

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 4th, 2024

At 3:30pm, Chairman Utke called the Foster County Commission meeting to order. Roll call included Commissioner Scott Beumer, Commissioner David Utke, Commissioner Alan Scanson, and Commissioner Pat Copenhaver via phone. Also present was Auditor/Treasurer Ellen Roundy and Foster County Independent reporter Leasa Lura.

The meeting began with approval of the minutes for the May 21st, 2024, regular meeting, and May 24th, 2024, Special Meeting. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve both sets of minutes, seconded by Commissioner Utke. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve the bills, seconded by Commissioner Beumer. All voted aye and the motion passed.

37164	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, INC.	37.84
37165	ANDREW KIRKING	160.80
37166	BALCO UNIFORM CO., INC.	172.00
37167	BARNES COUNTY CORRECTIONS	3,049.95
37168	BESSETTE MOTORS, INC.	779.98
37169	BUTLER MACHINERY COMPANY	187.12
37170	C & J OIL COMPANY	10,741.40
37171	CENTRAL CITY H20+	13.50
37172	CRAIG WIESZ	42.88
37173	DAVID UTKE	50.92
37174	EAPC ARCHITECTS ENGINEERS	6,715.95
37175	ELLEN ROUNDY	8.91
37176	FOSTER COUNTY INDEPENDENT	1,546.68
37177	FOSTER COUNTY TREASURER	4,110.90
37178	GENERAL ROOFING AND CONSTRUCTION	247,500.00
37179	HOLCIM - MWR, INC.	2,762.97
37180	HOYT ENTERPRISES, INC.	150.00
37181	NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES	450.00
37182	NDACS	50.00
37183	ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, LLC	322.99
37184	OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL- 1250	155.00
37185	OK TIRE STORE	234.43
37186	R. M. STOUDT	1,814.66
37187	RDO EQUIPMENT CO.	345.97
37188	SIDWELL COMPANY	1,771.29
37189	TEAM LABORATORY CHEMICAL CORP.	183.50
37190	USPS	120.00
37191	WILLIAM J GALE	493.83

Commissioner Scanson requested the cost of gravel vs pavement be added to the agenda. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve the agenda with the addition seconded by Commissioner Beumer. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Old Business

There was nothing new to report for the empty lots by Juanita Lake.

New Business

Andrew Kirking, Stutsman/Foster Emergency Manager, informed the board of potential projects through the homeland security grant. They were looking at applying for windows, new lighting and updating the alarm system. He received two quotes for the alarm system. Electro watchman was higher than Reliance Telephone, however, the Reliance Telephone system required a monthly payment for monitoring and updates that would not be covered under the grant. Commissioner Beumer motioned to approve moving forward with applying for the homeland security grant with Electro watchman, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Kip Kovar and Scott Mehring approached the BOCC regarding the Garrison Pipeline project. Discussion included establishing an agreement with the contractors. Foster County State's Attorney Kara Brinster has reviewed the proposed agreement and had a few provisions that she would like addressed in sections 2.1, 3.2, 3.3, and 3.4. She also noted there was no signature page and that should be included. Kip Kovar noted that although it's not specifically stated, the concerns that the BOCC is part of Garrisons intent when repairing and maintaining roads. Commissioner Utke also stated that he would like the townships to have the opportunity to review the terms of the agreement. Kip Kovar will review their specifications to make sure it covers the BOCC's concerns and send it over for review.

Ellen Roundy, Auditor/Treasurer, approached the BOCC regarding the fifth of July. The County currently has summer hours and closes at 1:00 PM on Fridays. She asked for approval to close the entire day, however, the employees must either take the time unpaid or use vacation time, it would not be a paid holiday. Commissioner

Beumer motioned to allow the courthouse to be closed July fifth, allowing employees to take time unpaid or vacation time, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed.

The BOCC reviewed the road department update provided by Nate Monson. Commissioner Beumer had noted that if the cost to cut the road was a substantial cost savings, that the county should consider adding into the agreement additional funding to maintain the road for years down the road, not just while the project is taking place as it creates a potential weak spot in the road. Nate had noted that he recommended placing the 1983 IH with Detroit, no plow, and the 1996 IH with plow attached, up for auction after purchasing the recent snowplow truck. Commissioner Scanson motioned to allow Nate Monson to take the two trucks down to be auctioned off at Orr auction in Jamestown, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed. Monson had listed that an 18" culvert approximately fifty feet in length is collapsing on an approach on the Murphy Highway at Section line 7 and 8. The landowner said that they would install it if the county purchased the culvert. Commissioner Utke called Monson and he stated that we have done this before for a collapsed culvert, but not for a rusted-out culvert. The cost would be around \$1,500 to purchase the culvert. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve the purchase of the culvert if the landowner installs at their cost, seconded by Commissioner Beumer. Roll call vote included:

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

motion passed. Monson had also provided information for a mowing ad to be published on June sixteenth, twenty-third, and thirtieth. Commissioner Beumer motioned to place the ad in the paper seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed. Commissioner Scanson was approached by a concerned resident regarding grinding up a paved road and the cost to maintain gravel vs. pavement. Commissioner Scanson and Road Superintendent Monson sat down and put some figures together. To blade a mile of gravel per year costs roughly \$1,200 along with adding gravel to the mile (\$4,000 per mile, done every three years) is \$1,200 per mile therefore maintaining the gravel is estimated to be \$2,400 per mile per year. The cost to overlay one mile of pavement is estimated to be \$250,000 per mile that can last at least ten years and sometimes extending it to twenty years would be \$12,500 per mile per year. Chipping the pavement is estimated to be \$40,000 per mile that lasts ten years totaling \$4,000 per mile per year therefore maintaining pavement is estimated to be \$16,500 per mile per year.

Commissioner Utke updated the BOCC regarding camping reservations at Juanita Lake. He has worked with the Auditor's office to create envelopes that could be used and displayed as a permit for reservations. Commissioner Utke also stated that Jeff Golz requested half of the year's payment. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve to pay \$1,250 to Jeff for maintaining the grounds on July 1st, seconded by Commissioner Beumer. Roll call vote included:

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

motion passed. Foster County State's Attorney Kara Brinster was going to look at what Barnes County does for groundskeeping and update the BOCC later. The Foster County Board of Equalization will meet on June 5th, at 6:00 PM.

Chris Thomas, EAPC, joined the meeting via phone. The basement project is moving along, and they have almost completed phase one of the project. They will be installing carpet and completing necessary finishes in the next two weeks and then Central Prairie Zone employees will be able to move back down to their offices.

With no further business, Chairman Utke adjourned the meeting at 5:04 pm.

Ellen Roundy
Foster County Auditor/Treasurer

David Utke, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners