

August 24, 2021

The meeting of the McCook County Commission was called to order in their Meeting Room by Chairman Chuck Mehlbrech. Members present Marc Dick, Steve Gordon, Dean Koch, and Charles Liesinger.

Chairman Mehlbrech led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Mehlbrech called for approval of the agenda. Motion made by Koch to approve the agenda as posted. Second Gordon. Motion carried.

The minutes from the August 10th meeting were sent to Board members for review prior to publication. Motion made by Liesinger to approve the minutes for publication. Second Dick. Motion carried.

Public input: none.

Commissioner Reports: Mehlbrech noted continued discussion regarding development within Salem City, housing specifically. Koch shared information from the district meeting attended in Brule County. SDDOT provided a presentation on the Rural Access Infrastructure implementation.

Brad (BJ) Stiefvater, Emergency Manager, informed Board that he attended a Tri-State EMA meeting and is providing the Board with an Outlook Summary which shows higher chances for above normal temperatures and higher chances for below normal precipitation for Sept-Oct-Nov. The US Drought Monitor shows that conditions have worsened across much of the region between April 13th and August 10th. Current ground water observation is lower than the lowest median for August in the past 17 years. Stiefvater noted that he and the fire chiefs have discussed the burn ban, and all agree that the burn ban should remain in place because going into harvest it is going to be drier & crispier.

Auditor Sherman asked Stiefvater to address the 2022 Local Emergency Management Performance Grant, so the Board is aware. Sherman noted that counties can take part in the grant or leave the grant as they choose on an annual basis. McCook County has not participated in several years. Stiefvater added that he did reply to the email that was sent, noting that McCook County would not be participating.

Stiefvater also explained several bills (to be paid today) due to security needs following a house fire.

Roger Hofer had joined the meeting. Hofer told the Board that they need to get rid of the drainage ordinance. Hofer had questions regarding regulations for an (under) 2400 head hog barn. Liesinger told Hofer it's best to take his questions to the Zoning Administrator.

Mic Kreutzfeldt, Hwy Supt, presented two utility permits to the Board. Motion made by Koch to approve two Electric Utility Permits for Southeastern Electric. #1 scope of project: bury overhead lines at 25369 440th Ave and #2 scope of project: bury lines for new service at 45125 250th St. Second Gordon. Motion carried. Motion made by Dick to set 10:00 a.m., on Friday, November 19, 2021, as time to hold gravel crushing bid letting. Second Gordon. Motion carried. Discussed progress on SD38 bridge replacement which is ahead of schedule. Kreutzfeldt noted that 431st Ave (Lehrman Slough site) has been built up by 9" and the plan is to apply a 2" lift of asphalt late fall and again in 2022. Discussed two SDDOT I-90 grade raises planned near the Bridgewater Exit and their potential effects. Discussion was held regarding Rural Access Infrastructure Program and completing the inventory & inspection of structures within the townships. Koch noted that the Commissioners need to establish what will be paid per site for the inventory/inspection of each structure (culvert). Koch suggested \$100 per structure at the meeting held yesterday with townships. Those in attendance (7 out of 16 townships) felt this was fair compensation. Motion made by Dick to set \$100 per structure for completing the inventory & inspection of each culvert. Second Liesinger. Motion carried. It was noted that township supervisors can do the inspection/inventory or hire someone to do it. The funding (\$3,000,000) is allocated based on number of structures, so it is imperative that an accurate count be completed in all townships.

If a township chooses to not participate, Hwy Dept employees will have to. Current projects include chip sealing, fog sealing and hot mix patching.

Motion made by Gordon to convene as Drainage Commission. Second Koch. Motion carried.

Mic Kreutzfeldt, Drainage Administrator, presented drainage permit applications to the Board, noting that downstream landowner signatures were obtained, and he has signed off on them. All permits are available for inspection at the Hwy Dept Office.

D21-036	Kevin Weber	NW4 Ex Tract 1 of Klueber's Addition 12-102-54
D21-037	Bernard & Lloyd Stockwell	N2NE4 32-101-53 Ex Tract 1 of Wieman's Add in N2NE4

The Board reconvened as Board of County Commissioners.

