Osceola, Nebraska
March 28, 2023

Pursuant to notice published in the March 23rd, 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.

Hospital Administrator Joe Lohrman and CFO Marcus Augustin updated the Board on the activities of the hospital. Revenues were up slightly in February and accounts receivable days continue to decline as the staff is gaining more experience with the new software program. Even though expenses were also down, an operating and overall loss were reported for the month of February. Some nonprofit firms have inquired about making charitable medical donations to the facility to be applied to patients' accounts but a policy regarding the donations needs to be developed. In light of the recent banking issues on the west coast, CFO Augustin reviewed with the Board the process for Nebraska political subdivisions to secure their deposits above the FDIC guarantee with pledged securities and his process for reviewing the securities pledged to the hospital. The spring health fair held at the hospital was well attended, the X-ray room upgrades have been completed and the new doors have been installed

Road Foreman Curt Ericson updated the Board on the work being done in the Road Dept. The blade extension has been installed on the used motor grader and the grading project on 122nd Road east of Polk has been delayed due to the weekend snowfall. The two surplus sheep foot rollers are now listed on an online auction.

Weed Supt. Carlson brought the Board updated the Board on the activities of the Weed Dept. The shop was also recently inspected by NIRMA with some minor corrections needed. At a recent Platte Valley Weed Management Area meeting, it was noted that there will be funding available for off-channel drone spraying of phragmites. Coordinating with surrounding counties will be necessary to make the best use of the funding appropriated for the project. Recent inspections have identified 8 new phragmites infestations totaling approximately 20 acres. The organic farms in the county have been mapped for the 2023 crop year with right-of-way spraying to start as soon as the first part of April. Leafy spurge and thistle inspections will begin in mid to late April. Classes will be attended in Kearney later this week with 10 hours of continuing education credit available.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 11:55 a.m. to meet again on April 4th and 18th, 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