

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 19<sup>th</sup>, 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 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 August 5<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing, August 5th Commissioner Meeting and August 13<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting. Commissioner Utke motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Auditor/Treasurer Roundy presented a check that was missed from the last meeting and a lost check affidavit. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve the check, lost check affidavit and bills, seconded by Commissioner Roller. All voted aye and the motion passed.

38999	BEVERLY JOHNSON	800.00
39014	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, INC.	125.96
39015	ARROWWOOD PRAIRIE CO-OP	1,399.84
39016	AVID HAWK, LLC	35.00
39017	BESSETTE MOTORS, INC.	224.37
39018	BEVERLY JOHNSON	800.00
39019	BORDER STATES PAVING INC.	2,969.58
39020	BRISS OIL COMPANY	72.00
39021	C & J OIL COMPANY	439.60
39022	CENTRAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS	250.00
39023	COMPUTER EXPRESS	1,039.99
39024	FOSTER COUNTY INDEPENDENT	1,386.90
39025	HAGEL CONSTRUCTION	2,400.00
39026	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPT.	1,384.40
39027	JESSICA MOSER	179.20
39028	JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	80,897.91
39029	JUSTIN JOHNSON	190.95
39030	LOIS CLARK	975.00
39031	NAPA AUTO PARTS	744.54
39032	ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, LLC	395.76
39033	PAT BIEL TRUCKING INC.	2,861.38
39034	QUADIENT FINANCE	1,057.92
39035	RACHEL STOKES	225.00
39036	RESIDENCE INN	220.00
39037	STUTSMAN CO. CORRECTION CENTER	1,900.00
39038	JOSEPH GUSHWA	180.00

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

Old Business

There was no update on old business.

New Business

Nate Monson, Road Superintendent, provided an update on the department. Durapatching has slowed down, the department is still managing spots on the Murphy Road and South Bordulac from the train derailment. Demo on the old Wright Bridge will begin on September 15<sup>th</sup> and could be completed as early as October 1<sup>st</sup> but must be completed no later than November 7<sup>th</sup>. Additional discussion included the flex funding project and what percentage the county is willing to contribute to the application. Monarch Handyman submitted a quote for \$20,000 for repair work on the Grace City Shop. Central City Lumber provided a material estimate of \$14,129.97. Discussion included bringing water to the building. Commissioner Copenhaver would also like to look into building a new shop in Grace City. Roundy provided information from NDIRF on insurance coverage. The building was under insured so that reduced the claim by around \$8,000. After receipts are turned in, the county could recoup about half of that amount. Commissioner Roller motioned to accept the quote from Monarch Handyman and Central City Lumber for repair work on the Grace City shop roof, seconded by Commissiong Scanson. Roll call vote included:

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

motion passed.

Justin Johnson, Sheriff, approached the BOCC regarding the status of Deputy Gushwa. Gushwa has been with the office for just over six months. Johnson is very pleased with his work and willingness to help. He would like to officially promote Gushwa to Sergeant, second in command. Discussion included current rate of pay and placement on the salary scale. Commissioner Scanson motioned to promote Gushwa to Sergeant at a new hourly rate of \$32.24 seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. Roll call vote included:

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

motion passed.

Karen Evans, Tax Director, presented five building permits to the BOCC that were approved at the planning and zoning meeting held at 7:00 AM on August 19<sup>th</sup>. Matthew Duchscherer applied for a permit at Juanita, Corey Smith applied for a permit in Longview Township, Titus Timm applied for a permit at Juanita, Brian Oster applied for a permit at Juanita and Taylor Sabinash and Chaz Bauer applied for a permit in Nordmore Township. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve all building permits, seconded by Commissioner Utke. All voted aye and the motion passed. Evans also stated that the Planning and Zoning board held a public hearing for the addition of equipment on the existing T-Mobile tower located in the NE ¼ of 17-146-62. No one from the public attended the meeting and the Planning and Zoning board approved the conditional use permit. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve the conditional use permit seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed. Evans updated the BOCC on a campground that appears to be taking shape at Kvamme’s without proper licensing or permitting. February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, Jeff Kvamme attended a planning and zoning meeting regarding a proposed 24-unit campground project. The planning and zoning board approved the project under the stipulation that Kvamme completes the necessary documentation and provides records to Evans, the proper documentation has not been turned into Evans or the State Health and Human Service department.

Ellen Roundy, Auditor/Treasurer, asked for a motion to add new hire Katlyn Smith to the Foster County bank signature cards and remove any obsolete employees. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve Katlyn Smith to Foster County signature cards and remove old employees seconded by Commissioner Utke. All voted aye and the motion passed. Roundy also received a local raffle permit for Carrington Youth Football. Commissioner Copenhaver motioned to approve the local raffle seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed.

Commissioner discussion included Commissioner Utke motioning to allow Stutsman/Foster EM Jessica Moser as proxy to the SIRM meetings seconded by Commissioner Copenhaver. All voted aye and the motion passed. Chris Thomas, EAPC, emailed the BOCC with an update on the basement. The painting has been completed. General Roofing and Construction would seal the vault and closet floors for an estimate of \$1,600. The tile work in basement bathrooms will be worked on over the weekend. Commissioner Hagel viewed blind options and General Roofing will measure, order and install the blinds for the Commissioner Room. General Roofing will also repair wainscoting in the Commissioner Room and anchor the condensation line where a leak was noticed in the mechanical room. Roundy also presented a repair estimate from Johnson Controls to replace an expired heat detector and replace it with a standard heat detector as the boiler is no longer located in that area for a cost of \$979.69. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve the work seconded by Commissioner Roller. Roll call vote included:

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

motion passed. Commissioner Hagel provided estimates for painting an exterior door at the ambulance building. Roy’s body shop estimated \$475 and Carrington motors estimated \$532.50. Hagel Construction would re-install the door for an estimate of \$500. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve Roy’s body shop with painting the door and Hagel Construction installing the door, seconded by Commissioner Utke. All voted aye, Commissioner Hagel abstained, and the motion passed. Foster County will host the next Six-County Meeting on Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM at the Chieftain Conference Center. NDACo will be conducting county tours and will visit Foster County on Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:15 AM.

With no further business, Madam Chair Hagel adjourned the meeting at 4:45 pm.

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Ellen Roundy  
Foster County Auditor/Treasurer

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Becky Sue Hagel, Madam Chair  
Board of County Commissioners