

February 5th, 2019
Antelope County Board of Commissioners
Neligh, Nebraska

The Antelope County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session on Tuesday, February 5th, 2019 at 9:00 AM at the American Legion Post 172 Hall, 115 W. 3rd Street, Neligh, NE. Meeting venue was changed on Friday, February 1st, 2019 at 4:00 PM, by Chairman Borer.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the four 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. Venue change notices were posted around the courthouse, Neligh Post Office, Antelope County Website, and web pages for the newspapers.

Chairman mentioned some housekeeping rules before starting. In the absence of bylaws, we will follow Roberts Rules of Order. For the benefit and interest of all we will allow for audience participation before each agenda item. Prior to any discussion by the Board, on each agenda item, audience members who wish to make any comments on that agenda item, need to raise their hand and state their name. The Chairman will call on them. You will be given three (3) minutes to state your comments on that agenda item. Upon conclusion of public comments, the Board will then take up the agenda item. No additional questions or comments will be taken from the audience including elected officials, unless they are requested by the board.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Borer with the following board members responding to Roll Call: Jacob, Henery, Borer, Bentley and Smith. Chairman said the open meeting laws were posted on the south wall and entry way of the American Legion Hall with more copies available at the County Clerk's Office.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Discussion of the **minutes of the January 8th, 2019** Board of Commissioners presented for approval. Chairman stated he did not have a chance to look them over since they were sent at 6 in the morning. Commissioner Bentley recommended postponing the minutes until they had a chance to look at the updated version sent this morning. Commissioner Smith said he seconds. Voting aye: Bentley, Smith, Henery and Jacob. The minutes were presented last week. Commissioner Bentley asked on Monday to have a couple conversations entered into the minutes that were not included. Those conversations were entered and the minutes were resubmitted this morning.

Correspondence was reviewed: Letter from Ben & Anna Meis regarding roads in southern Antelope County; NACO updated directory; Recycling Interlocal Agreements; UBT Antelope County Hospital Revenue Bond Financing Monthly Statement; Email from Micki Iverson regarding School Classification; LeRoy Janssen email regarding National NACo.; Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality re: Pruss Barn Animal Feeding Operation; Nebraska Past Due Bridge Inspection; Email from Craig Johnson regarding Better Health Insurance for Public Entities; LENRD Hazard Mitigation Planning Participant; Nebraska Homeland Security Grant – Emergency Management Performance Grant Letters; Safety Committee Minutes: Chad Engle from NIRMA regarding Safety Minutes from 2018 meetings – responded with sending the 2018 minutes by email; copy of the Oakdale Lot Purchase Agreement; Cubby's follow-up regarding receipt request – nothing will change.

Clerk of the District Court January Fee Report was reviewed and put on file.

Sheriff's January Fee Report was reviewed and put on file.

Zoning Permit for January 2019 was reviewed and put on file.

Treasurer's Semi-Annual Report was reviewed and put on file.

Treasurer's Uncollected District Totals Report was reviewed and put on file.

Receipts: \$50,000.00 From General to Road and Bridge; \$39.90 MAHASKA \$39.90

Clerks Report: After the January 8th meeting, I thought to myself: maybe I need to help educate my board, and decided I needed to point out a couple of important things.

