

# AURORA COUNTY COMMISSIONER PROCEEDINGS

**January 19, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chairman Clyde Dethlefsen with Randy Niles, Roger Hanten, John Paul Studeny, and Travis Clark present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Input: Chairman Dethlefsen stated he thought the zoning board members were going to be present at the public hearing that was held last night for the proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance. He also noted that we need to get a new speaker phone. Commissioner Studeny said the zoning board passed the amendments and it is now up to the commission to approve and adopt them. Dethlefsen stated that he wished the zoning board would have been present to give their input.

The agenda was amended by removing the biannual report for the county health nurse and adding county lien program. A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Hanten to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Hanten to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on January 5th. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Hanten to change the 2023 cost for county burial rates to a flat fee of \$2,000 for a traditional burial or cremation. All extra charges such as mileage, outside container, etc. are included in this rate. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to approve an increase of \$600 annually (\$50/month) in the salary for Chairman Clyde Dethlefsen. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to approve abatement #1029 in the amount of \$1,140.47. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Hanten to approve abatement #1030 in the amount of \$296.18. Motion carried all voting aye.

Auditor Urban updated the Commission on the vacancy of the part time 4-H Advisory position. Oakley Perry from SDSU said the request to create the position is currently with the Vice President's office for him to sign off on. He assumed that things slowed down due to the holidays, but hopefully the position will be posted soon.

Years ago, the county transferred the money from the county Revolving Loan Fund to the Areawide Business Council. The annual report from the Areawide Business Council shows the county RLF helped fund a loan of \$42,000 to Kewl Ink, LLC in White Lake.

It was noted that the outbuildings at the 4-H grounds are in need of upkeep. Chairman Dethlefsen stated that part of the lease agreement is to maintain the buildings. There is one building in particular where the posts are rotting out. It was suggested to use old grader blades to be put in around the bottom of the building to help support the structure.

Highway Superintendent Doug Vissia and Highway Secretary Nancy Beckman were present for the Highway report.

A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to authorize the Highway Superintendent to attend an asphalt conference on February 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> in Oacoma. Motion carried all voting aye.

Highway Superintendent Doug Vissia reported his department has been making snow ridges in some fields in the southern part of the county. He told the Commission he would like to have the option to have someone available to do this if his department cannot. Chairman Dethlefsen stated it does make a huge difference in snow drifts when this is done. It was noted that Norvil Dykstra has been helping the county out with this. Dethlefsen said if we request him to make the snow ridges in a field he should be compensated. Commissioner Hanten asked if the county was going to start having people asking for a reimbursement every time an individual does this. Commissioner Studeny stated there is a difference, which is, we are requesting someone to do it. Doug stated the highway department is planning on doing it themselves, but if we can't for some reason, then we would use Norvil. A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Niles to compensate a person, upon the request of the highway superintendent, at a rate of \$150/hour as per the annual bid price for equipment rental. Motion carried all voting aye.

Highway Superintendent Vissia reported that the county will be going over the estimated number of gallons for #1 diesel that was given in the last fuel quote. He informed the Commission that Brooks Oil is willing to sell the

#1 fuel for .10/gal more than what the bid price was. The Commission was in agreement with this. Chairman Dethlefsen told Vissia to limit as much of the #1 diesel as he can and blend with #2 diesel at a rate of 70/30. If the machines are coming out of heated sheds, there shouldn't be any problems using only 30%.

The following quotes were presented for a new non-insulated 16 x 11'6" garage, including installation, for a shed at the landfill.

Plankinton Lumber - \$4,320.00  
Sodak - \$4,98.33  
Great Plains Lumber - \$4,020.00

After reviewing the quotes and discussing the number of times it would get used, the Commission directed the highway department to get quotes for a sliding door.

Commissioner Niles commented on all the old junk iron that is sitting out at the landfill. Highway Superintendent Vissa told him that the price for junk iron was set at \$180/ton. He is waiting for the iron prices to reach that price before he sell it. It was suggested to wait till spring and then try to get it cleaned up.

The annual bid letting will be held on March 2, 2023.

A hearing was held for a temporary/special liquor license for Shelly Johnson (Last Call Bar) for the dates of January 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>. A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Niles to approve the temporary/special alcoholic beverage license for Last Call Bar. Motion carried all voting aye.

Kevin Goff from IMEG apologized to the county for being late on getting the hydrology study done and noted it is not how they want to do business and is willing to knock off \$5,000 because of the lateness. Goff stated that the study included the areas affected downstream as well upstream and within the City of Plankinton. The previous studies that were done years ago did not include anything downstream, so Goff feels this study gives a better look at how to proceed in fixing the problem and what will be affected further downstream. The main cause for the flooding is the size of the culverts under the railroad tracks east of Campbell St in Plankinton. There will be FEMA funding to replace these culverts, but that money will not be available until the next disaster declaration. Goff indicated that everything will be in place when that happens because we now have a study to show what the problem is. The county will need to hold public meetings in the near future for input, but the first thing the county needs to do is reach out to the railroad company first as well as the City of Plankinton. Commissioner Studeny asked if the county needed the

railroads permission to go under the tracks. Goff stated that they are a private entity, so you need to contact them and make them aware of the situation. The County will also need to contact District III to figure the cost ratio. Goff stated that we need to act soon and stay on top of this because this study will become outdated in 10 years and could be somewhat outdated in 5 years.

Emergency Manager Skyler Kehn informed the Commission that he and Sheriff Roman Briggs have been working on a homeland security grant to update security cameras, DVR, and install panic buttons in each office. Skyler received a quote from Midwest Alarm that would do all the things they are looking for and the quote will need to be submitted with the grant application. The homeland security grant is 100% and the monthly fee for the panic buttons will be \$29.99/month. A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Studeny to authorize the Sheriff and Emergency Manager to apply for the grant. Motion carried all voting aye.

Treasurer Andrea Pryor presented the Commission with the delinquent tax list and requested permission to take tax deed on the 12 parcels listed. A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Hanten to authorize the treasurer to proceed with the tax deed process. Motion carried all voting aye.

Sheriff Roman Briggs informed the Commission about a vehicle for the sheriff's department that is available right now. Roman asked permission to purchase a Ford F150 pickup as well as the equipment for it. The cost of the F150 is \$41,144, which is about \$1,000 less than what he had planned on spending for a new vehicle. It will cost approximately \$4,000 to equip the patrol vehicle. A motion was made by Clark, seconded by Hanten to purchase the Ford F150 off the state bid at \$41,144. Motion carried all voting aye. A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Clark to purchase the equipment for the F150. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Hanten, seconded by Clark to enter into executive session with States Attorney Mairose at 11:27 AM as per SDCL 1-25-2(1). Motion carried all voting aye. The Chairman declared the Commission out of executive session at 11:41 AM. A motion was made by Studeny, seconded by Niles to compensate Elizabeth Maine for the hours spent for the snow day when the courthouse was closed because she was clocked in. Ashley Howard will not be compensated because she was not clocked in. Motion carried all voting aye. As per the memo that was sent out from the County Commission by the Chairman on January 10, 2023, this is a one-time exception, when the courthouse is closed it is closed.

Commissioner Clark left for the remainder of the meeting.

Auditor Urban presented information on a lien program through Ultra-Connecting Point. The program will help with the tracking of liens and has the capabilities of printing lien statements to help the county collect on them. The one-time cost of \$4,200 includes the lien program, installation, training and one year support. After the first year, there will be a minimal fee. A motion was made by Hanten, seconded by Niles to authorize the Auditor's office to purchase the program. Motion carried all voting aye.

A motion was made by Hanten, seconded by Niles to file reports and pay vouchers as listed below. Motion carried with Dethlefsen, Niles, Hanten, all voting aye. Commissioner Studeny abstained from the vote.

**Reports: None.**

**CLAIMS:**

COMMISSIONERS		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE	48.13
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	DECEMBER PUBLISHING	890.26
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		938.39 *
JUDICIAL SYSTEM		
GRAND JURY	GRAND JURY & MILEAGE	460.18
DAILEY LAW OFFICE	CAA - NEUHARTH	2055.10
AVERA QUEEN OF PEACE HEALTH	B/A (2)	260.00
		-----
		2775.28 *
AUDITOR		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	63.06
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	December Connect Care	103.60
		-----
		166.66 *
TREASURER		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	72.56
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	DECEMBER PUBLISHING	78.00
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	December Connect Care	152.40
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		302.96 *
COURTHOUSE		
BROOKS OIL COMPANY	FUEL FOR COURTHOUSE	294.50
GOLDEN WEST	INTERNET	9.17
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE	43.51

KROHMER PLUMBING	FIX PUMPS FOR HEATERS BATHROOM	469.54
PLANKINTON CITY	COURTHOUSE ELECTRICITY	2763.73
PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY	SILICONE SPRAY	8.99
RON'S MARKET INC	GARBAGE CANLINERS	57.50
SMART SIGHN	ENTRANCE MATS	427.85
TK ELEVATOR CORP	ANNUAL MAINT CONTRACT - GOLD	2260.64
TRANE US INC	REPAIR HEAT IN COURTHOUSE	1608.30
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	December Connect Care	50.80
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		7994.53 *

DIR. OF EQUALIZATION		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	65.87
MCLEOD PRINTING & OFFICE SUPPL	DESK CALENDAR	5.99
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	December Connect Care	101.60
VANGUARD APPRAISALS	ENTIRE VANGUARD SYSTEM PROGRAM	7941.00
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		8114.46 *

REGISTER OF DEEDS		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE, FAXES & INTERNET	61.39
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		61.39 *

VA OFFICE		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	59.39
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	DECEMBER PUBLISHING	181.13
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	December Connect Care	50.80
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		291.32 *

SHERIFF		
DAVISON COUNTY AUDITOR	ZUERCHER ACCESS FEE	500.00
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	104.87
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE	53.21
JAMES VALLEY DRUG TASK FORCE	2023 DUES	6250.00
M & L REPAIR	2017 TAHOE - TIRE REPAIR	55.00
M O C I C	2023 MEMBERSHIP DUES	100.00
NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION	2023 MEMBERSHIP DUES	71.00
OVERWEG AUTO, GLASS & FUEL	2013 TAHOE - OIL CHGE, WIPERS	254.01
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	December Connect Care	355.60
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	FIX PRINTER IN SHERIFF OFFICE	398.50
VERIZON	CELL PHONE USAGE	423.19
VERIZON	CELL PHONE FOR SHERIFF OFFICE	109.97
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		8675.35 *

JAIL		
MITCHELL CLINIC LTD	INMATES MEDICAL (2)	86.00
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		86.00 *

FIRE PROTECTION		
PLANKINTON FIRE DEPARTMENT	2023 SUPPORT	20500.00

STICKNEY FIRE DEPARTMENT	2023 YEARLY SUPPORT	20500.00
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		41000.00 *
PUBLIC WELFARE		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE	49.33
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	December Connect Care	50.80
		-----
		100.13 *
MENTALLY HANDICAPPED		
CENTER FOR INDEPENDENCE	MONTHLY SUPPORT	60.00
DEAN SCHAEFER COURT REPORTING	MI - TRANSCRIPT	24.00
THOMAS REYNOLDS	MI ATTY	262.60
		-----
		346.60 *
AG BUILDING		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE	43.88
PLANKINTON CITY	AG BLDG ELECTRICITY	148.40
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		192.28 *
SENIOR CITIZENS		
STICKNEY SENIOR CITIZENS	2023 YEARLY SUPPORT	850.00
WHITE LAKE SENIOR CITIZENS	2023 YEARLY SUPPORT	850.00
		-----
		1700.00 *
COUNTY EXTENSION		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	60.26
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	December Connect Care	101.60
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		161.86 *
WEED		
CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOP, INC	LANDFILL ELECTRICITY	60.00
GOLDEN WEST	INTERNET	5.12
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	DECEMBER PUBLISHING	174.80
WEED & PEST CONFERENCE	WEED CONFERENCE REGISTRATION	305.00
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		544.92 *
PLANNING & ZONING		
DISTRICT III	2023 MEMBERSHIP DUES	11807.00
S.D. MAIL OFFICE	DECEMBER PUBLISHING	63.25
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		11870.25 *
R&B CONSTRUCTION		
AUCA CHICAGO MC LOCKBOX	SERVICES - RAGS & MATS	64.07
BROSZ ENGINEERING INC	BREUKELMAN BRIDGE REPLACEMENT	965.00
CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOP, INC	AUR CTR & STORLA ELECTRICITY	207.31
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	129.07

GRAHAM TIRE - SIOUX FALLS	TIRE PLUGS	33.00
GREAT PLAINS LUMBER & SUPPLY	DRILL BIT	3.79
M & L REPAIR	TIRES, BATTERIES, PLOW REPAIRS	1313.74
M & L REPAIR	PICKUP GAS	86.46
MID-DAKOTA RURAL WATER SYSTEM	STORLA SHED WATER	31.00
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY	ELECTRIC BILLS - WL & STK	81.02
PLANKINTON CITY	ELECTRICITY - PLANK SHOP	556.25
PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY	SERVICE TRUCK & PICKUP REPAIRS	12.97
PLANKINTON LUMBER COMPANY	FLOOR DRY, LIGHT BULBS, ADAPTE	35.96
SDSU	ASPHALT CONFERENCE REGISTRATIO	125.00
STEVE'S WELDING REPAIR	TRUCK PLOW REPAIRS	174.75
STICKNEY WATER	STICKNEY SHOP WATER	90.50
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	December Connect Care	101.60
VERIZON	CELL PHONE USAGE	88.56
WHITE LAKE WELDING	WING REPAIR	14.28
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		4114.33 *

E 911 SERVICE		
GOLDEN WEST	E-911 SERVICES 1-1 TO 1-31-23	203.00
MID-STATE TELEPHONE CO.	E-911 SERVICES 1-1 TO 1-31-22	357.44
MITCHELL REGIONAL 911	TRAFFIC SERVICES 1-1 TO 1-31-2	2137.58
MITCHELL REGIONAL 911	E-911 SERVICES 1-1 TO 1-31-23	9250.52
SANTEL COMMUNICATIONS	E-911 SERVICES 1-1 TO 1-31-23	106.84
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		12055.38 *

EM&D		
GOLDEN WEST	PHONE & INTERNET	65.94
SKYLER KEHN	THERMAL CASES - SHIPPING	43.95
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	December Connect Care	50.80
VERIZON	CELL PHONE USAGE	95.36
	-----	
		256.05 *

REGISTER OF DEEDS		
MICROFILM IMAGING SYSTEMS	MONTHLY EQUIPMENT RENT	310.00
CONNECTING POINT ULTRA INC	December Connect Care	152.40
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		462.40 *

Total Checks: 102,210.54 \*

Meeting adjourned subject to call.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clyde Dethlefsen, Chairman  
Aurora County Commission

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Urban, Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost \_\_\_\_\_.