



# Platte County Board Minutes



## PROCEEDINGS OF THE PLATTE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Columbus, Nebraska August 29, 2019 Thursday, P.M.

Pursuant to adjournment the Platte County Board of Supervisors met in session for a special meeting at 1:00 p.m. Honorable Jerry Engdahl, Chairman, Diane C. Pinger, County Clerk.

Roll Call and the following members present: Supervisors Liss, Micek, Kwapnioski, Pfeifer, Lloyd, Scow and Chairman Engdahl

The Chairman informed the public of the posting of the open meeting laws.

The meeting notice was posted in the Platte County Courthouse, Columbus City Hall and Columbus Public Library and the Platte County Website on August 27, 2019.

The Chairman stated that the agenda be approve as written.

The Ag Society budget was discussed by the County Board.

Supervisor Scow: OK I guess this is a recap of our discussion last night Jerry Micek and I had with the Finance Committee's, Trevor Luchsinger was present to represent the Ag Society Finance Committee. In those discussions I never realized that, that \$75,000.00 dollars had escaped control of the county and it's been paid out. And I'm not completely happy the way this is set up, but this is what we agreed to last night and I feel it's my obligation to present it to you. Supervisor Engdahl: So is this the finance committee's recommendation? Supervisor Micek: I did not agree to it. We discussed it this is what they came up with. My position was not pro or con. We had a long discussion before we even got to this. We were there two and a half hours. We discussed many options and many things that is going on at the Ag Park. We had some very good discussions, very informative on both sides. I believe they can speak for themselves. But I, I did not personally as a member of this committee agree to this figure. I didn't agree with it, I didn't disagree with it. It was stated that this is what they are going to put in and that's fine they have that right to do that. It's up to this board to make the decision on how much money we're going to give the Ag Society. I just want you to know that, I have my own comments for a few things. Supervisor Engdahl: I'm going to ask to that everybody knows, we have two new board members from last year. I was going to try to give a quick recap and I handed out a letter that I had written a year ago. Basically last year the first budget request was for \$575,000.00 dollars. I wasn't here. I don't know the numbers the board voted that down, the \$575,000.00 it was voted down. But the next meeting it was an emergency meeting on Friday, the request was \$600,000.00, but it had the \$75,000.00 in there for a study. Which I was not against the as such, as in fact there were a lot of people talking about studies. I didn't thing the timing was right. In my mind they had \$75,000.00 for a study then they really only need \$525,000.00. And so I look at their request now, if we release the \$75,000.00 and said, they have the money, that money was levied. Our treasurer has to give them the money. The \$600,000.00 they were given, they were not to spend the \$75,000.00 and they did not spend it, they still have it. I thing if you remember our discussion after the meeting Tuesday, that was how I saw it. I didn't start with the \$615,000.00, I started with what they said if you do last year of \$525,000.00 and if release the \$75,000.00 that was how I have my number of \$450,000.00. Now if the new board members have questions on what's transpired of us or them or anybody? Ron did you want to make a comment? Supervisor Pfeifer: as I was looking at what was handed out here, it shows the \$75,000.00 basically is being deducted from the \$615,000.00 and right below its added right back on. Am I looking at that knowing it's going to be in the new budget so the \$75,000.00 is being taxed again to taxpayers? Supervisor Engdahl: that's what their letter says. Supervisor Pfeifer: I won't agree to that. I missed the meeting yesterday. Supervisor Micek: you had a good excuse for missing the meeting, I want you to know that. Supervisor Pfeifer: Anyway I wasn't going to say this again and I did before the Tuesday meeting and I indicated I would not vote for anything more than \$400,000.00. And I believe in that position. But frankly I want to see the claims



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process being used. Because then we would have an invoice of what's being spent. That is my position. Supervisor Engdahl: I think it be good if we could come up with a number and then we can talk about method procedure, so let's agree on a number before we do anything else. Supervisor Micek: I just want to relay the conversation from yesterday. First of all the percentage of 85% about blew my mind. Supervisor Engdahl: I don't know what you're talking about. Supervisor Micek: that's the percentage I come up with our share of it. If you look at the spread sheet of the payroll, the payroll is \$348,000.00 dollars, of that payroll taxpayers have paid over half. We paid \$124,459 out of the general, we pay \$26,121.00 for the fair and we pay \$55,200.00 for the sinking fund. So the staff totals of those is over \$200,000.00 dollars. So I questioned one of the board members here was there and I questioned where all these percentages came from, I mean 85%. Is the county paying all these expenses? We're paying them, they said that was agreed on and I said the board sure didn't agree on it. Anything on here electricity, water, sewer, phone taxpayers are paying 85% as a total at Ag Park. We pay 50% of the sanitation bill, water and equipment purchasing is split 65% general and 35% Ag Park. The county services 85% taxpayers 15% Ag Park. I just want to point that out for the board, Jim was there he heard these figures. And I just want to point that we never agreed to it, had no knowledge of it information is all second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth times. So I just wanted to point that out those figures were given to me by John DuBray. Now I would like to hear back from Mr Palmer. Supervisor Engdahl: Mr. Palmer can you come up and address percentages so everyone can hear. Brian Palmer: I'm going to have to make a couple of assumptions here. I was not at that meeting yesterday. I was asked not to attend the meeting. I was not privy about the two and half hour conversation. Brian Palmer Ag Park manager discussed or tried to explain the percentages to the County Board. There was a lengthy discussion and if anyone would like to listen to the SD card may come to the County Clerk's Office and request to listen to the recorded meeting and it will be set up for you.

Motion, Supervisor Kwapnioski, seconded Supervisor Engdahl, we approve \$450,000 with the release of the \$75,000 for them to use as their budget, and vote was as follows:

Voting Ayes: Supervisors Kwapnioski, Scow, Liss and Chairman Engdahl

Voting Nays: Supervisor Micek, Pfeifer and Lloyd

Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion carried.

The following resolution was presented:

### **RESOLUTION NO. 19-33**

Whereas, Nebraska State Statute 77-3443(3) requires all political subdivisions subjects to county levy authority to submit a preliminary request for levy allocation to the county board; and

WHEREAS, the ag society has sent a resolution to the Platte County Clerk for a preliminary tax request for fiscal year 2019-2020;

WHEREAS, the Finance Committees from the County Board and Ag Society Board will meet monthly or quarterly for a review and Ag Society will establish a separate account for the tax dollars;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Platte County Board of Supervisors have limited the levy for fiscal year 2019-2020 as follows:

Ag Society -----.008212

Dated this 29<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2019.

/s/Diane C. Pinger

Diane C. Pinger

County Clerk

/s/Jerry Engdahl

Jerry Engdahl, Chairman

Board of Supervisors

Motion, Supervisor Pfeifer, seconded Supervisor Scow, to adopt Resolution No. 19-33 approving the levy for the Ag Society at .008212. Motion amended to add the county finance



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committee will meet with the Ag Society. Finance Committee to do a monthly or quarterly review and to establish a separate account for the tax dollars, and vote was as follows:

Voting Ayes: Supervisors Pfeifer, Scow, Liss, Kwapnioski and Chairman Engdahl

Voting Nays: None

Whereupon the Chairman declared the motion carried.

The Chairman declared the meeting adjourned to September 3, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

Attest: ..... Clerk of the County Board .....Chairman