1. During the meeting multiple times it was stated "I was elected to do this, or to do that. Kudos to you. During that same election 5 of my fellow Officials and myself were elected. Deb Branstiter, Kelly Mueller, Judy Cole, Robert Moore, and Joe Ablor. Some of us are on our 2nd, 3rd or more terms.
2. Running for office takes a great amount of vulnerability and exposure. We have approximately 6,000 quote – unquote bosses. Multiple times every day we are asked to look things up, find the source or listen to a concern. Every one of us not only meet we exceed in all of those areas. We get judged not only on our daily duties but how they are carried out.
3. Antelope County has been around for 145 years. During this tenure it saw a number of challenges, heartache and tremendous growth. It is a great place to live, raise a family and work. The past leadership has given us a great base and are goal should be to build on that. Looking back, you may have seen some disagreement and difference of opinions. You will also see respect and great leadership with a lot of hard work.
4. Every Official elected or appointed works with the best interest of Antelope County in their minds and hearts. We may have made mistakes, and we will continue to make mistakes. All of those "mistakes" made us better and stronger. We faced them head on and righted our discrepancies with honesty and hard work. Speaking for our current elected and appointed officials we want to assure you we have never intentionally meant to hurt Antelope County's residents or reputation.
5. All the offices have areas in their office that are private. It is not to HIDE anything, but for safety and protection. The records we have are extremely important to Antelope County's future.
6. We were elected to work for the public, with each other and follow the statutes. All of us take that seriously and to heart. During the meeting on the 8th of January I said, "it felt as if we are all on trial." Your actions, tones and lack of respect was unwarranted and uncalled for. Multiple times during the meeting in January you were asked to come talk to the officials, talk to the offices, etc. To this day, I have not had one of you in to ask questions, see how things were done and why we do them that way. Time and again for the past 3 weeks I received an email after, only after, you contacted someone else. Be it NACO, NIRMA, your private attorney, or any combination of people. These actions show distrust and a lack of willingness to work with the officials. All of the officials and our staff not only are willing to listen and help but are eager and have gone over and above in situations, and we are happy to do it.
7. As for myself, (and I assume most of my fellow Officials) I have very rarely – maybe never – refused to share something, educate someone or show the exact instance they have inquired about. I said in the past, and believe today, I like to educate the people, because when they understand how and why things are done the way they are, there is a better understanding of my office. Because we all know "How things look" is not always – and usually never are how they seem. Go ask the office or official.

8. As for the audits. Again, no malicious intent. In January, I stated I will take the fall for some of the officials not responding to the 'draft audit,' because I did not realize the email with the audit report had not been sent to all of the officials. Again, it was not done in disrespect or ill intent. The auditor has been great to work with and has taught us all a great deal. Issues in that report could have been handled by talking to any or all of the officials. Lack of understanding of the statute is not an excuse, but I believe that is the issue here. After being hashed over, things can get corrected, and it did not need to be a 3-hour discussion in a public meeting. Not to hide anything only to show progress as a county. The State Auditor is the best of the best. And Deann said it herself, they do a forensic audit. She stated **to correct the discrepancies and move on.**
9. Remember, when reading reports or opinions, the whole statement needs to be kept in context. Critical and critical-in-nature, do not mean the same thing. Critical in nature is inclined to criticize severely and unfavorably. Critical the way you presented is being in or approaching a state of crisis. After talking with Deann on the telephone, I do not believe we are there.
10. Working together for the good of the people and Antelope County is of vital importance in everything we do. We may not always agree, but for the Good of the County has to be our #1 priority.
11. The Law Enforcement Center is built. It currently, houses up to 33 inmates. We have staffing for those inmates and we need to treat it with the best interest of Antelope County and its future. The inmates housed there deserve our respect and dignity. Our sheriff has done great things with the facility, keeping the building going, the inmates nourished and the gates open. Again, there are many governing bodies effecting his day to day decisions and practices. Get to know your officials and their offices.
12. Talking one on one to any official at the office or anywhere is not the same as executive session. Again, talk to your official.
13. The newspaper is not an official legal document!!!! Their main goal is to sell papers.
14. Dwelling on the past, does not create a positive reassuring future. The previous board, did exactly what they felt was necessary for the best interest of Antelope County. I think they did an awesome job. Remember in 4 years we may all be the 'old' board.
15. All private agendas need to stay at home. Your actions affect Antelope County residents, officials, employees and their families. We don't get to choose which residents we represent, we have to act for the good of the entire County.
16. Working together we can do great things!

My mother always said you have two ears and one mouth. Listen twice as much as you talk. I care. Maybe I care too much. I was elected to my office by the public for the public. That is nothing I take lightly. I not only ask, I challenge you to work for the good of the people and the good of Antelope County. Ask and work with your fellow County Officials!!!!

Bethany Miller presented.

Short prayer. Letter of Intent. I would just like to let the board know that today, a group of us have come to support our elected officials. I realize not everybody at this meeting may have the same sentiments a lot of us that have come to share our support for them today. But we thought it was important to remind you that over 2000 voters believe that each Lisa, Kelli, Deb, Bob, Judy, and Joe, who received almost 2000 votes for his position, have our confidence, that we believe in them and they are doing a great job. There are also family, friends, neighbors, and voters of both Charlie and Eli here today, who are supporting them as well.

