

MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING, ROOM 112
TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2015
10:30 A.M.

Advance public notice of the Board of Commissioners meeting was posted on the County-City Building bulletin board and the Lancaster County, Nebraska, web site and emailed to the media on June 30, 2015.

Commissioners present: Roma Amundson, Chair; Larry Hudkins, Vice-Chair; Bill Avery, Deb Schorr and Todd Wiltgen

Others present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer; Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer; Brittany Behrens, Deputy County Attorney; Dan Nolte, County Clerk; and Kelly Lundgren, County Clerk's Office

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m., the pledge of allegiance was recited and the location of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was announced.

1) MINUTES: Approval of the minutes of the Board of Commissioners meeting held on Tuesday, June 30, 2015.

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Wiltgen seconded approval of the minutes. Avery, Hudkins, Schorr, Wiltgen and Amundson voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

2) CLAIMS: Approval of all claims process through July 7, 2015.

MOTION: Schorr moved and Hudkins seconded approval of the claims. Hudkins, Schorr, Wiltgen, Avery and Amundson voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

3) OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Agreement with Legal Aid of Nebraska for the representation of indigent parents and juveniles in the Separate Juvenile Court of Lancaster County. The County will pay Legal Aid \$1,337,030 for the service provided. Term of the agreement is July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2018. (C-15-0316)**

Joe Nigro, Public Defender, told the Board this agreement is a renewal. He noted some changes in the contract that will ultimately be a cost savings for the County.

Hudkins questioned if the change in appeals classified as new cases would actually increase the cost. Nigro stated that it could possibly increase but the savings comes due to a decrease in the number of abuse and neglect cases, which are very time consuming.

Avery questioned the term length of the contract being thirty-six months and the large discrepancy between compensation for each additional abuse and neglect case and additional law violations and status offense cases. Nigro said he thought the reasoning behind the term of the contract was to

OLD BUSINESS CONTINUED:

provide stability in planning for the court and legal aid. As far as the amount of compensation, he noted that continued on-going work involved in abuse and neglect cases is extensive.

Wiltgen asked who has oversight of the contract. Nigro indicated that the court will be overseeing the contract but does not see any problems with Legal Aid.

Schorr agreed that Lancaster County Juvenile Court Administrator, Theresa Emmert, does an outstanding job.

MOTION: Schorr moved and Avery seconded approval of the agreement. Schorr, Wiltgen, Avery, Hudkins and Amundson voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

4) NEW BUSINESS:

A. Resolution in the matter of proclaiming the period of July 1-24, 2015 as the annual "Campaign Against Hunger". (R-15-0030)

The Clerk read the resolution for the record.

Scott Young, Food Bank Executive Director, thanked the Board for their dedication and support to the Food Bank. He also thanked Minette Genuchi for her effort in organizing the campaign with the staff.

The Board thanked Young and Genuchi for their commitment to help the community.

MOTION: Avery moved and Schorr seconded approval of the resolution. Wiltgen, Avery, Hudkins, Schorr and Amundson voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

B. Recommendation from the Purchasing Department and the County Engineer to award a contract to Metal Culverts, Inc. for culvert pipe. The total cost of the purchase is \$33,019.88. (B-15-0029)

Pam Dingman, County Engineer, informed the Board these are pipes installed by county workers. The department also purchases a supply of pipes for driveway constructions and for emergencies.

Hudkins asked if a resident needs to put in a driveway could they purchase pipe from the County. Dingman said she will look into it but thought it was possible. Hudkins also questioned if auctioning used pipe is an option. Dingman indicated when a pipe is replaced typically its only use is for scrap metal.

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Wiltgen seconded approval of the recommendation. Wiltgen, Schorr, Hudkins, Avery and Amundson voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:

- C. Contract with Midwest Floor Covering Inc. for carpet replacement at the DMV office. The County will pay up to \$30,000 for the products and services. (C-15-0325)**

Bob Walla, Assistant Purchasing Agent, told the Board the contract was the final execution needed for approval for carpet replacement at the 46th and R Street Department of Motor Vehicles office.

Bill Jarrett, Chief Deputy County Treasurer, said the carpet is approximately twenty-years old and in serious need of replacement. He informed the Board the cost also includes installation of the carpet.

