

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

Madison, Nebraska

May 19, 2015

The Board of County Commissioners of Madison County, Nebraska met in regular session at 9:30 A.M.

Advance notice of meeting was published in the Thursday, May 14, 2015 edition of The Norfolk Daily News and posted on the Madison County website. A copy of said notice was mailed to each Board member. An affidavit of acknowledgment of receipt of notice of meeting as published was executed.

Following a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, Chairman Christian Ohl called the meeting to order and notified the public of the copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room.

Present: Commissioners Christian Ohl, Jim Prauner, and Ron Schmidt, County Clerk Nancy Scheer, and Road Foremen Don Eucker and Jeff Schroeder. Planning and Zoning Administrator Heather McWhorter was present until 11:16 A.M. County Weed Superintendent Don Svitak was present until 11:25 A.M. County Highway Superintendent Richard Johnson was present until 11:38 A.M. Norfolk Daily News reporter Jerry Guenther, US 92 reporter Eric McKay, and WJAG reporter Susan Risinger were present until 11:20 A.M..

The following consent agenda items were considered:

- 1) Approval of minutes of the May 5, 2015 meeting
- 2) Acknowledge receipt of the Official Bond of Douglas Wolken as Treasurer/Secretary of Madison Rural Fire District
- 3) Approval of Harlan Schulz Estate Lot Split in Section 19-22-2, which is located approximately 4½ miles West and 3 miles North of Madison

Commissioner Prauner noted that a correction was submitted by Zoning Administrator Heather McWhorter changing the name of the lot split and adding a case number to her recommendation. Commissioner Schmidt reported that for purposes of the record, the location of the lot split is 6½ miles West of Madison instead of 4½ miles. County Highway Superintendent Richard Johnson clarified that the location is listed on the agenda to provide the Board members with an idea of where the property is located.

Motion was made by Prauner and seconded by Schmidt to approve the consent agenda. Roll call vote: Ayes, Ohl, Prauner, and Schmidt. Nays, none. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Schmidt and seconded by Prauner to approve the regular agenda. Roll call vote: Ayes, Ohl, Prauner, and Schmidt. Nays, none. Motion carried.

The Board considered an application for a Special Designated License for Eagles Fraternal Order Platte #1834 to serve distilled spirits for an event scheduled on June 10, 11, and 12, 2015 at The Lodge, located at 4200 West Norfolk Avenue, for the Eagles State Convention.

Bobbie Lowery, representing Eagles Fraternal Order Platte #1834 appeared at the meeting. She reported that the Eagles Club will be serving alcoholic beverages at the Eagles State Convention and that the event is scheduled at The Lodge for the next five years. She reported that alcoholic drinks will be served from 3:00 P.M. until 12:00 Midnight.

Chairman Ohl thanked Ms. Lowery for having the event in Madison County. He reported that the summary report signed by Sheriff's Investigator Michael Bowersox reflected that there appears to be nothing in the examination that would suggest a reason for denying the application as requested.

Commissioner Prauner inquired if there has been any trouble in the past serving alcoholic beverages at the Eagles State Convention and Ms. Lowery responded that there haven't been any problems.

Commissioner Schmidt inquired why a special liquor license is required since the facility has a liquor license. Ms. Lowery responded that a special designated liquor license is required because they will be serving alcoholic beverages in a hospitality room of the hotel, not in the convention center.

After discussion, a motion was made by Prauner and seconded by Schmidt to approve the Special Designated License for Eagles Fraternal Order Platte #1834 to serve distilled spirits for an event scheduled on June 10, 11, and 12, 2015 at The Lodge in Norfolk for the State Eagles Convention. Roll call vote: Ohl, Prauner, and Schmidt. Nays, none. Motion carried.

Extension Educators Lee Sherry and Wayne Ohnesorg, Nutrition Education Associate Michelle Kroupa, and 4-H Assistant Sarah Polacek gave an annual report about Extension Office activities for the past year.

Extension Educator Lee Sherry reported that she has worked in Madison County for approximately 14 years and she is the Unit Leader. She explained that the name for the department was changed in November 2014 to Nebraska Extension in Madison County. She reported that there are nine people serving on the County Extension Board and Dennis Bauer and William Kranz are currently sharing the role of Interim Director. She explained that funding for the Extension Office is a partnership between the United States Department of Agriculture, University of Nebraska Lincoln, and Madison County.

Wayne Ohnesorg, Ag Educator, reported that the Extension Office has many community partnerships, such as Madison County Agricultural Society, Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce, Norfolk Public Library, Newman Grove Public Library, Northeast Community College, Wayne State College, Region 4 Behavioral Health Systems, and Norfolk Area Children and Family Coalition. He reported that a total of \$87,154 was received through various grant programs. He explained that the UNL estimates that for every dollar the County spends for County extension services, \$5.63 in other dollars are returned to the County through salary matches, staff development, equipment matches, and administration involvement. He said that based upon a budget of \$159,260, the investment return to Madison County would be approximately \$900,000. He reported that another investment return is the volunteer service. He explained that the national average for valued volunteer service is \$23.07 per hour and using the total of 9,000 volunteer hours, the investment would total \$213,259.

Lee Sherry explained that her major role is 4-H youth development and learning child programs. She explained that learning child is from birth to five years of age. She reported that 70% of youth in Madison County participated in some type of 4-H program during 2014. She explained that many of the youth are reached through After School programs and School Enrichment programs. She reported that Madison County has a total of 6,738 youths in grades kindergarten through 12 and that 4-H programs reached 4,708 youth in 2014. She explained that Tufts University is the first ever research project of its kind and the report shows that children who are in 4-H are four times more likely to contribute to their community, two times more likely to be civically active, two times more likely to make healthier choices, two times more likely to participate in science, engineering, and computer technology programs during out of school time, and 4-H girls are two times more likely in Grade 10 and nearly 3 times more likely in Grade 12 to take part in science programs compared to girls in other out-of-school time activities.