Our County has been audited by the State of Nebraska over the last five years, to the best of our knowledge the documents available to the public shows not one dime missing. We understand that mistakes will be made and we have trust in the people that we elected, and we also believe they will continue to work to resolve those mistakes. It was upsetting to us for Lisa and the other officials to feel like they were on trial at your first meeting, should we not treat people the way we want to be treated? We also realize that new mistakes may come up, but with a human factor there is always a possibility of this.

Only time will tell what kind of legacy each one of you new supervisors will leave over the course of your service. One thing everyone in this room, I believe can agree on, is that not one of us will go mistake free in our lifetime. There will be work mistakes, mistakes in our families, and yes even as elected Officials. As far as we are aware of there was no malice or ill intentions or monies missing from our county, if there was any intentional wrong doing that would be critical. We hope in the future that this board will move forward in a spirit of continuity to bring all offices together and for all to leave their position someday better than they found them. But a critical spirit will only cause division, separation and the lack of productivity. Our hope and prayer is that all future board meetings will not be a repeat of your very first meeting. You guys have the power to either divide or unite if you so choose, please choose to unite. Thank You.

IT Contract: Asked for public comment. Ed Knott with Applied Connective met with the Commissioners regarding Software Service Agreement and a Co-op Contract. They have provided services for the county, sheriff's office and various issues over the last couple of years. This contract is auto renewable, and with the 'new' board the Clerk thought it was a great idea to meet with Applied Connective again. The agreement basically allows for an approximate 100 hours of IT services per year. This prevents sending an invoice for each individual service provided. In 2018, they averaged right at the 100 hours of contracted services. During this discussion it was mentioned that the County emails should be secure emails and should not be public. Moving forward it is imperative to move all of the emails for the security of the public and the safety of information being shared. Mr. Knott suggested the current emails probably dated back 10 or 15 years. They were probably easily accessed at that time. Today, these emails do not have the security necessitated in today's business platform. G-Suite, NACO, or Micro-soft exchange would all be better choices. Currently, Applied Connective is supporting eight (8) counties using the exchange platform. It offers a little more functionality and secure platform that what NACO is offering. The exchange is the most widely valued platform for business today. Applied Connective migrated the Sheriff's Office to the exchange 12-18 months ago. Currently, those emails are 'sheriff@antelopecounty.org'. Since this is already in place it, they could continue the additional in the same style. Request by Commissioner Bentley to table until next week. All agreed. Mr. Knott would be helpful throughout the whole process.

Audio Visual Equipment for the Commissioner Meeting Room. Mr. Knott presented a bid for a couple of screens in the meeting room and the other equipment for the room. The was a 75-inch TV, and it was agreed upon by the Commissioners that the screen would not have to be that big. Mr. Knott indicated it would be a substantial savings if you minimized the size of the screen. The total bid submitted by Applied Technologies was \$6,947.92. He will rework the bid, and present to the commissioners when discussing IT Contract and emails last week.

Treasurer reported she has a public tax sale the first Monday in March. The 2017 delinquent tax figures are a lot less than on the semi-annual report.

Commissioner Smith reported he attended the **Northeast Nebraska Area on Aging** meeting. They met a couple of Thursdays ago. In Antelope County there is an approximate 1,862 population 60 and over. That is 4.24% of the population. They assess the county approximately – the total of \$4,501.00 for the entire year. It is a once a year fee.

The Veteran's Service Officer, Tom Nelson met with the Commissioners requesting funding for a small display to place at the area gun shows. He wants to make a display, there may be a table fee, but no wages. No discussion. He is figuring approximately \$75.00 total. Commissioner Henery, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the funding. All yays. Nays none. Motion carried. VSO Nelson requested individuals come talk to him with any questions.

Unemployment Claim: \$2,985.25 Quarterly there is an assessment by the Department of Labor, after the quarter this report is filed and then a bill is generated. Due to the timing of January's meeting and vendor pay claims this was not available until after the approval. If this claim is paid before the 10th or 11th of February there is not a late fee assessed. Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Henery. All yays. Nays none. Motion carried.

Appointment of NIRMA Contact Person. Annually, NIRMA requests the Commissioners appoint a person to submit correspondence for the county. Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Jacob to appoint Lisa Payne, Antelope County Clerk as NIRMA contact person. No questions or comments. All yays. Nays none. Motion carried.

Josh Gray, Hammer Insurance presented some general information regarding **Self-Funding Insurance**. Self-Insuring on the employee standpoint nothing really changes, and the benefits stay the same. The employer choses the plan and what they set up. So, there is flexibility on what you are offering. The payment that is being made is basically based on what they come up with place into a claim fund. The County would set up an amount the employer deductible is. The employee deductible (it could be similar to what it currently is) and the employer would set up the amount in the fund per person up until the catastrophic max is met. The catastrophic amount would be funded by an insurance carrier. The difference between the employee deductible to the max would be set (\$30-40,000.00). A current complete list of employees and family medical history would be necessitated. There would be four (4) or five (5) quoted every year to cover the catastrophic insurance. Mr. Hammer has administered this type of plan for Knox County for 10 years. He reports it has gone really well in Knox County. It was asked if the employee would see any difference in the way claims are paid? Mr. Hammer and Mr. Gray said there should not be any change with this process. A health history, insurance form would need to be obtained for each employee to establish what base lines would be needed to have the self-funding amounts, deductible and or feasibility. Again, Mr. Smith stated he does not want to take away quantity or quality of employee benefits. He requests the county proceed with the application so a complete accurate bid could be gathered. There should be a generic application, the Nebraska Uniform Group Health Application – it should be able to be filled out once by each employee – so the different insurance companies can do a complete and accurate bid. This form could be accessed online or by email. It was brought up that the information on the form is protected information, and should not be shared with the offices. Not all of the employees have access to a computer. County Attorney Abler will check out the Nebraska Uniform Group Health Application and report at the next meeting.

Zoning Administrator Report: Liz Doerr started with her January permit report. It is short and sweet, with a couple of grain bins, and the pump station for the Keystone Pipeline. The pipeline is not a conditional use permit because the Zoning Board did not want to compete with the Federal Government and its rules and regulations. **Ice Slinging:** Liz reported in follow-up of the letter sent to Invenergy regarding ice slinging from the wind turbines. Liz had sent a letter after a public complaint regarding the slinging of ice. Invenergy submitted the (WIOM) Winter Ice Operation Mode. The letter stated this is in place. Alex Fore, Invenergy described the icing method of operation for shutting down of the turbines in the face of icing conditions. There are separate thresholds built into the turbines. Basically, there is varying factors and when these factors are met the turbines will automatically shut down. This is something built into the turbines and is monitored around the clock all year. There is a possibility of ice sluffing if the current conditions are right, but not all conditions are in effect. When winds pick up enough is when the ice slinging takes place. Speeds of 12 meters, or 16 meters per second which is 20 – 30 miles per hour. When temperatures dip, and the wind regime is up is when the WIOM goes in to effect. GE Standards, used to establish setbacks, do not allow for towers being built closer to county roads due to ice sling. Invenergy agrees the towers have been reduced in ways that has mitigated the potential for ice sling. Commissioner Smith has pictures of Towers 30 and 25 ice slinging. The first week of January, Towers 28 and 29 both were slinging ice. On January 13th there was more ice slinging. The WIOM was installed so this would not happen, and there is proof that this is not preventing the ice slinging. Commissioner Smith asked how many hours has the WIOM shut down the towers since the first of the year? Mr. Fore said he would have brought in the information had he known what the questions were. Commissioner Borer asked County Attorney if the Board could pass some kind of ordinance or resolution to fine them when ice is being thrown on the road – for public safety reasons. County Attorney replied ‘public safety is always our #1 concern. However, zoning regulations and Conditional Use Permits are in place. As far as immediate action, no. However, the Board needs to gather more information, because the county has taken reasonable steps to protect the public – thus the conditions in the CUP. However, new light – ice slinging – brings another concern to light.’ Mr. Fore, Invenergy will talk with his engineers and GE and see if there is more that can be done. He stated, Invenergy came to the county in good faith and not just to get the permit passed. They not only are willing to, but want to make this situation right. Mr. Fore, Invenergy assured the county that Invenergy will accept all liability in the face of these dangers. Invenergy’s Operations Manager was asked if Invenergy has a safety protocol if employees have to go work on a tower that is icing. It was agreed they did. Commissioner Smith brought in pieces of ice he presented that came off of Tower 25, they were found on the road. He showed them with a golf ball in comparison. Liz Doerr asked about understanding the WIOM. The calculations stated that the first one would kick in at 11.18 miles per hour. The weather conditions for that time, the report was for 10 miles per hour. Thus, the turbine did not reach its threshold. The temperature was low enough, but the wind was not at ‘right’ conditions. Humidity is not part of the measurement on determining ice. Invenergy has a three (3) step check. Looking at the tower at three (3) different steps to make sure the ice is not slinging or damaging or placing the employees at risk. Commissioner Smith stated that the employees have a safety net in place, but Invenergy is not protecting the citizens of the county. These 209 feet from the county road where the tower is placed. He states that the current ice sling is 70 foot, so if the tower was moved back 70 foot from its current location there would not be a hazard on Antelope County roads. Invenergy addressed there are different factors as to why a tower gets built is addressed by a number of conditions: safety, agreements with the land owner – a discussion unto itself, several other issues including how the towers are strung together. All of the ice throwing on each project is a new issue to mitigate. Commissioner Henery asked if the WIOM can be adjusted, or if it is set at a certain level. Like if the settings can be changed to 8 miles per hour, or is it set at 11 miles per hour? Mr. Fore, said he would like to discuss with the engineers to see if he can come up with a solution or make adjustments accordingly. If turbines are in need of a maintenance – either preventative or reactive – the turbines can be shut down. All of the turbines in the county have WIOM installed. Commissioner Smith asked to clarify whether the WIOM was installed at the beginning, and if so, why was the WIOM said to have been a condition to help sell the Upstream projects. Liz asked what to expect. Mr. Fore said he would agree on a specific date a time to answer questions. County Attorney suggested he meet with Commissioner Smith and Liz Doerr to come up with a list of questions for Invenergy regarding the WIOM and its operations.

Liz stated she is setting up a **Planning Commission** meeting.

Heritage Financial Mitchell and Nick Schultze. Presented to the Board regarding a benefit package portfolio to the county employees to help sell the Benefit Package to the employees. From Health Insurance, Retirement Plan, Dental, Vision, Life, Disability, Voluntary Products – they bundle and get quotes to benefit the employees. They would like to sit down with each employee and explain their benefits. Educating the employee is their main goal. They are interested in reviewing the county’s benefits and looking for a savings for the employee. They would do an annual review with each employee, and would be willing to quote and support a self-funded insurance plan as well. A single benefit statement could be presented to each employee. It would help the employee with questions or concerns to make sure they are able to utilize the benefits to the best of their individual plans. Each employee would have an online portal to access and visualize a summary of their benefits if the employee so chooses. There is not a per month or per employee maintenance fee it is built into their commission. They currently work with the City of Neligh. No further action.

Road Superintendent Report: Update of the Road and Bridge Budget. At the end of December, it is at 42% of total. That includes a substantial equipment purchase and a number of Armor Coated miles. The One- and Six-Year Planning Hearing is scheduled for next week so the budget is a necessary part of the planning.

Underground Permit: Motion by Commissioner Henery, seconded by Commissioner Jacob to approve the application for underground permit submitted by William Fangman to place a permanent electric line beneath 523rd Avenue crossing from the NW¹/₄ of Section 29, Township 23, Range 6 West of the 6th P.M., Cedar Township, Antelope County, Nebraska. Boyd's Electric is contractor. Line will be used to get electricity to a grain bin. Work to be done according County and State specs, including 48 inches below road surface. All yays. Nays none. Motion carried.

Royal and Pierce Road: There is a section of the Royal Road that was damaged by heavy wind tower traffic last summer. There has been some off the record conversation about the repairing of this road in regards to sub-par work to complete the agreed upon work requested. The company agreed upon to do the work is reporting not favorable information regarding the proposed work. The Road Superintendent for Invenergy is out of town, and asked that this matter not get discussed until he has time to review and discuss. He is/was not in the loop of the current lack of a complete plan, and wanted time to discuss with the subcontractor what the situation was. This is an agenda item for next week. Casey and Marlin Conry will be available for this discussion during the Board meeting on the 12th of February.

Tree Issues: County Attorney, Joe Abler has sent letters. Casey reported there has been some great progress. He has met onsite with a couple of the land owners, spoken with four (4) others. Casey states overall, he is very pleased with the results, and we may need to utilize the letter process in the future.

Oakdale Lot Purchase: Joe Abler, County Attorney has prepared a Purchase Agreement. (Copy in correspondence) A copy was shared with Oakdale Village earlier this week. Village of Oakdale Attorney will read it, if OK, they will have two (2) copies signed during their meeting Monday night, and it will be presented to the Commissioners during Tuesday, February 12th, 2019 meeting.

Reflectometer: \$8,958.00 Professional Pavement Products in Jacksonville, Florida currently has the state bid. This is the tool needed to get the sign inventory and documentation up to speed. Casey asked for a motion to order the tool. Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Jacob to approve purchase of the reflectometer. All ayes. Nays none. Motion carried.

Change Job Title: Casey requested changing his title. The term 'boss' seems to be a negative and he does not appreciate same. Discussion on different job titles. Motion by Commissioner Henery, seconded by Commissioner Jacob to change the title to Road Superintendent. No opposition voiced. All yays. Nays none. Motion carried.

NDOR Public Transportation – temporary closing of a portion of 851st Road. 851st Road is approximately 3 miles west of Neligh on Highway 275. The state is redoing a bridge in this location and they are looking to close a portion to park equipment. The agreement looks like they are planning a detour down that road. Casey does not believe the current road will be able to take the load of detoured traffic. A long discussion regarding the actual plan – whether they detour traffic – or if they are actually going to utilize it for construction traffic – i.e. for housing equipment during the work on the road. There were some Nebraska Department of Roads employees in attendance and suggested they did not think they actually would be detouring on a county road. This project could be three (3) to four (4) months. This project is probably a year out. Casey will do more checking and report back.

ROW for Elkhorn Rural Public Power District: They are requesting the County allow them to replace the current line utilizing the current placing of said poles. Over the course of years roads move due to various issues on the current roads. The current line various from three (3) to six (6) feet on the county road right of way. This is a three (3) phase line. The current project is surveyed and the road has shifted. Even if they weren't originally, they are now. Casey and Joe will work together to see where the occupancy lies. Casey will report back.

GPS Tracking: Commissioner Smith asked if we could proceed with **GPS Tracking** on equipment for the County Road equipment: Currently, the employees are coloring maps to show where they have maintained/snow removed etc. He thinks there is technology that will benefit the employee and county so we can track the equipment and where and when they have worked on different areas. Commissioner Bentley said he thinks it would benefit because GPS would be able to track maintenance, mile, usage hours. Casey reported he thought it would be a department demoralizer, and in fairness to his employees wanted to add that to the discussion. Casey will look into the cost, and capabilities of installing this on equipment.

NENEDD: Northeast Nebraska Economic Development District: requested appointment of two (2) Commissioners to fill the vacancy on their board. At the expiration of the previous elected officials there was a void left in the appointment. Commissioner Bentley, and Commissioner Borer volunteered to be the representative and alternative, respectively. Motion by Commissioner Bentley to appoint himself and Commissioner Borer alternate, seconded by Commissioner Jacob. All yays. Nays none. Motion carried.

Approving Depositories for 2019: Deb Branstiter, Antelope County Treasurer asked to approve all of the banks in Antelope County. Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Henery to approve all banks for Antelope County. It was asked if we limit ourselves to only banks in Antelope County. County Treasurer suggested she thought it made sense. Voting aye: Smith, Bentley, Jacob, Henery and Borer. Nays none. Motion carried.

Cell Phones Antelope County Officials: Commissioner Borer asked if the 'Board' wanted someone to go ahead with researching getting the Commissioners cell phones for county business. Commissioner Smith stated NACO's first item during their presentation was individual protected emails and cell phones. It was reminded all of the officials are currently using their personal cell phones for county business and emails. Would all Officials be included in the Official cell phone list? County Attorney, Joe Abler expressed there should be no problem, and also stated this is a huge expense to the county. Commissioner Bentley stated he would drop it. Commissioner Henery stated he would not carry two (2) cell phones.

Consider Directing the County Attorney to draw up a Resolution Allowing the Finance Committee to have Access to Financial Institutions: Public Comment: It was reported the Officials were elected to run their own offices. The Clerk asked what does this mean? It was explained it would allow the Committee to have access to the financial institutions, access to the bank accounts, it would be all of the financial records. The clerk stated again 'go to the office, go to the official and ask'. The public commented isn't that what we have auditors for? Commissioner Bentley stated he needed it to figure out the budget, and balance the budget. The County Board is in charge of the finances of the county. The current way things are paid is the official codes and then they are presented to the board for payment. Public Comment. Sheriff Moore asked Commissioner Bentley again why he needed this information. Mr. Bentley said he requested this information from the County Sheriff and County Clerk. The Clerk reported she had given the credit card numbers to Commissioner Bentley, when he in turn asked for expiration dates and security codes, she did not have this information and was not at liberty to share the information. Jennifer Blackburn from the public stated: I would just like to say that, I think we are all here for the betterment of Antelope County. And if there is a confusion or questions out there that needs to be addressed. They need to be addressed with that particular elected official. That is the only grown up and professional way to do it. You were elected into this position all of you. With that election and every vote that was cast, I am sure there was an expectation from all of you to act in that professional manner. Slinging accusations and trying to dig up trouble where there is none. I don't feel that is professional behavior by any elected official and I think that if there are questions, they need to be addressed with that particular elected official. There should be, everything should be documented. There is a credit card statements out there, everything is open to the public, you just need to know where to look. So please do your due diligent and look for the information you are requesting before you start slinging accusation and causing more trouble than what it is worth. I just think last month's meeting caused a whole bunch of doubt in this community. And from what I

see today I don't see it getting much better with the last nearly three (3) hours I have seen today. Officer Mike Wright spoke in regards to sharing credit card information is a breach of the security codes and compromises all transaction and activity on the account.

Sheriff Moore asked the Commissioners if they were aware of an email being sent asking for the card numbers, expiration date, and security codes. Commissioner Smith discussed the audit report and how it came to light by an unofficial report in a newspaper. Blaming the Sheriff for not coming to him to discuss the audit report. Commissioner Smith said he could not remember if he knew about the email or not. Mr. Jacob said yes he was aware. Mr. Henery said he did not know of it and did not receive an email. Mr. Jacob stated he learned about this during the 'jail inspection' in January. Sheriff Moore wondered if maybe there is some discussion/decision taken place outside of the commissioner meeting by a majority of the board. Joe Abler, County Attorney said he noticed this was on the agenda yesterday. However, he is not aware of what the finance committee was actually wanting or trying to accomplish with this agenda item. County Attorney asked to speak with the Finance Committee to see what they want for access. Chairman closed the public comments. Commissioner Henery stated that as an alternate on the Finance Committee he did not want access to the credit card numbers. Commissioner Smith stated: these issues attempting to be addressed were not brought up by me or the commissioners sitting here at this table, they are results of the audit. Commissioner Borer asked if it was OK to table this until Bob has his presentation during the February 12th, 2019 meeting. In the meantime, County Attorney will meet with the Finance Committee.

10 Minute break (12:02 – 12:11PM)

Promotional Grant: Bike Ride Across Nebraska – Chamber of Commerce; Date: Motion by Commissioner Henery, seconded by Commissioner Jacob to approve the promotion fund request. Voting aye: Smith, Bentley, Jacob, Henery and Borer. Nays none. Motion carried.

Promotional Grant: Home and Ag Expo; Date: March 5-6th, 2019. \$300.00. Motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Jacob to approve. Voting aye: Smith, Bentley, Jacob, Henery and Borer. Nays none. Motion carried.

Improvement Grant: Neligh's New Moon Theatre \$1,500.00. Motion by Commissioner Henery, seconded by Commissioner Jacob to approve the promotion fund request. Voting aye: Smith, Bentley, Jacob, Henery and Borer. Nays none. Motion carried.

Health and Human Services Office: Commissioners Bentley and Borer, were called because they had complaints it was cold in the office. They stated it was cold in the office. Marlene Schindler, janitor for the courthouse, reported the office was without heat due to an electrical malfunction occurring during the cold windy morning last week, and the heat pump had gone down. It is up and working at this point.

2018-2019 Audit: Commissioner Borer stated he had talked to Deann and she had suggested to move the audit date to July. The date is open. He stated she told him it could be. No opposition.

Monthly Budget Reports: They were told at NACO the monthly budget report was available monthly. The clerk presented the budget as of the end of December.

No other issues to discuss.

Motion was made by Commissioner Henery, seconded by Commissioner Jacob to **adjourn**. All ayes. Nays none. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 12:26 PM.

ANTELOPE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

By: _____
Chairman of the Board, Tom Borer

Attest: _____
County Clerk, Lisa Payne