Osceola, Nebraska

February 7, 2023

Pursuant to notice published in the February 2nd, 2023 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.

Claims were audited and a motion was made by Westring that claims be allowed and warrants drawn against the various funds in the amounts listed below. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Westring, aye; Boss, aye; Boruch, aye.

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| GENERAL FUND | | |
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| General Fund | Salaries | $128,384.34 |
| Advanced Correctional Health Care | Supplies | $48.96 |
| Augie's Autobody Repair | Service | $1,708.96 |
| Black Hills Energy | Service | $584.75 |
| Blue Cross Blue Shield | Health Insurance | $20,599.40 |
| Business Telecommunication Systems | Service | $1,035.00 |
| Melissa Carey | Mileage | $102.50 |
| Central Square Technologies, LLC | Service | $151.58 |
| Central Valley AG | Fuel | $636.40 |
| City of Osceola | Utilities | $638.08 |
| Colonial Research | Supplies | $513.55 |
| Jennifer Conkel | Mileage | $110.04 |
| Cubby's, Inc. | Supplies | $652.30 |
| DAS State Acctg-Central Finance | Rent | $448.00 |
| Eakes Office Solutions | Supplies | $2,683.06 |
| Cheryl Erickson | Mileage | $134.27 |
| Fort Dearborn Life Insurance | Life Insurance | $286.93 |
| Frontier Cooperative Company | Fuel | $1,790.73 |
| Galls | Supplies | $14.75 |
| Gary's Plumbing LLC | Supplies | $110.35 |
| Holiday Inn Kearney | Lodging | $129.95 |
| Hometown Leasing | Supplies | $75.00 |
| Jack's Uniforms & Equipment | Supplies | $378.37 |
| Jackson Service Inc. | Service | $158.30 |
| Jodi Krance | Mileage | $144.82 |
| Lassek Electric LLC | Service | $1,488.33 |
| Your Publication | Service | $21.95 |
| Ross A Luzum | Service | $408.50 |
| MARC | Supplies | $171.60 |
| Microfilm Imaging Systems, Inc. | Rent | $90.00 |
| Midland Printing LLC | Service | $252.29 |
| Midwest Connect | Service | $59.00 |
| MIPS Inc. | Service | $240.18 |
| ML Smith Law Office | Service | $2,736.00 |
| Jennifer Myers | Service/Mileage | $4,064.66 |
| NACO | Supplies | $100.00 |
| NE Association of Co Treasurers | Dues | $50.00 |
| NE Association of County Assessors | Dues | $60.00 |
| NE Health & Human Service | Service | $93.00 |
| NE Law Enforcement Training Center | Fee | $20.00 |
| NE State Fire Marshal/Boiler Divison | Service | $72.00 |
| Osceola Food Mart | Supplies | $21.65 |
| Paper Tiger Shredding | Supplies | $45.00 |
| Pinnacle Bank Visa | Supplies | $378.77 |
| Pinnacle Bank Visa | Supplies | $11.13 |
| Pinnacle Bank Visa | Supplies | $300.07 |
| Pinnacle Bank Visa | Supplies/Training | $274.95 |
| Pinnacle Bank Visa | Registration | $50.00 |
| Pioneer Telephone | Service | $37.18 |
| Platte County Detention Facility | Service | $2,680.00 |
| Polk Co. Clerk Retirement Deposit | Retirement | $8,331.68 |
| Polk Co. Tax Deposit Account | Social Security | $9,574.13 |
| Polk County Health Ins. | Deductible | $3,740.88 |
| Polk County Extension Tax Account | Service | $71.28 |
| Polk County Rural Public Power District | Service | $1,923.15 |
| Polk County Sheriff | Service | $142.00 |
| Rasmussen Mechanical Service | Service | $993.06 |
| Sparrow Publications, LLC | Service | $75.00 |
| Jaci Swantek | Mileage | $24.38 |
