

VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 18, 2025

Prayer by Sophia Custer.

A meeting of the Chairperson and Village Board of the Village of Ceresco, Nebraska, was held at the Ceresco Community Room in said Village on the 18th day of March, 2025 at 6:00 PM. Peterson called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Advance notice of the Regular Meeting, along with supporting documents were given to the Chairperson and all members of the Board. Notice of the Regular Meeting was given in advance thereof by posting at the Village Office, Ceresco Post Office, and CerescoBank. Peterson pointed out the Open Meeting Law Act posted on the wall of the Community Room. Answering roll call: Peterson, Custer, and Johnson. Absent: Burklund. Ruble entered the meeting at 6:08 PM. Also present: Quincy Cotter, Shanna Evans, Jeff Sobczyk, Cole Dubas, Ryan Hand, Dale Bohac, Jody Anderson, Dustin Gushard, Brian Roland, Tony Hernandez, Yana Johnson, Megan Johnson, Lynn Maxson, Cory Storm, Tyler Heyen, Angela Stuart, Shawn Manion, and Joan Lindgren.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Peterson moved to the Engineer agenda items.

Dale Bohac was present to review the well project: 1) Installed piping in building. 2) Connected water main from well pitless unit into well building. 3) Enclosed building addition and working on electrical components. 4) Working with the State on the radium blending. 5) Change Order #3 for replacement of pump and motor at well # 5. 6) OPPD is scheduled to come March 25 to convert the Delta to a Y for the service to the wells building.

Jeff Sobczyk, JEO Electrical Engineer, reviewed well #5. 1) OPPD dropped a line. Normally there are 3 phases. The motor was trying to run off 3 phases. 2) Well #5 was not on a VFD. It's an across the line start, which means you flip the switch and it goes full speed. It's spinning and running and when a line dropped there were windings inside the motor, and only two of the three sets were activated. It was trying to do the same amount of work with only 2/3 of the power. When it tried to draw more amps, it burned up. 3) Normally, when you have an across the line motor, a phase monitor is put on. There was one there, but it wasn't hooked up. It was 1989 when it was put in. Somewhere between 1989 and two weeks ago it was disconnected.

A new starter has been put in, and a brand new phase monitor. Peterson questioned if the VFD is on well #5. Sobczyk said it isn't.

Bohac noted the well start up is scheduled for March 31st, after OPPD changes the transformer. The generator will come in April after the electrical is changed.

Sobczyk reviewed the Board's request to add a VFD to well #5. He noted that well #5 doesn't have a VFD. It's an across the line motor.

Peterson noted there was a recommendation from JEO that we didn't need a VFD on well #5.

Sobczyk reviewed that normally the electrical engineer doesn't decide when you get a VFD or not. The water engineers typically decide. He said one reason you would want a VFD is if the tower goes down and you are running the town off of pressure. You're running the wells a lot and would use the VFD to modulate based on the pressure. A VFD changes the speed of the pump.

Peterson noted it was explained that the VFD would help the start up. It would ramp up, instead of giving it full power.

Sobczyk said if the town had a VFD on well #5, what would have happened was: 1) The VFD has loss protection in it. 2) It would have said it dropped a phase, and tried to run it, but essentially it would have shut it down. 3) If you have a phase loss monitor, it performs the same function as the across the line. 4) Having a VFD doesn't give you extra protection for that issue, as long as, you have a phase loss monitor. 5) Changing well #5 to a VFD wasn't part of the new well scope.

Sobczyk noted he doesn't necessarily recommend having a VFD on #5. 1) It will run full bore or whatever the load is. 2) The load varies by how much pressure is in the system, the pump head, and in the tower. 3) Well #6 runs all the time,

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which is on a VFD. 4) Blending might be a reason to put a VFD on #5.

Johnson questioned if both a VFD and phase monitor is needed. Sobczyk said the VFD provides protection like the phase monitor does, and you don't need both. If #5 runs full bore, then you need to make sure you can get the blending ratio out of #6.

Bohac noted due to the blending ratio a VFD is probably needed.

Sobczyk reviewed options for a VFD at well #5: **Option 1:** VFD in the building for well #5. About 1300 feet of feeder. The conductors are not designed to handle the output of a VFD and would need to be replaced. A filter would need to be installed. The VFD itself runs about \$18,000. The VFD sinusoidal filter runs about \$5,000. Conductor cost estimate for 1100 feet is \$30,000-\$40,000.

Option 2: VFD at well #5. Control panel needed similar to the set up as well #6. Install a whole new radio control panel. VFD would be right next to the wellhead. Cost from HOA is about \$45,000.

These are additional costs. Johnson questioned costs and why a VFD wasn't suggested as part of the plans. Sobczyk said a VFD isn't necessary for well #5. The new well does have a VFD.

Roland noted the VFD was put on #6 years ago for when the water tower is taken down for painting and inside cleaning. When the tower is down, we are pressurizing the system with the wells, and they run constantly. Well #6 has a pressure transducer at the wellhouse. Well #5 has a new phase monitor.

Peterson noted at the emergency meeting that the information they received was they needed both a VFD and phase monitor, which was wrong information.

Johnson questioned running on the generator in case a phase would be lost again during bad weather. Sobczyk said the protection is there now with a new phase monitor on well #5 that wasn't there 2 weeks ago.

Sobczyk will check the control diagram and combo starter. Sometimes the control system thinks it is running, and it's not. It fails on some other mode. It will stop itself on other protective issues. Well #6 always runs, since it has the biggest capacity. And well #5 is supplemental.

Johnson questioned why JEO didn't advise the Village to put in a VFD originally on well #5 with the new well project. Discussion held. Bohac noted they were focused on well #4. Roland noted all the electrical for well #5 was replaced with the new well project.

Johnson questioned getting an electrical inspector to the wells once in awhile. Sobczyk said the work that was done will be inspected before the new well goes in service, including the Delta system to a Y system, which was necessary for safety.

Johnson asked if the rest of the wells can be inspected at the same time. Sobczyk said it can be inspected. The original inspection was in 1989.

Sobczyk said the new phase monitor on well #5 has lights on it and will tell you what mode it trips out on. It has a phase on balance, and voltage droop. Motors are a constant KW so voltage and current go together. If the voltage goes down the current goes up, and if the voltage goes up the current goes down. They try to feed that load and if the voltage goes down too far that means the current is going to get too high. What will happen is the overload relay will try to trip out. We have that protection and the phase monitor will trip out.

It was noted a phase can be dropped often in Ceresco. Roland noted in March 2019 1100 feet of #2 wire to well #5 burned up with the pump and motor.

Discussion held.

Sobczyk reviewed the forestry generator the Village had was a Delta system, with the phases configured as a triangle, and had a ground that floats. In a Y system the phases are configured as a Y, with the center point of the Y fixed to ground. If the ground voltage goes up, the whole system goes up and down with it. It is more stable and safer. Ground fault monitors were a code requirement starting in 1995. The panels were replaced in well #5 because of the Delta system switching to a grounded Y system. Fluorescent lights weren't replaced because it wasn't part of the scope.

Surge protectors were discussed. Sobczyk said the new surge protectors are the wrong voltage. We still get surge protection; it just isn't as good. They also have indicator lights telling us if there will be a failure on one of the internal components. The contractor, 34 Electric, must replace those.

Sobczyk inspects all new work. He isn't doing an electrical inspection, because he isn't an electrical inspector, but he is making sure the contractor is following the contract. He does things that are above and beyond what the code requires to make sure we have a good installation that is going to last 25-40 years. He is making sure what is installed, is installed correctly.

Bohac reviewed Change Order #3 for the 2023 Well Improvement Project. Discussion held.

Ruble moved to approve Change Order #3 in the sum of \$24,371.95. Peterson seconded. Voting Yeas: Ruble, Peterson, Custer, and Johnson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Bohac reviewed Change Order #1 for the 2024 Water Main Improvements Project. 1) Due to the delay in the award, the material cost increased \$3,200. 2) Vrba is scheduled to start in early May. 3) The Legion's and Jan Mumm's water lines were found and will be added to the Project. Two more connections will be added, with the possibility of removing two connections. 4) Paving will be added. 5) Seeding and barricading will be removed. 6) Bohac will prepare a Change Order for April.

Peterson moved to approve the Change Order #1 in the amount of \$3,200.00. Custer seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Custer, Ruble, and Johnson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Bohac reviewed the Splash Pad Project. The drain to the creek has been installed. The electrical has been worked through with Roland and will connect to the shelter instead of the restroom. Footings have been installed for the play features. He noted the contractor is doing a very good job. Custer noted there will be a fundraiser in May.

Peterson moved to approve the February 18 minutes as presented. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble and Johnson. Abstain: Custer. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Custer moved to approve the March 6 minutes as presented. Peterson seconded. Voting Yeas: Custer, Peterson, Ruble and Johnson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Peterson reviewed that everyone was on board to have the Farmer's Market, but there were concerns over the fee.

