

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 6th, 2025

At 3:30pm, Madam Chair Hagel called the Foster County Commission meeting to order. Roll call included Commissioner Paul Roller, Commissioner Pat Copenhaver, Commissioner Becky Hagel, Commissioner Alan Scanson and Commissioner David Utke. Also present was Foster County 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 April 15th, 2025, meeting. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Utke. All voted aye and the motion passed.

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

38580	701 WASH	200.00
38581	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, INC.	713.25
38582	AVID HAWK, LLC	60.00
38583	BESSETTE MOTORS, INC.	191.74
38584	BEST WESTERN - ROOSVEVELT PLACE HOTEL	495.00
38585	BRINSTER LAW, P.C.	209.64
38586	C & J OIL COMPANY	1,098.55
38587	CENTRAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS	93.81
38588	CENTRAL CITY H20+	13.50
38589	CLUBHOUSE HOTEL & SUITES	297.00
38590	COMPUTER EXPRESS	1,000.00
38591	COREAN SWART	279.20
38592	DACOTAH PAPER COMPANY	173.87
38593	DAN POLAND MACHINE INC	1,033.92
38594	FOSTER COUNTY INDEPENDENT	740.78
38595	GILBERTSON'S	47.92
38596	HR COLLABORATIVE	50.00
38597	JOSEPH GUSHWA	72.00
38598	JUSTIN JOHNSON	161.74
38599	MATTHEW ABERLE	88.97
38600	MIDSTATES WIRELESS	252.00
38601	NAPA AUTO PARTS	211.98
38602	NDSU DEPT #3110	208.73
38603	NDSU EXTENSION - DEPT 7510	8,061.73
38604	ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, LLC	54.42
38605	OK TIRE STORE	341.82
38606	QUILL CORPORATION	317.70
38607	RDO EQUIPMENT CO.	5,160.00
38608	SCHULZ PLBG., HTG. A/C, INC.	120.00
38609	STUTSMAN CO. CORRECTION CENTER	4,817.35
38610	STUTSMAN COUNTY AUDITOR	2,000.00
38611	SWANSTON EQUIPMENT CORPORATION	7,250.00
38612	THE MEDICINE SHOPPE	22.35
38613	WILLIAM J GALE	434.40

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

Old Business

There was no update on the lots by Juanita Lake or IT supplies for the commissioner room. Commissioner Utke will reach out to EAPC on the status of the last items needed for the basement renovation completion.

New Business

Nate Monson, Road Superintendent, provided an update on the department. Weather permitting, the load restrictions will be lifted in the middle of May. The docks at Juanita Lake have been placed. The bid opening for the oil distributor trailer was held at 3:00 PM. There was one bid from Doug Zink for \$7,602.00. Commissioner Scanson motioned to reject the bid, seconded by Commissioner Roller. All voted aye and the motion passed. Commissioner Scanson motioned to readvertise for bids on the oil distributor, seconded by Commissioner Utke. Discussion included that it will be posted in the Foster County Independent for two weeks with bid deadline of May 19th at 4:00 PM and bid opening on May 20th at 3:00 PM. All voted aye and the motion passed. The BOCC received a memo from CP Rail regarding the train derailment. Micheal Rivinius, Wold Engineering, has reviewed the information and does not feel that Foster County would be receiving proper justification on damages done to roads during the derailment. The staging of trucks and equipment caused major impacts to the roads along with the number of trucks hauling on an end of life road. Monson provided the BOCC with information regarding road damage caused by Garrison Diversion pipeline. County residents are reaching out to Monson regarding the repair of damage. Monson stated that the road department was hired to maintain the roads, not fix the damage caused by trucks hauling.

Concerns from the department also include hauling on soft roads and after major rain, causing extra work for the department. There are now three construction companies in town traveling around forty miles throughout the county. When the project first started, it was one company with only a handful of miles. Commissioner Utke noted that the committee working on road utility permitting is close to completing documents and will bring to BOCC for approval soon. Commissioner Scanson requested that Auditor/Treasurer Roundy put a memo together to send to townships stating they have authority over township roads and to contact Garrison Diversion directly with concerns. Monson noted that the bridge south and west of Grace City over the James River will be coming out after Labor Day. Monson updated the BOCC on ditch cleanout discussed during the April 15th, 2025, meeting. He and Pat Biel measured the area. There are fifteen spots on the east ditch with roughly a section of 422 feet being six to eight inches higher. The cost to clean out the ditch would be around \$3,000. Monson stated that dye ran through the culvert well and traveled through the ditch at a steady pace also. The work will not be able to be completed until mid-summer. It was also noted that with increased drain tiling there is more water flowing through the ditches than previously. The BOCC will table this until July.

Ellen Roundy, Auditor/Treasurer, requested approval to open a deputy Clerk of Court position. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to open the position seconded by Commissioner Utke. All voted aye and the motion passed. The Wrestling Club turned in a gaming site authorization form for gaming at the Golf Course. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the gaming site authorization, seconded by Commissioner Roller. All voted aye and the motion passed. There was a dummy parcel 01888001 placed in the taxation program for a mobile home on land not owned by the mobile home owner. When entered in the taxation system, a value was placed on the parcel when the mobile home is already valued in a different program. Roundy requested approval to abate the value in the taxation system. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the abatement for \$124.24, seconded by Commissioner Utke. All voted aye and the motion passed. Roundy visited Aaron Johnson who, along with his family, covered maintenance at Juanita Lake in the previous year. Johnson is willing to do work again in 2025 for \$3,200. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve hiring Aaron Johnson to complete maintenance work for the requested \$3,200, seconded by Commissioner Roller. Roll call vote included:

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

motion passed. Additional discussion included the campground reservation. The BOCC will review signage currently at Juanita Lake and bring updates and additional signage required to the next meeting.

Commissioner Hagel will visit with the Equalization Director, Karen Evans, on filling the vacancy for District 5 on planning and zoning. Commissioner Roller provided an update from the BOH. There has been uncertainty with funding sources as some of the COVID-19 funds must be returned. Additional discussion was had on legislative session items.

With no further business, Madam Chair Hagel adjourned the meeting at 4:52 pm.

Ellen Roundy
Foster County Auditor/Treasurer

Becky Sue Hagel, Madam Chair
Board of County Commissioners