



Boone County Board Minutes



BOONE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS
JUNE 28, 2021 ALBION, NEBRASKA

The Boone County Board of Commissioners of Boone County, Nebraska, met in regular session at 9:00 A.M. on Monday, June 28, 2021, in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Courthouse in Albion, Nebraska.

Chairman Temme called the meeting to order, and Commissioners present for roll call were Ben Rutten, Larry Temme, and Jon Lindgren. Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication in the Albion News and Boone County Tribune and the Petersburg Press on June 23, 2021, and the convened meeting was open to the public.

The agenda was posted on the Boone County website; posted on the information board located in the Courthouse north entrance; emailed to the Board of Commissioners; and emailed to the Elected Officials and department heads on Friday, June 25, 2021. Chairman Temme acknowledged the agenda and noted that the Open Meeting Laws are posted and available to the public.

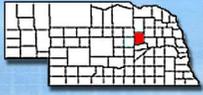
The Board reviewed the County Payroll Claims filed for the pay period of May 22, 2021 through June 21, 2021. Motion made by Rutten, second by Lindgren to approve the County Payroll Claims filed for payment from the various funds: General \$94,236.87, BCBS \$49,272.77, Ameritas Ret \$6,520.27, EFTPS \$7,005.18, LTD Premiums \$0.00, Section 125 Fees \$17.50, Wellness Program \$128.00; Road \$62,659.39, BCBS \$31,654.43, Ameritas Ret \$4,147.15, EFTPS \$4,693.02; Ambulance \$2,502.62, Ameritas Ret \$70.00, EFTPS \$191.45; Public Defender Contract \$3,358.21; 911 Emergency Management (2910) - \$913.50; 911 Wireless Service (2913) \$2,236.50. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rutten, Lindgren and Temme. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Temme, second by Rutten to approve the County Board Proceedings of June 21, 2021, as presented. Roll call vote: Yeas: Temme, Rutten and Lindgren. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Lindgren, second by Temme to approve the County Board of Equalization Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2021, as presented. Roll call vote: Yeas: Lindgren, Temme and Rutten. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Boone County Ambulance Service submitted an uncollectible ambulance account that the Board reviewed April 29, 2019 and turned over to the County Attorney for further collection. The County Attorney has attempted by letter and court proceeding to collect on the balance with no payment being received to date. Motion made by Rutten, second by Lindgren to write off the uncollectible ambulance account in the amount of \$2,230.00. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rutten, Lindgren and Temme. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Katie Sharp, Jarecki Lay & Sharp PC, LLO, reported that the cases assigned to the Public Defender in 2012 through 2019 are all completed. Sharp updated the Board in regard to Public Defender assigned cases: 2020 – 35 cases with 18 closed, 4 conflicts and 13 open and 2021 to date – 12 cases with 4 closed, 1 conflict and 7 open. Sharp explained to the Board that some juvenile cases take a long time to complete and that some individuals may have more than one case. Juvenile cases may remain open until the court case is resolved or the age of nineteen. The Board thanked Sharp for the updated report and their diligent services. Sharp thanked the Board and is very appreciative of the contract for public defender services. Motion made by Temme, second by Lindgren to accept the Boone County Public Defender report as presented. Roll call vote: Yeas: Temme, Lindgren and Rutten. Nays: None. Motion carried.



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The Board reviewed the Assurances of Compliance with Civil Rights Requirements and the U.S. Department of the Treasury Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Award Terms and Conditions agreements to claim the American Rescue Plan Act funds. The last day for guidelines for spending of these funds to be edited or changed is July 9, 2021. The Board also discussed who the point of contact should be within the courthouse. Motion made by Rutten, second by Lindgren to appoint the Boone County Clerk as the point of contact and to authorize the Chairman to eSign the agreements as presented. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rutten, Lindgren and Temme. Nays: None. Motion carried.

A quote from Applied Connective Technologies, LLC was received to install a TV with accessories to be used for videoconferences. This will not only be used by the Board, but could be used by any County Employee if needed to attend a videoconference meeting. During the pandemic it was shown that this technology will be used more frequently going forward. Motion made by Rutten, second by Lindgren to approve the quote for a 55-Inch LED TV and accessories from Applied Connective Technologies, LLC for approximately \$2,575.09. Roll call vote: Rutten, Lindgren and Temme. Nays: None. Motion carried.

It was brought to several county employees' attention by probation, attorneys, and abstracters that the County's public Wi-Fi was not available anymore. When Applied Connective Technologies, LLC looked into the issue they found that the equipment used to amplify the Wi-Fi signal throughout the courthouse was outdated and needed to be replaced. Motion made by Temme, second by Lindgren to approve the quote for four new network access points from Applied Connective Technologies, LLC for approximately \$900.00. Roll call vote: Yeas: Temme, Lindgren and Rutten. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The primary use of the Boone County Visitors Promotion Fund is to promote, encourage and attract visitors to come to the county through advertisement of the event. The Boone County Visitors Promotion Committee received a request for advertisement funding. The Primrose Rural Fire Department requested assistance to advertise the Primrose Tire and Car Show event scheduled for August 8, 2021. Motion made by Temme, second by Rutten to approve the application requesting funding assistance from the Primrose Rural Fire Department to advertise the Primrose Tire and Car Show event from the Visitor's Promotion Fund as submitted. Roll call vote: Yeas: Temme, Rutten and Lindgren. Nays: None. Motion carried.