MOTION: Wiltgen moved and Avery seconded approval of the contract. Schorr, Hudkins, Avery, Wiltgen and Amundson voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- D. Approval of a requisition in the amount of \$22,663.73 from Business Interiors by Staples for Lancaster County Extension for conference room chairs and cart.**

Karen Wobig, County Extension Educator, said the conference room at the Extension Office gets a great deal of use with up to as many as two thousand people per month. Wobig noted the chairs have been in the facility since 1984 and presented the Board with pictures. (Exhibit A) She told the Board the structure of the chairs is fine but the coating on the chairs is disintegrating.

Avery asked if the University of Nebraska contributes funds for any of the upgrades. Wobig indicated that the University provides funds for staffing and the County is responsible for facility cost.

Wiltgen requested confirmation that this is a multi-year project to upgrade the facility. Wobig said the plan is to do upgrades over the next several years with the chairs being the greatest need at this time.

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Schorr seconded approval of the requisition. Hudkins, Avery, Wiltgen, Schorr and Amundson voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- E. Contract between Mary Angela Apthorpe, MA, LADC, PLMHP, and Lancaster County, on behalf of the Lancaster County Mental Health Crisis Center, for certified alcohol and drug abuse counselor services. The services will be provided at the rate of \$30 per hour for up to 20 hours per week. Term of the contract is July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. (C-15-0326)**

Scott Etherton, Mental Health Crisis Center Director, noted this contract is a renewal. Avery questioned if the rate per hour was the market rate. Etherton indicated that this contract brings Apthorpe in line with other contracted mental health counselors as she is licensed in two areas, alcohol and drug as well as mental health counseling.

MOTION: Wiltgen moved and Hudkins seconded approval of the contract. Avery, Wiltgen, Schorr, Hudkins and Amundson voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:

- F. Agreement with Greg A. Weinert for referee services provided to hear valuation protests filed for 2015 tax year and to transmit information to the Lancaster County Board of Equalization. The rate will be \$50 per hour. (C-15-0327)**

MOTION: Wiltgen moved and Schorr seconded approval of the agreement. Wiltgen, Hudkins, Avery, Schorr and Amundson voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- G. Construction contract with Straight-Line Striping, Inc. for pavement striping services. The County will pay \$194,476 for the products and services. The work shall be completed on or before August 14, 2015. (C-15-0328)**

Pam Dingman, County Engineer, noted this contract final approval needed for the pavement striping services. She said the paint that applied is more reflective making it easier to see at night and in the rain.

MOTION: Wiltgen moved and Hudkins seconded approval of the contract. Avery, Schorr, Hudkins, Wiltgen and Amundson voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- H. Amendment to County Contract C-11-0406 with Sapp Bros. Petroleum for the annual supply of lubricants. The amendment extends the end date of the agreement from July 18, 2015 to August 31, 2015. (C-15-0329)**

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Schorr seconded approval of the amendment. Hudkins, Wiltgen, Schorr, Avery and Amundson voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- I. Amendment to County Contract C-14-0218 with Nebraska Nursery and Color Gardens for miscellaneous landscape installation and maintenance services for projects under \$10,000. The amendment renews the agreement for an additional one-year term from May 1, 2015 to April 30, 2016. (C-15-0330)**

MOTION: Schorr moved and Avery seconded approval of the amendment. Schorr, Avery, Wiltgen, Hudkins and Amundson voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- J. Amendment to County Contract C-10-0384 with Aon Risk Services Central, Inc., to provide employee benefit consulting services for insurance programs. The amendment renews the contract for an additional 4-year term from June 1, 2015, to May 31, 2019. (C-15-0331)**

Bill Kostner, Risk Manager Human Resources, indicated this contract is a result of a City-County RFP. He noted Aon is one of the top five benefit consulting firms in the world and the City-County have been using them the last three years and have been pleased with the service received.

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:

Avery questioned why it was a four-year contract. Kostner said the last term of the contract was from 2010 through 2015 and extending to 2019. He noted that the contract can be cancelled at any time. Avery asked what process would entail to amend or cancel it. Brittany Behrens, Deputy County Attorney, informed the Board all contracts have the provision to terminate the contract if they wish. She said these are typically bid out for a longer term because it is time intensive to go through RFP process for professional services.

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Wiltgen seconded approval of the amendment. Avery, Hudkins, Schorr, Wiltgen and Amundson voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- K. Engineering agreement with Speece-Lewis Engineers for streambank restoration and protection at County Bridge H-207. The cost to the County is \$18,950. (C-15-0332)**

Pam Dingman, County Engineer, told the Board this was the first of possibly six contracts to repair damage from the recent flood. She said County Bridge H-207 was the area that saw the most extensive flood damage.

Dingman noted that hopefully reimbursement from FEMA will be available but she has not received any information regarding the process or timeframe. She said they are following all the procedures and protocols to their knowledge in advance in order to meet the criteria.

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Schorr seconded approval of the agreement. Hudkins, Schorr, Wiltgen, Avery and Amundson voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

- 5) **CONSENT ITEMS: These are routine business items that are expected to be adopted without dissent. Any individual item may be removed for special discussion and consideration by a Commissioner or by any member of the public without prior notice. Unless there is an exception, these items will be approved as one with a single vote of the Board of Commissioners. These items are approval of:**

- A. Setting of public hearing on Tuesday, July 14, 2015 at 10:30 a.m., in Room 112 of the County-City Building (555 S. 10th Street, Lincoln) regarding amusement license application for the Nebraska Folk & Roots Festival on July 31 and August 1, 2015 at Branched Oak Farm, 17015 Northwest 70th Street, Raymond, Nebraska.**
- B. Receive and place on file the following reports for June, 2015:**
- 1. County Clerk**
 - 2. Clerk of the District Court**

MOTION: Wiltgen moved and Schorr seconded approval of the consent items. Schorr, Wiltgen, Avery, Hudkins and Amundson voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

6) **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Those wishing to speak on items relating to County business not on the agenda may do so at this time.

Gary Aldridge, 7112 S. 45th Street, Lincoln, NE 68516 appeared and commented on the property tax valuation protest policy and procedures. Aldridge stated that he had several questions during his recent protest hearing. He noted that citizens could be nervous or intimidated by the process and felt the procedure should be more transparent.

7) **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- A. The Lancaster County Board of Commissioners will hold a staff meeting on Thursday, July 9, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. in the Bill Luxford Studio (Room 113) of the County-City Building (555 S. 10th Street, Lincoln).
- B. The Lancaster County Board of Commissioners will hold their next regular meeting on Tuesday, July 14, 2015, at 10:30 a.m., in Room 112 of the County-City Building (555 S. 10th Street, Lincoln) with the Board of Equalization immediately following.
- C. The County Commissioners can be reached at 402-441-7447 or commish@lancaster.ne.gov.
- D. The Lancaster County Board of Commissioners meeting is broadcast live. It is rebroadcast on Tuesday and Saturday on 5 City-TV, Cable Channel 5. In addition, the meeting may be viewed on the internet at lancaster.ne.gov under 5 City-TV, Video on Demand or 5 City-TV on YouTube.

8) **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: Schorr moved and Wiltgen seconded to adjourn the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners meeting at 11:23 a.m. Wiltgen, Avery, Hudkins, Schorr and Amundson voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Dan Nolte

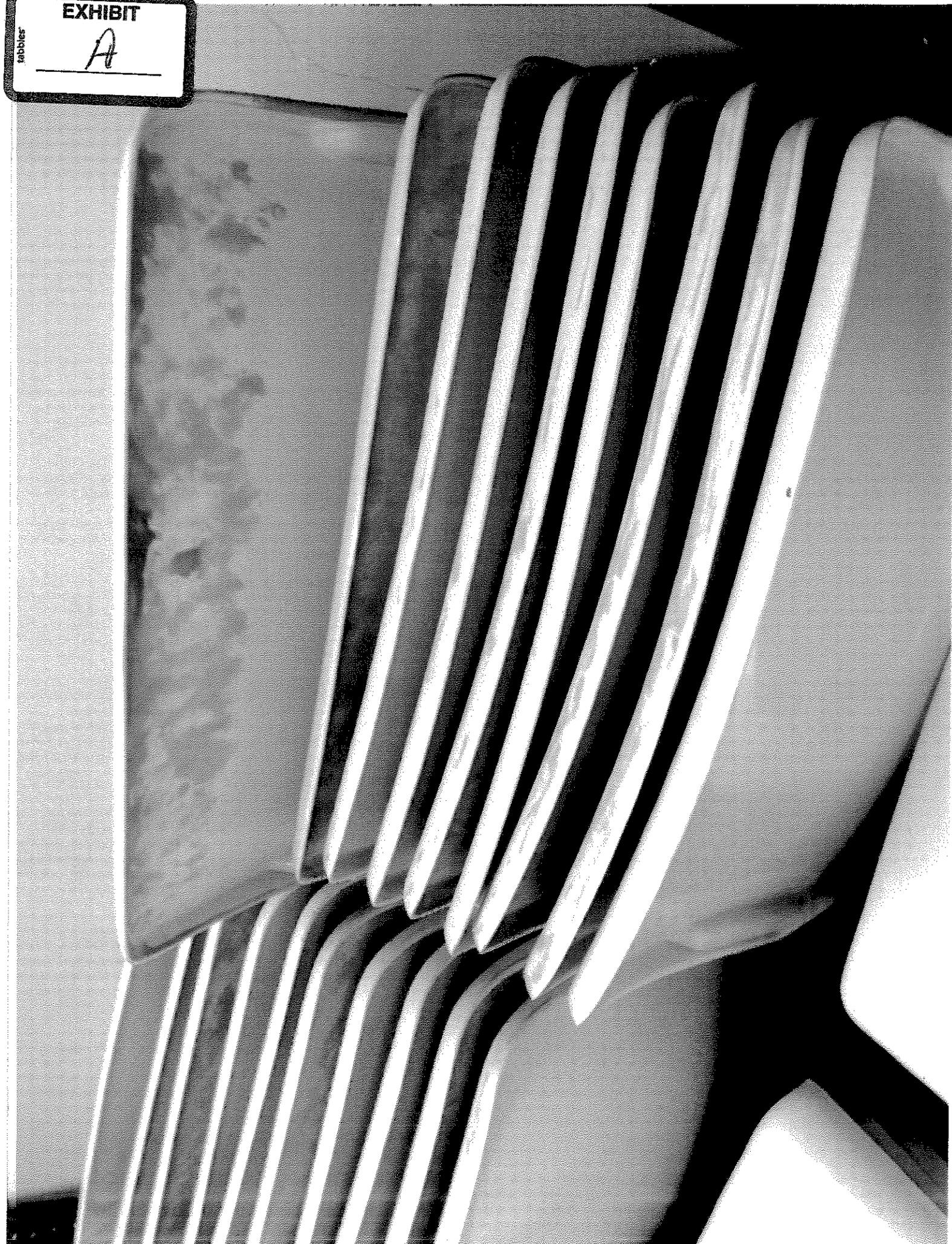
Dan Nolte, County Clerk

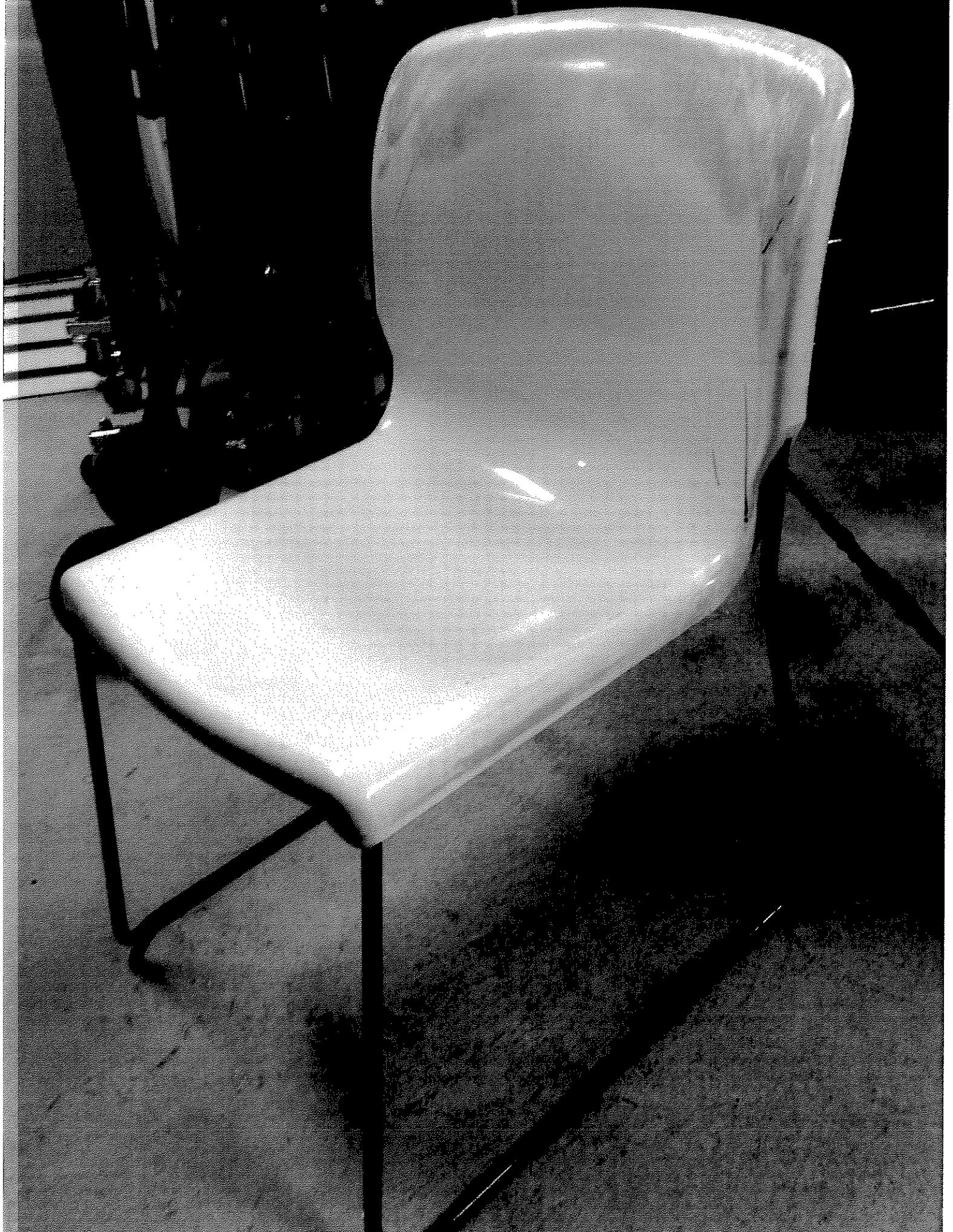


EXHIBIT

A

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MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING, ROOM 112
TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2015
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE LANCASTER COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

Advance public notice of the Board of Equalization meeting was posted on the County-City Building bulletin board and the Lancaster County, Nebraska, web site and emailed to the media on June 30, 2015.

Commissioners present: Roma Amundson, Chair; Larry Hudkins, Vice Chair; Bill Avery, Deb Schorr and Todd Wiltgen

Others present: Scott Gaines, Deputy Assessor/Register of Deeds; Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer; Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer; Brittany Behrens, Deputy County Attorney; Dan Nolte, County Clerk; and Kelly Lundgren, County Clerk's Office

The Chair called the meeting to order at 11:23 a.m., and the location of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was announced.

1) MINUTES: Approval of the minutes of the Board of Equalization meeting held on Tuesday, June 30, 2015.

MOTION: Avery moved and Hudkins seconded approval of the minutes. Avery, Hudkins, Schorr, Wiltgen and Amundson voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

2) ADDITIONS AND DEDUCTIONS TO THE TAX ASSESSMENT ROLLS: (See attached additions and deductions.)

MOTION: Schorr moved and Wiltgen seconded approval of the additions and deductions. Hudkins, Schorr, Wiltgen, Avery and Amundson voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

3) PUBLIC HEARING:

A. Motor Vehicle Tax Exemption Applications

American Red Cross
Angelic Temple Church of God in Christ
Child Guidance Center
Eastridge Presbyterian Church
First Free Methodist Church
Sisters of Mercy
University of Nebraska Foundation

The Chair opened the public hearing.

No one appeared to testify in support, opposition or in a neutral position.

PUBLIC HEARING CONTINUED:

The Chair closed the public hearing.

MOTION: Wiltgen moved and Schorr seconded approval of the motor vehicle exemptions. Schorr, Wiltgen, Avery, Hudkins and Amundson voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

4) PUBLIC COMMENT: Those wishing to speak on items relating to County Board of Equalization business not on the agenda may do so at this time.

No one appeared for public comment.

5) ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Wiltgen moved and Schorr seconded to adjourn the Board of Equalization meeting at 11:28 a.m. Wiltgen, Avery, Hudkins, Schorr and Amundson voted aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Dan Nolte

Dan Nolte, County Clerk

