

Dakota County Board of Commissioners
Monday, October 30, 2023 - 3:00 p.m.
County Board Meeting Room, First Floor
Dakota County Courthouse, Dakota City, Nebraska

Chair Giese called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Present at Roll Call: Giese, Love, Van Berkum, Hohenstein, Launsby. Absent: None. Also present was Kim Watson, County Attorney and Cherie Conley, County Clerk, acting as Board Secretary. The location of the Open Meetings Act was noted.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL – *Excused Absence*

A current copy of the *Open Meetings Act* is posted on the west wall near the entrance of the County Board Meeting Room and is available for review by all citizens in attendance.

The Dakota County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to adjust the order of items on this agenda if necessary.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT. The Board of Commissioners will hear comments about any item not on the agenda. The Chair has the discretion to limit the time of comment.
2. CONSENT AGENDA *Any individual item may be removed by a Commissioner for special discussion and consideration. Unless there is an exception, these items will be approved as one with a single vote of the Board of Commissioners.*
 - a. Approval of the previous meeting minutes – October 16, 2023
 - b. Approval of payroll claims for October 15 to October 28, 2023
 - c. Approval of payroll accounts payable claims
 - d. Approval of accounts payable claims(if any)
3. NEW BUSINESS AND RESOLUTION
 - a. Heidi Borg with Congressman Adrian Smith's office to give brief update and host mobile office.
 - b. Ebony Cooksey, Nextlink Internet, to share updates regarding broadband and digital opportunities in the county.
 - c. Dawn Bousquet, Treasurer, to report the number of distress warrants and total amount of money involved upon turning the distress warrants over to the Sheriff. §77-1718
 - d. Board to approve or not approve monthly payment for Highway lighting at the intersection of Hwy 77 and Dodge Avenue. This light would be put up for safety concerns.
 - e. Board to approve Resolution 23C-036 to extend the County's commitment to participate in NIRMA and NIRMA II for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 20, 2027, with an Interlocal Agreement for risk management and lost prevention insurance coverage between Dakota County and Nebraska Interlocal Risk Management Association (NIRMA).
4. OLD BUSINESS AND MISCELLANEOUS
 - a. Jolene Gubbels, Highway Superintendent – Road Report
 - b. Dawn Bousquet, Treasurer, discuss Nebraska Property Tax Incentive for 2024
 - c. Discuss and approve or deny project/s or purchases with monies from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) relief funding.
 - Board to review and approve bid for painting of the Court House, Old Fire Hall, and accent band around the jail.
 - Treasurer – One Office – additional desk panels
 - Veterans – RTI – Printer, Copier, Scanner purchase
5. COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE REPORTS
6. MAIL AND/OR EMERGENCY BUSINESS
7. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Giese called for public comment. There was none.

Chair Giese called for approval of the consent agenda items. Commissioner Love moved, seconded by Commissioner Launsby, to approve the consent agenda items: (a) approval of the previous meeting minutes – October 16, 2023; (b) Approval of payroll claims for October 15-October 28, 2023; (c) approval of payroll accounts payable claims; (d) approval of accounts payable claims(none). ROLL CALL VOTE: Love yes, Van Berkum-yes, Hohenstein-yes, Launsby-yes, Giese-yes. UNANIMOUS MOTION CARRIED.

Payroll: General Fund Employer: Gross Salaries-\$170,233.04; Net Pay-\$122,671.47; Total Retirement-\$12,253.02; Total FICA-\$12,562.31; Health Plan-\$43,680.00; Dental Plan-\$1,560.00; Life Insurance-\$203.12; Robert Giese-\$1,222.35; Martin Hohenstein-\$1,176.20; Troy Launsby-\$976.20; Scott Love-\$1,176.20; Brian Van Berkum-\$1,176.20; Cherie Conley-\$2,427.12; Robin Hansen-\$1,460.80; Paola Ledesma-\$1,488.86; Kathy Abbe-\$1,444.80; Dawn Bousquet-\$2,427.12; Maria Garcia-\$1,282.40; Stephanie Gatzemeyer-\$1,675.20; Jalissa Hattig-\$1,444.01; Brenda Landaverde-\$1,365.60; Emily McNaughton-\$1,274.40; Debera Benton-\$1,480.80; Christy Abts-\$2,427.12; Melissa Collins-\$1,643.20; Joseph O'Neil-\$611.54; Karen Becerra-\$1,616.80; Katherine Wiltgen-\$2,427.12; Louvontree Hunter-\$3,441.59; Debra Jensen-\$1,712.80; Samantha Mitchell-\$1,325.60; Rodney Soole-\$1,792.00; Tammy Dunn Peterson-\$1,489.60; Shaun Bird-\$1,910.48; Timothy Decker-\$2,582.88; Brian Ellinger-\$2,518.40; Penny Epting-\$2,471.63; Brian Fernau-\$2,397.60; Tyler Fulkerth-\$2,457.54; Jeremy Gilpin-\$2,509.31; Martin Guerrero-\$2,506.43; Melvin Harrison III-\$2,737.80; Jason James-\$2,336.80; Douglas Johnson-\$2,559.34; Kimberly Johnson-\$875.60; Jared Junge-\$2,506.74; Christopher Kleinberg-\$3,032.28; Jose Magana-\$2,051.88;

