

Valley County Board Minutes



VALLEY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES

The Valley County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, December 28, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. in the Courthouse Boardroom. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call: Baker, Cetak, Cullers, DeRiso, Sevenker, VanSlyke, Waldmann present. Clerk verified meeting notice published in the Ord Quiz on November 17, 2021 and posted on the County website, agenda posted. The minutes of December 14, 2021 were approved on the motion of VanSlyke, second Cullers. Carried. Yes: Waldmann, DeRiso, Cetak, Sevenker, VanSlyke, Cullers. No: none. Absent: none. Abstain: Baker, not present for meeting. VanSlyke moved to adopt the agenda, second Baker. Carried. Yes: DeRiso, Cetak, Sevenker, VanSlyke, Baker, Cullers, Waldmann. No: none. Absent: none. Sevenker noted Open Meetings Act posted on west wall, public copies on counter. Under public comment Guy Brock stated he will be circulating the Freedom Petition again which would put on the city ballot only the issue of decommissioning the Ord City Police Department and replacing with the Valley County Sheriff's Office; City filed suit in District Court to stop Brock from writing letters to the City, publishing damaging articles and circulating the petition, suit dismissed in Court; Brock's attorney sent a claim for \$2,686 for cost of Brock's defense to the City Council, claim was denied; Brock filed a suit against the City in U.S. District Court for violating his First Amendment rights, a settlement agreement between the City's insurance company and Brock for \$16,000 was reached after the Court denied the qualified immunity claim of the City.

Road Secretary Simpson reported the December Claims including: tires, parts, plasma cutter, fire extinguishers, diesel, gravel, rental; payroll \$50,003.53, accounts payable \$65,737.96, transfer \$16,926.01, allocation \$79,465.11.

Road Superintendent Meyer's General Report included: put up snow fence; finished project by the Fairplay school, corner no longer sharp or blind; blading roads; will start sign audit; received NIRMA Assist grant for \$1,126 to purchase fire extinguishers, Courthouse and Roads Department use different inspectors for fire extinguishers, Roads has 60 extinguishers, may be cheaper to use same inspector, will look into for next meeting; nothing on 1 and 6 year plans that qualify for ARPA.

Weed Superintendent Darrell Kaminski presented the 2022 Weed Control Plan for review with attached reports for each open file listed by Section, Township and Range; adequate control of noxious weeds.

Hospital CFO Ashley Woodward presented the audit report, cash decreased due to COVID funds that were sent back, temporary help increased, long-term debt decreased \$6.9M, purchases going up as age of building goes up. Woodward also presented the monthly financials: ER up; radiology up; Hospice and Home Health down, new provider in the area; clinic down; 200% increase of temporary help; health insurance up; IT contracted services up; bonuses paid to employees, based on number of hours worked during COVID.

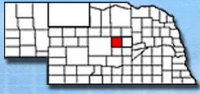
Meeting recessed at 10:05 a.m., reconvened at 10:38 a.m. with Baker leaving at 10:20 a.m.

County Attorney Hanson informed the Board that mandatory electronic court filing will begin January 1, 2022, will present his recommendations concerning official's salaries for 2023-2026 at the next meeting, cases are up, substance abuse has grown worse.

The Board reviewed information sent by Corey Steel, Nebraska State Court Administrator, concerning statutory authority for an agreement to assign ex officio Clerk of the District Court duties to County Court Clerk Magistrate and a template agreement that would be used, will contact Steel to see when he can meet with the Board.

At 11:00 a.m. the Board of Equalization was convened on motion of Waldmann, second Cetak. Carried. Yes: Cetak, Sevenker, VanSlyke, Cullers, Waldmann, DeRiso. No: none. Absent: Baker. The Clerk, Assessor and Treasurer were present. Motor Vehicle Exemption Applications were presented for Loup Basin RC&D Council, Mid-Nebraska Individual Services, Lee Park Cemetery and Heartland Assembly of God. Following review of the applications, Cullers moved to approve Motor Vehicle Exemption Applications for above named organizations, second Cetak. Carried. Yes: Sevenker, VanSlyke, Cullers, Waldmann, DeRiso, Cetak. No: none. Absent: Baker. The Board moved back into regular session at 11:05 a.m. on motion of VanSlyke, second DeRiso. Carried. Yes: , VanSlyke, Cullers, Waldmann, DeRiso, Cetak, Sevenker. No: none. Absent: Baker.

Assessor Waltman and Treasurer Brott were present for the discussion of 2023-2026 officials' salaries. Cullers asked if Waltman could explain the need for a part-time employee in her office, does work other employees do not have time to do. The budget can only increase by 3.5% each year, expenses increase every year, if salaries are increased by the proposed amount the budget will have to be cut in other areas, levy would have to be increased which increases



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taxes. The County's Accountant, Chuck Abel, joined the meeting via telephone, cannot adopt a budget with greater amount of restricted funds than last budget, limitation on restricted funds does not include restricted funds budgeted for capital improvement projects. The discussion of 2023-2026 officials' salaries is continued to the next meeting.

Bonuses for employees except elected officials working during COVID using Coronavirus State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds received were discussed, all employees working during the designated time period would receive a bonus based on the number of hours worked, the time period of November 1, 2020 to October 31, 2021 was considered, continue discussion to the next meeting.

VanSlyke moved to approve the same holidays as approved last year, second Cetak. Carried. Yes: Cullers, Waldmann, DeRiso, Cetak, Sevenker, VanSlyke. No: none. Absent: Baker.

The Claims and Fund Request were reviewed. Cullers moved to approve the Claims and Fund Request in the amount of \$310,837.37, second Waldmann. Carried. Yes: Waldmann, DeRiso, Cetak, Sevenker, VanSlyke, Cullers. No: none. Absent: Baker.

The property schedules for Location, Mobile Equipment and Vehicles were discussed. County department heads are reviewing for accuracy to start the 2022 annual insurance renewal process, needed changes will be made.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m., to reconvene January 11, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in regular session and 11:00 a.m. as Board of Equalization. Complete minutes of the December 28 meeting and an agenda for the January 11 meeting are available for public inspection in the office of the County Clerk. Complete minutes are also available on the County website, www.co.valley.ne.us.

I, the undersigned County Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of proceedings had and done by the County Board, that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and available for public inspection at the office of the County Clerk; that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; that said minutes were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body; that all news media requesting notification concerning meetings of said body were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

Paula Musil, Valley County Clerk