At the previous Commissioner's meeting, Ben Rutten was appointed to fill the vacancy on the Boone County Fitness Center Board due to the death of Alan Rasmussen. To balance the Board's responsibilities, it was suggested that a different Commissioner be appointed to oversee the Weed Superintendent. Motion made by Rutten, second by Temme to appoint Commissioner Jon Lindgren as the new Weed Superintendent. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rutten and Temme. Nays: None. Abstain: Lindgren. Motion carried.

The Fund 2913 "911 Wireless Service Fund" was established by the Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts and receives the Nebraska Public Service Commission funding for public safety answering points for the implementation and provision of Enhanced Wireless 911 services. The percentage of the set aside funds left in Fund 2913 is to be transferred either to the Fund 2914 "911 Wireless Service Holding Fund" for the funds set aside for future equipment and software purchases or to the Fund 0100 "General Fund" for the funding of salaries for 911 dispatching services before the close of the fiscal year end June 30th each year. Motion made by Temme, second by Lindgren to approve Resolution No. 2021-24, authorizing Laurie Krohn, Boone County Treasurer, to transfer the sum of \$34,719.53 from the 911 Wireless Service Fund (2913) to the payroll General Fund (0100) as presented. Roll call vote: Yeas: Temme, Lindgren and Rutten. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Board met with the County Elected Officials/Department Heads to discuss several different topics which included the following:



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- Handbook changes discussed were in regard to the General Leave Policy; Salary Schedule; wording in the Benefits, Holidays and Funeral Leave Policies; and the addition of two new policies: Vehicle Inspection Policy and Volunteer Fire/Rescue Policy. No action taken at this time.
- 2021-2022 Budget and cost of living. The Board discussed budget preparation with the County Assessor, Clerk, Highway Superintendent, Treasurer, Veteran Service Officer, Courthouse Maintenance, County Attorney's Assistant and UNL Extension. The Board would like to make some spending cuts where possible. Due to the infrastructure damage from the March 2019 storms the Board asked that there be none or very little increase for operating line codes from the prior year request. The infrastructure damage in 2019 to the County roads, bridges, etc. is not all repaired yet. The employee benefits, and January cost of living wage increase for full time employees were discussed. Motion made by Temme, second by Lindgren to approve a 38 cent per hour cost of living wage increase for full time employees for year 2022. Roll call vote: Yeas: Temme, Lindgren and Rutten. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- Personnel wages for the Road Department were tabled until a later date.
- Personnel wages for an employee in the County Assessor's office was discussed. Motion made by Rutten, second by Temme to approve a \$1.00 wage increase for an employee in the Assessor's office to be effective as of June 22, 2021. Roll call vote: Yeas: Rutten, Temme and Lindgren. Nays: None. Motion carried.
- The possibility of reinstating the Longevity Program was discussed with the Board. Motion made by Temme, second by Lindgren to deny the reinstatement of the Longevity Program. Roll call vote: Yeas: Temme, Lindgren and Rutten. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Stacey Ziemba, Highway Superintendent, presented the general report which updated the Board on the bank stabilization project on 150th Avenue, Project BR#21105; where the County is at in regard to the FEMA process for the Knob Bridge, Project BR#00715; and a safety meeting was held with the road shops. Due to the success of the safety meeting, there will be one schedule every other month. Motion made by Lindgren, second by Temme to accept the Highway Superintendent General Report as presented. Roll call vote: Yeas: Lindgren, Temme and Rutten. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Summer hours for the Road Department were discussed with Ziemba. Motion made by Lindgren, second by Rutten to approve a trial period for summer hours of 6:30 A.M.-3:00 P.M. with a half hour lunch to be taken from July 1 through September 21. Roll call vote: Yeas: Lindgren and Rutten. Nays: Temme. Motion carried.

Stacey Ziemba, Highway Superintendent, wanted further clarification on the work to be done on the Loretto Street Project, east off of Highway 14 and on a county road 190th Street. The Board and Ziemba discussed the drainage issue what materials were needed. After clarification was given and an update on the overall project was given, there was no action taken.

Public Comments:

- Commissioner Lindgren plans to attend the East-Central District Health Department by videoconference.

Chairman Temme declared the meeting adjourned at 1:48 P.M., with the next Board meeting scheduled for Monday, July 12, 2021.

Sarah Robinson,
Boone County Clerk