

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOSTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

May 7th, 2026

At 2:00 pm, Chairman Copenhaver called the Foster County Commission Special Meeting to order. Roll call included Commissioner David Utke, Commissioner Paul Roller via zoom, Commissioner Pat Copenhaver, Commissioner Alan Scanson and Commissioner Becky Hagel. Also present was Chief Deputy Auditor/Treasurer Hailey K Bachmeier, Road Superintendent Nate Monson, and Michael Rivinius with Wold Engineering via Zoom.

The start of the meeting began with Commissioner Utke stating that the Foster County Road Infrastructure & Planning Committee met on 05/06/2026 and recommended that the Board of County Commissioners should consider hiring Wold Engineering to manage the bid process for the reclamation of the Murphy Highway. Commissioner Utke stated that the committee is trying to work together to come up with road projects that can be done this year and also look at future road projects. Michael Rivinius with Wold Engineer stated that they have put together an agreement for the services for the bid package. Rivinius explained that the standard contract for this type of work is 10% of the construction cost. Rivinius explained that the estimated prices has increased because the Murphy Road has a portion of overlays and therefor gravel would need to be added to get the asphalt thicker. Rivinius stated this will result in a decent blend with natural gravel and asphalt clumps. Rivinius estimated that this project could cost between \$500,000.00 to \$550,000.00. Commissioner Utke noted that Auditor/Treasurer Ellen Roundy indicated the project could be completed without negatively impacting future finances. Commissioner Utke made a motion to approve the Wold Engineering Services Agreement and begin the planning and preparation, seconded by Commissioner Hagel.

Roll call included:

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

Motion passed.

Discussion was had on the additional work on the ½ mile of Barlow Road. Rivinius provided an updated cost estimate for the change order in the amount of \$195,090.01. Discussion was had on replacing the culverts on the ½ mile of the Barlow Road but with time restrictions of the project being completed by Wednesday, May 13th it was not feasible to replace the culverts at this time. Rivinius stated the culverts are not in immediate need of replacement but are showing signs of rust. He suggested that installing liners would be a more cost-effective option than full replacement at this time. Commissioner Scanson motioned to approve the change order in the amount of \$195,091.01, seconded by Commissioner Roller.

Roll call voted included:

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

Motion passed.

Commissioner Utke reported that he, Commissioner Scanson, and Road Superintendent Nate Monson observed a demonstration of a Road Groom in operation. Commissioner Utke stated he was impressed with the equipment, noting features such as an adjustable cylinder for raising and lowering the wing. The equipment is available in 11-foot and 13-foot models. Monson recommended the 13-foot model as the better option for Foster County gravel roads. Commissioner Utke moved to approve the purchase of a 13-foot 2026 Road Groom with carbide teeth (in lieu of blades) and a weight box, at a total cost of \$25,824.00, second by Commissioner Hagel.

Roll call vote included:

- Commissioner Utke – Aye
- Commissioner Roller – Not Present
- Commissioner Copenhaver – Aye
- Commissioner Scanson – Aye
- Commissioner Hagel – Aye

Motion passed.

Foster County Road Superintended Nate Monson asked for approval to advertise the Grader Front Mount SOD Mulcher. Commissioner Hagel motioned to approve Foster County Road Superintendent Nate Monson to approve advertising the Grader Front Mount SOD Mulcher for sale, seconded by Commissioner Scanson. All voted aye and the motion passed.

With no further business, Chairman Copenhaver adjourned the meeting at 3:09 am

Hailey K Bachmeier
Foster County Chief Deputy Auditor/Treasurer

Pat Copenhaver, Chairman
Board of County Commissioner