

Dakota County Board of Commissioners
Monday, December 11, 2023 - 3:00 p.m.
County Board Meeting Room, First Floor
Dakota County Courthouse, Dakota City, Nebraska

Chair Giese called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Present at Roll Call: Giese, Love, Van Berkum, Hohenstein, Launsby. Absent: None. Also present was Kim Watson, County Attorney, and Cherie Conley, County Clerk, acting as Board Secretary. The location of the Open Meetings Act was noted.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL – *Excused Absence*

A current copy of the *Open Meetings Act* is posted on the west wall near the entrance of the County Board Meeting Room and is available for review by all citizens in attendance.

The Dakota County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to adjust the order of items on this agenda if necessary.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT. The Board of Commissioners will hear comments about any item not on the agenda. The Chair has the discretion to limit the time of comment.
2. CONSENT AGENDA *Any individual item may be removed by a Commissioner for special discussion and consideration. Unless there is an exception, these items will be approved as one with a single vote of the Board of Commissioners.*
 - a. Approval of the previous meeting minutes – November 27, 2023
 - b. Approval of payroll claims for November 26, 2023 to December 9, 2023
 - c. Approval of payroll accounts payable claims
 - d. Approval of accounts payable claims (if any)
3. NEW BUSINESS AND RESOLUTION
 - a. Kristin Robinette, Juvenile Diversion Coordinator, requesting approval for the FY2025 Juvenile Diversion Grant in the amount of \$73,310.00 for the period of 7/1/2024 to 6/30/2025.
 - b. Tammy Peterson, Nebraska Extension Office/Dakota County quarterly report.
 - c. Board to appoint Road Department Foreman.
 - d. Board to approve or not approve sending Request for Proposal (RFP) to bid out county health insurance for our next plan year beginning March 1, 2024.
4. OLD BUSINESS AND MISCELLANEOUS
 - a. Jolene Gubbels, Highway Superintendent – Road Report
 - b. Discuss and approve or deny project/s and purchases with monies from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) relief funding.
 - Review and award bid for ADA compliant handicapped North entrance remodel
5. COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE REPORTS
6. MAIL AND/OR EMERGENCY BUSINESS
7. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Giese called for public comment. Dean Lieber and Phil Kramper expressed concerns regarding the certified letter they had received from the County about moving their fences that are in the county right of way. Mr. Lieber relayed that this is a dead-end minimum maintenance road built in 1974. In 2017, his father went to the county shop and was given a verbal ok from Fred Kellogg to remove trees and move the fence to where it is today. He showed the Board some pictures of the condition of the road, fence, ditches, and tree piles. Phil Kramper informed the Board that this minimum maintenance road was not built to proper specifications and some erosion has occurred. There is a cabin at the end of the road that is owned by 3 families – one of whom wishes the road to be maintained better. Both parties are willing to move their fences and are willing to work with the County on a resolution of this matter. They request the County to help properly maintain the road after the fences are moved and asked that the Board provide such in written form. The Board also discussed giving both parties more time to relocate the fences, until July 1, 2024. The Board will take further action on this matter at the next meeting.

Chair Giese called for approval of the consent agenda items. Commissioner Love moved, seconded by Commissioner Launsby, to approve the consent agenda items: a) approval of the previous meeting minutes – November 27, 2023; b) Approval of payroll claims for November 26, 2023 to December 9, 2023; c) Approval of payroll accounts payable claims. ROLL CALL VOTE: Love- yes, Van Berkum-yes, Hohenstein-yes, Launsby- yes, Giese- yes. UNANIMOUS MOTION CARRIED.

Payroll: General Fund Employer: Gross Salaries-\$180,900.67; Net Pay-\$130,513.71; Total Retirement-\$13,038.53; Total FICA-\$13,395.21; Health Plan-\$45,360.00; Dental Plan-\$1,620.00; Life Insurance-\$210.77; Robert Giese-\$1,222.35; Martin Hohenstein-\$1,176.20; Troy Launsby-\$976.20; Scott Love-\$1,176.20; Brian Van Berkum-\$1,176.20; Cherie Conley-\$2,427.12; Robin Hansen-\$1,460.81; Paola Ledesma-\$1,538.16; Kathy Abbe-\$1,444.80; Dawn Bousquet-\$2,427.12; Maria Garcia-\$1,282.40; Stephanie Gatzemeyer-\$1,675.20; Jalissa Hattig-\$1,444.00; Brenda Landaverde-\$1,365.60; Emily McNaughton-\$1,274.40; Debera Benton-\$1,480.80; Christy Abts-\$2,427.12; Melissa Collins-\$1,655.20; Joseph O'Neil-\$611.54; Karen Becerra-\$1,616.80; Katherine Wiltgen-\$2,427.12; Louvontree Hunter-\$3,441.59; Debra Jensen-\$1,712.80; Samantha Mitchell-\$1,325.60; Rodney Soole-\$2,240.00; Tammy Dunn Peterson-\$1,503.57; Shaun Bird-\$1,891.29; Timothy Decker-\$2,582.88; Brian Ellinger-\$2,518.40; Penny Epting-\$2,806.25; Brian Fernau-\$2,742.29; Tyler Fulkerth-\$2,397.60; Jeremy Gilpin-\$2,502.12; Martin Guerrero-\$3,494.47; Melvin

Harrison III-\$3,026.79; Jason James-\$2,409.83; Douglas Johnson-\$2,559.34; Kimberly Johnson-\$594.00; Jared Junge-\$2,491.46; Christopher Kleinberg-\$3,032.28; Jose Magana-\$1,876.00; Gregory Nyhof-\$2,774.84; Jonathan Romo-Rodriguez-\$2,901.49; Mardi Schnee-\$1,331.20; Ryne Sell-\$451.00; Joshua Townsend-\$2,173.82; Sarah Hammond-\$2,244.21; Shantel Krull-\$1,120.00; Melinda Sandvick (Wicks)-\$1,538.46; Debra Schmiedt-\$3,580.95; Kimberly Watson-\$3,789.70; Emma Wiebelhaus-\$1,400.00; Jacob Acero-\$1,675.10; Angelica Antonio Flores-\$1,711.92; Shaelee Barreras-\$98.96; Rebecca Broer-\$1,999.28; Ismael Castro-\$2,018.27; Timathey Chamberlain-\$1,831.88; Chassidy Compton-\$1,238.92; Ruby De La Torre-\$1,868.95; Elisabet DeRoin-\$1,916.63; Jesse Doelle-\$1,748.45; Cody Epting-\$1,940.71; Rebekah Epting-\$1,940.71; Jennifer Fuentes-\$1,730.76; Jonathan Gray-\$2,494.15; Kara Groetken-\$1,916.10; Todd Hammer-\$2,433.60; Adam Hough-\$1,830.40; Joellen John-\$1,627.92; Dustin Johnson-\$1,627.92; Terry Johnson-\$1,991.86; Brandon Long-\$1,675.20; Jennifer Marquez-\$1,415.52; Skyler Miner-\$1,893.91; Keaton Mueller-\$1,672.44; Kelsey O'Neill-\$3,073.54; Jaime Perez-Rojas-\$772.11; Kimberly Peterson-\$1,833.43; Adrian Ramos-\$1,651.44; Adolfo Raya-\$1,666.18; Michele Rohde-\$1,544.80; Angel Ruelas Hernandez-\$769.98; Jeremy Russell-\$2,091.91; Jerry Santos-\$2,211.94; Jennifer Svendsen-\$3,895.37; Randall Walsh-\$2,560.17; Deanna Hagberg-\$2,143.20; Jolene Gubbels-\$2,079.80; Jana Adam-\$655.09; Jennifer Ankerstjerne-\$1,718.93; Theresa Grove-\$2,408.00; Johanna Marquez-\$1,280.00; Courtney Swick-\$1,505.43; Nicholas Nieman-\$2,000.22; **General Fund Employee:** Federal Tax-\$11,345.74; State Tax-\$6,483.98; Soc Sec-\$10,856.27; Medicare-\$2,538.94; Extra Fit-\$1,271.00; Extra Sit-\$435.00; Retirement-\$9,023.26; Health Plan-\$3,250.00; Dental Plan-\$483.00; Colonial Health-\$253.04; Sheriff Union Dues-\$480.00; Colonial Life/Disability-\$54.00; Deferred Comp-\$590.00; Garnishments-\$1,331.06; Flex Plan Medical-\$957.31; Flex Dependent Care-\$208.33; VSP Vision Prem-\$414.89; Legal Shield-\$109.14; Liberty Nat'l Pretax-\$152.66; Liberty Nat'l Post tax-\$41.97; VSP Vision Base-\$107.37; **Road Fund Employer:** Gross Salaries-\$15,743.44; Net Pay-\$11,638.06; Retirement-\$1,062.68; Total FICA-\$1,181.81; Health Plan-\$5,040.00; Dental Plan-\$180.00; Life Insurance-\$22.06; Paul Arrowood-\$1,562.40; Chad Cockburn-\$908.00; Emil Girard-\$227.00; Robert Hacker-\$1,852.00; Lance Jacobsen-\$1,816.00; David Kneifl-\$1,840.00; Daniel Konrad Lisenbee-\$1,816.00; Kimon Litras-\$2,066.04; Dean Pallas-\$1,840.00; Gunner Stanwick-\$1,816.00; **Road Fund Employee:** Federal Tax-\$1,057.90; State Tax-\$555.28; FICA-\$957.82; Medicare-\$223.99; Retirement-\$708.46; Health Plan-\$200.00; Dental Plan-\$42.00; Colonial Health-PreTax-\$38.23; Colonial Health L/D-\$80.67; Road Union Dues-\$165.00; VSP Vision Prem-\$9.59; Legal Shield-\$40.38; Liberty National PreTax-\$6.50; VSP Vision Base-\$19.56; **Health Planning Grant Employer 2502:** Gross Salaries-\$1,550.25; Net Pay-\$1,171.16; Retirement-\$104.64; Total FICA-\$118.60; Chloe Coover-\$1,550.25; **Health Planning Grant Employee 2502:** Federal Tax-\$105.27; State Tax-\$60.46; FICA-\$96.12; Medicare-\$22.48; Extra Fit-\$20.00; Exrta Sit-\$5.00; Retirement-\$69.76; VSP; **Health Program Grant Employer 2504:** Gross Salaries-\$1,906.31; Net Pay-\$1,520.49; Retirement-\$109.77; Total FICA-\$143.61; Health Plan-\$560.00; Dental Plan-\$20.00; Life Insurance-\$2.55; Mohamud Ibrahim-\$280.07; Yesica Saldana Cisneros-\$1,626.24; **Health Program Grant Employee 2504:** Federal Tax-\$90.66; State Tax-\$49.39; FICA-\$116.39; Medicare-\$27.22; Retirement-\$73.18; Dental Plan-\$21.00; VSP Vision Base-\$7.98; **Juvenile Services Aid Employer 2507:** Gross Salaries-\$1,859.00; Net Pay-\$1,480.89; Retirement-\$125.48; Total FICA-\$138.68; Dental Plan-\$20.00; Life Insurance-\$2.55; Kristin Robinette-\$1,859.00; **Juvenile Services Aid Employee 2507:** Federal Tax-\$66.37; State Tax-\$43.15; FICA-\$112.39; Medicare-\$26.29; Retirement-\$83.66; Dental Plan-\$21.00; VSP Vision Prem-\$25.25;

Payroll Accounts Payable: General Fund: Collection Service Center, garnishment-\$564.45; Colonial Life & Accident, life insurance premium-\$307.04; Dakota County Dental Account, premium-\$2103.00; Dakota County Health Plan, premium-\$48,610; Fraternal Order of Police #49, union dues-\$480.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$12,616.74; Globe Life Liberty, premium-\$194.63; Legalshield, premium-\$109.14; Dakota County Life Insurance, premium-\$210.77; Mid-American Benefits, flex & dependent care-\$1,239.14; Nationwide Retirement Solutions, contributions-\$590.00; Nebraska Child Support, garnishments-\$766.61; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$6,918.98; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$22,061.79; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$26,790.42; VSP, premium-\$522.26. **Road Fund:** Colonial Life & Accident, life insurance premium-\$118.90; Dakota County Dental Account, premium-\$222.00; Dakota County Health Plan, premium-\$5240.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$1,057.90; Globe Life Liberty, premium-\$6.50; Legalshield, premium-\$40.38; Dakota County Life Insurance, premium-\$22.06; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$555.28; Nebraska Public Empl Local 251, union dues-\$165.00; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$1,771.14; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$2,363.62; VSP, premium-\$29.15. **Insurance Fund 1275:** Mid-Amecian Benefits-claims \$33,053.60. **Health 2502 Fund:** Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$125.27; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$65.46; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$174.40; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$237.20; **Health 2504 Fund:** Dakota County Dental Account, premium-\$41.00; Dakota County Health Plan, premium-\$560.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$90.66; Dakota County Life Insurance, premium-\$2.55; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$49.39; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$182.95; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$287.22; VSP, premium-\$7.98. **Juvenile Services Fund:** Dakota County Dental Account, premium-\$41.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$66.37; Dakota County Life Insurance, premium-\$2.55; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$43.15; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$209.14; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$277.36; VSP, premium-\$25.25.

