

THURSTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PROCEEDING
February 9, 2026

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 February 9th, 2026. Present were Davin French, Georgia Mayberry, Benjamin Walker Jr., James Price, Jim Mueller, Robb Roeber. Absent were Mark English. Also, present were Steven Schneider County Clerk, Emergency Manager Tom Perez, Mat Frazey Road Supervisor, Sheriff Russ Briggs, Deputy Sheriff Derek Herron, Laura Novak with Dispatch, County Attorney Tammy Maul Bodlak, County Treasurer Robin Christiansen, Jennifer Hansen & Sydney Williams with the Extension Office, Megan Rowland and Zachery Randall with Pender Times. Leonard Peters attended the meeting at 9:30 am. 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. 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 Roeber seconded by Price to approve the Board Minutes of January 26, 2026. Mayberry stated there was an error with committees as she declined being on the following committees: Region Four North Star, Region IV Mental Health Service, The 911 Committee, and the Grant Committee. Chairman French stated that minutes were accurate to whom he appointed on committees. Roll call aye: Mueller, Price Roeber, Walker and French. Nay: Mayberry Absent: English. Motion carried.

Public Comments: Megan Rowland spoke board, concerned about the damage to her property after removal of trees and ditch work by the county roads department. Also, she made comments about the lack of communication before and after work was done. She stated that she went out and measured the road, and it was the same width as prior to the tree being torn out. She stated that there are texts that Mat did not have her permission to do that. Also concerned he may have hit a gas line. Mayberry showed pictures that Megan had taken. Megan also stated that garbage that was in ditch on both sides and threw it in her yard. There was also concern about damage to the asphalt caused by equipment tracks. Question was also whether the sand road was a county road or an access road. Mayberry recommended a surveyor needed to find the center of the road. She had concern about accessing property and potential of a dog bite. French stated the county had not received a complaint from the village of Thurston, and if Megan would like to make a written complaint she could do it in the clerk's office or with the court if she wished to make this a civil matter, and that Mat has been spoken to about the communication issue relating to this matter.

The Roads committee will meet with Mat after the board meeting to discuss a resolution to this matter.

Unfinished Business:

Committee Report:

Jenifer Hanson presented the annual board reports, she directed the board to an Impact at a glance document that was included in the annual report that was included in their board packet. The Impact at a glance document is the same given to senators that has a couple of impacts to the county. Sydney has been doing work with the Healthy Living focus area, that does things during Red Ribbon week that is in October. She did these activities in Walthill Public School and Pender Public School Grades 4,5,6. The QR code on the document gave statewide data. They are proud to reach 57.75% youth in Thurston County K-12 Grade. Facilitated at the Wellness Center in Macy, the Marathon Kids ran 2169 miles with 175 youth. Sydney has been working with a grant for food loss and waste. Weighing how much the lunch tray weighs before and after students eat, to see how much was thrown away. Starting a year 2 grant with the Omaha Nation that will go through this school year and the whole school year next year. This data will be used to improve lunch services and along with the garden as well. The extension has also partnered with Pender Schools Corky Malmberg Science Stuff. There is a lot of interesting educational efforts going on in our county and people that serve our county.

County Clerk Steven Schneider discussed with the board that the clerk's office will be transitioning to a new MIPS program for billing and payroll. This transition will take place Feb. 13, 2026, with training Feb. 17, 2026. The office will be open during this training.

Also discussed by Clerk Schneider was the incumbent filing date Feb. 17, 2026, and the need to complete the disclosure and accountability forms whether or not filing for a new term or leaving office.

The Clerks office will be advertising to fill a position in the clerk's office

County Treasurer Robin Christiansen presented to the board wanting Longevity pay for the Treasurer's Office Staff. She brought up splitting the payments or in a lump sum. She believes it is in her budget, however, cannot predict it is fully in her budget as we are not at the end of the fiscal year. It does have to be a separate line item. There was a discussion about this effect on the budgets and with other offices.

