

THURSTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PROCEEDING
April 6th, 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 April 6th, 2026. Present were Davin French, Georgia Mayberry, Mark English, Jim Mueller, James Price, Robb Roeber and Benjamin Walker Jr. Also, present were Steven Schneider County Clerk, Roads Supervisor Mat Frazey, County Attorney Tammy Maul Bodlak, County Jail Supervisor Julie Nilges, Jean Morgan and Sheriff Russ Brigg via phone. 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 English seconded by Walker to approve the Board Minutes of March 23rd, 2026. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Walker and French. Abstained: Roeber. Motion carried.

Public Comments: Jean Morgan was informed that she was on the agenda and would be addressed shortly. No other public comments

Unfinished Business: None

Committee Report: English attend the elected officials meeting last Monday with emergency managers. He will report more next meeting.

French reported that a few had visited the jail and walked around after Serve Pro had begun to work to look at the mold issue. They did not see as much as expected on the walls and other locations. Leading them to believe it may have been a humidity issue. The windows did not appear to be actively leaking. Price discussed under the how the mold was under the trim at the bottom of the wall. Mayberry discussed rust on the steel pillars, the crack in the floor appears to have widened, and the condition of the windows in the sheriff's office. She would like the drainage problems addressed.

Jean Morgan addressed the board wanting an update on the Morrow Bridge. She said she has been keeping up with the Pender Times, July 1st meeting was specifications for multiple types of structure for the board to consider to replace the 4905 bridge. In the July 29th meeting secured funding for the engineering for the 4905 bridge. Next was to accept the MOU between the Omaha tribe, BIA, and Thurston County on the bridge. She has not heard anything since then. She seen that not exceed \$40,000 for engineering on the replacement of three bridges. In June of 2022 she advised that they could not receive mail services because the bridge was closed and it was too many miles for the postmaster to deliver. This has caused a 16 miles round trip to get there mail. She also stated that emergency vehicles have no north or south access for three miles, sections 22, 23, & 24, That was proven with the large Lyons fire Two years ago. She spoke to Mat Frazey, January 23 and he did not have a update. Mat Frazey spoke about after the phone call from Jean Morgan, he to Dan Alexander, Whom stated should have a design contract shortly and hopefully building it next year at best depending on government and BIA funding. French discussed the MOU and how the MOU covers both the farm bridge down by Macy and the Morrow Bridge. The selecting three other structures is a different project, the CBMP project. The Morrow bridge is still in the works, with the government shutdown and now the money for the engineering has come through. Engineers are supposed to move in this week to work on the engineering for both the Morrow bridge and the Tri Farm bridge at the same time. He said at best get to bid this winter and possibly being built next summer

Julie Nilges spoke to the board with Sheriff Briggs on the phone, The sheriff department purchased a transport van to maybe add funds to our jail to do some out of county transports. This is to prevent taking deputies in and out of other counties. They would like a fund that money for this service could be put into just to be used for maintenance for that vehicle and equipment for the people who are transporting. French asked if the budget needed to be revised and add a line? Mayberry stated it would not happen this financial year, because it would need to be a special line item on the budget. In July meet with Shelly to see if the state already has one set up. Until then any funds coming in can go into a

miscellaneous account and it could be moved to the fund once it is created. Like the Canine fund. No action taken.

Julie Nilges then spoke to the board about the APHIS machine which uses Idemia software that is being used by the state. They currently have a APHIS machine now that they just did a contract for 2 years and is only good for two more years. Then that system will be phased out. The new system will be about \$48,000.00. The sheriff's department is looking at raising fingerprint prices to \$10.00. These funds go into the general fund and would like those funds to be given back to purchase the new system in two years. NSP is also working on grants. The jail got the old system on a grant originally. They are hoping within this two-year limit they will find something or a cheaper software company that works just as well as Idemia. Mayberry stated she did not understand why those funds would go to general and why it would not go back into where the funds come from. These funds are not from inmate fingerprinting; it is for the public to get fingerprinted. She also expressed concern about the funds being placed in the correct place in the general fund. A discussion will need to be had with Robin in regard to this topic. No action taken.

Price spoke to the board regarding concerns regarding the Winnebago Police Department and inmates coming to the Thurston County Jail. He would like to see both sides write down concerns, leading to a MOU. This concern is from the Winnebago Police department from BIA to Tribe. BIA is still involved until July. In July they would like to get together to put together a contract. Julie stated she had already sent them a contract. She also stated she would not take mental health and medical issues because of liability to Thurston County. Price would like to see better communication and the concerns be written down. Julie said that Thurston County has a contract with BIA for the next 5 years, but starting July 1, 2026 Winnebago PD will no longer be tied into that contract.

County Clerk Steven Schneider spoke to the board about Penders school visiting the Courthouse on April 21, 2026. He reminded the board that this was attempted back in March, however due to weather it had to be rescheduled. The new date is April 21st. The board, sheriff departments and roads were invited to take part.

Mat Frazey Road Supervisor reports: They are blading and hauling gravel out on some of the roads. There are a few ditches that need to be cleaned out and culverts that need to be un-plugged after the rain we had received. At the request of French he presented a list of machinery with hours and miles. The only piece of equipment not on the list was the mini excavator as it is a rental. Mayberry asked about the new gravel trailers and when they would arrive. Mat stated he just received an email last week and it is possibly the third week of May. French also asked for a list of projects that are being planned for this summer, The list was mostly the bigger projects, and Mat presented the list to the board. Mat brought up the current grey dump trailer not working. The roads department would be working on it this morning. Cost permitting it will be repaired, however if it is not cost reasonable it will not be repaired.

Tom Perez emergency manager report: Tom was unable to attend the meeting due to a personal issue. He has been working remotely. English had been texting with him. English got him the information to complete the LATFC report. The LATFC funds have not been spent yet, it has been budgeted for. \$27,600 went to the general fund with \$72,400 to miscellaneous fund.

Letter from Scott Wheeler requesting a letter of support regarding the Lawrence Welk Project, English stated he did not agree with it. French stated if the writer would like, he can present it to the board. No Action.

Motioned by Mayberry seconded by Roeber to approve the County Clerk's fee report for March 2026 in the amount of \$14,305.04. Roll call: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker, and French. Motioned carried.

Correspondence: Letter from Department of Transportation regarding the K Ave detour route, it was also advertised in the paper and on county website. Also was a letter from the Village of Pender regarding the gas bill.

Mayberry had a question regarding claims that the fixing of the jail coming out of inheritance fund. But can the fixes to the jail come out of the bond? Tammy Maul spoke about the bond was for the construction of the jail. Mayberry did not feel inheritance fund was the right place to pay the bill out of, as approved in a prior meeting. And that it should be it should be coded to come out of the jail, then have the funds come out of inheritance to the jail by a transfer to keep better track of the money spent. French spoke that he agreed, however it did not get paid last meeting, and it needed to get paid.

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

Motioned by Muller seconded by Roeber to adjourn at 9:52 a.m. Roll call aye: Roll call: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker, and French. Motioned carried.

Steven Schneider- County Clerk

Davin French- Chairman