4-H Extension Assistant Sarah Polacek stated that she has served in this position for 10 years. She said that she recently started a Masters program for youth development. She explained that during the school year from August to May she spends a great amount of time in schools conducting school enrichment programs. She reported that in 2014 she offered 11 different programs in 81 classrooms reaching 2,771 youth. She said that the Embryology is one of the main programs and from 2013 to 2014 she increased her contacts by 65% and taught in 22 classrooms with 400 learners. In addition, she reported that another major program is Caterpillar to Butterfly which was taught in 13 classrooms to 281 learners. She reported that an impact survey reflected that 75% of students had increased interest in science and 75% of students demonstrated responsibility and a greater appreciation for living things. Ms. Polacek reported that other school enrichment programs include ag literacy festival, youth crops field day, GIS day, robotics, handwashing/hygiene, water education, project learning tree, bully programs, drug and alcohol education, and geospatial education. She reported that there are 19 traditional 4-H clubs with 458 traditional members. She explained that during 2014 the Extension Office offered 45 different workshops and clinics.

Extension Educator Wayne Ohnesorg reported that he focuses on entomology and serves as a panelist on Backyard Farmer. He explained that he conducted pesticide safety education programs and chemigation training in Pierce, Wayne, Stanton, and Madison counties. He explained that he works with multiple mobile applications including aphid speed scout, land lease rate calculator, pesticide recordkeeping, harvest test weight converter, western beam cutworm speed scout, and farm and ranch recordkeeping. In addition, he reported that he is the Master Gardener Coordinator and that in 2014 the Northeast Nebraska Master Gardeners gave 1,740 hours of volunteer time which equates to approximately \$40,140. Mr. Ohnesorg reported that the Master Gardeners provided a \$750 scholarship to NECC for a horticulture major, worked with the Juvenile Detention Center garden, worked with Elkhorn Valley Museum, and conducted the plant fair. He reported that he also is responsible for entomology 4-H youth development and conducted workshops in Cuming and Pierce counties. He explained that a new 4-H entomology manual that he worked on for the past six year was released in April. He reported that he has summer interns working on research projects. He summarized the programs offered to adults and youth.

Nutrition Education Associate Michelle Kroupa reported that she has worked with this program for almost 18 years. She explained nutrition programs are funded by Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) grants. She reported that she is working on improving food security in rural communities with funding provided by Voices for Food grant. She explained that funding was also received from a ConAgra grant which reached 125 youth and 100 families. She reported that the nutrition education program is offered in 32 counties in Nebraska and her services cover Madison County where she works with low income families. She explained that she works in schools where 50% or more of the students receive free or reduced price lunches. She explained that the goals of the program are to have participants develop skills and learning behaviors leading to improved nutritional well-being, increased nutritional knowledge and demonstrate the ability to apply that knowledge, and have children and youth practice healthy eating as defined by the current US Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Ms. Kroupa reported that 239,400 people in Nebraska live in poverty, including more than one in six children. She stated that in Madison County 14.2% of the population live in poverty, over 3,000 Madison County residents receive food stamps, and 14 schools in Madison County qualify for free or reduced price lunches. She explained that a School Nutrition Enrichment Kit is offered to youth involved in the program and over 200 youth utilized the kits. She reported that over 120 hours of teacher time was spent preparing and teaching nutrition education. She stated that she works with the Juvenile Detention Center, Probation Office, and Alternative Education program in the public schools. Ms. Kroupa stated that recent statistics reflect that 31% of Nebraska children are overweight or obese and 57% of Nebraska adults are overweight or obese. She reported that the programs focus on meal planning, grocery shopping, reading food labels, portion sizes, and making food dollars stretch.

Ms. Sherry reported that the newest staff member, Extension Educator Leo Gonzales, started working in the Extension in the fall of 2013. She explained that Mr. Gonzales is involved in the five star leadership program and the objectives of the program are to reduce the gap in college access, increase academic performance, and motivate underserved students enrolled in high school so that the students will achieve the goal of completing high school and successfully pursue post secondary education. She stated that the program provides educational, leadership, and career exploration experiences by workshops, college tours, leadership conferences, and career development. She explained that the purpose is to help students develop the necessary academic, social, cultural, and leadership skills to be prepared and have the self-confidence to complete a post secondary degree. Ms. Sherry reported that Mr. Gonzales worked with 27 students at Norfolk Senior High, 24 students at Madison Senior High, and 8 students at Madison Junior High for a total of 59 students enrolled. She stated that, during the 2013-2014 school year, 18 seniors enrolled in college and received numerous scholarships and awards. She said that 25 seniors have been accepted into college and are enrolled for classes in the fall of 2015 and many qualified for Pell grants and/or received scholarships. She explained that most scholarship recipients are first generation college attendees from the family and Mr. Gonzales worked with both the student and family members.

Chairman Ohl thanked Extension Office staff for the presentation and for all the work they do.

The Board discussed award of a contract for culvert pipe for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. Commissioner Prauner reported that two bids were received on culvert pipe, one from B's Enterprises of Norfolk, and one from Metal Culverts of Jefferson City, Missouri. He explained that the bid from Metal Culverts was lower; however, it takes the County longer to pick up pipe from an out-of-state company.

Commissioner Schmidt questioned what differences there were between the products offered by the two companies. He asked if there would be any visual differences between the culvert pipes, if the galvanizing process was the same, and if one product has a longer life. County Highway Superintendent Richard Johnson responded that the products should be the same because the specifications require a certain gauge and diameter size. Commissioner Prauner inquired what happens if a culvert needs to be returned and Mr. Johnson recommended that when the culvert pipes are delivered they should be inspected before the truck leaves so any defective pipes could be returned.

Chairman Ohl stated that this is a difficult situation since one bidder is located out of state and there is an impact on Madison County to purchase locally, but the Board wants to be accountable to taxpayers and make sure that purchases are made at the best possible price. He explained that the County has had a good history of working with B's Enterprises in the past, so this may be a difficult decision.