| Trouba Law Offices, LLC | Service | $1,339.50 |
| Kris Udey | Reimbursement | $75.00 |
| University of Nebraska-Lincoln | Service | $225.00 |
| UNL Eastern NE Research & Extension | Qrtly Payment | $8,482.37 |
| Verizon Wireless\*\* | Service | $360.09 |
| VVS, Inc. Canteen | Service | $37.25 |
| VYVE Broadband | Service | $689.52 |
| Watts Electric Company | Rent | $600.00 |
| Windstream Nebraska Inc. | Service | $519.34 |
| Kim Winslow | Supplies/Service | $780.30 |
| Woods & Aitken LLP | Service | $1,651.00 |
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| ROAD FUND | | |
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| Road Fund | Salaries | $8,239.76 |
| Black Hills Energy | Utilities | $377.89 |
| Blackstrap Inc. | Supplies | $2,963.75 |
| Carl's Skrap | Service | $36.00 |
| Central Valley AG | Service/Supplies | $1,032.81 |
| City of Osceola | Service | $91.36 |
| City of Stromsburg | Service | $343.63 |
| Ericson Cash Hardware | Supplies | $11.97 |
| Curtis Ericson | Reimbursement | $22.58 |
| Filter Care | Service | $50.25 |
| Fort Dearborn Life Insurance | Life Insurance | $162.95 |
| Frontier Cooperative Co. | Fuel | $17,214.82 |
| Gary's Plumbing LLC | Supplies | $37.37 |
| Island Supply Welding Company | Supplies | $245.41 |
| Klein's Blue River Power & Rental | Rental | $58.75 |
| Medical Enterprises Inc. | Service | $181.25 |
| Midwest Service & Sales Co. | Supplies | $570.00 |
| NMC, Inc. | Supplies | $2,402.30 |
| Osceola Implement & Supply Inc. | Service/Supplies | $57.40 |
| Pinnacle Bank Visa | Supplies | $107.00 |
| Polk Co Clerk Retirement Deposit | Retirement | $3,976.78 |
| Polk Co Tax Deposit Account | Social Security | $4,780.37 |
| Polk County Health Department | Service | $220.00 |
| Polk County Rural Public Power District | Service | $326.70 |
| Powerplan | Service | $1,006.37 |
| Rally Auto Parts | Service/Supplies | $864.15 |
| Shelby Lumber Co. Inc. | Supplies | $78.86 |
| Tire Outlet, Inc. | Service | $70.00 |
| Village of Shelby | Service | $91.40 |
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| SENIOR CENTER SERVICES FUND | | |
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| Hans Service, LLC | Service | $291.30 |
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| COVID AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUND | | |
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| Menards-Columbus | Supplies | $27,196.88 |
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| INHERITANCE TAX FUND | | |
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| Applied Connective Technologies | Service | $2,437.55 |
| MIPS Inc. | Service | $2,233.02 |
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| 911 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND | | |
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| Windstream Nebraska Inc. | Service | $769.69 |
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| WEED FUND | | |
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| City of Osceola | Utilities | $89.08 |
| Constellation Newenergy Gas Division | Service | $68.13 |
| Eakes Office Solutions | Supplies | 35.97 |
| Frontier Cooperative Company | Supplies | $375.53 |
| Polk County Rural Public Power District | Supplies | $49.18 |
| Rally Auto Parts | Supplies | $8.98 |

