

THURSTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PROCEEDING
June 1st, 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 June 1st, 2026. Present were Davin French, Georgia Mayberry, Mark English, James Price, Robb Roeber and Benjamin Walker Jr. Jim Mueller was absent. Also, present were Steven Schneider County Clerk, County Attorney Tammy Maul Bodlak, Sheriff Russ Briggs, County Roads Supervisor Mat Frazey, Matt Bjordal with Ramussen Mechanical Services, Judd Allen with NACO and Zachary Randall. 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 May 18th, 2026. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Roeber, Walker, and French. Abstained Price. Absent Mueller. Motion carried.

Public Comments: None

Unfinished Business: None

Committee Report: English Spoke about a personal issue with Tom Perez, Emergency Manager in reference to holiday pay while on leave. No action was taken.

Updates in mold issue at Law Enforcement Center (LEC) – Mike Robinette with H&R came out to look at the issues. He stated that windows are notorious for leaks if you do not caulk on them consistently. They sent someone down and redid the caulk. There have been a few rains and nothing came through the windows. Also came down again last week to perform a water test and nothing appeared to be coming through. He recommended maintenance every three years on the caulking due to shrinkage.

9:15 am Open Sealed and Read sealed bids for combined general contract to replace ten (10) existing packaged Roof Top Units (RTU's). First Bid was from Krumwiede Heating and Cooling for \$389,500.00, 3- 3 ton units, 4- 4 ton units, 3 -5 ton units. 4-6 weeks lead time warranty for 1 year parts, 5 years on compressor and 20 years on heat exchanger. \$129,834.00 down payment. Second Bid from Rasmussen for \$410,000.00, 3- 3 ton units, 4- 4 ton units, 3 -5 ton units. One year factory warranty, 3 years for parts 5 years compressor, 15 year heat exchanger, Lead time 4 weeks. Matt Bjordal spoke about their bid including some duct modifications.

The board discussed the two bids, Mayberry motioned to go with Rasmussen's for continuity reasons. English expressed concerns \$21,000.00 difference in the bids for the same units. Sheriff Briggs spoke about his concerns about the price and asked if there were any savings that could happen. When he spoke to Krumwiede that putting in new units may still have the same problems. He asked Matt Bjordal if this issue had been investigated to the end? Matt Bjordal said that he ran this by the engineering department with Rasmussen, and it was obvious to them that the hot gas reheat should never have been eliminated. The reheat function is exclusively dehumidification and it is highly effective. Retrofitting some of the existing units, they have done a few by putting in an APR valve. It is basically trying to trick the units into believing that it's undersized, so it will run longer to attempt to pull the humidity out. The problem is that you're still running your compressors more than you need to. The hot gas reheat function is a natural process of the refrigeration process, that removes additional humidity. As far as continuity goes, Rasmussen has been working on the facility for 5 years trying to get things corrected and know what needs to be done to fix the problems.

English asked about if the bid had any information about what would happen to the old units. Matt stated that there are different refrigerants in the new units. If the County would like to retain those old units and repurpose them, they could retain the old units, if not they would be taken away and recycled. As they try and not resale.

Motioned by Mayberry seconded by Roeber to accept the bid from Rasmussen for \$410,000.00, 3- 3 ton units, 4- 4 ton units, 3 -5 ton units. One year factory warranty, 3 years for parts, 5 years compressor, 15-year heat exchanger, Lead time 4 weeks. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Price, Roeber, Walker, and French. Absent Mueller. Motion carried.

Mat Frazey Road Supervisor report: They have been working on culverts this past week, 4 culverts on 29th road as they were old concrete tubes and were broken, putting in new ones in. After the storm there were some trees and limbs that needed to be cleared. Also patched a bridge on 11th road near the county line. The roads department continues to blade and haul gravel. One of the new trailers should be here by the end of the day. The second new trailer should be a few days after that. Last week the new blade in Thurston was down for half a day with DEF issues, then the other blade was down half a day with new tires. He also has the Winnebago 911 signs and will speak to Price about getting them picked up for installation. Mayberry asked for a couple of orange flags for a culvert that had washed out. English asked about a broken window on a truck in Walthill. It was believed to be minor storm damage.

9:30 a.m. Public Hearing to declare surplus and fair market value on a property located in 2-26-6. Described as: The West 2 rods of the SW1/4 of the SW1/4 of Section 2, Township 26, Range 6, East of the 6th P.M. Parcel ID # 001040011. No public comment was made. French spoke that in the past it was the advertisement fees and the back taxes. 9:35 closed the Public Hearing.

Motioned by Price seconded by Roeber to declare surplus and fair market value on a property located in 2-26-6. Described as: The West 2 rods of the SW1/4 of the SW1/4 of Section 2, Township 26, Range 6, East of the 6th P.M. Parcel ID # 001040011 as back taxes, interest and advertising fees. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Price, Roeber, Walker, and French. Absent Mueller. Motion carried.

Tom Perez emergency manager's report: English reported he received a text from Tom to relay the following information, The county disaster declaration needed to be sign. Winnebago was going to try and get a presidential declaration on their own, however he did not believe they met the threshold.

Motioned by Price seconded by Mayberry to declare a Disaster Declaration for the severe storms of May 15th-May 18th, 2026 and chairman's signature on it. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Price, Roeber, Walker, and French. Absent Mueller. Motion carried

9:45 Judd Allen from NACO spoke to the board about renewal for county health insurance. Last year we were on the NACO pool and then we moved to United Healthcare for a estimated \$102,000.00 in savings. Now the county is looking at a substantial rate increase of 46%. Since the county are over 50 eligible employees, a lot of this is based on claims from employees, as some are having serious ongoing medical issues. Currently running at a 264% loss ratio, this contributes to the rate increase. NACO shopped the market, three carriers declined based on the census. United Health Care is looking to do a rate increase from \$457,000.00 to \$657,000.00, a \$210,000.00 increase. Judd discussed some options regarding increasing the deductible, changes to HRA, changes to the cash in lieu of program. Also discussed bring in someone to speak with employees that are medicare eligible. English spoke about a change to the in lieu of payments.

Motioned by Mayberry seconded by Walker to advertise for insurance bids for the meeting of June 15th, 2026. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Price, Roeber, Walker, and French. Absent Mueller. Motion carried

Correspondence: Letter from Coalition for a Better Community, Walthill. This letter was asking for the county assistance to address unkept lots and abandoned buildings. Eenglish asked if there should be a list put together of county owned properties again in Walthill. English had not had the fire board meeting in regard to the property by the railroad tracks. He expressed concern about the amount of metal in that building. English recommended possibly doing a committee on this issue. English and French would begin looking into this issue.

Letter regarding information to Board of Equalization will be sent to members.

Motioned by Mayberry seconded by Price to approve Resolution #26-16 to transfer \$100,000.00 from County General Fund (0100) to Roads (0200). Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Price, Roeber, Walker, and French. Absent Mueller. Motion carried.

Discussion regarding the Vet Aid fund, the Vet Aid fund was budgeted for \$10,000.00 for that account. However, there were no funds in that account as in prior years it was funded through a resolution. It was asked how the board and finance committee advise how they would like to fund this account. French stated the finance committee would look into this and bring it to the next meeting.

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

Motioned by Roeber seconded by Price to adjourn at 10:14 a.m. Roll call aye: Roll call: Mayberry, English, Price, Roeber, Walker, and French. Absent: Mueller Motioned carried.

Steven Schneider- County Clerk

Davin French- Chairman