

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 3rd, 2023

At 9:00 am, Chairman Scanson called the Foster County Commission Special meeting to order. Roll call included Commissioner Scott Beumer, Commissioner Becky Hagel, Commissioner Alan Scanson, Commissioner David Utke and Commissioner Pat Copenhaver. Also present was Interim Auditor Ellen Roundy and Deputy Auditor Hailey Bachmeier.

Commissioner Beumer made a motion to offer Garrett Matteson \$30.00/hour for the equipment operator position, seconded by Commissioner Hagel. Discussion included making an adjustment to the entire road department. The BOCC will have to look at potentially increasing blade rates for townships or removing the yearly credit to help cover some of these costs for the following year. Commissioner Hagel stated that this will put these employees between steps 8 and 9 and they will sit at that until the COLA catches up to where they are at on the scale. Options the BOCC can do are to move all employees, adjust the scale, or move some employees. There was discussion that if other employees questioned this that Commissioner Beumer and Commissioner Scanson would be available. Commissioner Utke believes that the BOCC will have a responsibility to look at all positions and all departments come budget time. Commissioner Beumer stated that if they cannot fill the open equipment operator position that they would have to look at contracting out in the private sector. Roll call vote included:

- Commissioner Beumer – aye
- Commissioner Hagel – aye
- Commissioner Scanson – aye
- Commissioner Copenhaver – aye
- Commissioner Utke – aye

motion passed.

Commissioner Hagel made a motion to move all full-time equipment operators from grade 11 to grade 13 and that we pay them \$30.00/hour. The part-time operator would be at \$25.45, the Road Foreman would move from grade 13 to grade 14 at step 9 and the road superintendent from grade 14 to grade 15, step 9. This would also move the maintenance employee that helps the road department to \$27.46 for the difference in job classifications, seconded by Commissioner Utke. It was stated that the employees would sit at that step until the COLA reaches up to them. Commissioner Utke stated that the BOCC should appoint portfolios to the commissioners to work with the road superintendent and his crew on expectations and the new departmental phone system. They will discuss doing portfolios for all county departments at a later date.

Roll call vote included:

- Commissioner Beumer – aye
- Commissioner Hagel – aye
- Commissioner Scanson – aye
- Commissioner Copenhaver – aye
- Commissioner Utke – aye

motion passed. Commissioner Beumer added that the Sheriff's department and Road department differ from offices inside the courthouse. Commissioner Hagel explained why the grades were set up the way they were based on responsibility impact to the county, supervision and working conditions.

With no further business, Chairman Scanson adjourned the meeting at 9:39 am.

Ellen Roundy
Foster County Interim Auditor

Alan Scanson, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners