular session at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, May 30, 2017, in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Courthouse in Albion, Nebraska.

Chairman Maricle called the meeting to order and Commissioners present for roll call were Hilary K. Maricle and Alan Rasmussen. Commissioner Ken Luettel arrived at 9:20 A.M. Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication and the convened meeting was open to the public. Chairman Maricle acknowledged the agenda and noted that the Open Meeting Laws are posted and available to the public.

The Board reviewed submitted quotes for the copy paper for the county courthouse fiscal year 2017-2018. The quote request was for sixty cases on six coupons/ten cases per coupon of no less than 92 bright and no less than 20 lb. paid after each coupon order/delivery. The copy paper quotes were as follows per case: Albion News - \$31.50; Eakes Office Solutions - \$29.79; and One Source, One Solution - \$29.20. The Board discussed the little difference between the quotes and felt they should keep the purchase local. Motion made by Maricle, second by Rasmussen to accept and approve the sixty case copy paper quote for the fiscal year 2017-2018 for \$31.50 per case paid upon delivery from Albion News as presented. Roll call vote: Yeas: Maricle and Rasmussen. Nays: None. Absent: Luettel. Motion carried.

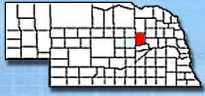
The Board accepted a three-year audit bid proposal on March 13, 2017 from Schumacher, Smejkal, Brockhaus & Herley, P. C. of Norfolk, Nebraska to audit the county governmental activities. The Board reviewed an Engagement Letter for auditing services for the 2016-2017 fiscal year submitted by Schumacher, Smejkal, Brockhaus & Herley, P. C. Motion made by Rasmussen, second by Maricle to approve and authorize the Board Chairman, County Clerk and County Treasurer to sign the Engagement Letter for auditing services for the 2016-2017 fiscal year as presented. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rasmussen and Maricle. Nays: None. Absent: Luettel. Motion carried.

The Board approved Resolution No. 2016-29 supporting the display of the national motto "In God We Trust" in the Boone County Courthouse on July 18, 2016. County Clerk, Kathy Thorberg, informed the Board that she ordered the antique bronze lettering and is donating the lettering to the county. The Board discussed having the motto lettering matted and framed, therefore the framed motto would be moveable. The lettering will be delivered to Jean's Custom Framing of Albion for a frame display.

Commissioner Luettel arrived at 9:20 A.M.

Motion made by Luettel, second by Rasmussen to approve the County Board Proceedings of May 24, 2017 as presented. Roll call vote: Yeas: Luettel and Rasmussen. Nays: None. Abstain: Maricle. Motion carried.

The Board entered into an Agreement on June 16, 2014 with Sequoia Consulting Group for Indirect Cost Allocation Services for FY2014, FY2015 and FY 2016. There is one year, FY2016, left to complete in accordance with the signed agreement. The County of Boone, Nebraska has been in contact with Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (NDHHS) regarding Title IV-D and Indirect Costs reimbursements. The County of Boone no longer receives an additional reimbursement for office space since NDHHS staff is no longer located in the County of Boone, Nebraska. Motion made by Maricle, second by Rasmussen to rescind the Board motion of October 11, 2016 that terminated said agreement and approve Sequoia Consulting Group to



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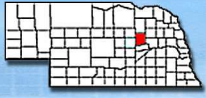
complete the FY2016 portion of said Agreement. Roll call vote: Yeas: Maricle, Rasmussen and Luettel. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Board; Tom Smith, Region 44 Emergency Manager; Ed Meedel and Howard Nispel, Platte Valley Communications; Denny Johnson, County Sheriff; and John Buck, Deputy Sheriff, reviewed and discussed the Emergency Management Project EM4420172. The Region 44 Emergency Management counties are Boone, Nance and Merrick.

Meedel and Nispel presented the recommendations from the Region 44 Emergency Management project study and reminded the Board that these were only recommendations and that the final decisions were in the hands of the County Boards. The recommendations are as follows:

- SRS Mobile Radios for each County Sheriff Vehicles.
- New Tower, equipment shelter and HVAC at Petersburg, NE. Replacing current structure.
- Four (4) position MCC7500 consolidated dispatch center in Nance County. Additional space required, or new dispatch center on East property. Two (2) position back-up.
- Re-programming Boone, Merrick and Nance counties land mobile radio assets to enhance emergency services interoperability.
- Replacement of approximately 30% of counties land mobile radio legacy assets.
- Additional sirens-Clarks West/Northwest and Lakes Area required.
- Replace back-up batteries at Boone County Law Enforcement, Petersburg, Chapman, Central City and Clarks Repeater sites.
- No additional VHF frequencies are required for coverage throughout the three (3) county area. Exception would be any vehicular repeaters for portable usage on the State Radio System (SRS).
- Incorporation of Next Generation 911 equipment (ECW NG9-1-1) at new Consolidated Dispatch Center.
- Minimal use of the “NRIN” system. Most of county repeater systems can be controlled by control stations in Nance County. Exception is one repeater in Boone County. Too many variables with “NRIN”. How will the system be maintained in the future remains a big question mark!
- Phase out the Central City Paging network and put all pagers on the Central City Fire Dept. repeater.
- NRIN to control Petersburg repeater and Boone County Schools.
- Remove low band stations such as 39.9, 39.82 and 39.98.
- Leave high band (VHF) radios in law enforcement vehicles that are going to be equipped with “SRS” radios. SRS radios do not scan analog frequencies well. Older trunked mount analog VHF radios should be replaced with analog dash mount radios.
- Replace the Primrose and Petersburg repeater with a new 100 watt VHF system.