Shawn Manion questioned the Ordinance the Board discussed updating at the February meeting. Ruble noted that was for the peddler's fee. Peterson also noted when the Board changes something more than one time, you need to go back and revisit the Ordinance or follow it. The fee schedule will be updated.

Manion expressed appreciation for Johnson and Burklund acknowledging how much they try to get people downtown.

Johnson spoke against the \$10 fee for the farmer's market. Discussion held.

Parking in front of the Apartments on 2nd Street was clarified. Where the driveway opening is, residents need to get in and out.

Manion questioned a banner along the highway for the farmers' market. If she orders one and pays for it, it will say sponsored by Grumpy Mugs Coffee House. She asked if the town should pay for the banner with the money from the vendor's fees. Discussion held. Manion said she already called the State. Lindgren will check on requirements. If additional space is needed for vendors, they will go down the middle of 2nd street.

Peterson moved to have the Farmers' Market from the beginning of May to the end of September, from 8 AM-2 PM and closing the street from 2nd and Elm south to the alley way, and with a \$10 fee for the entire year. A onetime fee for each vendor of \$10.00. Johnson seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Johnson, and Custer. Nays: Ruble. Motion carried.

Hernandez reviewed the Police Report, including the memorial weekend for Ross Bartlett on May 9th, and a flag presentation. Ruble noted in April there is a benefit at Starlight for Ross Bartlett. COPS would like to present a flag to his family at the benefit. Hernandez has been in contact with Christensen from Saunders County regarding the radios.

Roland reviewed: 1) The exhaust system at the wwtp was repaired by Prairie Mechanical. 2) Valve exercising will be reviewed by the Maintenance Subcommittee. 3) Orkin agreement

Peterson moved to approve the Orkin mole control for \$480.00. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Johnson, and Custer. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Roland reviewed: 4) Aqua Gard is what Utility Services put on well #6. It was also going to be put on well #4, but the casing was bad. Subsurface Technologies would like to take over for Utility Services. Other options were discussed. Bids will be requested. 5) The water quality report from NDEE. Ceresco's water is tested by the LPSNRD and the State. Notices will be posted. 6) Generator pad for community building. Bids will be obtained. 7) Vacation. 8) Compost site inspection.

Anderson reviewed the Zoning Administrator Report including: 1) Extraterritorial jurisdiction for the hazard mitigation. 2) Building inspector back from vacation. 3) Floodplain management ordinances need updated in the Municipal Code and Zoning, as well as the flood plain overlay for the zoning map. 4) Floodplain permit request.

Peterson moved to approve the Treasurer Report as presented. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Johnson, and Custer. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Johnson questioned the funds in the Keno account.

Peterson moved to pay the claims as presented. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Johnson, and Custer. Nays: none. Motion carried. The approved claims are as follows: Advantage Computer \$750.00/wat, sew; AFLAC \$423.84/ins; Ameritas Life \$31.44/ins; Arbor Day \$25.00/prk; Blue Cross and Blue Shield \$3,046.09/ins; Baker & Taylor \$178.68/lib; Brian Roland \$347.90/wat, sew; Bromm, Lindahl, ET AL \$1,022.00/gen, prk; Card Services \$531.80/pol, gen, prk; Delta Dental \$182.76/ins; Eakes Office Solutions \$268.58/gen; FES \$1,000.00/gen; FNBO \$1,186.82/lib, wat, sew, gen; Frontier Coop \$960.61/st; Galls \$212.89/pol; Goldstar Products \$547.63/sew; Harris Decals \$175.21/pol; HOA \$4,247.64/sew; Jackson Services \$159.31/gen, sew, wat, fire, prk, st; JEO \$10,107.50/st, wat; Jody Anderson \$166.84/gen; Merritt Concrete \$2,812.50/st; Menards \$65.69/st, prk, gen; Midwest Labs \$206.12/sew; Mumm Heating \$447.09/gen; Mutual of Omaha \$114.05/st, prk wat, sew; NE Dept of Revenue \$1,414.09/ sew; Omaha Publications \$268.00/prk; NE Public Health Env Lab \$15.00/wat; OPPD \$5,524.07/elec; Otte Oil \$2,175.96/fire, gen, st, lib; Pest Solutions \$60.00/gen; Sam's Club \$129.26/lib; Sandy Tvrdy \$325.00/gen; Sixty Plus \$138.00/gen; Steve Tvrdy \$75.00/gen; Post Office \$730.00/wat, sew, gen; USA Blue Book \$591.85/sew; Verizon \$178.86/phones; Waste Connections of NE \$7,943.62/trash; Windstream \$428.86/phones; Payroll Liabilities: American Funds Investment \$1,082.98; Payroll \$18,833.16; NE Dept of Revenue \$823.18; United States Treasury \$5,199.60

Waiting for a bid for the batting cage lights.

Custer reviewed there will be a fund raiser for the splash pad in May. CDAA tax credit program was mentioned. Custer will contact the State regarding the continuation of the program for the fire department. Discussion held. Anderson noted the Ceresco Days Committee originally started the splash pad.

David's Electric came today for the siren maintenance.

Fire department minutes were reviewed.

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The Five Year Fire Station plan and land purchase was reviewed. Serge Derun would like to sell the property at 436 Elm St to the Village. Price is \$225,000, and he is willing to sell with half down and the rest paid upon the new budget. The Village would pay taxes and interest upon full payment. The accountant was contacted and she said the Village could use a line of credit to purchase the land. A line of credit for financing was reviewed. The Board expressed repayment concerns. Discussion held. Tabled to next meeting.

Heyen reviewed putting burn permits on the Village's website. He plans to look at other fire department layouts.

Custer moved to approve the Celebrate Ceresco minutes as presented. Peterson seconded. Voting Yeas: Custer, Peterson, Johnson, and Ruble. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Anderson reviewed someone asked why the Celebrate Ceresco Committee wasn't donating to the splash pad. Needing to set up electronic payment for the event was mentioned. Discussion held.

Peterson moved to approve the liquor license for Celebrate Ceresco for the beer garden on Friday, July 11th from 5 PM to midnight, and Saturday, July 12th from 3 PM to midnight. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Johnson, and Custer. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Peterson moved to approve the street closings for the beer garden from 4 PM Friday, July 11th until 10 AM Sunday, July 13th, Elm Street from 1st Street to just east of 209 Elm, and 1st Street from Elm to the alley. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Custer, and Johnson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Peterson moved to approve the street closings for the parade from Saturday, July 12th, from 5 PM until the parade ends, 1st Street from Elm to Spruce, Spruce from 1st to 2nd, 2nd from Main to Oak, Oak from 2nd to 1st, and 1st from Oak to Elm. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Johnson, and Custer. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Johnson questioned selling the undeveloped 3rd Street right-of-way to help with the cost for a fire department. The attorney will be contacted.

Anderson questioned whether all Celebrate Ceresco members needed to be appointed as the Planning Commission, Library, and Tree Board. Peterson said only the President and Vice President.

The sidewalk cost share project was discussed.

Ruble moved to cut off taking new customers for sidewalks, complete the list, not to exceed \$9,000. Peterson seconded. Voting Yeas: Ruble, Peterson, Custer, and Johnson. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Bids will be requested for the watermain break sidewalk repair, the generator pad, and the Laura Lane Circle sidewalk.

Johnson questioned the types of culverts that can be used. The Planning Commission will need to meet to change the requirements. He also reviewed a quote for 3rd & Beech repairs. Discussion held.

NIMS training was discussed. A date in May will be requested.

WHEREUPON, the Chair announced that the introduction of ordinances was now in order.

Ordinance 2024-10 now comes on for third reading. AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF CERESCO, SAUNDERS COUNTY, NEBRASKA, TO ANNEX AN AREA LOCATED IN A PORTION OF TRACT 4 IN THE SW1/4 SE1/4 of SECTION 29, TOWNSHIP 13N, RANGE 7E OF THE 6th PM SAUNDERS COUNTY, NEBRASKA.

WHEREUPON, Chair Peterson moved that said Ordinance 2024-10 be approved by its third reading and its title agreed to. Board Member Custer seconded this motion.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call the roll for the vote thereon. The Clerk called the roll and the following was the vote on this motion. Yeas: Peterson, Custer, Johnson, and Ruble. Nays: none.

WHEREUPON, the Chair declared that a majority of the members of the Board having voted in the affirmative for the passage and approval of said Ordinance No. 2024-10, the Chair declared Ordinance No. 2024-10 to have been duly passed and adopted as an Ordinance of the Village of Ceresco, Saunders County, Nebraska, and the Chair subscribed his name thereto, and the Clerk attested said signature of the Chair by subscribing her name thereto and affixing thereon the seal of the Village of Ceresco, Nebraska. The Chair then instructed the Clerk to publish Ordinance No. 2024-10 in the manner required by law, within fifteen (15) days after passage.

