

# Boone County Board Minutes



BOONE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS  
MAY 11, 2020 ALBION, NEBRASKA

The Boone County Board of Commissioners of Boone County, Nebraska, met in regular session at 9:00 A.M. on Monday, May 11, 2020, in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Courthouse in Albion, Nebraska.

Vice Chairman Temme called the meeting to order and Commissioners present for roll call were Ben Rutten and Larry Temme. Commissioner Alan Rasmussen joined the meeting by teleconference call/video conference at 9:20 A.M. The State of Nebraska, Office of the Governor, issued Executive Order Number 20-03 Coronavirus Public Meetings Requirement Limited Waiver, shall apply to all public governing body meetings that occur March 17, 2020 through May 31, 2020. Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication and the convened meeting was open to the public. Vice Chairman Temme acknowledged the agenda and noted that the Open Meeting Laws are posted and available to the public.

The Board reviewed and discussed the Accounts Payable Vendor Claims filed for payment. Motion made by Temme, second by Rutten to approve the Accounts Payable Vendor Claims filed for payment from the various funds: General - \$58,748.88; Road/Weed - \$458,253.57; Boone County Visitor's Promotion - \$67.50; 911 Emergency Management (2910) - \$1,998.65; 911 Wireless Service (2913) - \$4,490.74; Fair Building (4025) - \$13,887.00; Ambulance - \$1,892.38. Roll call vote: Yeas: Temme and Rutten. Nays: None. Abstain: Rasmussen. Motion carried.

Motion made by Rutten, second by Rasmussen to approve an Accounts Payable Vendor Claim filed for payment on the Road fund for Vendor ID No. 1399 in the amount of \$60.44, a non-exclusive open contract for purchases for the county. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rutten and Rasmussen. Nays: None. Abstain: Temme. Motion carried.

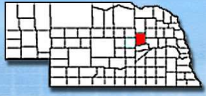
The Board accepted and approved a written resignation from a full-time County Sheriff's office employee at their April 27, 2020 Board meeting. Motion made by Rutten, second by Temme to approve a Payroll Claim filed for payment on the General Fund for a net amount of \$1,091.48 with the withholding amounts being included in the above approved Accounts Payable Vendor Claims as presented. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rutten and Temme. Nays: None. Abstain: Rasmussen. Motion carried.

Motion made by Temme, second by Rasmussen to approve the County Board Proceedings of April 27, 2020 as presented. Roll call vote: Yeas: Temme, Rasmussen and Rutten. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Temme, second by Rutten to approve the following reports of the County Officials as presented for April, 2020:

- Clerk - \$9,715.00 (State of Nebraska \$4,754.89)(County of Boone \$4,960.11)
- Clerk of the District Court - \$643.26 (State of Nebraska \$391.00)(County of Boone \$252.26)
- Sheriff - \$723.71
- Planning & Zoning - \$260.63
- Treasurer - Miscellaneous Receipt Nos. 17802-17866 - \$563,659.01
- Treasurer - Total Collections - \$7,559,506.77

Roll call vote: Yeas: Temme, Rutten and Rasmussen. Nays: None. Motion carried.



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The Board received Payment Application No. 17 from Rathman Manning Construction for the fairgrounds building. The payment request is for completion of the concrete and masonry. Motion made by Rutten, second by Rasmussen to approve payment number seventeen for \$13,887.00 from Rathman Manning Construction as submitted. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rutten, Rasmussen and Temme. Nays: None. Motion carried.