At 10:30 a.m. the County Commission held a public hearing to receive input concerning a request to rezone property from agricultural to commercial for a campground. Applicant Brian Kelly. Legal description: Tract 7A of Klaus Addition in the NW4 of Section 19, Spring Valley Twp. Present: Brian Kelly, Willis & Leona Klaus, and Patricia Waechter. Cori Kaufmann, Zoning Administrator, read the application information. Chairman Mehlbrech opened the hearing for public comment. Willis Klaus stated that he didn't sell this property with intent for it to be a campground. Klaus also noted that a dam has been placed in an old dugout, have increased traffic & noise, trespassing issues, and shooting. Brian Kelly addressed comments made - gunfire was/is target practice, dugout is a slough there is no dam, campers are lighter than farm equipment, and Klaus's statements are incorrect. Liesinger stated that these arguments are not what we are here for, time to move on. With no other input, time for public comments was closed. Motion made by Dick to set 10:30, September 28th, as time for second hearing/reading of Ordinance 2021-06, an Ordinance Rezoning Property. Second Liesinger. Ayes: Dick, Liesinger, Gordon, Koch, and Mehlbrech. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The Board chose to wait and review the "draft" medical cannabis dispensary ordinance when States Attorney Fink is able to attend the meeting.

Auditor Sherman presented Employee Handbook revisions and updates to the Board, noting that these come following review by Lisa Marso, Boyce Law Firm, and States Attorney Fink. Laurie Schwans, Register of Deeds, was present. To keep the meeting on schedule the Board decided to discuss the employee handbook at the end of the meeting.

Melissa Moerike, Senior HR Consultant & Leadership Coach with Alternative HR, introduced herself to the Board. Moerike asked the Board if they wanted her to be on-site and if so, how often, one day a week or every other week. The Board told Moerike that job evaluations/performance reviews are a priority so reach out to department heads to get the process started. Cori Kaufmann, Dir of Equalization, asked if quarterly meetings with department heads will continue. Moerike indicated, yes, if department heads want them to. Moerike will work with Auditor Sherman to schedule time to be available to county employees and schedule quarterly meetings.

Motion made by Dick to convene as Planning Commission. Second Gordon. Motion carried.

At 11:30 a.m. the Planning Commission held a public hearing to receive input concerning a request to rezone property from Agricultural to Commercial for a Commercial Recreational Facility. Applicant Linda Vail. Legal description is that Part of SE4 3-101-53 Lying South of Vermillion River Ex Tracts 1,2,3,4,5,6,7, & 8 Riverview Estates & Ex E237' of W1615'. Cori Kaufmann, Zoning Administrator, apologized to those present, informing everyone that signage for this hearing was posted for 7 days and not the required 10 days, so this public hearing cannot be held today. Motion was made by Dick to set 11:00 a.m., September 28th, as date & time to hold the public hearing. Second Gordon. Motion carried.

Motion made by Liesinger, second Dick, and carried, to pay claims: GENERAL FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 8/21/21: Commissioners 1923.05; Auditor 3623.03; Treasurer 4091.71; States Attorney 2840.05; Custodian 1213.10; Dir of Equalization 3712.97; Register of Deeds 3027.27; Veterans Service Officer 586.91; Sheriff 11560.39; Contract Law 5113.37; Care of Poor 192.31; Welfare

448.12; Community Health Nurse Secretary 1409.80; Extension Secretary, 1059.14; Weed Dept 43.80; Drainage 307.61; Planning & Zoning 544.53. Transamerica Employee Benefits, August healthpak premium 3406.95. A&B Business Solutions, monthly copier contract 99.68; AAA Collections, lien collection fee 2.50; Applied Concepts, radar equipment 3080.00; AutoEx, law enforcement auto service 1975.55; Avera McKennan Hospital, mental health hold 2238.00; Avera Queen of Peace Hospital, prisoner care 787.93; Axon Enterprise, taser & battery pack 1403.44; Card Service Center, DARE supplies 187.20; Century Business Products, monthly copier contract 104.77; Davison County Sheriff, July jail services 570.00; English Law, court appt attorney for MacKenzie Cox 305.10 for Nicole Wild 620.70 for Eric Dolan 306.90 for Darcy Ducheneau 267.30; Green Eggs & Ram, laptop updates 1729.93; Brian Havard, VSO conference- meals 30.13; Kathryn Heumiller, blood draw 120.00; Iron Wheel Sales & Service, courthouse services 351.50; Jack's Uniforms & Equipment, law enforcement uniforms 593.41; Paula Kroger, mileage to hang P&Z sign 16.80; McLeod's Printing, office supplies 45.67; Meyer Motor, auto service 45.67; Morgan Theeler LLP, court appt attorney for Larry Ray Brown 1599.10; New Century Press, publishing 2262.99; Noll Collection Service, lien collection fee 94.15; Office Depot, law enforcement office supplies 617.49 file cabinet 199.99; Presto-X, food pantry pest control 39.00; Ramkota Hotel-Pierre, VSO conference lodging 157.76; Laurie Schwans, district meeting mileage & meal 102.18; SDAAO, conference registration 360.00; SDACC, convention registration 925.00; US Postal Service, postage 1265.00.

