

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 2nd, 2024

At 3:30pm, Chairman Utke called the Foster County Commission meeting to order. Roll call included Commissioner Scott Beumer, Commissioner Becky Hagel via phone, Commissioner Alan Scanson, Commissioner Pat Copenhaver, and Commissioner David Utke. Also present was Auditor/Treasurer Ellen Roundy, Road Superintendent Nate Monson via phone, and Foster County Independent reporter Leasa Lura.

The meeting began with approval of the minutes for the December 19th, 2023, regular meeting and December 29th, 2023, special meeting. Commissioner Scanson noted one correction. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve the minutes with the correction, seconded by Commissioner Beumer. All voted aye and the motion passed.

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

36522	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, INC.	1,041.24
36523	BUTLER MACHINERY COMPANY	168.54
36524	CENTRAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS	4,854.25
36525	CENTRAL CITY H20+	13.50
36526	CRAIG WIESZ	5.24
36527	DACOTAH PAPER COMPANY	13.79
36528	FARMERS UNION INSURANCE	2,877.00
36529	LOCATORS & SUPPLIES, INC.	671.60
36530	ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, LLC	157.13
36531	WILLIAM J GALE	26.20
36532	WOLD ENGINEERING, P.C.	910.00

Commissioner Copenhaver requested to add courthouse bid under Commissioner discussion. Commissioner Beumer motioned to approve the agenda with the addition, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Old Business

No old business to report.

New Business

Nate Monson, Road Superintendent, provided the BOCC with an update from the Road Department. Snow, rain, and ice brought additional work to the department over the holidays. Monson organized and the Auditor/Treasurer office mailed out the year end billings for townships, cities, and individuals. Monson also recapped blade hours on equipment for 2023 along with employee sick hours and vacation time off.

Commissioner discussion included information for the ND pipeline association meeting. Auditor/Treasurer Roundy passed the information along to Road Superintendent Nate Monson and one Commissioner will plan to attend as well. Commissioner Hagel had emailed out a damage assessment from the state with the recent snow/ice storms. Sanding and salting are not included in the costs and the threshold for Foster County is \$15,626 to qualify for any assistance. Commissioner Utke and Commissioner Scanson have been communicating with Chris Thomas from EAPC and intend to have a special meeting to go over details and additional items on the basement renovation. They have spoken with departments affected and will work to try and relocate them when necessary. A building is available for rent across the street that could be used as storage, no action taken at this time. Roundy stated that Craig Wiesz, building maintenance, may have to put in some overtime hours with the basement project. She stated that he helps with the Road Department as well. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve the overtime on a limited basis, seconded by Commissioner Beumer. All voted aye and the motion passed. Commissioner Copenhaver stated that he received a phone call on the basement renovation concerning costs and public input. Commissioner Hagel stated that no public hearing is needed, all discussions have happened during a commissioner meeting which are open to the public. The money is in the general fund, a vote is required when money is borrowed. She stated that there are limits on carry over for funds of 75% of what is levied, but until the audit is completed and adjustments are made it is hard to make a clear distinction on what the entirety of the excess is. The Road fund is a separate levy than the general fund, and the BOCC knows they will have to look at asking a question the next election to extend funding for the road. The BOCC consensus is if the public has questions, they should attend the meetings as no other Commissioner has received calls on the project. Commissioner Utke updated the BOCC on the process for purchase of radios. This is a budgeted item with a rebate of \$1,500/radio once purchased and put in place. Commissioner Scanson made a motion to allow Chairman Utke authority to request quotes as needed, seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed. Discussion was had on iPad data plans. Nothing new to report on the lots by Juanita Lake. There was an ambulance meeting, but no document for the BOCC to review at this time. Auditor/Treasurer Roundy will add appointments to the next regular BOCC meeting for the Weed Board, Water Board, Fair Board, and Housing.

With no further business, Chairman Utke adjourned the meeting at 4:40 pm.

Ellen Roundy
Foster County Auditor/Treasurer

David Utke, Chairman
Board of County Commissioners