The Board and those present held a lengthy discussion on the possibility of consolidating Boone, Merrick and Nance Counties into a central communications dispatch system. Board members Luettel and Rasmussen expressed reservations about proceeding with the consolidation of communications. Maricle has mixed feelings and noted that consolidation in various areas of law enforcement communications may be mandated for rural counties at some point in the future. If Boone County decides not to be part of the three-county new communications system, the tower near Petersburg, radio repeaters at Petersburg and Primrose and the dispatch consoles in the sheriff’s office need replacing soon.



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Motion made by Rasmussen, second by Maricle for Boone County Board of Commissioners to continue participation in the discussions/planning of a new communications dispatch system regarding the Emergency Management Project EM4420172. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rasmussen, Maricle and Luettel. Nays: None. Motion carried.

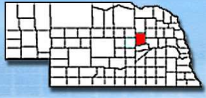
Stacey Robinson, County Highway Superintendent, updated the Board regarding road/bridge maintenance, materials and projects. In addition, the following topics were discussed:

- Robinson and the Board discussed driveway requests.
- Robinson informed the Board that the plans are to pour the concrete deck tomorrow on the County Road Bridge Project #383 north of Albion.
- Robinson and the Board discussed the planting of crops in the county road right-of-way and irrigation pivots watering the county roads. Robinson informed the Board that the notices regarding these issues was published twice in the local newspapers and that there are crops planted in the county road right-of-way to date. The consensus of the Board is to focus on rectifying these situations if there are safety and visibility issues.

Stacey Robinson, County Highway Superintendent, presented a quote from Theisen Construction, Inc., to repair/redeck Bridge #34615 located on 320<sup>th</sup> Street west of 310<sup>th</sup> Avenue north of St. Edward. Robinson informed the Board that this bridge qualifies as an emergency repair. Robinson said that this bridge project may be paid for from the Road/Bridge Buyback Program funding. Motion made by Rasmussen, second by Maricle to approve the Theisen Construction, Inc. quote of \$110,463.34 for Bridge #34615 repair/redeck as presented. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rasmussen, Maricle and Luettel. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Board and Stacey Robinson, County Highway Superintendent, discussed the Zoning Administrator hours coinciding with the County Road Department hours. The Zoning Administrator (Zoning Administrator/Administrative Assistant) position includes administrative assistant duties to the county highway superintendent. During certain months of the year the road department employees work four ten hour days, Monday through Thursday, to utilize the longer daylight hours while working on road projects. The Board felt that the position of Zoning Administrator/Administrative Assistant duties are primary office duties and not outdoor work. Motion made by Maricle, second by Luettel that the Zoning Administrator/Administrative Assistant work hours coincide with the Courthouse hours. Roll call vote: Yeas: Maricle, Luettel and Rasmussen. Nays: None. Motion carried.

At the Board meeting on December 19, 2016 the Board approved the Boone County Fitness Center, Inc. (Fitness Center) proposed operation changes and the payroll to be processed through the Fitness Center identification number effective January 1, 2017. A lease agreement at a nominal fee of \$1.00 per year will be signed and all previous agreements/resolutions will be rescinded. The Lease Agreement draft will be reviewed by NIRMA before the Board of Commissioners sign the document. The Board has not received a Lease Agreement draft for review to date. The Board contacted NIRMA asking them to review document transactions from 1986 to present between the County of Boone and Fitness Center. Motion made by Luettel, second by Rasmussen to approve NIRMA/Vince Valentino to review document transactions from 1986 to present and draft necessary document(s) between County of Boone and Boone County Fitness Center, Inc. regarding a new lease agreement. Roll call vote: Yeas: Luettel, Rasmussen and Maricle. Nays: None. Motion carried.



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The Board discussed the County employee health insurance premiums at previous meetings. Commissioner Maricle feels the Board should practice due diligence and acquire other BCBS Health Insurance quotes for county employees as a stand-alone policy for comparison to the NACO BCBS group policy. The Board discussed the options regarding the NACO Benefits stand-alone BCBS quote with employee application procedure, cash in lieu and/or deductible change. The Board emphasized that the employee coverage and deductible will remain the same. The Board felt there would be very little benefit for a cash in lieu policy. A change to a higher deductible with a buy down to the \$1,500.00 deductible was discussed by the Board, it may save some premium cost for the county, but the county would be paying for administration fees to a company for the buy down policy. Motion made by Luettel, second by Maricle to approve NACO Benefits to provide a stand-alone BCBS Health Insurance quote through the employee application procedure. Roll call vote: Yeas: Luettel, Maricle and Rasmussen. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Board discussed a request to consider changing the courthouse open hours at their May 24, 2017 Board meeting with department heads that were present. The Board was asked by department heads to consider possibly changing the courthouse open hours of service to be 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., with an employee half-hour unpaid lunch break, which still gives an employee an eight hour work day. The offices with two or more employees are presently staggering the hour lunch breaks and several times are short handed to serve the public when the majority of the busy time averages late morning to early afternoon. A half hour lunch break will be more beneficial for the customers where an office staffs one employee. The courthouse is open Monday through Friday, except for designated holidays. Currently there are 52 Nebraska Courthouse's that close at 4:00 P.M. or 4:30 P.M. The Board reviewed and discussed the written requests. Motion made by Luettel, second by Rasmussen to approve the courthouse open hours of service to be 8:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., with an employee half-hour unpaid lunch break effective July 1, 2017. Roll call vote: Yeas: Luettel, Rasmussen and Maricle. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Public comments: Rod Nelson, Maintenance, informed the Board that one of the courthouse roof top units may need a new compressor.

Chairman Maricle declared the meeting adjourned at 12:10 P.M., with the next Board meeting scheduled for Monday, June 12, 2017.

Kathy Thorberg,  
Boone County Clerk