



Boone County Board Minutes



BOONE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS SEPTEMBER 11, 2017 ALBION, NEBRASKA

The Boone County Board of Commissioners of Boone County, Nebraska, met in regular session at 9:00 A.M. on Monday, September 11, 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, Ken Luettel and Alan Rasmussen. 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.

Commissioner Maricle asked all present to join in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence in remembrance of the 2001 9/11 Attacks.

The Boone County Ambulance Service submitted an uncollectible ambulance account for a January 2016 ambulance service in the amount of \$2,890.00, as all methods of collection have been exhausted. The recommendation from the Boone County Ambulance Service liaison is to remove the \$2,890.00 from the EMS Billing Services account for purposes of bookkeeping and turn the account over to the County Attorney to attempt further collection. Motion made by Maricle, second by Rasmussen to turn the January 2016 County Ambulance Service account balance of \$2,890.00 over to the County Attorney for further collection. Roll call vote: Yeas: Maricle, Rasmussen and Luettel. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Luettel, second by Maricle to approve the Accounts Payable Vendor Claims filed for payment from the various funds as follows: General - \$41,200.73; Road/Weed - \$281,355.47; County Visitors Promotion - \$704.25; 911 Emergency Management (2910) - \$223.97; 911 Wireless Services (2913) - \$575.92; Ambulance - \$3,708.58. Roll call vote: Yeas: Luettel, Maricle and Rasmussen. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Luettel, second by Maricle to approve the County Board Proceedings of August 28, 2017 as presented. Roll call vote: Yeas: Luettel, Maricle and Rasmussen. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Rasmussen, second by Luettel to approve the following reports of the County Officials as presented for August 2017:

- Clerk - \$7,605.50 (State of Nebraska \$3,937.61)(County of Boone \$3,667.89)
- Clerk of the District Court - \$654.99 (State of Nebraska \$301.00)(County of Boone \$353.99)
- Sheriff - \$1,419.15
- Planning & Zoning - \$108.75
- Treasurer - Treasurer's Fees - \$0.00; Miscellaneous Receipt Nos. 15865-15917 - \$355,129.28; Total Collections - \$5,498,118.76

Roll call vote: Yeas: Rasmussen, Luettel and Maricle. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Board received a telephone call inquiring about general assistance in regard to utility bills. The individual never appeared before the Board to complete the required paperwork. No action taken by the Board.

The Board heard a general assistance request on July 10, 2017 for two months' rent. The Board approved the July rent in August. The approval for the August rent request was pending on the requestor's activity report to



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the Board following the July discussion. The Board did not receive an updated report from the requestor. Motion made by Maricle, second by Rasmussen to send a letter to inform the requestor that the Boone County Board of Commissioners did not approve the general assistance request for the August 2017 rent. Roll call vote: Yeas: Maricle, Rasmussen and Luettel. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Sequoia Consulting Group submitted an Agreement for the Board to review for indirect cost allocation services for fiscal year end 2017, 2018 and 2019. The current contract for Sequoia's services is through the county fiscal year-ended 2016, which is work being completed during 2017 for reimbursement through June 30, 2018. The Board and Ex-officio Clerk of the District Court feel it is not necessary to approve a three year agreement with Sequoia Consulting Group at this time. A letter will be sent to Sequoia Consulting Group informing them that the Board is not interested in a three year agreement at this time.

Rod Nelson, Maintenance, and Denny Johnson, Sheriff, presented quotes regarding a new or used AED Defibrillator for the County Law Enforcement building. The quote presented for a used 2008 Phillips OnSite AED with no warranty is \$646.00 for the law enforcement building. The quote for five new HeartStart FRx Defibrillators with 8 year warranty is \$9,460.00, one for the law enforcement building and four for the sheriff patrol vehicles. The quote for one new HeartStart OnSite Defibrillator with a trade in of four used units is \$1,101.00 for the law enforcement building. The Board, Nelson and Johnson discussed the quotes and replacement of the AED Defibrillator(s). Johnson felt that there was a need to update/replace the defibrillator located in the law enforcement building and that it was not necessary at this time to place defibrillators in the patrol vehicles. Motion made by Maricle, second by Luettel to approve the quote of \$1,101.00 from Lifeguard MD for a new HeartStart OnSite Defibrillator with 8 year warranty and trade in of four used units as presented. Roll call vote: Yeas: Maricle, Luettel and Rasmussen. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Rod Nelson, Maintenance, presented quotes for the Board to discuss and review regarding a refrigerator for the courthouse building. The present refrigerator was purchased used in 2007 and the ice maker is no longer working. Nelson received quotes from Ray's Appliance Sales and Service of Columbus, NE and Criss Company of Spalding, Nebraska. Quotes for replacement of the side by side refrigerator were: Amana-\$1,099.00; Whirlpool-\$1,299.00; bottom mount freezer with dispenser will start at \$1,400.00 and up; and delivery-\$75.00. The price of refrigerator and delivery includes removal and disposal of old refrigerator and hookup water to existing supply line. Motion made by Luettel, second by Rasmussen to approve the purchase of a Whirlpool side by side new refrigerator for \$1,299.00 with no delivery charges from Criss Company of Spalding, Nebraska. Roll call vote: Yeas: Luettel, Rasmussen and Maricle. Nays: None. Motion carried.