Mat Frazey road report: The roads department has been blading and patched a few culverts that had some holes. 2 of the culverts will have to be replaced this spring. Cleaned up some brush where they have been working. Spoke to Dan Alexander about some wooded bridges, there will be one that needs to be replaced in a year or two. This bridge is located on Mill Road. Dan is trying to do a CMBP project on it. He would like to group some similar structures and apply for multiple at once. A discussion was held about Stop signs and the removal of a tree on D Ave.

Tom Perez emergency manager report: Been working on some 911 signs and new addressing. Been helping with getting dispatch up and running as best as he can. Also working on grants, EMPG grant is still held up in grant funding. Same with the department of homeland security grant.

9:31 a.m. Board of Equalization motioned by Roeber seconded by Price. Roll call aye: Mayberry, Mueller, Price Roeber, Walker and French. Absent: English. Motion carried.

Motioned by French seconded by Price to approve Winnebago Reformed Church application for Exemption on a Dodge Sport Van. Roll call aye: Mueller, Price Roeber, Walker, French and Mayberry. Absent: English. Motion carried.

Motioned by French seconded by Roeber to approve a Tax List Correction- Aptitude Investments, LLC and refund of \$326.10. Reason for the change was the property was sold in 2022, and they did not report that it was sold. Roll call aye: Mueller, Price Roeber, Walker, French 2022, Mayberry. Absent: English. Motion carried.

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

Sheriff Russ Briggs spoke to the board about two options with the old 911 system. Moving one console to the courthouse and then adding a additional console. Another is adding one NOMAD device to the network, which is a mobile dispatch. Regionalization is currently working. However, they need the 911 working more optimally.

Motioned by Mueller seconded by Price to approve that if moving the dispatch console in the jail is unsuccessful, the purchase of the NOMAD device. Roll call aye: Mueller, Price Roeber, Walker, French and Mayberry. Absent: English. Motion carried.

Leonard Peters spoke to the Board about changing the Road and Bridge Project referencing the Hwy 94 west side of Pender bridge. They have collected 300-400 signatures. New people working with Leonard on this, and they are just getting started. He thinks that county ownership of the bridge will be a good deal for the county as it would give complete control over the bridge and if we don't like what is happening the county can tear it out and sell for salvage. Leonard needs a formal vote and document on a formal letter head from the board. After that it will be delivered to the Head of Road allocation and to the Governor. Mueller brought up Liability. Leonard needs written results either negative or positive about the bridge. He would also like to meet with the Omaha Tribe Council; Walker was going to try and arrange the meeting.

Correspondence: None

Motioned by Mayberry seconded by Mueller to Sheriff's fee report for December 2026 in the amount of \$53,862.05. Roll call: Mayberry, Walker, Mueller, Price, Roeber, French. Absent: English. Motioned carried.

Motioned by Mayberry seconded by Roeber to approve County Clerk Steven Schneider January 2026 in the amount of \$23,340.80. Roll call: Mayberry, Walker, Mueller, Price, Roeber, French. Absent: English. Motioned carried.

Motioned by Mayberry seconded by Mueller to approve District Court Clerk Gina Roth fee report for January 2026 in the amount of \$716.00. Roll call: Mayberry, Walker, Mueller, Price, English, Roeber, French. Motioned carried.

County Attorney reminded the board that the Opioid Fund is to be used for prevention and education.

Motioned by Mueller seconded by Mayberry to approve the Resolution #26-06 to transfer Opioid funds \$1,000.00 from County General Funds Misc Sheriff's Fund 0100-395-15 to Canine Fund 2430-590-02. Roll call aye: Mayberry, Mueller, Roeber, Walker and French. Absent: English and Price. Motion carried.

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

Motioned by Mayberry seconded by Walker to adjourn at 10:05 a.m. Roll call aye: Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker, French and Mayberry. Absent: English. Motion carried.

Steven Schneider- County Clerk

Davin French- Chairman