

**Community Services Committee Meeting**  
**Douglas County, Nebraska**  
Tuesday, January 29, 2019

The meeting convened at 1:35 P.M. in Room 903, Omaha-Douglas Civic Center, 1819 Farnam Street, Omaha, NE. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is located on the wall near the entrance of the room. A notice of the meeting was published in the January 22, 2019, issue of *The Daily Record*. County Commissioners present at the meeting were Marc Kraft, Clare Duda, Mary Ann Borgeson and Chris Rodgers. Others present included Joe Lorenz and Catherine Hall, Administration; Kent Holm, Environmental Services; Jayne Hutton, Nebraska Extension; Danielle Easdale, First Star Fiber; and Kim Bollow, Clerk/Comptroller's office. Commissioner Kraft chairs the committee.

A video recording of the meeting is available on the Douglas County Website:  
<http://commissioners.douglascounty-ne.gov/board-meetings/videos>.

*Time markers for when each topic/item occurs during the video are in parentheses.*

**Introduction** (0:00 to 0:37) Commissioner Kraft opened the meeting and asked for introductions.

1. **Environmental Services discussion items:** (0:40 to 1:08)

***Landfill and solid waste issues***

Kent Holm, Environmental Services: presented Attachment A, "Community Services Committee Jan 29, 2019, Kent E. Holm, Director Environmental Services" which included summaries of the Pheasant Point Landfill, software and auditing processes, seasonal issues, and special event disposal projects. He also explained on how the pending City of Omaha collection contract may affect Douglas County, recyclables being warehoused, and how it relates to China. He relayed his goals for more sustainable materials at the landfill, a more stable flow of materials, and possible future special rates or discounts. He explained LB 1101 and provided opinion of the State's accountability.

Danielle Easdale, First Star Fiber: explained the Hefty Energy Bag Program, how it began, its current process, and examples of end products. She handed out Attachment B, "What is the Hefty Energybag Program?"

Commissioner Kraft: suggested a public presentation at a County Board meeting by Ms. Easdale regarding the Hefty Energy Bag Program.

Commissioner Duda: inquired about the methane recovery system.

Joe Lorenz, Administration: inquired about seasonality of Pheasant Point Landfill.

***Stormwater***

Mr. Holm: reviewed a new permit, new guidelines, and lost state grants in 2018. He explained stormwater outfall inspections and procedures, elicit discharge, and zoning authority rules. Mr. Holm also provided an overview of community involvement.

Commissioner Rodgers: inquired about Urban Farm Local Food Production.

### ***Planning and Zoning***

Mr. Holm: relayed there are two vacancies on the Zoning Board of Adjustment; explained requirements.

Commissioner Borgeson: inquired about requirements to be on that Board.

Commissioner Kraft: suggested to consider former applicants previously considered for the Planning Board as potential members for the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

### ***Weed Control***

Mr. Holm: reviewed the map shown in Attachment A, then summarized parts of the earlier presentation by Mike Reed to the County Board.

### ***Landscape services***

Mr. Holm: explained the Douglas County Health Center aerial map in Attachment A along with a new transit shelter from Metro Area Transit (MAT), the need for a new campus sign and managing trees. He provided an update on West Campus landscaping: tree needs, placement, removal and diversity; pollinator gardens, storm water management, multi-year stages, possible future walking trail. He will bring a detailed proposal to the Board of Commissioners for those items not yet budgeted.

Mr. Lorenz: inquired about Mr. Holm working with the Public Properties Department on landscaping.

### ***Office relocation to Fitzgerald building on west campus***

Mr. Holm: anticipating to move his office March 15 through 19; hoping to hold a public meeting there in mid-March.

## **2. *Update on Extension community services* (1:09 to 1:30)**

Jayne Hutton, Nebraska Extension: handed out folders with multiple brochures (Attachment C) and presented Attachment D, which included information about staff, partners, members and community groups. Her focus subject was urban agriculture programming. She also provided an update on the Extension campus, current status and future goals which may include a reorganization.

Commissioner Rodgers: relayed he wants more presence of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources; suggested there should be a presentation of speakers to a future Community Services Committee; inquired if Ms. Hutton expects changes from the State budget.

## **3. *Other business***

None.

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 P.M.