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

- Robinson informed the Board that the bridge project signs are being installed.
- Robinson informed the Board that the plan is for the County Road Department to go back to working five, eight hour days beginning September 25, 2017. The hours may be 7:00 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. instead of the past eight hour days of 7:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., to allow more time in the evenings to attend school functions and an earlier start on snow removal. Robinson said that some of the road employees were okay with the change, while some were not in favor of starting at 7:00 A.M. due to less daylight at that hour in the winter time.



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Jim Zoucha, Ag & Industrial Equipment of Orchard, Nebraska, the Board and Stacey Robinson, County Highway Superintendent, discussed a furnace for the Albion District #2 Road Shop. Zoucha explained the different types, size and maintenance of waste oil heaters. Zoucha informed the group that the air supply and installation of a chimney are not included in the purchase of a waste oil heater. The discussion included smart pump control, location within the building for more efficient heating, monthly maintenance, tote filtration for removal of water/anti-freeze from the oil before use and proper disposal. Robinson plans to research where used oil is coming from and going to, if there will be enough used oil to change over to a waste oil heater and which road shop building is losing the most heat. Robinson will report back to the Board at a later date.

Cornhusker Public Power District requested permission to bury an electrical cable under a county road commonly known as 240th Avenue running north and south between Sections 16 and 17, all in Township 19 North, Range 6 West of the 6th P.M., Boone County, Nebraska. The buried electrical line is for a new grain bin located in the NW1/4SW1/4 of Section 16. The electrical line commences from an electrical pole located on the west side of 240th Avenue in Section 17, running east to the NW1/4SW1/4 of Section 16, all in Township 19 North, Range 6 West of the 6th P.M., Boone County, Nebraska. Motion made by Luettel, second by Rasmussen to approve Resolution No. 2017-25, granting permission to Cornhusker Public Power District to bury an electrical cable under a county road known as 240th Avenue to the NW1/4SW1/4 of Section 16, Township 19 North, Range 6 West of the 6th P.M., Boone County, Nebraska, for service to Gerald Carder's new grain bin. Roll call vote: Yeas: Luettel, Rasmussen and Maricle. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Jerad Reimers, representative for Congressman Adrian Smith's office, updated the Board and those present of Congressman Smith's committee assignments and agricultural trade agreements. Reimers and the group discussed concerns regarding farm bill, crop insurance, maintain trade relations and tax cuts/post card filers inflationary tax. Reimers was available to visit with the public and hear their concerns.

Randall Bruland, County Ambulance Administrator, and the Board discussed service option quotes for the ambulance cot and power-load devise. Scott Pufahl, Stryker, was unable to attend the meeting. The Board and Bruland reviewed the one, four and seven year service plans. The service plans included unlimited service visits, one scheduled preventative maintenance visit each year where bearings and other wearable parts will be replaced for both cot and power-load system. Any damages that take place inside the contract period will be covered in its entirety including all parts/labor/travel. Motion made by Luettel, second by Maricle to approve the four year service plan on the cot at \$695.73/year and four year service plan on power-load system at \$1,149.41/year, with payments on a quarterly basis to Stryker as presented. Roll call vote: Yeas: Luettel, Maricle and Rasmussen. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The 2017-2018 County Budget public hearing for the County of Boone, Nebraska was held at 10:00 A.M. on September 11, 2017. Motion made by Luettel, second by Maricle to approve exceeding the 2.5% lid limitation on restricted funds by an additional 1% budget authority growth for fiscal year 2017-2018. Roll call vote: Yeas: Luettel, Maricle and Rasmussen. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Boone County Board of Commissioners created a new full time employee position by combining the County Weed Superintendent position with a new position of Sign Technician for the County Road Department



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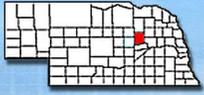
at their February 24, 2017 Board meeting. They approved the new position of County Weed Superintendent/Sign Technician effective March 1, 2017, with the position answering to the Board regarding the weed program and the Highway Superintendent regarding the signage program. The Noxious Weed Control budget is/was Function (733) within the County General Fund (0100) and in March 2017 with the new full time combined employee position the Noxious Weed Control/Sign Technician Function (733) is now within the County Road Fund (0200). The Boone County Board of Commissioners have determined that there is no longer a need to have the Noxious Weed Control Function (733) within the County General Fund (0100). Motion made by Luettel, second by Maricle to approve Resolution No. 2017-26, to close the Noxious Weed Control Function (733) within the County General Fund (0100) effective September 11, 2017. Roll call vote: Yeas: Luettel, Maricle and Rasmussen. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Boone County Historical Society, Inc. requested a tax levy allocation for the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 for telephone, internet, utility expenses and building repair. The Boone County Board of Commissioners have determined that there is no longer a need to have the Historical Society Function (852) within the County General Fund (0100). The Boone County Board of Commissioners have authorized a levy allocation for the Boone County Historical Society, Inc. for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. Motion made by Maricle, second by Rasmussen to approve Resolution No. 2017-27, to close the Historical Society Function (852) within the County General Fund (0100) effective September 11, 2017. Roll call vote: Yeas: Maricle, Rasmussen and Luettel. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The County Budget Act (State Statute Section 23-904) requires a budget message to be completed by the budget making authority outlining the fiscal policy for the budget period. The budget message must include a list of all cash amounts being held by officials that do not appear in the County Treasurer's Office six month balance reports. The Board has approved and authorized accounts within County Offices to receive and disburse fees, etc. Some of the accounts balance to zero and some accounts have a beginning balance. Motion made by Luettel, second by Maricle to approve Resolution No. 2017-28, authorizing the accounts within County Offices as stated in the resolution. Roll call vote: Yeas: Luettel, Maricle and Rasmussen. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1601.02 provides that the property tax request for the prior year shall be the property tax request for the current year for purposes of the levy set by the County Board of Equalization unless the Governing Body of the County of Boone passes by a majority vote a resolution setting the tax request at a different amount. The Governing Body of the County of Boone, by a majority vote by the Boone County Board of Commissioners, resolves that: the 2017-2018 property tax request be set at \$3,606,824.00, which is different from the 2016-2017 property tax request of \$3,635,029.00; and the 2017 county tax rate is at 0.150708, which is different from the 2016 tax rate of 0.151013. Motion made by Luettel, second by Rasmussen to approve Resolution No. 2017-29 at the September 11, 2017 public hearing to adopt and approve the County Budget for 2017-2018 as published and presented with the above property tax requests. Roll call vote: Yeas: Luettel, Rasmussen and Maricle. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The County employees are directly responsible to an individual elected official or the County Board. Elected officials, in working with their employees, may develop different employment practices and policies than used by other offices. The different practices and policies can result in disharmony among the body of County



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employees. The Elected officials of Boone County adopted a Boone County Employee Handbook on June 13, 2016 and have approved revisions to the adopted 2016 Boone County Employee Handbook within the County Board Proceedings. Motion made by Rasmussen, second by Luettel to approve Resolution No. 2017-30, adopting revisions as stated in the resolution to the 2016 Employee Handbook which provides employment practices and policies common to all offices and departments. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rasmussen, Luettel and Maricle. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Luettel, second by Rasmussen to set a Board of Equalization meeting to be held on Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 11:00 A.M. to set the 2017 tax year levies. Roll call vote: Yeas: Luettel, Rasmussen and Maricle. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Public Comments:

- The Board received a thank you from the Cedar Rapids Community Club regarding the Visitor's Promotion Fund reimbursement for advertisement of their community event.

Chairman Maricle declared the meeting adjourned at 12:21 P.M., with the next Board meeting scheduled for Monday, September 18, 2017.

Kathy Thorberg,
Boone County Clerk