Ordinance 2025-1 now comes on for second reading. AN ORDINANCE TO ADD THE CELEBRATE CERESCO COMMITTEE TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF CERESCO, NEBRASKA.

WHEREUPON, Board Member Ruble moved that said Ordinance 2025-1 be approved upon its second reading and its title agreed to. Board Member Custer seconded this motion.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call the roll for the vote thereon. The Clerk called the roll and the following was the vote on this motion. Yeas: Ruble, Custer, Johnson, and Peterson. Nays: none.

WHEREUPON, the Chair declared said Ordinance 2025-1 be approved on its second reading and its title agreed to and that the third reading of Ordinance 2025-1 be on the next Agenda of a meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Resolution 2025-3 was introduced by Board Chair Peterson and is set forth in full as follows, to wit:

WHEREAS, certain municipalities and fire protection districts located in Saunders County, Nebraska desire to enter into an Interlocal cooperation agreement for the creation of a Mutual Finance Organization pursuant to Legislative Bill 1120, 1998;

WHEREAS, the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for a Mutual Finance Organization would be in the best interests of all participating members; and

WHEREAS, the members desire to enter into a written Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for a Mutual Finance Organization.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Ceresco, Nebraska:

Section 1. The Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for a Mutual Finance Organization is hereby approved, ratified and accepted, and the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Ceresco, hereby is authorized, directed and empowered to execute the same.

Section 2. The Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for a Mutual Finance Organization shall not establish a separate legal entity, but rather shall be a joint and cooperative undertaking between the members and that a joint board shall be responsible for administering this joint and cooperative undertaking.

Section 3. All resolutions or parts of resolutions in conflict herewith are repealed.

WHEREUPON, Board Member Ruble moved that said Resolution No. 2025-3 be approved. Board Member Custer seconded this motion. No further discussion was required.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call the roll for the vote thereon. The Clerk called the roll and the following was the vote on this motion. Yeas: Ruble, Custer, Johnson, and Peterson. Nays: none.

WHEREUPON, the Chair declared that the Motion having been approved by a majority of the votes cast, said Resolution 2025-3 is approved and adopted.

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Resolution 2025-4 was introduced by Board Chair Peterson and is set forth in full as follows, to wit: **A RESOLUTION DECLARING INTENT TO INCUR INDEBTEDNESS FOR WATER UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS AND TO REIMBURSE CERTAIN ORIGINAL EXPENDITURES OF THE VILLAGE WITH THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH INDEBTEDNESS.**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CHAIRPERSON AND VILLAGE BOARD OF THE VILLAGE OF CERESCO, IN THE STATE OF NEBRASKA:

Section 1. The Chairperson and Board hereby find and determine that it is necessary and appropriate to declare an official intent to issue tax-exempt water bonds, municipal improvement bonds, or other tax-exempt bonds, lease obligations, or notes of the Village and, in addition, to declare the Village's reasonable expectation to reimburse certain expenditures with the proceeds of such bonds or notes issued by the Village in connection with the construction of water utility improvements (consisting of electrical upgrades to a well as part of a water main replacement project), together with engineering, legal, financing and other related project costs.

Section 2. This resolution is a statement of the official intent of the Village under Treasury Regulation § 1.150-2 and for such purpose the following information is hereby stated:

(a) The project for which expenditures may be made is water utility and related infrastructure improvements, and including engineering, legal, financing and other related project costs.

(b) The principal amount of the bonds or notes expected to be issued by the Village for the project as authorized by Nebraska statutes, including specifically Sections 10-137, 17-534, and/or 18-1803 of Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is estimated to be \$700,000.00. The Village anticipates that up to \$100,000 on project costs incurred by the Village prior to the issuance of such bonds may be reimbursed to the Village from the proceeds of the bonds.

WHEREUPON, Board Member Ruble moved that said Resolution No. 2025-4 be approved. Board Member Custer seconded this motion. No further discussion was required.

The Chair instructed the Clerk to call the roll for the vote thereon. The Clerk called the roll and the following was the vote on this motion. Yeas: Ruble, Custer, Johnson, and Peterson. Nays: none.

WHEREUPON, the Chair declared that the Motion having been approved by a majority of the votes cast, said Resolution 2025-4 is approved and adopted.

Peterson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 PM. Ruble seconded. Voting Yeas: Peterson, Ruble, Johnson, and Custer. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Scott Peterson, Chair
Joan Lindgren, Clerk

