

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

November 19th, 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, Commissioner Pat Copenhaver and Commissioner Alan Scanson via phone. Also present was Foster County State’s Attorney Kara Brinster, Auditor/Treasurer Ellen Roundy, Road Superintendent Nate Monson, and Foster County Independent Reporter Nathan Price.

The meeting began with approval of the minutes for the November 7th, 2024, regular meeting. Commissioner Hagel noted two changes to the minutes. Commissioner Hagel motioned to approve the minutes with the changes, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Commissioner Utke provided clarification on the bill from Randy’s Electric and recommended that the BOCC pay it due to not having the utility clearly marked. Commissioner Hagel motioned to approve the bills, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed.

37848	ARROWWOOD PRAIRIE CO-OP	1,440.20
37849	BALCO UNIFORM CO., INC.	21.77
37850	BAYMONT BY WYNDHAM	297.00
37851	BISMARCK HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER	109.00
37852	CARRINGTON MOTORS INC	729.09
37853	CENTRAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS	125.00
37854	CHRISTOPHER BITTMANN	62.22
37855	CITY OF CARRINGTON	3,059.77
37856	COMPUTER EXPRESS	1,000.00
37857	DACOTAH PAPER COMPANY	46.63
37858	EAPC ARCHITECTS ENGINEERS	4,576.52
37859	FARMERS UNION INSURANCE	175.00
37860	KYLE BAHM	149.99
37861	LISA F. SCANSON	53.60
37862	MATTHEW ABERLE	267.14
37863	ND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION	1,725.00
37864	ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, LLC	400.18
37865	PAT BIEL TRUCKING INC.	1,937.93
37866	QUADIENT FINANCE	53.96
37867	RANDY'S ELECTRIC	1,467.73
37868	SIDWELL COMPANY	210.00
37869	*** VOID *** WOLD ENGINEERING, P.C.	527,376.07
37883	BORDER STATES PAVING INC.	527,376.07

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

Old Business

Foster County State’s Attorney, Kara Brinster has not heard back from the surveyor.

New Business

Road Superintendent, Nate Monson, provided an update to the BOCC. The department had used nineteen totes of oil durapatching for the year. The Club Hall Road project has been completed. The department is prepping equipment for the winter months. Monson provided information for the purchase of NUVO crack seal material for 2025.

Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the purchase for \$17,460.50, seconded by Commissioner Hagel.

Roll call vote included:

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

motion passed. Additional discussion included the sale of culverts that the county has been approached on. An Engineering bid for project BRJ-0016 (019) was presented to the BOCC. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve advertising with bid closing on December 16th at 4:00 PM and interviews being conducted on December 23rd, 2024, seconded by Commissioner Beumer. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Karen Evans, Tax Director, presented resident abatements and credits to the BOCC. Taustin Harrington was eligible for a DAV credit of 60% for \$715.60. Commissioner Beumer motioned to approve the DAV credit, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed. Randy & Mary Bartlett, Randy & Darcy Dewald, Gordon Ebensteiner, Douglas Handt, John Ingerson, and Garrett & Taylor Matteson qualified for up to five-hundred dollars of PRC credit with mobile homes. Evans stated that the state did not have the process for mobile homes ready when the taxation process was ready. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve all mobile home abatements, seconded by Commissioner Hagel. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Chris Thomas, EAPC, joined the meeting via phone. Thomas discussed the bill from Randy's electric and that when a private line is not marked, it is not the responsibility of the utility company if a cut or break occurs. The basement woodwork is almost completed and ready for carpet. Roundy stated that the second level is still without heat and requested that be a priority. The first of the year is the new anticipated move in date.

Lisa Hilbert and Holly Ziemann, Public Health, approached the BOCC as the extension for WSI request was tabled at the last meeting. Commissioner Hagel had spoken with representatives from WSI, and any claim filed would go against the county's rates. She noted that after December 14th the district could reach out to WSI to start the paperwork. Additional discussion included if the county wanted to carry any additional risk for employees that are no longer county employees. Commissioner Copenhaver requested to make an additional phone call on the topic and will be tabled until the next meeting.

Ellen Roundy, Auditor/Treasurer provided an update to the BOCC on the General Election for Foster County. The canvassing board met on November 18th, 2024, and certified the county's results. A total of one-thousand, seven-hundred and twenty residents voted. Roundy was very pleased with how the election went and thanked everyone involved for their help and support. The delinquent tax sale was held earlier in the day. One property was sold in Grace City and another property in Carrington was not sold during the sale. Roundy has the parcel posted on the website and in the Auditor's office as it can be sold between regular tax sales. Roundy presented two quotes for an updated postage machine. One was for the current company, Dakota Business Solutions for \$142.00 per month and the other was for Dakota Mailing for \$138.00/month. pros and cons of both quotes were discussed. Commissioner Hagel motioned to accept the quote from Dakota Business Solutions, seconded by Commissioner Beumer. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Commissioner Discussion included reviewing updated policies for key card, clothing and flextime. The BOCC will review and provide any updates prior to the next meeting for approval. The 2025 commissioner committee reports were reviewed. Commissioner Scanson motioned to nominate Commissioner Hagel as Chairman effective December 1st, 2024, seconded by Commissioner Beumer. All voted aye and the motion passed. Commissioner Scanson motioned to nominate Commissioner Beumer as Vice-Chair effective December 1st, 2024, seconded by Commissioner Hagel. All voted aye and the motion passed. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to keep all commissioners on the same boards effective December 1st, 2024, seconded by Commissioner Beumer. All voted aye and the motion passed. Roundy let the BOCC know if they would like to do a Christmas Ad in the Foster County Independent to bring payment in. The 2025 Commissioner meeting and county schedule was presented to the BOCC. Commissioner Beumer motioned to approve the schedule as presented, seconded by Commissioner Hagel. Roundy noted that the February 18th BOCC meeting will be held at 9:00 AM. All voted aye and the motion passed. The Juanita Lake RV Park renewal documentation was presented for approval. Commissioner Beumer motioned to approve the renewal, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed. There will be a six-county meeting held in Napoleon on Tuesday, December 10th, 2024.

With no further business, Chairman Utke adjourned the meeting at 5:18 pm.

Ellen Roundy
Foster County Auditor/Treasurer

David Utke, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners