

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 20th, 2024

At 2:00pm, Chairman Utke called the Foster County Commission meeting to order. Roll call included Commissioner Scott Beumer, Commissioner Becky Hagel, Commissioner David Utke, Commissioner Pat Copenhaver and Commissioner Alan Scanson via phone. Also present was Foster County State's Attorney Kara Brinster, Auditor/Treasurer Ellen Roundy, Foster County Independent Reporter Nathan Price and residents Craig and Bonnie Hoggarth.

The meeting began with approval of the minutes for the August 6th, 2024, regular meeting. Commissioner Beumer motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed.

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

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| 37486 | AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, INC. | 502.03 |
| 37487 | ARROWWOOD PRAIRIE CO-OP | 1,151.51 |
| 37488 | ATW TOWING & WRECKING | 661.50 |
| 37489 | AVID HAWK, LLC | 35.00 |
| 37490 | BALCO UNIFORM CO., INC. | 308.53 |
| 37491 | BARNES COUNTY CORRECTIONS | 1,409.99 |
| 37492 | CARRINGTON MOTORS INC | 2,294.10 |
| 37493 | CMF | 4,808.58 |
| 37494 | COMPUTER EXPRESS | 1,000.00 |
| 37495 | EAPC ARCHITECTS ENGINEERS | 4,570.06 |
| 37496 | ELLEN ROUNDY | 78.32 |
| 37497 | GARRETT MATTESON | 139.99 |
| 37498 | HAILEY BACHMEIER | 24.00 |
| 37499 | HOLIDAY INN FARGO | 192.60 |
| 37500 | INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT. | 1,124.00 |
| 37501 | JOEL GUSSIAAS | 1,226.00 |
| 37502 | KAREN EVANS | 635.10 |
| 37503 | NAPA AUTO PARTS | 90.67 |
| 37504 | ND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AND TRIBAL VSO | 120.00 |
| 37505 | RACHEL STOKES | 217.50 |
| 37506 | RUNNING'S SUPPLY, INC. | 561.71 |
| 37507 | STUTSMAN CO. CORRECTION CENTER | 300.00 |
| 37508 | TOM GILBERTSON & SONS | 7,560.00 |
| 37509 | WOLD ENGINEERING, P.C. | 8,900.00 |

Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the agenda seconded by Commissioner Beumer. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Old Business

There was no update for the lots by Juanita Lake. Commissioner Utke would like the BOCC to establish a committee that would create a countywide policy for pipelines or utility crossing on county roads. The BOCC agreed that a committee could be formed, and they will bring information back to the BOCC.

New Business

Nate Monson, Road Superintendent, provided an update for the road department. The month of August has seen 2.13" of rain. The department plans to hot mix patch two spots on the Murphy Highway. They will dig out the bad spots, put rock/gravel in and top it with hot mix. The Club Hall Road project is scheduled to begin in October. Monson also provided a mowing notice to be placed in the Foster County Independent. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the ad seconded by Commissioner Hagel. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Ellen Roundy, Auditor/Treasurer provided an update for the basement renovation project. They will be completed with sheetrocking by the end of the week and will start to tape and mud the following week. Rough in work for electrical and HVAC has started in phase two, and they are on schedule for overall work progress.

Commissioner Utke presented information on the Club Hall Road. A petition had circulated by residents in Foster County and residents outside of Foster County to revert the BOCC's decision to grind the Club Hall Road. Discussion included the cost of maintaining the current road. The county has spent over \$123,000 in the last year and half to patch spots on the road that do not provide a long-term solution. The Road Department spends one to two days a week working on spots, and it cannot be sustained. The county's engineering firm has completed studies on all of Foster County's roads. The Club Hall road's current condition does not allow for an overlay to happen. The options are to continue to patch the road, but that does not fix the problem, it only delays the actual repair of the road, grind the road or to completely rebuild the road. The estimated cost to rebuild the road is anticipated to be over six million dollars. The county has submitted a grant for work to be completed but was not awarded money. The same grant may not be available every year and there is no guarantee that Foster County would be awarded money for any specific road or project submitted with any grant that is applied to. Commissioner Utke provided information on total miles per township with counties that surround Foster. Foster is the highest by almost a mile. The BOCC is in agreement that this is something they do not want to do, however, they do not feel like they are being responsible

with taxpayer dollars to continue to inject money into a road that needs a complete overhaul. The BOCC wants to continue to maintain all the paved roads the best that they can, and this happens to be the road they needed to start with per direction from the engineering firm. Residents' discussion included grant applications, when the traffic count was conducted and holding off on the project or completing part of the project. The BOCC stayed unanimous with their decision to move forward with the grinding of the Club Hall Road.

Commissioner Utke provided an update on the maintenance at Juanita Lake. A dropbox and new door handle has been purchased to help with reservations and entrance into the Quonset. Commissioner Scanson was going to make arrangements for winter storage. The BOCC also agreed to submit payment to Beve Johnson for work that has been completed for mowing and maintenance at Juanita Lake. Jeff Bata is moving out of the county and Jeff Edland has agreed to finish out Bata's term on the Foster County Water Board. Commissioner Beumer motioned to appoint Edland to the board, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed. Discussion also included creating a policy for PPE reimbursements. Auditor/Treasurer Roundy will work on the policy and bring to the BOCC for approval. Commissioner Beumer noted that Shelley Kollman and Jaquie Nelson have both resigned from the Foster County Board of Health. The next six-county meeting will be held in Kidder County on September 10th at 10:00 AM. The Foster County preliminary budget meeting will be held on September 10th at 6:00 PM in the jury room on the third level.

With no further business, Chairman Utke adjourned the meeting at 3:18 pm.

Ellen Roundy
Foster County Auditor/Treasurer

David Utke, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners