



# Nuckolls County Board Minutes



## **JUNE 26, 2017 PROCEEDINGS OF THE NUCKOLLS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

The Nuckolls County Board of Commissioners met Monday, June 26, 2017 in the Board Meeting Room at the Courthouse, Nelson, Nebraska, per recess of June 19, 2017. Christensen, Zikmund and Blackstone present for the meeting. The agenda of said meeting was remitted to board members in advance of the meeting and is posted in the County Clerk's office and on the County Website. Chairman Zikmund announced the 'Open Meetings Act Law' as posted in the Commissioners Board Meeting Room and handouts are available.

**The board reconvened at 8:30 a.m. A motion was made by Christensen approve the Agenda and the June 19, 2017 minutes. Seconded by Blackstone. Blackstone, Zikmund and Christensen all voted aye, 0 voted nay. Motion carried.**

The board started to draft a list of maintenance issues with the county properties.

**A motion was made by Blackstone to accept the Safety Committee Report as submitted. Seconded by Zikmund. Blackstone, Zikmund and Christensen all voted aye, 0 voted nay. Motion carried.**

Treasurer Ensign presented a Resolution of Pledged Securities. **A motion was made by Christensen to sign the Resolution of Pledged Securities. Seconded by Blackstone. Blackstone, Zikmund and Christensen all voted aye, 0 voted nay. Motion carried.**

**Chairman Zikmund recessed the regular Board Meeting at 10:00 a.m. to enter Board of Equalization meeting.**

**Chairman Zikmund reconvened the Board of Commissioners meeting at 10:55 a.m.**

County Attorney Sara Bockstadter presented a Letter of Understanding from Lancaster Youth Services Center. Bockstadter stated that with the recent changes in guidelines of how juvenile cases can be handled, it would be in the best interest of the county and the local department, for the board to acknowledge the understanding. **A motion was made by Zikmund for the board to sign the Letter of Understanding with Lancaster Youth Services Center. Seconded by Christensen. Blackstone, Zikmund and Christensen all voted aye, 0 voted nay. Motion carried.** Bockstadter also discussed with the board her concerns about the board's discussion of possibly not funding CASA on the annual budget allocation request. Bockstadter submitted a letter to the board addressing this issue and how the county court makes use of their services.

A discussion was held about the two Burial Assistance Applications. Blackstone asked Bockstadter what the county's obligations were in the Burial Assistance situations. Zikmund agreed the applications seemed to be submitted more frequently. Bockstadter stated that it was not uncommon for counties to have a contract with a funeral home that states the basic needs and expenses. The board asked Miller to put the applications on the July 3, 2017 agenda and contact Price Funeral Homes.

The board discussed the annual budget allocation requests. The total amount allocated out of Inheritance Taxes the each year is approximately \$47,000.00. Zikmund felt this was monies that could be used in other places of the county budget. Christensen questioned if possibly some of the services were being duplicated by different organizations. Blackstone questioned if it was fair that so much money is serving so few residents of the county. Blackstone stated that these are organization created by the state to supplement state agencies that are under manned and deficient in their services, now the state is expecting the counties to pick up the tab. No action was taken.



# Nuckolls County Board Minutes



Assessor Susan Rogers presented the board with the Three Year Plan. Rogers also had a Tax List Correction on parcel 0001818.00 for \$567.21. **A motion was made by Zikmund to have the Chairman of BOE Christensen sign the Tax List Correction. Seconded by Blackstone. Blackstone, Zikmund and Christensen all voted aye, 0 voted nay. Motion carried.**

Former Commissioner Danny Corman joined the meeting to express his concerns about the future spending of tax payer funds and give the board a list of the accomplishments of the Nuckolls County Commissioners over the last 15 years. Corman led off with his concerns about the recent adoption of the Nuckolls County Healthcare Plan and wage increase. Corman stated that land valuations are dropping and previous boards were always more conservative about wage increases. The insurance committee explained that the rumored 9% wage increase was not all salary. The committee showed Corman the options that were given to the county to choose from and the actual 6.6% decrease in funding costs changing from self-insured to fully funded plan. Gonzales explained to keep the same plan would have cost \$1.2 million and with the changes the county was able to save approximately \$600,000.00. Almost all of the expenses of the salary increase and starting of the employee's Health Savings Accounts were factored with the saving amount in mind, and there was only a 1% effect on the upcoming budget. Corman stated that he was always in favor of cutting family and/or employee-spouse plans to keep benefits affordable. Corman also expressed his disapproval of the Sheriff's Department having a fourth deputy. Corman felt the extra deputy was contingent on the city and village contracts. Corman also addressed projected projects for repairing the courthouse stating; though you really should keep the Inheritance Tax fund lower than a Million, if it's not broke don't fix it and the board should use the Inheritance Tax fund to buy down the property taxes for the land owners. If you are going to make improvement you should reopen the West entrance of the courthouse.

The board reviewed the Probation District #1 Budget Allocation Letter.

The board interviewed 2 applicants for the Noxious Weed position. No action was taken but asked Miller to put on the July 3, 2017 agenda.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m. until Monday, July 3, 2017.

Timothy Zikmund, Chairman  
By: Carrie Miller, County Clerk