

Osceola, Nebraska
October 27, 2020

Pursuant to notice published in the October 22nd, 2020 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 on the wall of the Commissioner's room.

A motion was made by Boruch authorizing the Chairman to sign the annual Certification of Program Compliance to the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards as presented. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Westring, aye; Boss, aye.

Hospital Administrator Joe Lohrman and CFO Marcus Augustin updated the Board on the activities of the hospital. The new CT scanner and UVC robot have been added to the hospital's equipment inventory and are in use. September was a slightly slower month but they have been doing some rapid testing for COVID-19 and are setting up a temporary mobile clinic. Both an operating and a total loss were reported for the month. The audit report has not been completed yet as the auditor is waiting to learn what the final guidance will be regarding the reporting of the COVID money received from the government. The guidance has changed three times since the disbursement of the funds. The hospital has been reporting COVID number to DHHS and are now to start reporting influenza cases. Obtaining personal protective equipment (PPE) is starting to become a challenge and they are disinfecting and reusing items if possible. The new UVC robot has been getting plenty of use with the increase in COVID patients and the visitor policy has been tightened due to COVID spike.

At 10:00 a.m., a motion was made by Boruch to open the hearing on James Compton's application for a liquor license for Lonestar Saloon. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye. James Compton and Jan Afrank were present to represent the applicant but no other interested persons appeared. The application stated that a Class C license which would allow both on and off sale of beer, wine and hard liquor is being requested. At 10:15 a.m., a motion was made by Boruch to close the hearing. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye. A motion was made by Boss to recommend approval of a Class C liquor license for James Compton dba Lonestar Saloon which will be located at 14100 U Road in rural Polk County to the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Boruch, aye; Westring, aye.

Crystal Lautenschlager 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 Boss to allow the American Legion Post #91 to sell and serve alcohol on November 14th, 2020 in the Ag Pavilion on the Polk County Fairgrounds. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Boruch, aye; Westring, aye.

Highway Supt. Theis updated the Board on the work being done in the Road Dept. The new mulcher head for the gradall has been shipped and it will be more cost effective to have the gradall hauled to the shop for installation. The signs for the alternative routes for the Highway 81/92 construction project will be installed this week.

Information regarding the purchase of a new ATV to replace the 2000 Suzuki now used primarily for snow removal was discussed. A motion was made by Westring to approve the purchase of a new ATV from Curry Bros, trading in the 2000 Suzuki ATV. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Westring, aye; Boss, aye; Boruch, aye.

Weed Supt. Carlson updated the Board on the activities of the Weed Dept. The program evaluation has been completed and Polk County has received a perfect score. The Platte Valley Weed Management Area will be taking bids next season for the application of chemicals using drone technology. Fall inspections have been done and the November training has been cancelled due to COVID. The spray equipment will soon be winterized.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 11:50 a.m. to meet again on November 3rd and 17th, 2020. An agenda of the meetings will be available at the office of the County Clerk.

