

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 28th, 2023

At 7:00 pm, Chairman Scanson called the Foster County Commission Public Hearing to order. Roll call included Commissioner Becky Hagel, Commissioner Alan Scanson, Commissioner David Utke, and Commissioner Pat Copenhaver via phone. Also present was Auditor Ellen Roundy, States Attorney Kara Brinster, and resident Roger Schlotman.

Foster County Resident Roger Schlotman asked the BOCC what the term duplication stood for in the plan. Brinster stated a lot of times both offices are helping each other out and are cross trained so it would eliminate some of the job duplication that is currently happening. Schlotman asked if there would be a cost savings and the BOCC stated there would be. Schlotman noted that the States Attorney and Sheriff positions are elected. Brinster stated that there are statutory requirements for those positions. It becomes critical for the BOCC as they want to establish what those qualifications are when positions do not have them. Commissioner Hagel stated that in the past, unqualified individuals have held positions and it has hurt the county in the long run. Commissioner Utke stated that to prevent any of the previous issues from happening again, they can make things right and this BOCC would not be doing their job if they didn't see the value and take this transition seriously. Commissioner Copenhaver stated that one reason the BOCC is looking to make this change is because there is a good set of employees in the auditor's office, and he wants to see them keep these positions. Commissioner Hagel and Commissioner Scanson have spoke with other residents in the county who see the benefit and importance of having qualified individuals in highly rated positions in the county. Additional questions and concerns were discussed, and the resident did not state whether they were in favor or opposed to the plan when leaving the hearing.

With no further business, Chairman Scanson adjourned the meeting at 7:28 pm.

Ellen Roundy
Foster County Auditor

Alan Scanson, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners