

August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Antelope County Board of Commissioners  
Neligh, Nebraska

The Antelope County Board of Commissioners convened in special session on Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 8:00 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: Krebs, Pedersen, Smith and Henery. Jacob absent. 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 Krebs, seconded by Commissioner Pedersen to approve agenda as presented. Voting aye: Pedersen, Krebs, Smith and Henery. Jacob absent. Nays none. Motion carried.

**Appointed Officials review and possible wage increase:** Commissioner Smith again stated he felt the review process was very educational and beneficial. He hopes this practice continues annually. After reviewing with the appointed officials, the Review Committee made the following recommendations for the Road Superintendent to be equal to the Assessor, Clerk of the District Court, Clerk and Treasurer. With the Road Foreman to be at 90% of the Road Superintendents Salary. Discussion. The County Clerk (Lisa Payne) and County Assessor both expressed how paying the Road Superintendent with three (3) years of experience making what the officials make did not seem acceptable. Raising the appointed officials to elected officials' wages and including the annual wage increase for the wages of the officials. Both the Assessor and Clerk believe this to be a slap in the face. The Road Superintendent answers to the Commissioners, not the public. The clerk and assessor expressed the elected official carries a heavier weight in answering to the public. The roads and maintenance ultimately are a Commissioner responsibility. The buck stops with the Commissioners, not the Road Superintendent.

Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Krebs to Set the Road Superintendents Salary at \$65,500.00, starting January 1, 2023, and to increase the wage of said position with the Assessor, Clerk of the District Court, Clerk, and Treasurer's annual increase, and for the Road Foreman to be at 90% of the Road Superintendent Salary for the next four (4) years. Discussion continues. Voting aye: Smith and Krebs. Voting nay: Pedersen and Henery. Jacob absent. Motion **does not** pass. More discussion regarding salaries. Motion by Commissioner Krebs to set the Road Superintendents salary at \$64,000.00 and set the Road Foreman at 90% of Road Superintendent salary, starting January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. More discussion. Motion dies for lack of second. More discussion.

**Table Appointed Official review and possible wage increase:** Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Pedersen to table the review and possible increase to the next Board Meeting agenda. Voting aye: Smith, Pedersen, Krebs, and Henery. Jacob absent. Nays none. Motion carried.

Review of budgets. Official requests were filed and entered into the budget program. During review it was discovered the Clerk had erroneously entered a \$125,000.00 entry twice in the Road and Bridge expenditures. The Sheriff had offered to utilize \$150,000.00 from the 2940 Law Enforcement Account to help offset the increase of wages for the Law Enforcement Center. Road and Bridge had entered expenditures into the Escrow Account and during discussion it was determined the amounts (\$1,250,000.00) are not an expense and should be removed. During budget review the ARPA Funds was discussed. Because of recent changes these funds can be utilized in a multitude of ways. Discussion of using the funds to off set the Road and Bridge Concrete Projects. It was determined that this fund balance (\$1,204,319.17) could be used to offset the Road and Bridge Projects. The Commissioners requested the above suggestions be implemented. The Clerk entered the information and presented the public hearing page of the budget, which seems to be more inline with current recommendations. Discussion of finalizing the number and budget pages/figures for next week.

Commissioner Krebs left meeting at noon. (12:00 PM)

**Budget Follow-up Meeting:** Motion by Commissioner Pedersen, seconded by Commissioner Smith to hold a special meeting on Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 at 8:00 AM, to review budget and finalize numbers to be presented for the joint public hearing. Voting aye: Smith, Pedersen, and Henery. Krebs and Jacob absent. Motion passed.

No other issues to discuss.

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

Meeting adjourned at 12:07 PM.

ANTELOPE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson of the Board, Charlie Henery

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Clerk, Lisa Payne