

**FORD COUNTY BOARD MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 13, 2023**

**A. CALL TO ORDER:**

The County Board of Ford County met pursuant to adjournment in the Ford County Board Room of the Ford County Jail in Paxton on Monday, November 13, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. The meeting was called to order by Ford County Sheriff, Chad Johnson.

**B. ROLL CALL:**

The roll call showed the following board members in attendance: Sarah Mussman, Carson Vaughn, Lesley King, Gene May, Tom McQuinn, Ann Ihrke, Tim Nuss, Vice Chairman Cindy Ihrke & Chairman Debbie Smith. Mr. McCall, Mr. Ferguson and Mr. Aubry were not in attendance.

**C. PROCLAMATION:**

Sheriff Chad Johnson

**D. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG AND INVOCATION:**

Chairman Debbie Smith

**E. APPROVAL OF THE BOARD AGENDA:**

- Mrs. King made the motion to approve the Agenda. Mrs. A. Ihrke seconded it.

Voice Vote - Carried

**F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- Mr. Nuss moved to approve the October 9, 2023 Minutes. Mrs. Mussman seconded it.

Voice Vote - Carried

**G. COMMUNICATIONS:**

**H. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:**

**I. OPPORTUNITY FOR OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS/DEPT. HEADS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:**

- Circuit Clerk Johnson Anderson discussed her overdrawn salary line in her dedicated fund.
- Chief Probation Officer Jennifer Anderson stated the FOP Contract for Probation Officers has been agreed upon and will be considered at the December County Board Meeting and she stated that Probation Officer Mallory Lithgow received the Distinguished Service Award.

**J. APPROVAL OF ALL SUBMITTED ELECTED OFFICIAL/DEPT. HEAD REPORTS:**

- Mr. Vaughn made the motion to accept all submitted Elected Official/Dept. Head Reports. Mr. McQuinn seconded it.

Voice Vote - Carried

**K. VERBAL COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**I. ENVIRONMENT/SAFETY COMMITTEE:**

- Mr. May stated they will be meeting soon.

**II. FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

- Mrs. C. Ihrke moved to **approve all Finance claims recommended from the Finance Committee.**  
Mr. May seconded.

Roll Call - Unanimous

- Mrs. C. Ihrke moved to **approve all ARPA claims recommended from the Finance Committee.**  
Mr. May seconded.

Roll Call - Unanimous

- Chairman Smith briefly discussed that the Finance Committee decided not to use the Longevity Report for FY 2024 and that it will be considered again for FY 2025 and that they agreed to give \$1.00 raise to the hourly employees.

- Mrs. C. Ihrke made the motion to **adopt Resolution 23 - 81 (Setting salary for the Hourly Employees and certain Dept. Heads for FY 2024)**. Mrs. King seconded it. Voice Vote - Carried
- Mr. Vaughn made the motion to **adopt Resolution 23 - 82 (Setting the Circuit Clerk's salary for FY 2024)**. Mrs. C. Ihrke seconded it. Roll Call - Ayes - 7, Nays - 1, Abstain - 1  
(Nays - Nuss, Abstain - King)
- Mrs. C. Ihrke made the motion to pay the CIRMA Insurance Proposal for FY 2024. Mr. Nuss seconded it. Roll Call - Unanimous
- Mr. Muss made the motion to **adopt Resolution 23 - 83 (Re-Appt. of Terry Whitebird as EMA Coordinator)**. Mrs. A. Ihrke seconded it. Voice Vote - Carried
- Mr. Nuss made the motion to accept an Agreement for Hazard Mitigation. Mrs. Mussman seconded it. Voice Vote - Carried
- Mrs. C. Ihrke made the motion to **adopt Resolution 23 - 84 (Allowing EMA to destroy certain equipment)**. Mrs. King seconded it. Voice Vote - Carried
- Mrs. Mussman made the motion to **adopt Resolution 23 - 85 (Setting County Board Meetings for FY 2024)**. Mr. Nuss seconded it. Voice Vote - Carried
- Mrs. A. Ihrke made the motion to **adopt Resolution 23 - 86 (Setting Holiday Schedule for FY 2024)**. Mr. McQuinn seconded it. Voice Vote - Carried
- Chairman Smith stated the Finance Committee discussed FY 2024 Levy and it will be considered at the December 11, 2023 County Board Meeting.
- Mrs. King made the motion to **adopt Resolution 23 - 87 (An increase in salary for the Election Judges)**. Mrs. Mussman seconded it. Roll Call - Unanimous
- Mr. Nuss made the motion to **adopt Resolution 23 - 88 (Appt. of D. Dunahee to Big Four Drng. Dist.)**. Mrs. Mussman seconded. Voice Vote - Carried
- Mr. Nuss made the motion to **adopt Resolution 23 - 89 (FY 2024 Budget)**. Mr. May seconded it. Roll Call - Unanimous

### **III. HIGHWAY COMMITTEE:**

- Mr. Nuss moved to **approve all claims recommended from the Highway Committee**. Mrs. A. Ihrke seconded it. Roll Call - Unanimous
- Mr. Nuss made the motion to **adopt Resolution 23 - 90 (Appropriating Funds for payment for the County Engineers Salary for 2024)**. Mrs. Mussman seconded it. Roll Call - Unanimous

### **IV. INSURANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:**

### **V. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE:**

### **VI. OVERVIEW LEGISLATION COMMITTEE:**

- Mr. McQuinn made the motion to allow the Overview Committee to finalize Bid Packets for 2 of the Ford County Farm leases. Mrs. King seconded it. Voice Vote - Carried

- Mrs. A. Ihrke made the motion to allow the Overview Committee to advertise for Sealed Bids in the paper and on the radio. Mr. Nuss seconded. Roll Call - Unanimous
- Vice Chairman C. Ihrke stated the sealed bids are set to be opened at the January 8, 2024 County Board Meeting.

**VII. SHERIFF'S COMMITTEE:**

- Mr. McQuinn moved to **approve all claims recommended in the Sheriff's Committee.**  
Mrs. A. Ihrke seconded it. Roll Call - Unanimous

**VIII. ZONING COMMITTEE:**

- Mrs. A. Ihrke stated the next meeting has been set for November 30, 2023 in the Small Courtroom at 4:00 P.M. to discuss Solar and battery storage. State's Attorney Killian stated there will be a telephonic meeting held on November 16, 2023 about a pipeline possibly running through Ford County.

**IX. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:**

- Mrs. C. Ihrke moved to **approve all submitted committee meeting minutes.** Mr. Vaughn seconded it. Voice Vote - Carried

**L. SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS: (\* = Chairman of that committee)**

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| I. <u>708 BOARD</u>  | A. IHRKE              |
| II. <u>9-1-1</u>   | NUSS                  |
| - Mr. Nuss stated the next meeting is on Wed. Dec. 13, 2023 at the Roberts Fire Dept. at 7:00 P.M. |                       |
| III. <u>CIRMA</u>  | SMITH/McCALL          |
| IV. <u>ECCA</u>  | SMITH                 |
| - Mr. Nuss they are working on a Risk Assessment.  |                       |
| V. <u>E.M.A./LEPC</u>  | TERRY WHITEBIRD/SMITH |
| - Mr. Whitebird went through his monthly activities.   |                       |
| VI. <u>EXTENSION</u>   | A. IHRKE              |
| - Next meeting will be on December 5, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.  |                       |
| VII. <u>FORD COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.</u>  | SMITH                 |
| - They meet every first Wednesday of the month virtually.  |                       |
| VIII. <u>MOBILE REGION 8</u>   | SHERIFF JOHNSON/SMITH |
| IX. <u>REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION</u>  | SMITH/C. IHRKE        |
| X. <u>UNION AFFAIRS</u>  | SMITH/McQUINN         |
| - Still working on the FOP Contract.   |                       |
| XII. <u>WIA</u>  | SMITH                 |
| - Met on Nov. 2nd, they are working on a pilot program.  |                       |

**M. OLD BUSINESS:**

**N. NEW BUSINESS:**

- State's Attorney Killian discussed Court Automation, Document Storage and other fees generated from criminal prosecutions that fund dedicated funds in various offices. Since Sept. 1, 2023, the Supreme Court Rule 404 was amended to make it easier for criminal defendants represented by Public Defenders, of which the majority for Ford County defendants are, to waive those assessments meaning less money will be coming into those funds annually.
- Mr. Nuss stated he has attended several meetings for ROSC and that the next meeting will be on December 5, 2023.

**O. ADJOURNMENT:**

- Mr. Vaughn moved to adjourn; Mrs. C. Ihrke seconded the motion. Voice Vote - Carried  
The meeting ended at 8:25 P.M.

**P. PROCLAMATION:**

Sheriff Chad Johnson

- The next monthly meeting will be held on Monday, December 11, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Amy Frederick, Ford County Clerk & Recorder

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

DRAFT

**FORD COUNTY BOARD MEETING**

**November 13, 2023**

Present = P Absent = A	BOARD MEMBER	FINANCE CLAIMS RECOMMENDED IN FINANCE COMMITTEE		ARPA CLAIMS RECOMMENDED IN FINANCE COMMITTEE		RES 23 - 82 SETTING CIRCUIT CLERK'S SAL FOR FY 2024		ACCEPTING THE PROPOSED CIRMA INSURANCE FOR 2024		RES 23 - 87 INCREASING THE PAY FOR ELECTION JUDGES		RES 23 - 89 FY 2024 BUDGET		HWY. CLAIMS RECOMMENDED IN HIGHWAY COMMITTEE		RES 23 - 90 AGRMINT APROP FUNDS FOR PYMNT OF CO. ENGINEER FOR 2024	
		YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
P	MUSSMAN, Sarah	X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X	
A	McCALL, Chase	-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-	
P	VAUGHN, Carson	X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X	
A	FERGUSON, Randy	-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-	
P	KING, Lesley	X		X		ABSTAIN		X		X		X		X		X	
P	MAY, Gene	X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X	
P	McQUINN, Tom	X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X	
A	AUBRY, Chuck	-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-	
P	IHRKE, Ann	X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X	
P	NUSS, Tim	X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X	
P	IHRKE, Cindy (VC)	X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X	
P	SMITH, Debbie (CHAIRMAN)	X		X		X		X		X		X		X		X	
RESULTS = PASSED OR FAILED		PASSED		PASSED		PASSED		PASSED		PASSED		PASSED		PASSED		PASSED	
		9	0	9	0	7	1	9	0	9	0	9	0	9	0	9	0

COUNTY CLERK: AMY FREDERICK

**FORD COUNTY BOARD MEETING**

**November 13, 2023**

Present = P Absent = A	BOARD MEMBER	ALLOWING OVERVIEW ADVERTISE FOR SEALED BIDS		SHERIFF CLAIMS RECOMMENDED IN SHERIFF COMMITTEE		YES		NO		YES		NO		YES		NO	
		YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO		
P	MUSSMAN, Sarah	X		X													
A	McCALL, Chase	-		-													
P	VAUGHN, Carson	X		X													
A	FERGUSON, Randy	-		-													
P	KING, Lesley	X		X													
P	MAY, Gene	X		X													
P	McQUINN, Tom	X		X													
A	AUBRY, Chuck	-		-													
P	IHRKE, Ann	X		X													
P	NUSS, Tim	X		X													
P	IHRKE, Cindy (VC)	X		X													
P	SMITH, Debbie (CHAIRMAN)	X		X													
RESULTS = PASSED OR FAILED		PASSED		PASSED		PASSED		PASSED		PASSED		PASSED		PASSED		PASSED	
		9	0	9	0												

COUNTY CLERK: AMY FREDERICK