

March 1st, 2022
Antelope County Board of Commissioners
Neligh, Nebraska

The Antelope County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session on Tuesday, March 1st, 2022 at 9:00 AM in the County Commissioner's Meeting Room, Antelope County Courthouse Annex, Neligh, Nebraska. Meeting was called to order by Chairman Henery with the following board members responding to roll call: Jacob, Krebs, Pedersen, Smith and Henery. Chairman Henery stated the open meeting laws are posted on the east wall of the Commissioner's Meeting Room with more copies available at the County Clerk's Office.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the three (3) county newspapers, legal newspapers printed and in general circulation in Antelope County, Nebraska as shown by proof of publication filed in the County Clerk's office. Agenda for said meeting was sent to all members of the County Board of Commissioners. Meeting was available by Zoom.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Agenda: Motion by Commissioner Jacob, seconded by Commissioner Pedersen to approve agenda as presented. Voting aye: Jacob, Pedersen, Smith and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion carried.

Minutes of the February 8th, 2022 Board of Commissioner Meeting: Motion by Commissioner Pedersen seconded by Commissioner Jacob to approve minutes as presented. Voting aye: Jacob, Pedersen, and Henery. Smith abstains. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion carried.

Correspondence was reviewed: NPAIT Enabling Resolution; Typed Resolution regarding Irrigation Equipment Road Right of Way; typed road access resolution. NIRMA 2021 annual Report; Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy Approval letter for LWCLF; Antelope County Historical Society News Letter.

Receipts: General=cost reimbursement NACO \$200.00.

Maintenance Report: Eddie Schindler reported Kinnan Construction is repairing ceiling in Health and Human Services. Eddie was unsure of the plan for the safety windows in the courthouse annex. Commissioner Pedersen will clarify with Kinnan. The secretary in the County Attorney's Office heard a thumping noise – like things were falling on the drop ceiling. Eddie could find no issue. He will ask Mr. Kinnan to check.

Weed Superintendent Update: Bryan Cornett met with the Commissioners. They have attended training in February and there is more training at the end of the month. Currently, they are mapping invasive fragmentize around the County. They will work on this during the mild weather. Commissioner Jacob inquired about areas north and south on 516th Avenue. Bryan will check it out.

Rehire of Sheriff employee: Sheriff Moore would like to rehire a former full-time employee for part-time help. Simon Beacom left on good standing and wants to help on a part-time basis. Motion by Commissioner Jacob, seconded by Commissioner Pedersen to rehire employee. Voting aye: Jacob, Pedersen, Smith and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion carried.

Promotional Grant-Orchard Fish Fry, \$244.00: Orchard Historical Society submitted a request for \$244.00 to help with advertising cost of their fish fry to be held March 11th, 2022. This request was approved by the Antelope County Visitor Committee on 2-10-2022. Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Jacob to approve the Promotional Grant for \$244.00. Voting aye: Jacob, Pedersen, Smith and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion carried.

Improvement Grant – Orchard Historical Society: Orchard Historical Society submitted a request to help with the cost of digitizing the Orchard News. Total costs for the entire project is upward of \$16,650.00. This request was approved by the Antelope County Visitor Committee on 1-19-2022. Motion by Commissioner Pedersen, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the Improvement Grant for \$1,750.00. Voting aye: Jacob, Pedersen, Smith and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion carried.

Zoning Administrator Report: Megan met with the Board today. The taxes on the Administrative Plat had not been paid, so it is not ready for the Commissioners. Hopefully, it will be ready for next week. Megan will be meeting with members of the Summit Carbon Solutions people and wanted to know if the Commissioners wanted to be included on the 'initial' discussions with them. The Commissioners have met with a gentleman regarding the project, and did not think they needed to be included in this discussion. Megan is trying to interpret the federal and state zoning regulations to make sure they cover Antelope County Zoning. As of current, pipelines are not in the Antelope County Zoning Regulations.

848th Resolution: holding for now, as Commissioner Krebs wanted to change some verbiage. Commissioner Pedersen asked if we could add to April's agenda to allow time to talk to County Attorney.

Custodial/Janitorial Wages: Recent discussion regarding wages and employment vacancies throughout the County and state, lead to the review of wages of employees throughout the County. Antelope County's janitor has been with the county for 30 years and her last pay increase was in 2016. Maintenance employee has not had an increase since starting approximately 5 years ago. Motion by Commissioner Pedersen, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve increase wages for the janitorial to \$15.00 an hour, and to increase the maintenance wage to \$13.45 an hour (\$1.00). Future increases can be discussed during budget discussions annually. Voting aye: Jacob, Pedersen, Smith and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion carried.

Road Superintendent Report:

- Motion by Commissioner Jacob, seconded by Commissioner Pedersen to approve the application for underground permit submitted by Fred Thiele to place a permanent underground pipe under 857th Road in the SE¼ of Sections 6-7, Township 27, Range 7 West of the 6th P.M., Antelope County, Nebraska. Two Rivers Irrigation is contractor. Electric line is to run power for electric irrigation motor. All work to be done according County and State specs, including 48 inches below road surface. Voting aye Jacob, Pedersen, Smith and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion carried.
- Motion by Commissioner Jacob, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the application for underground permit submitted by Nebraska Public Power District to place a permanent underground pipe under 846th Road in the NW¼ of Section 6, Township 24, Range 8, to the SW¼ Section 31, Township 25, Range 8 West of the 6th P.M., Antelope County, Nebraska. Electric line is to provide communications between the two new substations: Holt County and Thunderhead. All work to be done according County and State specs, including 48 inches below road surface. Voting aye Jacob, Pedersen, Smith and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion carried.

- Motion by Commissioner Jacob, seconded by Commissioner Pedersen to approve the application for underground permit submitted by Jack Allemang to place a permanent underground pipe under 516th Avenue in the NW¼ of Section --, Township 26, Range 7 West of the 6th P.M., Antelope County, Nebraska. Two Rivers Irrigation is contractor. Electric line is to run power for electric irrigation motor. All work to be done according County and State specs, including 48 inches below road surface. Voting aye Jacob, Pedersen, Smith and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion carried.
- Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Jacob to approve two (2) applications for underground permit submitted by John Kerkman to place two (2) permanent underground pipes under 848th Road in the NW¼ of Section 29, Township 25, Range 5 West of the 6th P.M., Antelope County, Nebraska. Elkhorn Valley Equipment is contractor. Electric line is to run power for electric irrigation motor. All work to be done according County and State specs, including 48 inches below road surface. Existing line to be removed at time of placement. Voting aye Jacob, Pedersen, Smith and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion carried.
- Motion by Commissioner Pedersen, seconded by Commissioner Jacob to approve both applications for oversize permit submitted by Atlas Crane Service Inc. to Tower 55. Road Superintendent voiced no opposition, and stated he thought the move was complete. Voting aye Jacob, Pedersen, Smith and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion carried.
- Motion by Commissioner Jacob, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve an application for oversize permit submitted by Williams Midwest House Movers Inc. They plan a move to Orchard Village. Road Superintendent voiced no opposition. Voting aye Jacob, Pedersen, Smith and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion carried.
- **The following Underground Permits were submitted by Two-Rivers Irrigation:**
 - Motion by Commissioner Jacob, seconded by Commissioner Pedersen to approve the application for underground permit submitted to place a permanent underground pipe under 839th Road in the NE¼ of Section 7, Township 23, Range 6 West of the 6th P.M., Antelope County, Nebraska. Two Rivers Irrigation is contractor. Electric line is to run power for electric irrigation motor. All work to be done according County and State specs, including 48 inches below road surface. Voting aye Jacob, Pedersen, Smith and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion carried. Brian Henn
 - Motion by Commissioner Jacob, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the application for underground permit submitted to place a permanent underground pipe under 860th Road in the SE¼ of Section 24, Township 27, Range 6 West of the 6th P.M., Antelope County, Nebraska. Two Rivers Irrigation is contractor. Electric line is to run power for electric irrigation motor. All work to be done according County and State specs, including 48 inches below road surface. Voting aye Jacob, Pedersen, Smith and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion carried. Derek Zuhlke.
 - Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Jacob to approve the application for underground permit submitted to place a permanent underground pipe under 860th Road in the SE¼ of Section 24, Township 27, Range 6 West of the 6th P.M., Antelope County, Nebraska. Two Rivers Irrigation is contractor. Electric line is to run power for electric irrigation motor. All work to be done according County and State specs, including 48 inches below road surface. Voting aye Jacob, Pedersen, Smith and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion carried. Derek Zuhlke.
 - Motion by Commissioner Pedersen, seconded by Commissioner Jacob to approve the application for underground permit submitted to place a permanent underground pipe under 852nd Road in the SW¼ of Section 35, Township 26, Range 6 West of the 6th P.M., Antelope County, Nebraska. Two Rivers Irrigation is contractor. Electric line is to run power for electric irrigation motor. All work to be done according County and State specs, including 48 inches below road surface. Voting aye Jacob, Pedersen, Smith and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion carried. Tim Kallhoff.
 - Motion by Commissioner Jacob, seconded by Commissioner Pedersen to approve the application for underground permit submitted to place two (2) permanent underground pipes under 866th Road in the SE¼ of Section 20, Township 28, Range 7 West of the 6th P.M., Antelope County, Nebraska. Two Rivers Irrigation is contractor. Electric line is to run power for electric irrigation motor. All work to be done according County and State specs, including 48 inches below road surface. Voting aye Jacob, Pedersen, Smith and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion carried. Neil Williby.
 - Motion by Commissioner Jacob, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the application for underground permit submitted to place two (2) permanent underground pipes under 846th Road in the SE¼ of Section 32, Township 25, Range 7 West of the 6th P.M., Antelope County, Nebraska. Two Rivers Irrigation is contractor. Electric line is to run power for electric irrigation motor. All work to be done according County and State specs, including 48 inches below road surface. Voting aye Jacob, Pedersen, Smith and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion carried. Dennis Blair.
 - Motion by Commissioner Pedersen, seconded by Commissioner Jacob to approve the application for underground permit submitted to place a permanent underground pipe under 848th Road in the SE¼ of Section 23, Township 25, Range 8 West of the 6th P.M., Antelope County, Nebraska. Two Rivers Irrigation is contractor. Electric line is to run power for electric irrigation motor. All work to be done according County and State specs, including 48 inches below road surface. Voting aye Jacob, Pedersen, Smith and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion carried. Gary Thiele.
 - Motion by Commissioner Jacob, seconded by Commissioner Pedersen to approve the application for underground permit submitted to place a permanent underground pipe under 860th Road in the NW¼ of Section 16, Township 28, Range 6 West of the 6th P.M., Antelope County, Nebraska. Two Rivers Irrigation is contractor. Electric line is to run power for electric irrigation motor. All work to be done according County and State specs, including 48 inches below road surface. Voting aye Jacob, Pedersen, Smith and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion carried. Tim Nielsen-school land.

John Deere Motor Grader. John Deere currently holds the state bid for Graders. Jake Ryba presented in follow-up of conversations in January and February regarding purchase of Motor-Graders. The current bid is \$362,974.00 without wing or plow. The bid is presented with a dual purchase. Discussion of current budget situation and fleet. Discussion of financing, verses paying out right verses current pricing, and current material cost increases and current warranties – 7year/7000 hours. The wing purchase is approximately \$30,622.00. Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Jacob to authorize purchase of two (2) John Deere Motor Graders without wings or plows and to finance both with John Deere Financial at a 2.75% rate. Delivery of one machine in May/June 2022 and the second machine in October 2022. Voting aye: Smith, Jacob and Henery. Nays: Pedersen. Krebs absent. Motion carried. First payment will be due one year from delivery.

John Deere Motor Grader Wings: Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Jacob to purchase wings for both machines to be paid out of equipment budget, both wings to be factory installed. Voting aye: Smith, Jacob and Henery. Nays: Pedersen. Krebs absent. Motion carried.

Brian McDonald met with the Commissioners **regarding project updates.**

- He believes the Orchard North project is complete. They have requested Antelope County to approve. Brian will drive up today and check it out.
- **Ashfall Bridge:** The project was bid with steel beams and the Contractor contracted with Husker Steel to fabricate the beams. Husker Steel is no longer ASC certified (state required), so the product does not meet standards. They cannot locate a steel fabricator with would allow them to honor the current start date – thus putting the completion date behind. As a solution and not hold the project an additional year, the contractor suggested to go to a concrete slab super structure. Brian has no reservations. The way this works is the County would award the contract, and a change order would be forthcoming to verify the concrete superstructure. The contractor will honor the charges and costs associated with all changes. The contractor believes he can honor the timeline as presented in his bid. Discussion of bids and how the awarding went. Brian assured the Commissioners this was

verified as the second lowest bid was going to use Husker Steel. Knox County has no issue with the changing of the steel beams to concrete superstructure.

Road Superintendent Report:

- **524th Avenue** – Minimum Maintenance Road: \$34,000.00 culvert project, this would be a \$50,000.00 project by the time this is complete. Land owner, Duane Kerkman has been promised twice during the Commissioner Meetings the culverts will be placed. Aaron wanted to ensure that all understand this is a minimum maintenance road, and very little maintaining will carry through. Aaron will order the culverts. **524th Avenue Culvert:** Motion by Commissioner Jacob, seconded by Commissioner Pedersen to approve purchase and proceed with fixing 524th Avenue to facilitate future traffic. Voting aye: Jacob, Pedersen, Smith, and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion passed.
- **Road access permit resolution:** Aaron asked if there was any more input. The verbiage was discussed. After further discussion Brian McDonald expressed his concern regarding the liability of land owner for maintaining in County Right of Way. More research and verbiage clarification before this moves forward. No action today.
- **Fuel Contracts:** hold for now.

Board of Equalization: Motion by Commissioner Jacob, seconded by Commissioner Pedersen to open as a Board of Equalization. Voting aye: Jacob, Pedersen, Smith, and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion passed. Met for approximately one (1) minute. Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Jacob to close Board of Equalization. Voting aye: Jacob, Pedersen, Smith, and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion passed.

No other issues to discuss.

Adjourn: Motion was made by Commissioner Jacob seconded by Commissioner Pedersen to **adjourn**. Voting aye: Jacob, Pedersen, Smith, and Henery. Nays none. Krebs absent. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 AM.

ANTELOPE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

By: _____
Chairperson of the Board, Charlie Henery

Attest: _____
County Clerk, Lisa Payne