

Hayes County Commissioners
May 31, 2023

A meeting of the Hayes County Board of Commissioners was scheduled for May 31, 2023 at 8:05 A.M. in the Courthouse in Hayes Center, Nebraska. Advanced notice of the meeting, time and place was given to each Commissioner, was published in the *Times Republican* on May 25, 2023, and posted in accordance with law.

Chairman Unger called the meeting to order at 8:15 A.M. The Open Meetings Act was available for review and Chair indicated location of such copy in the room where the meeting was being held. Those present were Wayne Christner, Barry Richards, Jeffrey Unger, Rebecca Grimes and Susan Messersmith.

Christner moved, second by Unger to approve the agenda. Roll call: Richards, yes; Christner, yes; Unger, yes. Motion carried.

Chairman Unger requested comments from the audience. There were none.

Unger moved, second by Richards to direct Chairman to sign the Budget Preparation Engagement Letter appointing Daniel D Miller, CPA, for budget services for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 at the cost of \$2,900.00. Roll call: Christner, yes; Unger, yes; Richards, yes. Motion carried.

Unger moved, second by Christner to adopt a Disaster Declaration for storm damage beginning on May 26, and continuing, in Hayes County Nebraska. Roll call: Unger, yes; Richards, yes; Christner, yes. Motion carried.

Unger moved, second by Richards to approve payroll for \$83,130.72. Roll call: Richards, yes; Christner, yes; Unger, yes. Motion carried.

Significant discussion held regarding the extent of damage to the County's infrastructure and road system in various numerous locations throughout the County due to the recent intense flooding/flash flooding that occurred beginning on May 25. It was the consensus of the Board that the County lacks sufficient staff and equipment to efficiently and appropriately address said damaged infrastructure in a prompt and diligent manner and that it is in the best interests of the County and its citizens to contract with such available vendors/suppliers of heavy equipment and skilled operators as the Board may be deem necessary to provide emergency assistance and services to rebuild/restore/replace county roads, crossing structures and other such county property damaged by said flooding in their respective districts.

The County Board, having signed a disaster declaration this date due to said recent intense flooding/flash flooding, finds that time is of the essence and accordingly, that it is necessary and in the best interests of the County and its citizens to waive the bidding requirements of the County Purchasing Act in relation to contracting with available vendors/suppliers of heavy equipment and skilled operators necessary to provide emergency assistance and services to rebuild/restore/replace county roads, crossing structures and other such county property damaged by said flooding as expeditiously as possible in order to meet said emergency which threatens serious loss of life, health, or property in the county.

Motion by Unger to waive the bidding requirements of the County Purchasing Act in relation to contracting with such available vendors/suppliers of heavy equipment and skilled operators as may be deemed necessary to provide emergency assistance and services to rebuild/restore/replace county roads, crossing structures and other such county property substantially damaged by said flooding as expeditiously as possible in order to address this emergency situation so as to minimize to the extent possible further threat of serious loss of life, health, or property in the county. Second by Christner. Roll call vote: Christner, yes; Unger, yes; Richards, yes. Motion carried.

Rebecca Grimes visited with the Board regarding vacation/sick leave reporting, and using MIPS Time and Attendance program as the official method of recording employee hours.

Chairman Unger adjourned the meeting at 9:05 A.M.

The next meeting will be June 13, 2023, at 8:30 AM.