

Osceola, Nebraska
February 25, 2025

Pursuant to notice published in the February 20th, 2025 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.

The audit report for fiscal year 2023-2024 has been received from Contryman Associates and is available to the public.

Marcus Augustin and Nataly Sanley updated the Board on the activities of the hospital. January was another good month for the facility. Both an operating and overall gain were realized for the month. It was reported that the Foundation for Annie Jeffrey has received approximately \$150,000 from their fundraising campaign and grants. The spring health fair will be held on Tuesday, March 4th at the hospital and the outpatient urology clinic is well attended. The ambulance project continues to move forward and those willing to drive the ambulance for transports are asked to contact the hospital. The new cardiac rehab equipment is scheduled to be installed by the end of March and work continues on the remodeling of the doctor's lounge area. The hospital would like to purchase two Mindray monitors at a cost of \$12,000 each.

Tanya Crawford, Lead Educator for Nebraska Extension in Polk County, presented their annual report to the Board and highlighted two of the other Nebraska Extension staff members that also serve Polk County. TJ Prochaska specializes in water and cropping systems while Emily Manning is available to lend assistance in early childhood matters. No replacement has been found at this time for Maria Cantu-Hines' Rural Prosperity Network position but two applicants have been brought forward for the final interview step of the hiring process.

Shauna Drozd met with the Board to ask for approval for a special designated permit to have alcohol at a function to be held on the Polk County Fairgrounds. A motion was made by Boruch to allow Polk County Recreation Association to sell and serve alcohol on March 21st, 2025 in the Ag Pavilion on the Polk County Fairgrounds. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye.

At 10:20 a.m., a motion was made by Boss to go into executive session to discuss an application for burial assistance. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye. Also present were the applicant and the County Clerk. At 10:25 a.m., a motion was made by Boss to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Westring and all members voted in the affirmative. Chairman Westring stated for the record that no formal action was taken and that only burial assistance matters were discussed. A motion was made by Boss to approve the request for burial assistance. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye.

At 10:30 a.m., a motion was made by Boruch to open the 1 and 6 Year Road Plan hearing as advertised. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Westring, aye; Boss, aye. Also present was Highway Supt. Theis and Foreman Ericson. The one and six year projects, which include bridge work and asphalt/concrete overlays, were reviewed. The overlay projects for both Shelby North and Osceola North, along with three bridge projects are now on 1 year plan for 2025. At 11:25 a.m., a motion was made by Boss to close the hearing. The motion was seconded by Westring and all members voted in the affirmative. A motion was made by Boruch to adopt the One and Six Year Road Plan as presented. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Westring, aye; Boss, aye.

Highway Supt. Theis and Foreman Ericson also updated the Board on the work being done in the Road Dept. Due to a prior conflict with the Board's regular meeting on March 25th, Brian McDonald asked if the Board could hold a special meeting on Monday, March 24th, to open the bids for the Osceola North and Shelby North overlay project. Clerk Girard will publicize the special meeting on the county website and in the Polk County News. Cory Mentink continues to upgrade the electrical at the Osceola shop. Supt. Theis will attend the court proceedings on Thursday for the County's case against Richard Urban for destroying a portion of a county road.

