



Boone County Board Minutes



BOONE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS
MARCH 18, 2019 ALBION, NEBRASKA

The Boone County Board of Commissioners of Boone County, Nebraska, met in regular session at 9:00 A.M. on Monday, March 18, 2019 in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Courthouse in Albion, Nebraska.

Chairman Rasmussen called the meeting to order and Commissioners present for roll call were Ben Rutten, Alan Rasmussen and Larry Temme. Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication and the convened meeting was open to the public. Chairman Rasmussen acknowledged the agenda and noted that the Open Meeting Laws are posted and available to the public.

Motion made by Temme, second by Rutten to approve the County Board Proceedings of March 11, 2019 as presented. Roll call vote: Yeas: Temme, Rutten and Rasmussen. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Jeff Jarecki was appointed Boone County Public Defender in August of 2012. Jarecki reported that the cases assigned in 2012 through 2017 are all completed. Jarecki reported that he had been assigned forty-seven cases in 2018. Jarecki said that thirty-nine of the cases are closed; two of the cases were conflicts; and six cases remain open of which two are juvenile cases. Jarecki reported that he has been assigned three cases to date for 2019. Jarecki explained to the Board that some juvenile cases take a long time to complete. Juvenile cases may remain open until the court case is resolved or the age of nineteen. Jarecki answered the Board's questions regarding conflict of interest and closed/open cases. Jarecki explained that there are times when he cannot defend the assigned case since he is already defending one of the parties involved. The Board thanked Jarecki for the updated report and his diligent services. Jarecki thanked the Board and is very appreciative of the contract for public defender services. Motion made by Rasmussen, second by Temme to accept the Boone County Public Defender report as presented. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rasmussen, Temme and Rutten. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Board received two proposals for the advertised Courthouse Lawn Care for 2019. The Board opened and reviewed the two sealed proposals. The Board; Rod Nelson, Maintenance; Jim Jarecki DBA Jarecki Lawncare & Greenhouse, LLC; and Steve Schrad DBA Schrad's KLawn, discussed the 4-Step program and spraying of the entire lawn to control Yellow Nutsedge. The 4-Step program with fertilizer, weed control, grub control, insecticide, iron and Yellow Nutsedge control proposals were received from Jarecki Lawncare & Greenhouse, LLC - \$1,220.61 and Schrad's KLawn - \$1,200.00. The Board noted that the last several years the lawn care services have been alternated between the two businesses due to the businesses both being located in Boone County and do a good job. Motion made by Rutten, second by Temme to approve the 2019 lawn care proposal for the courthouse lawn care from Schrad's KLawn for \$1,200.00 for the 2019 year as presented. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rutten, Temme and Rasmussen. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The County of Boone DBA Boone County Ambulance Service and EMS Billing Services, Inc. (EMS) of Omaha, Nebraska signed an Agreement in March 2014 for EMS to provide the patient transport billing services. The Board approved EMS for collections of patient transport billing services from start to finish for the Boone County Ambulance Service on March 11, 2019. EMS submitted a Business Associate Agreement for the Board to review. Business Associate Agreements are executed to appropriately safeguard protected health information (PHI) and compliance with the applicable provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. Motion made by Rutten, second by Rasmussen to approve and authorize the Board Chairman to sign the Business Associate Agreement between Boone County Ambulance Service and American Accounts & Advisers as presented. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rutten, Rasmussen and Temme. Nays: None. Motion carried.



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The County AS400 server system was installed in April 2011. The IBM yearly hardware maintenance agreement ends May 2, 2019. The County received a maintenance renewal agreement to review and it is only for five months, due to IBM will not continue to guarantee support for the IBM Power 720 units. The County Clerk's office contacted MIPS, the County software/programs provider for guidance addressing AS400 server systems. The majority of the Counties have consolidated to the State AS400 and are paying a monthly network service fee to the State of Nebraska. Motion made by Rasmussen, second by Temme to authorize the Boone County Clerk's office to contact the State of Nebraska for a monthly network service quote/agreement and contact MIPS for a timeline to transfer the County AS400 information and programs to the State AS400 before the maintenance agreement ends May 2, 2019. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rasmussen, Temme and Rutten. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Jacqueline Wells, Boone County Veteran Service Officer, updated the Board in regard to the Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs (NDVA) and the VETRASPEC system. VETRASPEC is the secure web-based application that NDVA has purchased and implemented as a web based information system to track and assist veterans and eligible dependents in accessing all benefits of which they are, by law, entitled. Wells said that in order to access VETRASPEC to assist veteran's one must have accreditation training that is monitored by NDVA. Wells said that the week-long training for accreditation training is only held in Nebraska every odd numbered year. The accreditation training is scheduled for April 8-12, 2019 in Omaha. Wells asked the Board for the County to pay the accreditation training fee for an as-needed employee. The County Employee Handbook classification of a Part-Time/As-Needed Employee is that they are not eligible to work more than 19 hours in any said work week and are not eligible for County benefits. The Board, Wells and Tina Landauer discussed the present County Veteran Service office situation. If Wells is not available in the office, presently Landauer cannot access the VETRASPEC program in order to assist a veteran. The Board emphasized that a non-full time employee does not receive County paid benefits. Landauer expressed to the Board that she could not personally afford the accreditation training. Wells and Landauer said that it is owed to the area veterans to have someone available to assist them. Motion made by Rasmussen, second by Rutten to approve paying a one-time accreditation training fee for a non-full time employee due to NDVA regulations and HIPPA law when accessing the VETRASPEC system with the motel being direct billed and use of a county vehicle to the training in Omaha. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rasmussen, Rutten and Temme. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Public Comments:

- Meetings: Denise Ziemba, Region 44 Emergency Manager, and Ben Rutten, County Commissioner District #1, meet with City of St. Edward residents to discuss the catastrophic flooding – March 18, 2019.
- Chairman Rasmussen updated the Board regarding the Local Disaster Declaration he signed on March 14, 2019 to declare a state of emergency due to floodwaters that started on March 13, 2019.
- The County Highway Superintendent updated the Board in regard to road equipment repair, conditions of the county roads/bridges, road employees working the mail/bus routes today, and infrastructure damage logged to date from the storm system that started on March 13, 2019. The county road records list 194 bridge structures. To date seven bridges are damaged/destroyed.
- The County Sheriff updated the Board regarding area road conditions and floodwater damages.
- The Board acknowledged the telephone calls and in person contacts from County residents regarding conditions of county roads/bridges.

Chairman Rasmussen declared the meeting adjourned at 11:25 A.M., with the next Board meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 26, 2019.

Kathy Thorberg,
Boone County Clerk



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