COUNTY ROAD & BRIDGE FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 8/21/21: Hwy Dept 22125.00. Transamerica Employee Benefits, August healthpak premium 2618.71. Bierschbach Equipment, yellow marker 750.00; IMEG Corp, engineering design 5250.00; Jebro Inc, liquid asphalt 24653.19; Louiseau Construction, contracted construction 4074.00; Northwestern Energy, utilities 10.00; SDACC, convention registration 185.00; TrueNorth Steel, bridge supplies 5414.37; US Postal Service, postage 110.00; Verizon Wireless, cell phone service 82.05; Xcel Energy, utilities 820.28.

911 EMERGENCY REPORTING SYSTEM FUND: Sioux Valley Energy, radio tower utilities 63.11.

EMERGENCY & DISASTER SERVICES FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 8/21/21: EDS Director 1412.31. Transamerica Employee Benefits, August healthpak premium 96.51. Bridgewater Fire Dept, security services-house fire 720.00; Lake Goglin, security services-house fire 120.00; Nate Olinger, security services-house fire 120.00.

24/7 SOBRIETY FUND: Bi-Weekly Payroll: 8/21/21: Sheriff Secretary/Dispatcher 192.16.

PAYROLL CONTRIBUTIONS – ALL FUNDS: 8/21/21: Dir of IRS, county share of FICA 3688.09 Medicare 862.55; SD Retirement System, county share of retirement contribution, 3761.89; Wellmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield of SD, county share of health insurance contribution 18042.69.

Auditor Sherman informed the Board that Rebecca Hoiten has accepted the position of Deputy Auditor II, effective August 23, 2021. Sherman told the Board that she and Julie Nelson, Senior HR Consultant with Alternative HR, discussed the hourly pay rate for the new position and based upon the existing Pay Grade Scale, recommend pay rate of \$21.15/hour. Following discussion, motion was made by Koch to set \$21.15 as Hoiten's per hour pay rate. Second Gordon. Motion carried. Motion made by Liesinger to add Rebecca Hoiten, Deputy Auditor II, to the bank signature card for the Auditor's Office, authorizing her to sign checks. Second made by Gordon. Motion carried.

Geralyn Sherman, Welfare Director, and the Commissioners reviewed Care of Poor cases. A Notice of Hospitalization was received from Avera McKennan Hospital (2021-30). A letter was received from Robert Nelson, Attorney for Avera McKennan Hospital, noting that statute does not require McKennan to prove receipt of the County Poor Relief Notice, only that it was mailed, and the Notice was never returned by the US Postal Service. The letter went on to ask that the Commissioners consider payment of the Application for Poor Relief Assistance (2021-29). Auditor Sherman noted that the Application for Poor Relief Assistance only indicates that the patient

does not have insurance, there is no financial information. The individual has not applied for county assistance therefore eligibility cannot be determined. McCook County denies payment of this claim.

Shaun Van Oort & Collin Kjose, A&B Business Solutions, presented copier proposals to the Board and several department heads.

Commissioner Dick left the meeting.

Neil Hlebichuk & Tim Osgood, Gordon Flesch Company, presented copier proposals to the Board and several department heads.

Spencer Kaul & Mike Satter, Century Business, presented copier proposals to the Board and several department heads.

Laurie Schwans, Register of Deeds, rejoined the meeting to further discuss adding Juneteenth to the list of paid holidays in the Employee Handbook. Mark Norris, Sheriff, was present. Following discussion, no action was taken. Several Board members are opposed to the idea but will discuss it with States Attorney Fink when he can be present.

The meeting adjourned subject to call.

Dated this 24th day of August 2021.

Charles Mehlbrech _____
Chairman, McCook County Commission

ATTEST:

Geralyn Sherman _____
Auditor, McCook County