

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

At 3:00 pm, Madam Chair Hagel called the Foster County Commission Public Hearing to order. Roll call included Commissioner David Utke, Commissioner Becky Hagel, Commissioner Alan Scanson and Commissioner Pat Copenhaver. Also present was Foster County State’s Attorney Kara Brinster, Auditor/Treasurer Ellen Roundy, Foster County Independent Reporter Nathan Price and Residents Jeremiah and Angie Blahna.

Auditor/Treasurer Roundy presented the BOCC with the petition from Jeremiah and Angie Blahna, a memo from Kara Brinster and read a letter on behalf of Jim Blahna. Foster County State’s Attorney provided information on closing a section line. One of the following must apply to the line to be considered for closure:

- Not used for ten years
- Not traveled due to natural obstacle or difficult terrain
- Not required due to readily accessible alternate routes of travel
- Intersected by public highways that cause the section line to be a dead end.

After the section line is closed, it may be used for the benefit of the landowner for agricultural or related purposes; survey or property reference markers may not be disturbed, removed, or destroyed. Pursuant to NDCC 24-06-28, a person may not permanently obstruct the section line without first receiving written permission from the county commission or township board. The counties’ easement on the section line is permanent. Should it become necessary to construct a road on a closed section line, the county would have the ability to reopen said section line. Discussion included what the public benefit to closing the section line would be. Jeremiah Blahna stated that Sheriff Johnson thought this would be a reasonable route to take to keep the peace and for public safety.

With no further business, Madam Chair Hagel adjourned the meeting at 3:21 pm.

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Ellen Roundy  
Foster County Auditor/Treasurer

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Becky Sue Hagel, Madam Chair  
Board of County Commissioners