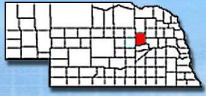
The Board reviewed the information provided by NACO BCBS regarding the employee health/dental insurance. This year the overall increase to the NACO Health and Dental insurance pool with Blue Cross Blue Shield Nebraska will be 0% for health and dental base rates for fiscal year 2020-2021. The sub-group application/coverage election form needs to be received at BCBS Nebraska no later than May 29, 2020. The County Clerk's office plans to distribute a copy of the premium rates with the employees' May payroll. The County of Boone pays all of the health insurance premiums and employee only dental premium. An employee has the option to pay dental coverage for their spouse/children. The NACO BCBS policy premium also includes Cobra administration by NACO, Long-Term Disability and a \$15,000.00 Life Insurance on the policyholder. Motion made by Rutten, second by Rasmussen to approve the NACO BCBS Medical PPO Health Plan with \$1,500.00 deductible and Dental PPO Plan (Premier Option 3) for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 and authorize Larry Temme, Board Vice Chairman, to sign the 2020 NACO Subgroup Application Coverage Election Form. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rutten, Rasmussen and Temme. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the Long-Term Disability Insurance renewal from Madison National Life Insurance Company, Inc. for July 1, 2020 to July 1, 2023. There will be no rate adjustment and the rate will remain at \$2.27 per month per full-time employee (40 hour work week). The Long-Term Disability insurance rate is included for the employee (policyholder) within the NACO BCBS health insurance monthly premium. Motion made by Temme, second by Rutten to approve and authorize the Board Vice Chairman to sign the Long-Term Disability Insurance document for July 1, 2020 to July 1, 2023 with Madison National Life Insurance Company. Roll call vote: Yeas: Temme, Rutten and Rasmussen. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Boone County Ambulance Service submitted a July 2018 uncollectible ambulance account that the Board reviewed on April 29, 2019 and turned over to the County Attorney for further collection. The patient passed away August 31, 2018 and no payments were received or collected on said County Ambulance Service account. Motion made by Temme, second by Rasmussen to write off the July 2018 County Ambulance Service account in the amount of \$2,280.00. Roll call vote: Temme, Rasmussen and Rutten. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Edmond Knott, Applied Connective Technologies LLC, submitted a Managed Service Agreement for the Board to review. The present agreement with Applied Connective Technologies for technical support services, maintenance of county equipment and help desk services expires June 30, 2020. The term of this Agreement shall be for twelve months beginning July 1, 2020 and ending on June 30, 2021. This Agreement shall automatically renew for successive terms of the same duration unless either party submits written notice of their intent to terminate this Agreement. Motion made by Rutten, second by Rasmussen to approve and authorize the Board Vice Chairman to sign the Managed Service Agreement between Applied Connective Technologies LLC and County of Boone, Boone County Courthouse for \$13,750.00 for the fiscal year 2020-2021 to be billed and paid in monthly payments for only County owned equipment as submitted. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rutten, Rasmussen and Temme. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Edmond Knott, Applied Connective Technologies LLC, submitted a Software As A Service (SaaS) Agreement for the Board to review. The present agreements with Applied Connective Technologies for software, email, Microsoft 365, firewall and security subscription services expires June 30, 2020. The term of this Agreement



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shall be for a period of twelve months beginning July 1, 2020. This Agreement shall automatically renew for successive terms of the same duration unless either party submits written notice of their intent to terminate this Agreement. Motion made by Rasmussen, second by Temme to approve and authorize the Board Vice Chairman to sign the Software As A Service (SaaS) Agreement between Applied Connective Technologies LLC and County of Boone, Boone County Courthouse for \$6,765.00 for the fiscal year 2020-2021 to be billed and paid in monthly payments for only County owned equipment as submitted. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rasmussen, Temme and Rutten. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The fiber optic internet services for the courthouse has been provided by Netlink LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Great Plains Communications LLC since 2014. Also, Great Plains Communications LLC has fiber optic to the courthouse for the State of Nebraska equipment. The present Agreement with Great Plains Communications LLC/Netlink LLC has expired. Ed Knott, Applied Connective Technologies LLC, provides technical support service for the County and obtained quotes for internet services for the Board to review. The quotes for 50 x 50 Mbps for 48 months: Eagle Communications - \$300.00/month and Great Plains Communications - \$200.00/month. The Board discussed the quote differences and that there is no need to change the current internet services to the courthouse. Motion made by Temme, second by Rasmussen to approve and authorize the Board Vice Chairman to sign the Service Order Agreement for Internet Services at a rate of \$200.00 per month for a term of 48 months between Great Plains Communications LLC/Netlink LLC and County of Boone, Nebraska as submitted. Roll call vote: Yeas: Temme, Rasmussen and Rutten. Nays: None. Motion carried.

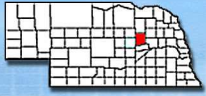
All County Officials and Department Heads must contact the County Board, as an agenda item, before buying, leasing or doing any major maintenance to equipment or furniture over \$800.00, per the January 2020 Board Reorganizational Meeting Proceedings.

