

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

October 1st, 2024

At 3:30pm, Chairman Utke called the Foster County Commission meeting to order. Roll call included Commissioner Scott Beumer, Commissioner Becky Hagel, Commissioner David Utke, and Commissioner Pat Copenhaver. Also present was Foster County State's Attorney Kara Brinster, Auditor/Treasurer Ellen Roundy, and Foster County Independent Reporter Nathan Price.

The meeting began with approval of the minutes for the September 17th, 2024, regular meeting. Commissioner Beumer motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Auditor/Treasurer Roundy stated a check was mailed to Arrowwood for the contract that was approved at the previous meeting. The check number was 37623 for \$325.00. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the bills including check 37623, seconded by Commissioner Hagel. All voted aye and the motion passed.

37623	ARROWWOOD PRAIRIE CO-OP	325.00
37631	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, INC.	167.18
37632	BALCO UNIFORM CO., INC.	1,140.92
37633	BUTLER MACHINERY COMPANY	20,956.10
37634	CAPFIRST EQUIPMENT FINANCE, INC.	8,941.48
37635	CMF	157.67
37636	COMPUTER EXPRESS	1,000.00
37637	CRAIG WIESZ	14.07
37638	DACOTAH PAPER COMPANY	114.53
37639	EAPC ARCHITECTS ENGINEERS	2,643.33
37640	ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE	2,167.80
37641	FOSTER COUNTY INDEPENDENT	1,244.44
37642	GILBERTSON'S	1,280.26
37643	JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	6,750.00
37644	LEADING EDGE	2,868.24
37645	MATTHEW ABERLE	65.85
37646	MORRIS SEALCOAT & TRUCKING INC.	325,727.01
37647	NSC MINERALS	3,868.26
37648	RACHEL STOKES	64.73
37649	RDO EQUIPMENT CO.	3,665.44
37650	SOFTWARE INNOVATIONS	3,800.00
37651	THOMAS VOGLEWEDE	300.00
37652	TOM GILBERTSON & SONS	756.00
37653	UNIFORM CENTER	138.50
37654	WILLIAM J GALE	339.04
37655	WOLD ENGINEERING, P.C.	19,313.30

Commissioner Copenhaver requested to add Measure four under Commissioner Discussion. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the agenda with the addition seconded by Commissioner Beumer. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Old Business

There was no update for the lots by Juanita Lake. The BOCC will have a special meeting with Garrison Diversion on October 2nd, 2024.

New Business

Commissioner Utke noted that Road Superintendent, Nate Monson, had provided an update to the board in his absence. There were no items needing to be addressed, questions or concerns.

Auditor/Treasurer Ellen Roundy presented the BOCC with the delinquent tax list and minimum sale price. Commissioner Beumer motioned to approve the suggested minimum sale price and set the public hearing for October 15th at 3:15 PM at the Foster County Courthouse, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed. Due to time sensitivity, Roundy had completed an MDU application so services can run from the building to new utilities. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to submit the application, seconded by Commissioner Beumer. All voted aye and the motion passed. Roundy worked with EM Kirking and IT Consultant Nelson on a new door security solution. The BOCC had approved during their April 16th, 2024, meeting to move forward with Electrowatchman. Electrowatchman had previously surveyed the courthouse and doors and had recommended the system, when it came to install it was decided they could no longer install the current system and would have to go wireless. They provided a wireless quote of \$27,302.07. Nelson had reached out to Schock's out of Minot for a quote. Schock's quoted a wireless system for \$12,434.65. Commissioner Beumer motioned to rescind the April 16th, 2024, motion approval of door security with Electrowatchman due to not being able to install the system they had quoted and approve the 09/23/24 quote from Schock's for \$12,434.65 for the wireless system, seconded by Commissioner Hagel. Roll call vote included:

- Commissioner Beumer – aye
- Commissioner Hagel – aye

- Commissioner Utke – aye
- Commissioner Copenhaver – aye

motion passed.

Karen Evans, Tax Director, provided an update to the BOCC regarding the Floodplain Ordinance. Emergency Manager, Andrew Kirking, had passed along changes for the Planning and Zoning Board to review. Evans did not feel as though a public hearing was required for the change. Kirking will attend the next BOCC meeting to discuss further. Evans also noted that she and Piet Van Bedaf would be willing to sit on the Road Utility Policy Committee. Commissioner Hagel motioned to form the committee consisting of a Commissioner, Road Superintendent, Road Engineer, State’s Attorney, Auditor/Treasurer, Planning and Zoning Member, and member from the public, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Chris Thomas, EAPC, joined the meeting via phone. The progress has been moving on schedule for the basement renovation. They have had to cut power to the building on a few occasions to hook up and run new electrical lines. While working with existing wiring, there were connections that were not solid providing power to the elevator. The elevator was temporarily down while they figured out how to fix it and schedule a time to cut power. Thomas noted that the work to complete the fix will be between \$1,000 and \$3,000. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to allow work up to \$3,000 for repairs to the electrical feeding the elevator, seconded by Commissioner Beumer. Roll call vote included:

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

motion passed. Additional discussion included equipment options for the new community room.

Commissioner Copenhaver asked for clarification on Measure Four. Commissioner Hagel noted that you still have your freedom of speech, but you cannot use your title as a commissioner to sway one way or another. Donnell Preskey, NDACo provided information to counties. Of the three highest taxpayers in each county, out-of-state companies pay eighty-two percent of the property taxes. Commissioner Hagel stated Foster is working with Wells to receive the indirect funding.

With no further business, Chairman Utke adjourned the meeting at 5:02 pm.

Ellen Roundy
Foster County Auditor/Treasurer

David Utke, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners