

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

November 4th, 2025

At 3:30pm, Madam Chair Hagel called the Foster County Commission meeting to order. Roll call included Commissioner Paul Roller, 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, Road Superintendent Nate Monson, Foster County Independent Reporter Nathan Price and Brandon Padilla with Butler.

The meeting began with approval of the minutes for the October 21st Commission meeting and October 21st Public Hearing. Commissioner Utke motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed.

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

39334	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, INC.	121.84
39335	ANDREW S. MARQUART	288.00
39336	APPLIED CONCEPTS INC.	2,858.00
39337	BRAUN INTERTEC CORPORATION	7,087.50
39338	BRINSTER LAW, P.C.	104.71
39339	CARRINGTON MOTORS INC	737.81
39340	COREAN SWART	580.90
39341	DACOTAH PAPER COMPANY	305.36
39342	ELLEN ROUNDY	22.00
39343	FOSTER COUNTY INDEPENDENT	486.92
39344	*** VOID *** HAGEL CONSTRUCTION	400.00
39345	HAILEY BACHMEIER	211.00
39346	JERROD HOLTE	35.00
39347	KARA BRINSTER	175.00
39348	KENT HEWITT	599.00
39349	LYNELLE R LYMAN HOPPE	225.00
39350	MERLE OR EUNICE MUNSON	1,000.00
39351	MIDSTATES WIRELESS	5,549.58
39352	NAPA AUTO PARTS	67.87
39353	NATHAN MONSON	269.80
39354	PATRIOT FUELS	128.34
39355	RDO EQUIPMENT CO.	3,000.00
39356	RESIDENCE INN	1,386.00
39357	RUNNING'S SUPPLY, INC.	524.39
39358	STEINS INC.	41.08
39359	STUTSMAN COUNTY AUDITOR	2,000.00
39360	USPS	126.00
39361	WILLIAM J GALE	691.60
39362	WOLD ENGINEERING, P.C.	1,725.00
39366	HAGEL STORAGE	400.00

Commissioner Copenhaver requested to add water at Grace City Shop to the agenda. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the agenda with the addition, seconded by Commissioner Utke. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Old Business

There is no update with the lots by Juanita. State’s Attorney Kara Brinster will coordinate with Karen Evans, Tax Director, and the Planning and Zoning Board regarding the Road Utility Ordinance.

New Business

Brandon Padilla With Butler, informed the BOCC that a new blade for the county to test is onsite. This is the newest blade that CAT has to offer, it’s heavier duty with less maintenance over the lifetime of the machine. The blade will be onsite for the next day for the Road Department and BOCC to look at. Nate Monson, Road Superintendent, provided an update for the BOCC. In 2026, the department plans to crack seal three areas in the county. Monson provided a contract with Midstates for material on the projects. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the ordering of crack sealing material and Madam Chair Hagel to sign and return to Midstates, seconded by Commissioner Roller. All voted aye and the motion passed. Mike Rivinius with Wold Engineering joined the meeting via phone. He presented the BOCC with a cost estimate for the Flex Funding Project FXS-1602(067). The county was awarded flex funding from the state with a twenty-percent cost share from the county that is capped at one million dollars. The county plans to utilize Prairie Dog funds for this project. There was an additional half mile that could be tagged onto the project that was not a part of the original flex funding project that the county would have 100% financial responsibility for. Total for both estimates comes out to \$5,172,661.66 with the county’s share estimated to be \$1,119,197.60. Commissioner Scanson motioned for authorization to Wold Engineering to go to bid for the Flex Funding project with a bid opening date of December 16th, 2025, at 2:30 PM, seconded by Commissioner Utke. All voted aye and the motion passed. The board also discussed the special road fund program. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve Wold Engineering to assist with the application process for the South

Bordulac road, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed. Discussion was had on maintenance responsibility on the frontage road NE of town. State's Attorney Brinster stated that the contracts the City of Carrington provided were between the City and State DOT, the county has never taken ownership of that road. Easements in the contract appear to be granted to the state from the city. In past research of county share roads, it's based on designation and that frontage road has never been designated a county road. The county does not maintain the road, provide snow maintenance on the road, etc. Brinster stated that beings it is not a county road, the county will not take a stance on whose road it is. Commissioner Copenhaver asked if anyone has an update to the water project at the Grace City Shop. The BOCC will look into the progress.

Ellen Roundy, Auditor/Treasurer, provided the BOCC with the one bid received on the 2001 Toro Snowblower. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the bid received from Jerry Johnson for \$100, seconded by Commissioner Roller. All voted aye and the motion passed. Roundy presented the fee schedule to the BOCC. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to increase the liquor license fee to \$800 and the Beer/wine license to \$100.00, second by Commissioner Utke. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Karen Evans, Tax Director, presented three abatements to the BOCC. James Rindy qualified for homestead credit in 2023 and 2024 with abatement amounts being \$1,149.82 and \$865.83 respectively, and Leo and Julie Laube qualified for homestead credit in 2024 with the abatement amount being \$771.28. Commissioner Utke motioned to approve all three abatements, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Commissioner discussion included an update on the basement renovation project. Commissioner Hagel stated that EAPC was onsite verifying requested fixes. The tile in the basement bathrooms will need to be redone. There is work in the election vault that needs to be updated, and the HVAC isn't connected correctly in the VSO office. Commissioner Hagel will visit with Central City Lumber regarding replacing a door that was not in the original project. EAPC will communicate the updates with the contractors to get the project wrapped up. Commissioner Roller reached out to Johnson controls regarding the call out feature if there was a fire in the building after hours. The county would need to go with the IP/POTS option as it would connect to an existing phone line. Commissioner Roller motioned to move forward with the IP/POTS option for \$720.00 annually, seconded by Commissioner Utke. Discussion included having Roundy set up the system along with calling order. Roll call vote included:

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

motion passed. The annual township meeting will be held on Monday, November 10th at the Foster County Courthouse. There will be a commissioner summit held in Bismarck on Tuesday, December 9th. The next six-county meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 11th, at 10:00 AM in Emmons County.

With no further business, Madam Chair Hagel adjourned the meeting at 4:43 pm.

Ellen Roundy
Foster County Auditor/Treasurer

Becky Sue Hagel, Madam Chair
Board of County Commissioners