Kathy Thorberg, County Clerk/Register of Deeds, presented a quote to the Board for their review regarding the purchase of ten hard bound books/binders and ten reams of recording paper for Register of Deeds records. The quotes are: 1-9 books/binders at \$93.50 each or 10-24 books/binders at \$90.50 each; and 9 x 15 ream of recording paper (500 sheets) 1-9 reams at \$106.25 per ream or 10-24 reams at \$102.75 per ream from RC Enterprises. Motion made by Rasmussen, second by Rutten to approve the purchase of ten record books/binders for \$905.00 and ten reams of recording paper for \$1,027.50 plus freight from RC Enterprises as presented. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rasmussen, Rutten and Temme. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Stacey Ziemba, County Highway Superintendent, submitted a state bid quote for a new semi-truck tractor from Cornhusker International Truck, Inc. of Norfolk, Nebraska. The factory list price for a 2021 International truck-tractor is \$270,069.07 and the state bid government price is \$130,993.00. The new semi-truck tractor is for Road District #2, Albion, replacing the (purple) 1996 International semi-truck tractor. Motion made by Rasmussen, second by Rutten to approve and authorize the Board Vice Chairman to sign the purchase order quote for one state bid 2021 International truck-tractor for \$130,993.00, with no trade-in as presented. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rasmussen, Rutten and Temme. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The County Highway Superintendent informed the Board that the 2002 Trail Blazer Belly Dump Gravel Trailer, that received damage during the March 2019 flood, is not operating correctly. The Board recommended that the County Highway Superintendent obtain trailer quotes for the Board to review.

The County Highway Superintendent received one application for the advertised county road job position. The Board asked the Highway Superintendent if there was a need for another full-time road employee and if any current road employees mentioned they were planning on leaving employment. Currently there are nineteen employees, including the highway superintendent position, receiving payroll/benefits from the Road/Weed Fund.



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After a lengthy discussion the Board decided that there is no need to hire additional employees for the road department at this time.

The County Highway Superintendent, updated the Board regarding road equipment repair/replacement, road/bridge maintenance, materials and projects. In addition, the following topics were discussed:

- The 2010 Freightliner truck located at Road District #2, Albion is in need of a new transmission. Plans are to take the truck to Norfolk for repair this week.
- Plans are to install the tubes this week that have been requested for driveways.
- Plans are to remove some trees this week in some of the county road right-of-ways.
- Commissioner Rutten reported that the Nebraska Department of Transportation are not planning on helping with the drainage issue off of State Highway 56 west of St. Edward.

Commissioner Rasmussen excused himself from the teleconference call/video conference at 11:10 A.M.

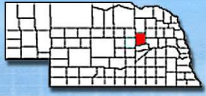
The Board; County Highway Superintendent; Chuck Rolf, Boone County Agricultural Society, Inc. representative; and Steve Pritchard, UNL Extension, discussed the responsibility of the construction, material and payment of the material for the access road and parking area of/for the new fairgrounds building. The Highway Superintendent informed the group that the drainage culvert and the road material should not be paid for from the County Road Fund. The County Road department installed the culvert and moved some of the clay off of the crop ground to the new building site area. The approximate cost of the culvert is \$2,000.00 and an estimate of ten loads of red rock road material to establish a solid base for an access road to and a parking area in front of the new building is \$6,500.00. The group discussed various other costs for the new building and extension office area that was not included in the construction plans or bond funding. Sources for the various costs has not been determined. The Board said that some of the various expenses should come from the extension office budget. Rolf suggested that the Boone County Agricultural Society may be able to cover \$4,000.00 of the red rock road material.

Motion made by Temme, second by Rutten to approve ordering of the red rock road material and that the County will use said road material to establish a solid base for an access road to and a parking area in front (north side) of the new fairgrounds building for the extension office use. Roll call vote: Yeas: Temme and Rutten. Nays: None. Absent: Rasmussen. Motion carried.

The Board and Steve Pritchard, UNL Extension, discussed new window coverings for the new extension offices in the new fairgrounds building. Pritchard said that there are six window openings in the new extension offices. Pritchard said that the windows are not a standard size or all the same size. Pritchard contacted Creative Window Designs for a quote for six custom made cordless window shades. Pritchard informed the Board that the quote is \$500.00 per window and includes installation. The Board suggested that Pritchard obtain more than one quote for the Board to review at a future Board meeting.

The Board and Chuck Rolf, Boone County Agricultural Society, Inc. representative discussed the removal of the four old fairgrounds buildings known on the lease agreement map/exhibit as S, T, U, and V and the removal/replacement of the east fence line of the fairgrounds property. The removal of the existing fence line along the east side of the fairgrounds will be removed by the County as it is in the wrong location in accordance with property surveys. At this time the Board is not in favor of replacing the fence as long as property line markers are in place.

The removal of the four mentioned fairgrounds buildings was in the many discussions prior to the approval of the construction of the new fairgrounds building. The said show arena was not safe and the other three buildings were in very poor condition. The said buildings were to be removed from the grounds to allow for



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more parking for events held in the Grandstand and Boone County Event Center. Rolf said that there is interest from some county residents to salvage wood from the buildings before they are removed. The Ag Society is requesting that the old show arena (V) be left on the grounds for small animal shows. The Board plans to discuss the removal of the buildings and a timeline for the interested citizens to salvage wood from the buildings at their June 8, 2020 Board meeting.

Denny Johnson, Sheriff, presented a quote from Applied Connective Technologies LLC for a new computer to replace a computer unit in the law enforcement dispatch center. The Board recommended that Johnson obtain more than one quote for the Board to review for a new computer unit at a future Board meeting.

Denny Johnson, Sheriff, discussed the purchase of electronic generated uniform citation equipment for law enforcement vehicles with the Board. Johnson informed the Board that all Law Enforcement will install and use the new citation equipment by the end of December 2020. Johnson received estimates from Applied Connective Technologies of \$24,080.50 for equipment to be placed in the five Law Enforcement vehicles (computer/printer) and equipment/modem activation (air time) for the equipment to be placed in the five vehicles of \$6,625.00. The Board recommended that Johnson obtain more than one quote if possible for the Board to review at a future Board meeting.

Denny Johnson, Sheriff, discussed the purchase of a new in-car camera for the new law enforcement vehicle. Johnson informed the Board that the in-car cameras in the past are from Digital Ally. The Board recommended that Johnson obtain more than one quote for the Board to review at a future Board meeting.

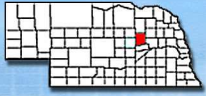
The Board and Rod Nelson, Maintenance, discussed a building for the County to use for storage and law enforcement impounded items. The County is currently renting two storage units from Kayton International. The Board is possibly looking at a building at the fairgrounds that is empty the majority of the year. The Board, Sheriff, and Nelson plan to look at said building located at the fairgrounds to see if it meets the storage needs. The Board plans to continue the storage building discussion on May 27, 2020.

The Board discussed the present Lease Agreements for two storage units with Kayton International. The Lease Agreements require a thirty day written notice by either party to terminate the lease. The Board plans to continue the storage building discussion on May 27, 2020.

The Board, Rod Nelson, Maintenance, and Denny Johnson, Sheriff discussed the AC unit in the Law Enforcement building. The AC unit in the IT room of the basement of the Law Enforcement building is not keeping the room cool with the added equipment that was installed for the statewide radio system. Nelson had one verbal estimate of \$5,000.00 for one unit or \$8,000.00 for two units. The second unit would be used to cool the conference room area in the basement of the Law Enforcement building. The Board recommended that Nelson obtain more than one quote for the Board to review at a future Board meeting.

The Board; County Assessor, Clerk, Treasurer; and Rod Nelson, Maintenance, discussed some type of window/glass for the offices with open counter spaces before re-opening the courthouse. The Board and Nelson measured for Plexiglas panels and discussed installation. The Board recommended that Nelson obtain quotes for Plexiglas panels and installation of panels for the Board to review at a future Board meeting.

The Board; County Assessor, Clerk, Sheriff, Treasurer; Rod Nelson, Maintenance; Lisa Langan, County Court; Steve Pritchard, UNL Extension; and Pam Jochum, Attorney office employee, discussed re-opening of the county courthouse/facilities. Several items were discussed, such as requirements to wear masks and disinfectant



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cleaning/wipe down responsibility of each office area. Each department is responsible for their office area and equipment in regard to disinfectant cleaning each day. The County plans to wait for a new directive by Governor Pete Ricketts before determining the re-opening of the courthouse.

## Public Comments:

- Meetings: Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Services, Inc. – May 15, 2020; Boone County Agricultural Society, Inc. – May 18, 2020.
- Commissioner Rutten updated the Board on the NIRMA Safety Committee Assessment for Boone County that was conducted by teleconference/zoom on May 8, 2020.
- Commissioner Rutten plans to attend and represent the Board on Thursday, May 21, 2020 at 3:00 P.M. for the Boone County Health Center ground breaking for the new clinic addition to the hospital building.
- Commissioner Temme updated the Board on the progress of the new fairgrounds building.
- The Board acknowledged receiving a letter from the Nebraska Tax Equalization and Review Commission with their decision following the hearing held on April 28, 2020.

Vice Chairman Temme declared the meeting adjourned at 1:55 P.M., with the next Board meeting scheduled for Monday, May 18, 2020.

Kathy Thorberg,  
Boone County Clerk