

Osceola, Nebraska
September 24, 2024

Pursuant to notice published in the September 19th, 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.

A motion was made by Westring to approve the law enforcement contract with the City of Stromsburg. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Westring, aye; Boss, aye; Boruch, aye. The three year contract runs from October 1, 2024 through September 30, 2027.

A motion was made by Boss authorizing the Chairman to sign the updated and restated plan document for Polk County's FSA Plan with First Concord Benefits Group. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Boruch, aye; Westring, aye.

Marcus Augustin and Nataly Sanley updated the Board on the activities of the hospital. August was another great revenue month for the facility with an operating and overall gain reported. The audit will begin next week and a 12 year old Nu-step bike in the wellness center needs to be replaced. The flooring project is underway with two rooms having been recarpeted. The Windstream fiber outage last week created some minor issues but most systems were able to be transferred over to a secondary Vyve feed into the facility. Recently, the hospital has been able to use a new ambulance service from Seward for ground transfers but they are exploring the possibility of adding an in house ambulance service. The urology clinic will soon be up and running and strategic planning for the facility is underway.

At 10:00 a.m., a motion was made by Boruch to open the County Budget hearing as advertised. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye. No members of the general public attended. At 10:30 a.m., a motion was made by Boruch to close the hearing. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Westring, aye; Boss, aye. A motion was made by Boruch to adopt the 2024-2025 County Budget as proposed. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Westring, aye; Boss, aye. The adopted budget contains the following tax request:

General Fund	\$3,410,909.00
Equipment Sinking Fund	\$45,000.00
Veterans' Aid Fund	\$1,000.00
Highway Bond Fund	\$686,428.00
Hospital Fund	\$278,163.00
Total	\$4,421,500.00

The tax request hearing will be held at 10:00 a.m. during the October 1st, 2024 meeting of the Board.

Highway Dept. Foreman Ericson updated the Board on the work being done in the Road Dept. York County has been contacted about sealing the cracks on the D Road project near the county line. The truck is currently in Wichita to get the necessary hydraulics added to control the pup trailer. A thumb attachment for the excavator's bucket is being sought and they are also working on seeking bids for tires. Rock from the courthouse roof has been hauled to the Weed Shop.

Weed Supt. Carlson brought the Board up to date on the activities of the Weed Dept. The first week of September, several locations were sprayed with a drone and the Platte River was sprayed via helicopter. Curt Ericson is also spraying brush in the right of way along his maintainer route and there is brush to spray in Tim Althouse's maintenance area as well. Supt. Carlson continues to spray brush and one of the overhead doors at the Weed Shop has been repaired.