Commissioner Schmidt stated that his concern is the difference in price and that the price difference on a 18" culvert is about \$20. He questioned how many 18" culverts the County would use during one year and Tim Braithwait from B's Enterprises estimated that the County uses about twenty 18" culverts; however, it varies from one year to the next. He reported that the price difference on 36" culverts is \$52. He stated that the price difference is a concern, but it's not a reflection on B's Enterprises. He explained that this is a bid process and there aren't any warranty issues, and service after the sale is very minimal compared to purchasing equipment. He stated that he is hesitant to give the bid to an out-of-state company; however, when looking at the bid amounts, he questioned why the Board wouldn't take the low bid.

Commissioner Prauner reported that he heard that Wayne County had some problems with culverts purchased from Metal Culverts. He explained that he spoke with the Wayne County Superintendent of Roads who advised that Metal Culverts delivered products that were missing some rivets. He stated that when culverts are loaded on a truck it would be difficult to see if rivets are missing. He said that Wayne County was unhappy with some of the products delivered by Metal Culverts, but not all the products. He said that the Board needs to take this information into consideration.

Tim Braithwait from B's Enterprises reported that many times the County has needed a culvert immediately and an employee came to his yard and picked up the culvert. He stated that he doesn't remember the last time went Madison County ordered culverts on a truck load basis. He said that he is unsure if Metal Culverts will honor the prices quoted if culverts are not ordered on a truck load basis. He reported that he understands that there are price differences; however, the comparison is between a national corporation compared to a small business. He stated that he can understand Commissioner Schmidt's concerns; but, there have been many times when the County needed a culvert and came to his yard and picked it up.

Commissioner Schmidt stated that if the County uses twenty-five 18" culverts, that would be a price difference of \$500. Tim Braithwait responded that the County purchases mostly 48" culverts. Commissioner Prauner explained that when the culverts are over 5 foot, they must be special ordered. He reported that the company that makes culverts for B's Enterprises is located in Kearney, so the money stays in Nebraska. He said that he hates to see the County send the money out-of-state, even though it may be a little cheaper.

Commissioner Schmidt stated that he agrees with these comments; however, if this is the County's intent, then the bids should be limited to in-state companies. Commissioner Prauner agreed with the comment, but said that having multiple bidders keeps the companies honest. Commissioner Schmidt reiterated that if the Board doesn't honor the low bid, the integrity of the bidding process is lost. Commissioner Prauner reminded Board members that a number of years ago the lowest bid was taken on oil for the Lindsay Road and that didn't turn out well.

Commissioner Schmidt questioned how many 36" culverts the road department expected to use in one year. Tim Braithwait responded that between six and eight culverts. Commissioner Schmidt explained that during one year, the estimated cost would be between \$1,500 and \$2,000 more if the bid of B's Enterprises is accepted.

Chairman Ohl stated that he has heard from the foreman that the County has a good working relationship with B's Enterprises. Road foreman Jeff Schroeder stated that he agrees with Commissioner Prauner's comments that there have been several times when they had to go the B's Enterprises' lot and pick up a culvert. He said that if there is an immediate need, they can't go out of state to pick up a culvert, which is worth a lot. Mr. Schroeder asked what the delivery time is from Metal Culverts and County Highway Superintendent Richard Johnson responded that the specifications require a 30 day delivery for whoever is awarded the bid. Mr. Schroeder responded that District #2 typically uses 18" and 24" culverts.

Chairman Ohl asked if the Board could award certain culvert lengths from one company and different lengths from another company. Mr. Johnson responded that the County would be better served to award a contract to one company. He stated that the Board would either take the low bid to theoretically save money or take advantage of using a local company and the Board members need to decide which is more important.

Motion was made by Prauner and seconded by Ohl to award a contract to B's Enterprises for furnishing culvert pipe to Madison County for the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

Commissioner Schmidt asked if the County would be using riveted or spiral pipe or a mixture. Commissioner Prauner responded that the County uses mostly riveted pipe. Tim Braithwait explained that the County uses mostly riveted pipe; however, spiral pipe is used for longer culverts since they can be made in one piece to eliminate the band. He explained that riveted pipe can be made up to 50 foot in length. Mr. Johnson reported that the County used to have a lot of problems of aligning spiral pipe correctly. He stated that he spoke to Mark Mainelli who said that Metal Culverts does a lot of business in the southeast corner of Nebraska and many counties feel that the company does a good job. Chairman Ohl stated that one of the concerns in these situations is the possibility that the County would lose other bids if the lowest bid is not accepted. He said that it keeps everyone honest when there are multiple bids.

Roll call vote: Ayes, Ohl and Prauner. Nays, Schmidt. Motion carried.

The Board discussed award of a contract for furnishing grader blades for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. Commissioner Prauner reported that bids were received from B's Enterprises, Nebraska Machinery/NMC CAT, Titan Machinery, and Valk Manufacturing. He reported that Valk Manufacturing only submitted bids for a single order and Midwest Services and Sales chose not to submit a bid this year. He stated that the bids were close between B's Enterprises, Nebraska Machinery/NMC CAT, and Titan Machinery.

Commissioner Prauner reported that there was a discrepancy on the weight per foot on the 1" x 8" bid submitted by Nebraska Machinery/NCM CAT. Nebraska Machinery/NCM CAT salesman Randy Hale responded that there was a typo error on the bid form and that the weight on the thru hardened 1" x 8" blades should be 25 pounds.

Commissioner Schmidt asked what blades will generally be used by the County. Commissioner Prauner responded that they mostly use 5/8" x 8" thru hardened blades. Commissioner Schmidt inquired why the County uses thru hardened blades instead of high carbon blades since the high carbon blades are cheaper. He stated that the difference in bids is \$1.34 on one blade and \$1.54 on another. He said that there are three different manufacturers and he questioned if one manufacturer is better than another. Commissioner Prauner responded that all the blades are about the same weight. County Highway Superintendent Richard Johnson stated that he doesn't think there is much difference between the manufacturers. Commissioner Prauner explained that sometimes the holes stamped in the blades are not right, which causes a problem when putting the blades on. Commissioner Schmidt asked if this is a problem with all the companies or only with one company and Commissioner Prauner responded that this wasn't a problem with all the blades.

Commissioner Schmidt asked if the County would be purchasing a single order of blades or be purchasing small quantities. Nebraska Machinery/NCM CAT salesman Randy Hale responded that the County normally orders a large quantity. Commissioner Schmidt reiterated that he has no concerns with any of the companies, but has concerns about the integrity of the bid process. He stated that the difference is a significant amount.

Road foreman Jeff Schroeder reported that he won't need to order grader blades for the next fiscal year. Commissioner Prauner stated that District #3 will use a large quantity of grader blades during the summer months because they have a lot more gravel roads than District #2. Road Foreman Don Eucker stated that he spoke with District #3 Road foreman John Hrabanek who stated that he needs to order some blades for the next fiscal year.

Nebraska Machinery/NCM CAT salesman Randy Hale stated that there is 4 cents difference between his company's bid and Titan Machinery on the 5/8" x 8" high carbon blades. He asked Board members to consider that blades purchased by the County from Nebraska Machinery in the past have proven themselves. Road foreman Jeff Schroeder stated that District #2 has been using thru hardened blades. Commissioner Prauner reported that high carbon blades have been used in District #3 in the past and he thinks that they wear out faster. Commissioner Schmidt asked for input from the road foreman about using the high carbon blades for one year and both Mr. Eucker and Mr. Schroeder responded that they are not opposed to using high carbon blades if it will save the County money.

County Highway Superintendent Richard Johnson asked if anyone remembers that in previous years Valk Manufacturing only wanted to deliver truck loads of grader blades in previous years. County Clerk Nancy Scheer responded that Valk Manufacturing didn't submit bids on single order blades, only truckload quantities.

Commissioner Ohl inquired if the County had the opportunity to accept the grader blades bid for thru hardened blades from one company and accept the bid for high carbon blades from a different company. County Clerk Nancy Scheer responded that two contracts for the different type of blades have been awarded in previous years. Mr. Johnson concurred that the County Board could award contracts to two different companies for the different types of blades.

Motion was made by Schmidt and seconded by Ohl to accept the bid of Titan Machinery for furnishing thru hardened blades and accept the bid from Nebraska Machinery/NCM CAT for high carbon blades for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. Roll call vote: Ayes, Ohl and Schmidt. Nays, Prauner. Motion carried.

County Highway Superintendent Richard Johnson reported that the Nebraska Department of Roads submitted a request for re-consideration of construction options for Project Number ER-2915(3), Battle Creek North. He explained that the Nebraska Department of Roads was pushing for the construction alternative that would be least damaging on the North side, which was to drive 20 feet sheet piling under a bridge that has about 13 feet of clearance. He reported that he received an e-mail raising constructibility issues regarding this alternative. He stated that the Nebraska Department of Roads wants to arrange a meeting to discuss the alternatives. He stated that from his point of view, a berm should be built under the bridge and rip rap used. He stated that the sheet piling on the abutment may be shorter in anticipation of having berm protection. He stated that if the sheet pile alternative is approved, the end result will be a scour critical bridge which will have the potential for water to get in and undermine the bridge abutment. He recommended that the County Board stay with their original position.

County Weed Superintendent Don Svitak reported that the drawings for the North side indicate that the sheet pile under the bridge is to be trenched out, installed, and the slurry mix put back. He stated that he spoke with engineer Jeff Wagner who said that this method could be a construction issue. He explained that once the trench is dug, the sides could fall in, which is a constructability issue. He said that he asked Mr. Wagner what other method could be used to install the sheet pile and Mr. Wagner responded that part of the bridge decking could be removed, which he doesn't believe is a good construction option. Mr. Svitak stated that using rip rap for the bridge abutment is a good option, but installing sheet piling is very difficult and expensive.

Chairman Ohl stated that every time he sees sheet piling by a bridge it seems to be falling in toward the river and it doesn't seem to hold up very well. Mr. Johnson explained that sheet piling outside of the bridge would have tie rods and anchors to hold it back. He stated that he doesn't know how this would be done under a bridge to have anything viable, so he asked the County Board to keep the construction alternative approved by the County at the April 21, 2015 Commissioners' meeting.

County Highway Superintendent Richard Johnson reported that on the South side of the river, his preferred alternative is to put rip rap along the existing bank which would have some impacts to wetlands and the waters of the U.S., which they are trying to avoid. He explained that the Department of Roads preferred alternative is to go back into the uplands, dig a trench, put in rip rap, and bury it. He stated that the idea would be that if high water comes it would wash out the dirt that is over the rip rap, the rip rap will launch into the river and stop the high water from breaking through. He explained that this situation happened in 1994 or 1995 and the County put rip rap on the river bank at the same spot and he defied anyone to find that rip rap after the last flood. Mr. Johnson explained that the reason he would like to have the rip rap down on the river bank is that it will have a better chance of working against the lower flows. He stated that if the rip rap is placed up higher on the river bank and it washes out it will do the same thing and push the river further south into the field. He said that he spoke to the Corp of Engineers project manager and explained his reasons for the County's preferred alternative and he seemed sympathetic and made the comment that maybe with a little tweaking, the project could be applied for under a nationwide permit. Mr. Johnson stated that a nationwide permit is simpler to get versus an individual permit which requires a public notice process and a waiting period for comments. He stated that at one point the Nebraska Department of Roads agreed to place the rip rap along the bank, but they changed their minds. He stated that he would be happy to keep pushing for the construction alternative that he thinks is best for the project.

County Weed Superintendent Don Svitak stated that there were two options on the South side. He said that one option was to put the rip rap in the river which has more environmental impacts. He explained that a meeting is planned to discuss the options and they will find out which option the Corp of Engineers would like to use.

County Highway Superintendent Richard Johnson stated that the Nebraska Department of Roads has not submitted the permit application on behalf of the County yet. He said that the Nebraska Department of Roads is trying to tell the County what the Corp of Engineers will decide. He said that, in his opinion, the permit application should be submitted to the Corp of Engineers because if they deny the individual permit, the County could reapply using the nationwide permit application process.

Commissioner Schmidt stated that he would like to find out if the Nebraska Department of Roads has the funds for this project set aside or if there is any chance that the Nebraska Department of Roads will continue to delay the project hoping that the County will give up. Mr. Johnson replied that the funds for this project were coming from the Federal Highway Administration. He further explained that the federal funds were obligated from the Emergency Relief Program and the program regulations require that the project must be completed within four years, which has not been done. He stated that since the project was not completed within four years, the Nebraska Department of Roads decided that the Emergency Relief Program funds could not be used; however, they changed the project so the costs could be paid with Service Transportation Program (STP) funds. He explained that the funds probably have not been obligated yet because they typically get the plans approved, get the right-of-way acquired, and get the permitting done before the funds are obligated. He stated that after the project is bid, the County would pay 20% of the estimated project costs. Mr. Johnson stated that the Nebraska Department of Roads can't unilaterally withdraw the project without discussing it with the County Board. He explained that when the federal aid program discontinued, the County had several federal aid projects at various stages, and the County was asked to end the projects without getting charged for the time involved by the federal agencies. He stated that if the County decides to withdraw the project, the Nebraska Department of Roads will want the County to pay all the costs attributed to the project. He explained that if the project doesn't go through and damage happens again, the County wouldn't be eligible for any funds to repair the damage because repairs weren't made as directed by the Nebraska Department of Roads.

Chairman Ohl asked if there is a chance that NDOR will not approve the County's preferred construction option. He also asked what the County's expenses would be if the project continues to be delayed. Mr. Johnson responded that if the Corp of Engineers denies the individual permit, the County could apply for a nationwide permit and complete the project using the construction alternative advocated by the Nebraska Department of Roads. He stated that several years ago the Nebraska Department of Roads' engineers were talking to the Corp of Engineers and were talking about applying for a nationwide permit with rip rap placed along the river with minimal impacts. He explained that a nationwide permit can be completed if there is less than one-half acre of wetlands and between 300 feet and 500 feet of channel. He stated that time is the main consideration because if the individual permit application is completed, it will take longer for a decision to be reached. In addition, he explained that if the individual permit is denied, then a nationwide permit application can be submitted. He reported that the design on both options is done.

Commissioner Schmidt asked if the designs need to be updated after a certain amount of time and Mr. Johnson responded that the designs would probably not need to be changed under the current situation. He said that the engineers may need to review the design plans, but the only real reason that the plans would change is if the design standards change.

Commissioner Prauner questioned if bids would be completed by September and Mr. Johnson responded that the project would not be bid that soon if an individual permit is required.

The Board agreed to make no change to the construction alternative selected at the April 21, 2015 meeting.

The Board discussed the health insurance benefits for County employees for the 2015-2016 fiscal year. Chairman Ohl announced that NACO Benefit Services reported during telephone conferences that the rates for the next fiscal year were decreasing by 3%, which is encouraging. He stated that health insurance costs continue to rise, so NACO Benefit Services Board has done a good job of trying to manage the expenses well.

Commissioner Prauner questioned how much it would cost the County to provide all employees with full health insurance benefits and if an estimate could be calculated before the next budget is approved. Commissioner Schmidt responded that when he listened to the telephone conference, it was reported that, unless something changes in the Affordable Care Act, the same coverage will need to be provided to all employees. He reported that the nondiscrimination clause could become effective as soon as January 1, 2016. He asked how many County employees only have individual policies and County Clerk Nancy Scheer responded that she doesn't know the answer without research. Commissioner Prauner asked how many people were on the County's insurance plan and County Clerk Nancy Scheer responded that approximately 130 subscribers are on the County plan. Commissioner Prauner stated that the County may need to make decisions before completing the budget if full payment is established for all employees. Commissioner Schmidt stated that the County employees need to have several options because they may find out that if everyone is added to family plan, the cost could ruin a budget. He said that they may need to have employees determine which insurance plan they want and the Board needs to be prepared for some startling numbers.

County Clerk Nancy Scheer explained that the Board must make a decision if the County continues the current plan with NACO Benefit Services because the contract must be completed and submitted to NACO by May 29, 2015. She stated that the Board does not have another meeting to discuss this issue prior to the May 29th renewal date. Commissioner Prauner asked if family coverage could be offered with an effective date of January 1, 2016. County Clerk Nancy Scheer responded that if the Affordable Care Act requires a change effective January 1, 2016, the Board may have the option to amend the contract; however, NACO Benefit Services must answer these questions. Commissioner Prauner stated that the Board hasn't looked at any other insurance options, so they don't have any alternatives at this time.

Motion was made by Prauner and seconded by Schmidt to renew the health insurance contract with NACO Blue Cross Blue Shield for the 2015-2016 fiscal year for the Blue Preferred (PPO) \$1,500 deductible plan, with the county to pay 100% of the premiums for full time employees hired prior to September 1, 2010 for the single, 2/4 party plan, or family plan, with the county to buy-down the deductible from \$1,500 to \$750, and the county to pay 100% of the premiums for full-time employees hired on or after September 1, 2010, and also offer Signature Blue Option 3 dental insurance to employees enrolled in the health insurance plan with 100% of the premiums to be paid by the employee.

Commissioner Prauner requested that NACO Benefit Services be contacted to determine if the plan could be changed to family policies during the contract year. Commissioner Schmidt stated that NACO is aware of the requirement of the Affordable Care Act; however, some counties may not be aware that the Affordable Care Act requires changes. County Clerk Nancy Scheer clarified that the implementation date for the nondiscrimination clause of the Affordable Care Act has been delayed and at this time this clause may become effective January 1, 2016. Chairman Ohl stated that at this time, the insurance coverage offered by the County is in compliance with the Affordable Care Act. He said that his opinion is that the difference in the insurance coverage offered to employees hired after September 2010 should be addressed. He stated that in every department it becomes more of a challenge to hire new employees because the employees are paid at about the pay rate, but the new hires don't have the same insurance benefits, so it is getting difficult to hire. He recommended that the Board continue to pursue insurance options. Chairman Ohl stated that he would follow up with NACO Benefit Services.

Roll call vote: Ayes, Ohl, Prauner, and Schmidt. Nays, none. Motion carried.

The following written reports were reviewed:

- 1) County Clerk April fee report
- 2) County Treasurer fund balance report
- 3) Register of Deeds April fee report
- 4) County Sheriff April fee report
- 5) Letter from Zodiac Properties, LLC regarding annual adjustment of lease rate for District 2 Probation Office

The following claims were audited:

		GENERAL FUND	
Total Net Payroll			131,895.58
Advanced Correctional Healthcare	Medical Services, County Jail		10,984.15
Ronald Albin	Legal Services, County Court		1,033.05
American Family Life Assurance Company	Insurance Premiums		732.02
Ameritas Life Insurance	Insurance Premiums		356.70
Apex Therapy Services, L.L.C.	Services, Juvenile Diversion		185.00
Appera	Mat Service, Public Defender		28.18
Appera	Mat Service, Courthouse		96.18
AS Central Services	Data Processing, County Clerk		52.00
AS Central Services	Data Processing, County Treasurer		120.20
AS Central Services	Data Processing, County Jail		32.00
Assembled Products Corporation	Equipment, County Sheriff		534.20
Kathy Baker, LMHP	Services, Juvenile Diversion		240.00
Lucinda Bauer	Legal Services, County Court		384.24
Addison Beck	Mileage, Juvenile Diversion		139.96
BI Incorporated	Monitoring Services, Juvenile Diversion		1,017.59
Big Red Printing	Supplies, Reappraisal		966.38
Big Red Printing	Supplies, County Jail		264.17
Black Hills Energy	Gas Service, Courthouse		164.61
Black Hills Energy	Gas Service, County Jail		312.90
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska	Insurance Premiums		1,614.01
Bomgaars Supply	Supplies, Courthouse		7.99
Brady & Amy's Inc.	Fuel, Courthouse		45.55
Brady & Amy's Inc.	Fuel, County Sheriff		809.27
Brandl Electric	Repairs, County Jail		3,948.92
Brogan & Stafford, P.C.	Legal Services, County Court		2,937.28
Brogan & Gray, P.C., L.L.O.	Legal Services, County Court		2,781.15
Tom Brungardt	Witness Fees, District Court		37.25
Business Telecommunication Systems	Repairs, Courthouse		45.00
Cableone	Internet Services, County Sheriff		110.50
Cableone	Internet Services, Courthouse		218.50
Carney Law, P.C.	Legal Services, County Court		1,298.65
CBM Managed Services	Meals, County Jail		6,664.74
Century Link	Telephone Service, County Jail		17.66
Century Link	Telephone Service, Probation		601.33
Champs Inc.	Supplies, County Jail		368.33
Choice Foods	Supplies, Public Defender		12.50
Choice Foods	Supplies, Courthouse		4.30
City of Madison	Utilities, County Jail		4,057.90
City of Madison	Utilities, Public Defender		292.10
City of Madison	Utilities, Courthouse		2,945.72
Clerk of the Supreme Court	Court Costs, District Court		125.00
Colfax County Sheriff	Service Fees, County Court		27.50
Colonial Life and Accident Insurance	Insurance Premiums		306.36
Complete Pest Elimination, Inc.	Pest Control, County Jail		125.00
Connecting Point	Service Contract, Storage, Website, Courthouse		2,493.75
Connecting Point	Equipment, Register of Deeds		68.00
Connecting Point	Supplies, Planning and Zoning		259.50
Connecting Point	Supplies, Noxious Weeds		259.50
Connecting Point	Subscription, County Sheriff		200.00
Connecting Point	Internet Services, Equipment, Juvenile Diversion		361.95
Connecting Point	Equipment, Probation		1,026.00
Connecting Point	Internet Services, Veterans' Service Office		38.95
Copple, Rockey, McKeever & Schlect, P.C., L.L.O.	Legal Services, County Court		12,138.31
Copycraft Printing	Supplies, Probation		291.00
Creighton University School of Law	Registrations, County Attorney		640.00
Culligan	Drinking Water Service, Juvenile Diversion		67.85
Cuming County Clerk	Administrative Expense, Juvenile Diversion		1,117.92
Cummins Central Power, L.L.C.	Repairs, County Jail		2,381.73
Douglas County Sheriff	Service Fees, District Court		18.60
Jennie Dugan-Hinrichs	Autopsy Costs, Law Enforcement		225.00
Eakes Office Plus	Supplies, Equipment, County Treasurer		404.70
Eakes Office Plus	Supplies, Register of Deeds		76.99
Eakes Office Plus	Supplies, Courthouse		149.97
Eakes Office Plus	Supplies, County Sheriff		13.74
Eakes Office Plus	Supplies, County Attorney		845.20

Eakes Office Plus	Supplies, Juvenile Diversion	1,272.13
Eakes Office Plus	Supplies, Copier Maintenance, Probation	1,078.26
Eastern Auto Service Inc.	Repairs, County Sheriff	209.51
Eastern Nebraska Trailer Repair Inc.	Supplies, Courthouse	225.00
Eisenmann Supplies Inc.	Equipment, Noxious Weed	342.04
Field's Hardware	Supplies, Courthouse	18.06
First Concord Benefits Group	Flexible Benefit Plan, Administrative Fees	6,197.86
Fitzgerald, Vetter & Temple	Legal Services, District Court	1,843.22
Floor Maintenance and Paper Supply	Supplies, County Jail	579.75
Great America Financial Services	Copier Lease, Public Defender	145.26
Hampton Inn Kearney	Lodging, Juvenile Diversion	1,659.00
Hilliges and Associates, L.L.C.	Services, Law Enforcement	250.00
Hilliges and Associates, L.L.C.	Services, County Jail	250.00
Holiday Inn Kearney	Lodging, County Jail	332.00
Hometown Leasing	Copier Lease, Probation	772.71
HyVee Accounts Receivable	Meals, Juvenile Diversion	32.63
Interstate All Battery Center	Batteries, County Sheriff	281.55
Jack's Uniforms & Equipment	Equipment, County Sheriff	445.64
John's Disposal	Garbage Service, Planning and Zoning	36.00
John's Disposal	Garbage Service, Probation	61.00
John's Disposal	Garbage Service, Veterans' Service Office	21.00
Johnson Engineering	Services, Courthouse	250.00
Johnson's Inc.	Repairs, Courthouse	2,428.00
Justice Data Solutions Inc.	Software, County Jail	12,750.00
John Krantz	Rent, Juvenile Diversion	1,500.00
Lexis Nexis	Subscription, County Attorney	442.00
Louderback Drug	Prescriptions, Juvenile Diversion	345.09
Madison County Clerk	Tax Deposit	49,772.82
Madison County Clerk of District Court	Filing Fees, District Court	1,366.00
Madison County Sheriff Inmate Fund	Supplies, County Jail	42.77
Madison County Sheriff	Fees, County Court	790.27
Madison County Sheriff	Fees, District Court	1,413.92
Madison County Sheriff	Service Fees, Mental Health	187.81
Madison County Treasurer	Vehicle Title, Tire Tax, County Sheriff	15.00
Madison National Life Insurance Co. Inc.	Insurance Premiums	131.67
Jim Marshall	Services, Juvenile Diversion	435.00
Barbara Masilko	Training, Public Defender	145.00
Heather McWhorter	Telephone Reimbursement	90.00
Mead Lumber & Rental	Supplies, Courthouse	60.46
Medtox Laboratories	Testing, Law Enforcement	137.90
Menards	Supplies, Courthouse	44.95
Microfilm Imaging Systems, Inc.	Equipment Rental, County Court	218.00
Microfilm Imaging Systems, Inc.	Equipment Rental, Law Enforcement	70.00
Midwest Plumbing Heating Air Conditioning	Repairs, Public Defender	138.07
Midwest Plumbing Heating Air Conditioning	Repairs, County Jail	438.75
Mimick Motor Company	Repairs, County Sheriff	382.40
MIPS Inc.	Computer Support, County Clerk	592.07
MIPS Inc.	Computer Support, Supplies, County Treasurer	1,213.14
MIPS Inc.	Equipment Lease, Supplies, Register of Deeds	518.00
Scott Moore	Expert Witness Fees, District Court	2,200.00
Morland, Easland & Lohrberg	Legal Services, District Court	892.65
Morrissey Motor Company	Repairs, County Sheriff	23.74
NACO	Registrations, County Board	240.00
National Board of Trial Advocacy	Dues, County Attorney	265.00
National Enterprise Systems	Garnish of Wages	194.91
Nationwide Retirement Solutions	Deferred Compensation	835.00
Nebraska Child Support Payment Center	Garnish of Wages	369.23
Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center	Lodging, County Sheriff	20.00
Nebraska Public Power District	Utilities, Probation	298.60
Nielsen Family Enterprises L.L.C.	Storage, County Sheriff	600.00
Norfolk Auto Center	Repairs, County Sheriff	432.68
Norfolk Daily News	Publication Costs, County Court	53.76
Norfolk Daily News	Publication Costs, Courthouse	184.76
Norfolk Vacuum Sales & Service	Repairs, Probation	70.50
Norm Nykodym	Lawn Service, Public Defender	180.00
Valorie Olson	Court Reporting, Mental Health	100.00
Valorie Olson	Transcript, District Court	273.50
Phillips 66	Fuel, County Sheriff	489.21
Phoenix Supply	Supplies, County Jail	75.00
Platte County Sheriff	Service Fees, District Court	40.00
Susan Pohlman	Services, Juvenile Diversion	290.00
Presto-X	Pest Control, Courthouse	88.20
Donna Primrose	Mileage, County Treasurer	32.60
Ramada Inn Kearney	Lodging, County Jail	148.00
Redwood Toxicology Lab	Testing, Probation	188.85
Reigle Implement, Inc.	Repairs, County Jail	109.95
Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas	Employee Share Retirement	8,975.81

Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas	Employer Share Retirement	13,137.66
Schroeder Land Surveying	Services, County Surveyor	1,610.00
Shell	Fuel, Reappraisal	148.48
Shell	Fuel, County Sheriff	2,691.70
Short Stop	Fuel, County Sheriff	5.78
Sirchie	Supplies, County Sheriff	211.85
Stanley Convergent Security Solutions, Inc.	Security Upgrades, County Jail	19,912.50
Stratton, DeLay, Doele, Carlson & Buettner, P.C., L.L.O.	Legal Services, County Court	551.20
The Zone	Services, Juvenile Diversion	650.00
Thomson Reuters-West	Subscription, Public Defender	273.47
Tom's Rexall Drug	Services, Juvenile Diversion	20.00
Transunion Risk & Alternative Data Solutions, Inc.	Services, County Sheriff	34.50
US Bank Corporate Payment System	Meals, Juvenile Diversion	71.56
Verizon Wireless	Telephone Services, Courthouse	33.30
Verizon Wireless	Telephone Services, Juvenile Diversion	310.53
Verizon Wireless	Telephone Services, Noxious Weed	63.01
Irma Watt	Interpreting Services, Public Defender	66.50
Western Office Technologies	Supplies, County Treasurer	319.98
Western Office Technologies	Supplies, Planning and Zoning	22.47
Western Office Technologies	Supplies, District Court	64.00
Western Office Technologies	Supplies, Copier Maintenance, County Court	617.63
Western Office Technologies	Supplies, Public Defender	14.69
Western Office Technologies	Supplies, Copier Maintenance, Reappraisal	84.58
Western Office Technologies	Supplies, County Sheriff	9.99
Western Office Technologies	Supplies, County Attorney	35.99
Wex Bank	Fuel, County Sheriff	781.77
Whitey's Sprinklers	Repairs, Services, Courthouse	405.00
Zee Medical Service	Supplies, County Sheriff	65.75
Zee Medical Service	Supplies, County Jail	51.65
Zippy Lube	Repairs, County Sheriff	80.90
Zodiac Properties, L.L.C.	Rent, Probation	10,210.84

ROAD/BRIDGE FUND

Total Net Payroll		27,600.07
American Fab Inc.	Parts	50.95
American Family Life Assurance Company	Insurance Premiums	394.96
American Legion Post #35	Supplies	25.50
Ameritas Life Insurance Corporation	Insurance Premiums	112.56
Appeara	Shop Supplies	241.50
Battle Creek Farmer's Coop	Fuel, Parts	3,313.63
Bauer Built Tire	Repairs, Tires	1,084.58
Beaver Bearing Company	Parts	74.48
Beller and Backes Inc.	Shop Supplies	122.85
Black Hills Energy	Gas Service	76.89
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Insurance Premiums	51.12
Brady & Amy's Inc.	Fuel	581.13
Central Parts & Machine	Parts	15.88
Choice Foods	Shop Supplies	46.76
City of Newman Grove	Utilities	54.00
Colonial Life and Accident Insurance	Insurance Premiums	153.38
Cornhusker International Trucks Inc	Parts	102.39
Credit Management Services	Garnish of Wages	156.88
Dale Johnson Ent. Inc.	Gravel	4,138.16
Eisenmann Supplies Inc.	Parts	55.95
Field's Hardware	Shop Supplies	14.27
Filter Care of Nebraska LTD	Repairs	146.95
First Concord Benefits Group	Flexible Benefit Plan, Administrative Fees	1,342.48
Floor Maintenance and Paper Supply	Shop Supplies	252.61
Henkel Oil Company	Shop Supplies	58.55
Hotsy Equipment Company	Shop Supplies	135.72
K & S Door Company	Repairs	47.00
Chris Kallhoff	Parts	1,060.00
Kohlhof Truck Repair Inc.	Repairs	335.05
Logan Street Radiator	Parts	1,428.00
M & M Farm Supply	Parts	15.00
Madison County Clerk	Tax Deposit	9,861.01
Madison County Treasurer	Insurance	8.53
Madison National Life Insurance Co. Inc.	Insurance Premiums	34.37
Mainelli, Wagner & Associates, Inc.	Engineering Services	24,562.95
Matteo Sand & Gravel Company Inc.	Gravel	176.76
Meisinger Oil Company	Fuel	7,120.74
Menards	Shop Supplies	243.74
Nebraska Child Support Payment Center	Garnish of Wages	93.24
Nebraska Harvestore Systems	Parts	251.32
Nebraska Public Power District	Utilities	116.31
NMC Exchange, L.L.C.	Repairs	1,853.86

Norfolk Auto Supply	Parts	135.33
Norfolk NAPA	Parts	1,558.59
Pioneer Telephone	Telephone Services	48.40
Quick Serve Oil Company Inc.	Fuel	203.20
Red Bud Hardware Inc.	Shop Supplies	170.13
Reigle Implement Company Inc.	Tools, Supplies	313.95
Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas	Employee Share Retirement	1,614.37
Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas	Employer Share Retirement	2,421.64
Road Builders Machinery & Supply	Repairs	804.18
Sioux City Truck Sales Inc.	Parts	242.84
Telebeep Wireless	Internet Services	119.85
Truck Center Companies	Parts	120.02
Verizon Wireless	Telephone Services	170.82
Vic's Engine Service	Parts	125.00
Spencer Wallin	Commercial Drivers License	31.00
Weldon Parts Inc.	Parts	417.27
Western Office Technologies	Supplies	20.00
White Star Oil Company	Fuel	274.23
Willow Creek Sand & Gravel	Gravel	7,051.53
Zoubek Oil Company Inc.	Fuel	8,020.57

FEDERAL AID SECONDARY FUND

Christensen Brothers Inc.	Contract Services	698,927.10
Mainelli, Wagner & Associates Inc.	Engineering Services	45,679.04

VISITORS PROMOTION FUND

Norfolk Area Visitors Bureau	Administrative Expense	1,526.00
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VISITORS IMPROVEMENT FUND

Norfolk Area Visitors Bureau	Administrative Expense	10,401.05
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REGISTER OF DEEDS PRESERVATION AND MODERNIZATION FUND

MIPS Inc.	Services	501.75
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911 EMERGENCY FUND

Heidi Hupke	Meal	23.02
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LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATING FUND

Cableone	Cable Service	157.97
Phoenix Supply	Supplies	34.75

DRUG COURT FUND

Adam Jorgensen	Supplies	50.00
On Call Employee Health	Testing	100.00
PharmChem. Inc.	Supplies, Services	373.70
Putters	Supplies	23.00
Redwood Toxicology Lab	Testing	10.00

Motion was made by Schmidt and seconded by Prauner to approve the claims as audited and authorize the County Clerk to issue checks for payment of said claims. Roll call vote: Ayes, Ohl, Prauner and Schmidt. Nays, none. Motion carried.

The Board adjourned at 12:02 P.M. to Tuesday, June 2, 2015 at 9:30 A.M.

County Clerk Nancy Scheer

Christian Ohl, Chairman
County Board of Commissioners