

**THURSTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PROCEEDING**  
**March 24th, 2025**

A regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Thurston County, Nebraska was held at the regular meeting place of the board room in Thurston County, Nebraska Courthouse in Pender, Nebraska on March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Present were Davin French, Georgia Mayberry, Mark English, Jim Mueller, Robb Roeber, and Ben Walker. Absent James Price. Also, present were Patty Bessmer County Clerk, Emergency Manager Tom Perez, Road Supervisor Mat Frazey, and Mark Heckenlaible Noxious Weed and Signs Manager. Notice of the meeting was given to all members of the Board of Supervisors and a copy of their acknowledgement of their notice and receipt of the notice on the agenda is attached hereto. The availability of the agenda was communicated in advance and in the notice to the Board of Supervisors of this meeting. All proceedings shown hereafter were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Davin French at 9:00 a.m. French stated that the open meeting laws will be followed during this meeting and are posted in the back of the boardroom for anyone that would like to review them.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motioned by Mayberry seconded by Mueller to approve the minutes of March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Walker, Roeber, and French. Absent: Price. Motion carried.

Fund Balance was discussed.

Unfinished business: None

Committee Reports: Mayberry reported she had gone to the district meeting in Norfolk this past week and a lot of discussion was on budgets and what will possibly be changed. Cash reserves and Emergency funds were discussed and Counties should establish these going forward. The Emergency fund should be contributed all year as this should be a budgeted item.

Also discussed was with the budgets that things should be put in the right-line item and taken out of the correct line item. They also stated that if a department has funds left in their budget it does not mean they need to be spent.

French had attended the same meeting, and he noted that NACO gave legislature updates and what their stance are on them. French also reiterated that a cash reserve should be done, and an emergency fund need to be considered for the next budget.

French stated that he had seen Patty Bessmer, Robin Christiansen, Tom Perez and Penny Warren all at the meeting. Meetings like this are a great way the learn and talk with other Elected Officials. He encouraged the Board to attend them in the future.

Public Comments: None

Mark Heckenlaible Noxious Weed Superintendent went over the reports he has received from the Department of Ag., Mark Heckenlaible received a perfect score.

Motioned by Roeber seconded by Mayberry to approve Chairman French's signature on the Nebraska Department of Ag report. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Walker, Roeber, and French. Absent: Price. Motion carried.

The list of the monies collected March 3, 2025, was reviewed by the board. No action was needed. The list is available in the Clerk's or Treasurer's office.

Motioned by Mayberry seconded by Roeber to approve the Applied Connective upgrades of wireless and networks in the courthouse in the amount of \$4,697.00. This will be paid for with a grant that the County Clerk received from the Secretary of State HAVA funds. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Walker, Roeber, and French. Absent: Price. Motion carried.

Tom Perez Emergency Manager reported he had been busy with the weather this past week and he had attended the Northeast District meeting in Norfolk last Friday.

Tom informed the Board that he participated in the Connect the Dots program that was put on at the Pender School. This is a program that gives the students a chance to look at career choices.

Tom informed the board that the storm spotter class that was scheduled has been cancelled and will not be rescheduled due to cutbacks and positions being eliminated. This class will now be available on video. This is severe weather week, and Tom has reached out to the communities in the area to see if they were wanting to test the sirens and some are still without power, Tom stated that one of the villages was not going to test theirs. Tom reported that he has LEPC all hazard meeting this week on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

Motioned by Mueller seconded by Roeber to declare a Disaster Declaration for the Storm on March 19, 2025. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Walker, Roeber, and French. Absent: Price. Motion carried.

Mat Frazey reported that his department had hauled gravel to some areas before the blizzard. They were busy moving snow for a couple days straight. They have also been repairing equipment.

Motioned by Mayberry seconded Roeber to have a MOU drawn up with the Omaha Tribe to allow the County to take care of a stretch of the road on H Ave. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Walker, Roeber, and French. Absent: Price. Motion carried.

Motioned by Mayberry seconded by Roeber to approve the claims as presented. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Walker, Roeber, and French. Absent: Price. Motion carried.

Motioned by Mueller seconded by Roeber to adjourn at 9:35 a.m. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Walker, Roeber, and French. Absent: Price. Motion carried.

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Patty Bessmer County Clerk

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Davin French Chairman