Kristin Robinette, Juvenile Diversion Coordinator, requested the Board's approval for the FY2025 Juvenile Diversion Grant in the amount of \$73,310.00 for the period of 7/1/2024 to 6/30/2025. She explained that the amount is down from last year due to de-obligation of funds and that she believes she can operate within this amount and hopes to be awarded more funding in the future to build the program. Commissioner Love moved, seconded by Commissioner Van Berkum to approve the FY2025 Juvenile Diversion Grant request in the amount of \$73,310.00 for the period of 7/1/2024 to 6/30/2025. ROLL CALL VOTE: Van Berkum – Yes, Hohenstein – Yes, Launsby – Yes, Giese – Yes, Love – Yes. UNANIMOUS MOTION CARRIED.

Julie Boyle with the Nebraska Extension Office-Dakota County provided a quarterly summary report of the projects and programs that are being provided by Extension Agents Angela Abts, Julie Boyle and Brenda Sale.

Chair Giese informed the Board that there were 5 applicants for the Road Foreman position (current and former employees). Troy Launsby, Robert Giese, and a member from the County Attorney's office conducted the interviews. Chair Giese commented that this is a big department to run. Commissioner Launsby informed the applicants interviewed were all really good and the decision was hard. Commissioner Launsby moved to appoint Lance Jacobsen as the Road Department Head. Commissioner Love expressed his disappointment in how the situation was handled, how the committee was formed, and he feels this is a bad decision based on the experience Kimon Litras has with his 31 years of service vs Lance Jacobsen's 3 years. He also stated he had talked with NIRMA Attorney, Pamela Bourne, and she would be willing to provide some training on the Open Meetings Act. Commissioner Van Berkum informed that he was not informed of the process or who had applied. Commissioner Love referenced Veterans preference and Fair Labor Laws and all he wants is what is best for the taxpayers. Chair Giese commented that any Board Member can always call him if they have questions or concerns. Commissioner Hohenstein stated he does not believe any OMA was violated. Chair Giese stated a motion had been made, and recommended Lance Jacobsen for the position also. Commissioner Launsby moved, seconded by Commissioner Giese to appoint Lance Jacobsen as the Road Department Head. ROLL CALL VOTE: Hohenstein – Yes, Launsby – Yes, Giese – Yes, Love – No, Van Berkum – No. MOTION CARRIED.

Commissioner Giese informed that Commissioner Launsby would like the County to put out an RFP for health and dental insurance. Commissioner Launsby will have the MarshMcLennan Agency prepare and gather proposals. Commissioner Giese commented that Robert Rapp and Don Faber currently shop for the best insurance for the County. Commissioner Love moved, seconded by Commissioner Launsby to approve MarshMcLennan Agency to put together an RFP to bid out county health insurance for our next plan year. ROLL CALL VOTE: Launsby – Yes, Giese – Yes, Love – Yes, Van Berkum – Yes, Hohenstein – Yes. UNANIMOUS MOTION CARRIED.

Jolene Gubbels, Highway Superintendent, presented the Road Report for November 26 to December 9, 2023. Total road maintenance- 212.5 hours; overtime hours- 2; snow removal-2 hours; sign repair/ barricading- 21 hours. Grading concerns – H Ave, Elgin Ave, Golf Rd, T Ave, Nodaway Rd and 110th St. Fencing around the Dakota City yard is scheduled to start this week and the culvert on 190th street will cause the road to be closed.

ARPA – the 2 Bids received for the ADA compliant handicap entrance on North side (back) of Courthouse were opened by Rodney Soole, Building and Grounds Superintendent. EV Contracting for \$59,978 and C & M Quality for \$68,750. Discussion regarding the specifications was had. Commissioner Love moved, seconded by Commissioner Hohenstein, to approve the bid from EV Contracting for \$59,978 being paid from the ARPA funds to remodel the handicap entrance on the North side (back) of Courthouse to make it ADA compliant. ROLL CALL VOTE: Giese – Yes, Love – Yes, Van Berkum – Yes, Hohenstein – Yes, Launsby – Yes. UNANIMOUS MOTION CARRIED.

Commissioner Committee Reports: Commissioner Van Berkum commented on the great job the Health Department did on the County Christmas Party. Commissioner Giese mentioned Commissioner Launsby and Commissioner Hohenstein would be attending the NACO conference.

Commissioner Van Berkum moved, seconded by Commissioner Love, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Chair Giese adjourned the Board of Commissioners meeting of December 11, 2023, at 4:06 p.m.

Dakota County Board of Commissioners

Robert J. Giese, Chair

Cherie Conley, County Clerk/Board Secretary