Gregory Nyhof-\$2,158.21; Jonathan Romo-Rodriguez-\$2,028.43; Mardi Schnee-\$1,339.52; Joshua Townsend-\$2,213.59; Sarah Hammond-\$2,244.21; Shantel Krull-\$1,093.75; Melinda Sandvick (Wicks)-\$1,538.46; Debra Schmiedt-\$3,580.95; Kimberly Watson-\$3,789.70; Emma Wiebelhaus-\$1,400.00; Jacob Acero-\$871.60; Angelica Antonio Flores-\$1,679.16; Rebecca Broer-\$1,993.48; Ismael Castro-\$1,788.85; Timathey Chamberlain-\$1,738.81; Ruby De La Torre-\$1,771.86; Elisabet DeRoin-\$1,894.84; Jesse Doelle-\$1,770.29; Cody Epting-\$1,738.81; Rebekah Epting-\$1,738.81; Jennifer Fuentes-\$1,627.92; Jonathan Gray-\$1,950.76; Sara Gritten-\$254.87; Kara Groetken-\$1,916.10; Todd Hammer-\$2,433.60; Adam Hough-\$1,847.56; Dustin Johnson-\$1,731.57; Terry Johnson-\$1,796.21; Brandon Long-\$1,816.15; Jennifer Marquez-\$707.76; Skyler Miner-\$1,941.24; Donata Moniz-\$1,667.65; Keaton Mueller-\$1,672.44; Kelsey O'Neill-\$1,868.02; Jaime Perez-Rojas-\$757.02; Kimberly Peterson-\$1,825.17; Adrian Ramos-\$1,656.42; Adolfo Raya-\$1,624.92; Michele Rohde-\$1,544.80; Angel Ruelas Hernandez-\$770.79; Jeremy Russell-\$1,119.99; Jerry Santos-\$1,606.92; Jennifer Svendsen-\$3,442.71; Randall Walsh-\$2,560.17; Deanna Hagberg-\$2,143.20; Jolene Gubbels-\$2,569.93; Jana Adam-\$792.67; Jennifer Ankerstjerne-\$1,735.20; Theresa Grove-\$2,408.00; Johanna Marquez-\$1,264.00; Courtney Swick-\$1,365.39; Nicholas Nieman-\$2,000.22; **General Fund Employee:** Federal Tax-\$9,880.75; State Tax-\$5,749.34; Soc Sec-\$10,181.22; Medicare-\$2,381.09; Extra Fit-\$1,271.00; Extra Sit-\$335.00; Retirement-\$8,475.21; Health Plan-\$3,450.00; Dental Plan-\$504.00; Colonial Health-\$219.59; Sheriff Union Dues-\$360.00; Colonial Life/Disability-\$54.00; Deferred Comp-\$1,355.38; Garnishments-\$1,331.06; Flex Plan Medical-\$957.31; Flex Dependent Care-\$208.33; VSP Vision Prem-\$420.38; Legal Shield-\$126.06; Liberty Nat'l Pretax-\$152.64; Liberty Nat'l Post tax-\$41.96; VSP Vision Base-\$107.25; **Road Fund Employer:** Gross Salaries-\$18,761.13; Net Pay-\$13,511.70; Retirement-\$1,266.38; Total FICA-\$1,411.78; Health Plan-\$3,920.00; Dental Plan-\$140.00; Life Insurance-\$16.96; Paul Arrowood-\$1,562.40; Brent Byroad-\$2,080.00; Chad Cockburn-\$1,464.15; Robert Hacker-\$1,852.00; Lance Jacobsen-\$1,816.00; David Kneiff-\$1,840.00; Kimon Litras-\$2,084.38; Vernon McFarland II-\$2,406.20; Dean Pallas-\$1,840.00; Gunner Stanwick-\$1,816.00; **Road Fund Employee:** Federal Tax-\$1,273.00; State Tax-\$670.40; FICA-\$1,144.20; Medicare-\$267.58; Retirement-\$844.26; Health Plan-\$200.00; Dental Plan-\$42.00; Colonial Health-PreTax-\$38.23; Colonial Health L/D-\$35.10; Garnishments-\$530.77; Road Union Dues-\$137.50; Legal Shield-\$40.37; Liberty National PreTax-\$6.50; VSP Vision Base-\$19.52; **Health Planning Grant Employer 2502:** Gross Salaries-\$1,769.79; Net Pay-\$1,300.47; Retirement-\$119.46; Total FICA-\$135.39; Yvette Aldana-\$1,769.79; **Health Planning Grant Employee 2502:** Federal Tax-\$130.43; State Tax-\$73.86; FICA-\$109.73; Medicare-\$25.66; Extra Fit-\$50.00; Retirement-\$79.64; **Health Program Grant Employer 2504:** Gross Salaries-\$1,684.32; Net Pay-\$1,304.50; Retirement-\$113.69; Total FICA-\$126.63; Health Plan-\$560.00; Dental Plan-\$20.00; Life Insurance-\$2.55; Yesica Saldana Cisneros-\$1,684.32; **Health Program Grant Employee 2504:** Federal Tax-\$97.32; State Tax-\$51.10; FICA-\$102.63; Medicare-\$24.00; Retirement-\$75.79; Dental Plan-\$21.00; VSP Vision Base-\$7.98; **Juvenile Services Aid Employer 2507:** Gross Salaries-\$1,612.00; Net Pay-\$1,299.09; Retirement-\$108.81; Total FICA-\$119.78; Kristin Robinette-\$1,612.00; **Juvenile Services Aid Employee 2507:** Federal Tax-\$42.78; State Tax-\$31.57; FICA-\$97.08; Medicare-\$22.70; Retirement-\$72.54; Dental Plan-\$21.00; VSP Vision Prem-\$25.24;

Payroll Accounts Payable: General Fund: Collection Service Center, garnishment-\$564.45; Colonial Life & Accident, life insurance premium-\$273.59; Dakota County Dental Account, premium-\$2064; Dakota County Health Plan, premium-\$47,130.00; Fraternal Order of Police #49, union dues-\$360.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$11,151.75; Globe Life Liberty, premium-\$194.60; Legalshield, premium-\$126.06; Dakota County Life Insurance, premium-\$203.12; Mid-American Benefits, flex & dependent care-\$1,165.64; Nationwide Retirement Solutions, contributions-\$1,355.38; Nebraska Child Support, garnishments-\$766.61; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$6,084.34; Principal Life Insurance, contributions-\$2413.15, Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$20,728.23; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$25,124.62; VSP, premium-\$527.63. **Road Fund:** Colonial Life & Accident, life insurance premium-\$73.33; Dakota County Dental Account, premium-\$182.00; Dakota County Health Plan, premium-\$4120.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$1,273; Globe Life Liberty, premium-\$6.50; Legalshield, premium-\$40.37; Dakota County Life Insurance, premium-\$16.96; Nebraska Child Support, garnishments-\$530.77; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$670.40; Nebraska Public Empl. Local 251, union dues-\$137.50; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$2,110.64; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$2,823.56; VSP, premium-\$19.52. **Insurance Fund 1275:** Mid-American Benefits-premiums and claims-\$34,951.59, Mid-Amecian Benefits-claims \$94,115.45. **Health 2502 Fund:** Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$180.43; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$73.86; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$199.10; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$270.78; **Health 2504 Fund:** Dakota County Dental Account, premium-\$41.00; Dakota County Health Plan, premium-\$560.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$97.32; Dakota County Life Insurance, premium-\$2.55; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$51.10; Principal Life Insurance, contributions-\$24.90; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$189.48; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$253.26; VSP, premium-\$7.98. **Juvenile Services Fund:** Dakota County Dental Account, premium-\$41.00; Federal Withholding, federal taxes-\$42.78; Dakota County Life Insurance, premium-\$2.55; Neb Dept of Revenue, state taxes-\$31.57; Principal Life Insurance, contributions-\$22.10; Ameritas Retirement, contributions-\$181.35; Social Security, FICA & MEDI-\$239.56; VSP, premium-\$25.24.

Heidi Borg with Congressman Adrian Smith office gave a brief report on the current status of the office and what has been happening with congress. She immediately held a mobile office for an hour for the public to attend and ask questions.

Treasurer, Dawn Bousquet, shared information regarding the Nebraska Property Tax Incentive Act which is a refundable tax credit based on the qualified school district portion and community college portion of real estate taxes paid. This credit pertains to any tax year that is physically paid in 2023.

Commissioner Love informed the Board that Kristijanto Trucking had contacted the Road Department with safety concerns about the Highway 77 and Dodge Avenue intersection. This intersection is very hard to see at night and traffic often times miss the turn or slam on their brakes to make the turn and this is a safety concern. Highway Superintendent, Jolene Gubbels, noted the county currently pays for lighting at each end of North Bluff road for these same safety concerns. The cost is around \$13.50 per month. NPPD has been contacted and agreed to the county putting a light on their pole for a monthly fee. Commissioner Love moved, seconded by Commissioner Hohenstein, to approve placing a security light at the intersection of Hwy 77 and Dodge Avenue for safety reasons and pay the monthly fee. ROLL CALL VOTE: Van Berkum-yes, Hohenstein-yes, Launsby-yes, Giese-yes, Love-yes. UNANIMOUS MOTION CARRIED.

Commissioner Love moved, seconded by Commissioner Giese to approve Resolution 23C-036 to extend the County's commitment to participate in NIRMA and NIRMA II for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 20, 2027, with an Interlocal Agreement for risk management and lost prevention insurance coverage between Dakota County and Nebraska Interlocal Risk Management Association (NIRMA). ROLL CALL VOTE: Hohenstein-yes, Launsby- es, Giese-yes, Love-yes, Van Berkum-yes. UNANIMOUS MOTION CARRIED.

**RESOLUTION 23C-036
FOR AMENDMENT AND ADDENDUM TO
NIRMA/NIRMA II INTERGOVERNMENTAL/INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS**

WHEREAS, Dakota County has previously entered into Intergovernmental/Interlocal Agreements with various other Nebraska Counties and other public agencies to form and participate in the Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Association (NIRMA) and the Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Association II (NIRMA II) as authorized by the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act (Neb.Rev.Stat. §44-4301 et seq.) and the Nebraska Interlocal Cooperation Act (Neb.Rev.Stat. §13-801 et seq.); and

WHEREAS, Counties and other Public Agencies as defined in Neb.Rev.Stat. §44-4303 are allowed to participate in said cooperative undertakings; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature has found that proper risk management requires the spreading of risk so as to minimize fluctuation in insurance needs and that benefits can be derived through the pooling of insurance purchasing by local government, and

WHEREAS, NIRMA and NIRMA II have provided coverages to the County in a cost effective way which meet and exceed that provided by standard insurance carriers; and

WHEREAS, NIRMA and NIRMA II provide risk management services such as loss prevention, safety audits and assessments, claims and litigation management, and coverages tailored to address loss exposures counties and other related public entities face not economically available from other sources; and

WHEREAS, these coverages and risk management services are essential for the continued effective and efficient use of county taxpayer dollars; and

WHEREAS, the current Intergovernmental/Interlocal Agreements will expire on June 30, 2024, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dakota County Board hereby:

1. Extends its commitment to participate in NIRMA and NIRMA II for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027; and
2. Declares that this Resolution shall serve as an amendment and addendum to the previous Intergovernmental/Interlocal Agreements entered into by the County Board, said Intergovernmental/Interlocal Agreements readopted by and incorporated herein by this reference as amended.

After motion duly made by member Love and seconded by member Giese, the following members voted by roll call vote as follows in regard to adoption of said Resolution:

The following members voted in favor of the same: Hohenstein, Launsby, Giese, Love, Van Berkum

The following members voted against the same: _____

The following members were absent or not voting: _____

PASSED AND APPROVED this 30 day of October, 2023.

Attest:

Cherie Conley
County Clerk



Dakota County Board

By: Robert Giese
Chairperson/Presiding Officer

Jolene Gubbels, Highway Superintendent, presented the Road Report for October 15 - 28, 2023. Total road maintenance- 239.5 hours; overtime hours- 3.5; culverts/road projects – 38 hours-S Bluff Rd; gravel hauling- 70 hours; total tons hauled- 1594.92; sign repair/ barricading- 29.5 hours. Grading concerns – Perry Ave, 260th St, M Ave, Oakdale Rd.

ARPA projects discussed.

Painting of the Courthouse and buildings: Two sealed bids were received: Eclipse Pro Painting-\$47,000.00 and Blankenship Paint & Glass-\$81,965.90. Commissioner Love moved, seconded by Commissioner Van Berkum to approve the bid from Eclipse Pro Painting for \$47,000.00 to paint entire buildings with accent band on the Courthouse and 2 buildings (nka Firehouse). ROLL CALL VOTE: Launsby-yes, Giese-yes, Love-yes, Van Berkum-yes, Hohenstein-yes. UNANIMOUS MOTION CARRIED.

Commissioner Love moved, seconded by Commissioner Van Berkum to approve the request from Treasurer, Dawn Bousquet, for additional desk panels for the scanning desk to keep documents from falling between the wall and the desk, and approve the quote from One Office Solutions for \$515.00. ROLL CALL VOTE: Giese-yes, Love-yes, Van Berkum-yes, Hohenstein-yes, Launsby-yes. UNANIMOUS MOTION CARRIED.

Commissioner Hohenstein moved, seconded by Commissioner Love to approve the request of the Veterans Service Officer, Nick Nieman, to purchase a new Printer, Copier, Scanner as he currently is having issues with the used equipment in his office, and approve the quote from RTI for \$539.00. ROLL CALL VOTE: Love-yes, Van Berkum-yes, Hohenstein-yes, Launsby-yes, Giese-yes. UNANIMOUS MOTION CARRIED.

Commissioner Committee Reports: Commissioner Van Berkum attended a P&Z meeting, Chair Giese asked that the Road Department check into truck traffic on Northshore drive due to a new business. Chair Giese encouraged the Board to attend SIMPCO 101 seminar on November 29, 2023 at SSC Hall from 4 pm to 5 pm.

Mail and/or Emergency Business: County Clerk, Cherie Conley, presented Resolution 23C-037 Supporting Operation Green Light for Veterans. This is a request received Friday after the agenda's had been sent out. NACO is encouraging all 93 counties to participate in recognizing and honoring all who have served in the Armed Forces by displaying green lights around their businesses from November 6 to 12. Commissioner Love moved, seconded by Commissioner Van Berkum to approve Resolution 23C-037 Supporting Operation Green Light for Veterans and displaying green lights in the front of the courthouse entrance from November 6, 2023 to November 12, 2023. ROLL CALL VOTE: Van Berkum-yes, Hohenstein-yes, Launsby-yes, Giese-yes, Love-yes. UNANIMOUS MOTION CARRIED.

**Supporting Operation Green Light for Veterans
Resolution 23C-037**

WHEREAS, the residents of Dakota County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all the men and women who have selflessly served our country and this community in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of those who served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County seeks to honor individuals who have made countless sacrifices for freedom by placing themselves in harm's way for the good of all; and

WHEREAS, veterans continue to serve our community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, religious groups, civil service, and by functioning as County Veterans Service Officers in 29 states to help fellow former service members access more than \$52 billion in federal health, disability and compensation benefits each year; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 20 percent increase of service members will transition to civilian life in the near future; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that 44-72 percent of service members experience high levels of stress during transition from military to civilian life; and

WHEREAS, active military service members transitioning from military service are at a high risk for suicide during their first year after military service; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Counties encourages all counties, parishes and boroughs to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans; and

WHEREAS, the Dakota County appreciates the sacrifices of our United States military personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted; therefore be it

RESOLVED, with designation as a Green Light for Veterans County, Dakota County hereby declares the week of Veterans Day, November 6th through the 12, 2023 a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifices of our men and women in uniform transitioning from active service; therefore, be it further

RESOLVED, that in observance of Operation Green Light, Dakota County encourages its citizens in patriotic tradition to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying green lights in a window of their place of business or residence from November 6th through the 12th, 2023.

Approved and signed this 30th day of October, 2023.

Commissioner Van Berkum moved, seconded by Commissioner Love, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Chair Giese adjourned the Board of Commissioners meeting of October 30, 2023, at 3:32 p.m.

Dakota County Board of Commissioners

Robert J. Giese, Chair

Cherie Conley, County Clerk/Board Secretary