

Osceola, Nebraska
October 22, 2024

Pursuant to notice published in the October 17th, 2024 issue of the Polk County News, the Board of County Commissioners convened at 9:30 a.m. with all members present. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Chairman Westring informed those in attendance that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room.

Clerk Girard reported that she had received information from the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy that additional funds were available to fully reimbursement for the costs of the scrap tire collection held last May. In order to receive the extra funds above the original grant amount, the grant agreement must be amended to reflect the new total award amount. A motion was made by Boss authorizing the Chairman to sign the grant agreement amendment as presented. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye.

Marcus Augustin and Nataly Sanley updated the Board on the activities of the hospital. September proved to be a slower month but a small overall gain was still reported. The fiscal year audit went well and a report from the auditor will probably be ready for the November board meeting. The thirteen year old lawn mower needs to be replaced as well as the PFT machine which is outdated and can't be upgraded. An inhouse ambulance service continues to be researched. A new sterilizer will be the recipient of the foundation's fundraising campaign with local donations to be teamed with grant funds to make the purchase. Hurricane Helene heavily damaged a plant that supplies many facilities with IV's, resulting in a shortage of supplies. Trav's U-Save pharmacy here in Osceola is expanding its hours to better serve the local customers and the fall health fair was well attended. Various members of the hospital staff will participate in the various Halloween activities at all four communities in the county. The first urology clinic is still scheduled to take place in November with appointments currently being scheduled.

A motion was made by Boruch authorizing the Chairman to sign the Hospital Licensure Renewal Application. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye.

Highway Road Foreman Ericson updated the Board on the work being done in the Road Dept. Work is progressing for a new well for the Swedehome shop and the culverts have arrived for the project north of Lone Star. Husker Auto Group in being contacted about a new pickup for the Road Department using the State bid process and the Board suggested starting the bid process for a motor grader.

Weed Supt. Carlson brought the Board up to date on the activities of the Weed Dept. The helicopter used this summer to spray the Platte River in our area was involved in a crash near Kearney. The Nebraska Dept. of Agriculture will be conducting the inspection of the office on Thursday and Supt. Carlson plans to spray cat tails in the county right-of-way tomorrow, weather permitting. He has been extra cautious when out in the county spraying weeds to help prevent fires due to the dry conditions. Fall spraying will continue following a frost.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 11:50 a.m. to meet again on November 5th and 19th, 2024. An agenda of the meetings will be available at the office of the County Clerk.

Approved: _____
 /S/ Debra S. Girard
 County Clerk

/S/ Jerry Westring
Chairman