The following fees for the month of January were earned by the various offices and submitted to the County Treasurer. County Treasurer receipts show fees earned were credited to the appropriate county funds.

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| Dwaine W. Ladwig, Sheriff | $864.67 |
| Debra S. Girard, County Clerk | $3,050.87 |

The County Jail Report for the month of January was reviewed by the Board and approved.

A motion was made by Boruch to reappoint Dr. Jillian Fickenscher as the physician and medical advisor on the Four Corners District Health Board for a term of two years. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Westring, aye; Boss, aye. The reappointment was for only two years to help create a stagger in the expiration dates of the terms for the district health board.

A motion was made by Boruch to reappoint Dr. Elizabeth Papineau as the dentist on the Four Corners District Health Board for a term of one year. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Westring, aye; Boss, aye. The reappointment was for only one year to help create a stagger in the expiration dates of the terms for the district health board.

The Board approved the Sheriff’s report and the Treasurer’s report of distress warrants. All of the distress warrants for the 2021 tax year have been collected.

A motion was made by Westring to name Debra S. Girard, the County Clerk, as the authorized person to execute the required documents for the 2022 National Opioid Settlements with Teva, Allergan, Walmart, Walgreens and CVS for Polk County. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Westring, aye; Boruch, aye; Boss, aye. These agreements will allow Polk County to receive and reallocate settlement funds from the opioid litigation settlements awarded at the national level.

Three informal bids for the construction of the storage building to be located on the county’s property north of the hospital were reviewed. A motion was made by Westring to accept the low bid of Rios Construction. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Westring, aye; Boruch, aye; Boss, aye.

Sheriff Ladwig met with the Board to discuss the purchase of new patrol vehicles. According to Husker Auto Group, there will be no Nebraska state bid vehicles available until 2025. Karl Emergency Vehicles in Des Moines, Iowa also handles state bid vehicles but only Chevrolet Tahoes would be available sooner than 2025. No action was taken.

The Polk County Patriot group met with the Board to discuss the method of counting ballots in Nebraska and their desire to return to having the paper ballots counted by hand instead of with a counting machine. Clerk Girard presented a press release from the Secretary of State’s Office that revealed the manual recount of over 48,000 ballots from 132 randomly selected precincts across all 93 counties reported a discrepancy of 11 votes, mostly due to a lightly marked oval. Those 11 votes constituted an error rate of twenty-three thousandths of one percent. In addition, the tabulators are also tested three separate times just prior to each election to confirm they are counting and reporting results accurately before processing the official ballots on election day.

At 10:30 a.m., a motion was made by Boruch to go into executive session to discuss an application for burial assistance. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Westring, aye; Boss, aye. Also present were the applicant’s next of kin and the County Clerk. At 10:35 a.m., a motion was made by Boruch to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Boss 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 Boruch to approve the request for burial assistance. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Westring, aye; Boss, aye.

Highway Supt. Theis updated the Board on the work being done in the Road Dept. Compliments were received regarding the snow removal following the January snow storm. The policy to reimburse those road employees who purchased steel toed boots to be worn on the job was discussed with the consensus that the current amount of $40.00 needs to be increased. Boruch Masonry will be having concrete removed from their various job sites crushed and Supt. Theis has spoken for a portion of the crushed concrete. The transverse cracks on the 9th Street blacktop, the fairgrounds road and the blacktops north of Osceola and Shelby need to be filled. Eric Lindsley and Cal Marak met with the Board to revisit the fairgrounds millings project. The Ag Society is willing to purchase the needed millings and rent a roller, if necessary, provided the County would haul the millings from Johnson Sand and Gravel, place them, and do any necessary ground prep work. The Board gave their verbal approval for the County’s participation in the project to improve the roads and parking areas on the fairgrounds.

The formal offer made on the former Yungdahl’s Apothecary building was accepted by the owners and communicated to Chairman Westring. As noted on the agenda, at 11:30 a.m., the Board left the courthouse to travel to Stromsburg to view the property. Also present at the 309 Commercial Street location were Health Dept. Director Winslow and other members of her staff. As required by statute, an appraisal of the property will be obtained prior to closing on the purchase of the real estate..

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 12:20 p.m. to meet again on February 21st and 28th, 2023. An agenda of the meetings will be available at the office of the County Clerk.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ /S/ Debra S. Girard \_ \_\_\_\_\_ /S/ Jerry Westring\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

County Clerk Chairman