

Jefferson County  
Joint Finance and Highway Committee Minutes  
August 11, 2015

Finance Committee members: Braughler, James B (Vice Chair) Poulson, Blane-Absent  
Hanneman, Jennifer (Secretary) Schroeder, Jim  
Jones, Richard C. (Chair)

Highway Committee members: George Jaeckel (Chair) Al Counsell  
Ron Buchanan Carlton Zentner-Absent  
Walt Christensen

1. **Call to order** – Jim Schroeder called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. **Roll call (establish a quorum)** – All committee members were present except for Blane Poulson and Carlton Zentner who were excused. Staff in attendance were Ben Wehmeier, Blair Ward, Bill Kern, Brian Udovich, Mark Watkins, Joe Nehmer and Brian Lamers. Other County Board members included Laura Payne, Steve Nass and Amy Rinard. Others present included Alexa Zoellner from Jefferson Daily Union.
3. **Certification of compliance with the Open Meetings Law** – Wehmeier certified that notice of the meeting complied with the Open Meetings Law.
4. **Approval of the agenda**-No Changes
5. **Communications** –None
6. **Public Comments** – None
7. **Discussion and possible action on the acquisition of up to 8 acres of land outside the city limits of Lake Mills from parcels #018-0713-2341-000 and/or #018-0718-2342-000, for the purpose of re-aligning highway A and potential creation of a county park.**  
Wehmeier explained that the resolution was changed from the initial 8 acres to 4 acres. The land is currently owned by 4 family members and is up for a judicial sale. It was discussed that for the Highway A realignment approximately 1.52 acres would be needed leaving a remnant parcel of approximately 1.69 acres. Watkins talked about the erosion and runoff issues into Rock Lake from that property caused by the former landowner which had been continuing for many years. Nehmer talked about interest by the DNR in purchasing an adjoining parcel of property that would allow access to Rock Lake. There was discussion about the cost of the land purchase. Wehmeier stated that the resolution authorized up to the asking price, but could be less with the ability of the Administrator to negotiate the price. From the Highway Committee a motion was made by Buchanan/Counsell to give approval for the Administrator to negotiate for the purchase of land, not to exceed 4 acres, at a negotiated price with approximately 1.52 acres to be purchased using funds from the Highway budget for the realignment of County Highway A and the remaining remnant, approximately 1.69 acres, to be purchased using contingency funds. The motion passed 4-0. From the Finance Committee a motion was made by Braughler/Hanneman to approve using highway department funds to purchase the land necessary for the realignment of County

Highway A and using contingency funds to purchase the remnant. The motion passed 4-0. This was the same motion passed by the Highway Committee.

8. **Adjourn Joint Finance and Highway Committee**-For the Highway Committee a motion was made by Buchanan/Christensen to adjourn at 6:45p.m. The motion passed 4-0. For the Finance Committee a motion was made by Hanneman/Braughler to adjourn at 6:45p.m. The motion passed 4-0.

### **Finance Committee Only**

1. **Call to order** – Richard Jones called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.
2. **Roll call (establish a quorum)** – All committee members were present except for Blane Poulson who was excused. Staff in attendance were Ben Wehmeier, Blair Ward and Brian Lamers.
3. **Certification of compliance with the Open Meetings Law** – Wehmeier certified that notice of the meeting complied with the Open Meetings Law.
4. **Approval of the agenda**-No Changes
5. **Communications** –None
6. **Public Comments** – None
7. **Discussion and possible action on a resolution for budget adjustments to move capital funds from the HVAC project at the Courthouse to improvements to Courthouse parking lots.** Wehmeier explained the savings with the repair of the HVAC and the moving of funds from one capital account to another for the purpose of improvements to parking lots at the Courthouse. A motion was made by Braughler/Hanneman to adjust the budget for Courthouse HVAC to improvements to Courthouse parking lots. The motion passed 4-0.
8. **Adjourn** – A motion was made by Hanneman/Braughler to adjourn at 6:50p.m. The motion passed 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Hanneman  
Finance Committee  
Jefferson County  
/bll