

THURSTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PROCEEDING
June 29th, 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 29th, 2026. Present were Davin French, Georgia Mayberry, Mark English, James Price, Jim Mueller, Robb Roeber and Benjamin Walker Jr. Also, present were Steven Schneider County Clerk, County Attorney Tammy Maul Bodlak, Sheriff Russ Briggs, Chief Deputy Derek Herron, Emergency Manager Tom Perez, County Roads Supervisor Mat Frazey, Susie Schrieber County Assessor, Sydney Williams with the extension office, Zack Randall, Justin McCauley, Barbara McCauley, Paul Randall, Jon Cannon and Mick Duncan. Becky George from KRP via Zoom. 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 Mueller seconded by Walker to approve the Board Minutes of June 15th, 2026. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Public Comments: None

Unfinished Business: French spoke about looking at the courtroom after the last board meeting and recommended creating a list of improvements and updates in time for budget.

Committee Report: Mayberry spoke about Northeast Nebraska Public Health was able to obtain their SAMs Number

French met with Penny Warren and her two board members about the Veterans Aid Fund. He feels they had a better understanding. French would still like her to explain her process when we have more time, and it is going to be a budget issue to see how we want to move forward and how to handle the claims.

Motioned by Roeber seconded by Walker to go into Board of Equalization at 9:05 am. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Board of Equalization

Chairwoman Mayberry Called the Board of Equalization to order. 9:05 am

Items Entered into evidence from the County Assessor.

Public Hearing:

Justin McCauley and Barb McCauley spoke about Protest #26-001 McCauley Family Trust regarding Parcel #001200027. Justin McCauley expressed concern about the increase of

\$99,000.00 evaluation and asked for justification. Barb McCauley spoke about encouraging Justin to protest this, last year over on the east side where she also has land it made a big jump. And if it happened again, she was going to protest it, because something needed to be done. She was informed by County Assessor that she had to stay within the 69%-75% and she was at 71%. Then Barb called the state and that part of the county went up 2% and others went up 26% and that the state mandates that they stay within this certain perimeter. So, her ask the board and everyone else, what the board and county are doing to sacrifice their share. She also thought that someone should be hired to conduct a feasibility study to see if a lot of this stuff is really necessary that's being spent. She expressed frustration coming back two or three times to speak with county officials. She asked the board what they were doing to help the taxpayers. She asked if the board would look at the 69%

Mayberry spoke about land evaluation.

Justin spoke again about the conversation he had had and what he had been told and what the board are telling him are 2 different things and does not understand why it need to raise that much, because it really impacts his mother.

English spoke how the recent sales and values in that area.

Motioned by French seconded by Roeber to adjourn Board of Equalization at 9:19 am. Roll call aye: English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker, French and Mayberry. Motion carried.

Mick Duncan spoke about starting a small car dealership in Thurston County. To apply for a dealer license he needs to start by getting approval on the location. His dad owns a building in the county at 1965 F Ave and asked to get approval from the board as Thurston County does not have zoning. He would need a letter or a no-zoning letter. Assessor spoke about changing the acreage to commercial.

Motioned by Roeber seconded by Price to approve a letter for Mick Duncan that the county has no zoning. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Mat Frazey Road Supervisor: They have been working on a minimum maintenance road, 25th Road, a two-mile stretch. It was overgrown and narrow in the cuts. Last week they got that back up. The two used belly dump trailers that were declared as surplus are consigned to Big Iron Auctions that sells July 29th, 2026 and a AD will run in the paper starting next week for two weeks. Both of the new trailers are working great and the guys like them. Last Wednesday at noon Murphy Tractor brought down a demo motor grader 7702P new model. It was used from Wednesday noon to Friday and three different operators ran it. There is a lot of upgrades and new features. They are hauling what they can for gravel. Currently only hauling with one truck. 50% of the time they are able to haul out of West Point.

Price asked about the oil spill, Mat said last week an employee had two totes of oil on a trailer going through the roundabout one of the straps came off and one of the totes slid off the trailer. After arriving at the destination, he realized he had lost one. Once Mat heard about it, he contacted the police. Price spoke about it going into the storm drains and wetlands.

Motioned by Mueller seconded by Roeber to approve sign permit renewal from the NDOT. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Open bids for county owned 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. Only one bid

from Brent Sebade for \$2,501.00. French spoke how the bid would cover back taxes and the cost of advertising it.

Motioned by Mueller seconded by Roeber to accept Brent Sebade's bid for \$2,501.00 for county owned 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 . Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Sydney Williams spoke to the board about the Re-hire of Allison Clawson to come help again with the County Fair. As Sydney will be out of town for the fair, and Allison has worked the fair before. There is money in their budget for it. The intern will also not be available to help. The County Attorney stated that it would still need to be advertised. French discussed that there would not be another meeting in time to approve the rehire prior to the start of the Fair.

Motioned by Price seconded by Mayberry to approve the Rehire of Allison Clawson after it has been advertised. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Jon Cannon spoke to the Board about the NACO updates. NACO works to educate, advocate, going and lobbying in front of the legislature. He shared upcoming events, like the land use forum, etc. County official workshops that just happened and that are coming up and the legislative conference in Burwell. Jon shared a county profile that NACO has been working on to share with the public to describe Thurston County, also a flow chart to share with the public showing the county share of property taxes. NACO is looking for county stories to put in newsletters. Discussed was various programs available through MIPS, NACO training center.

Jon spoke about a few bills LB 596 changes to the open meetings act. Increase of marriage license fees from \$25 to \$50 dollars, certified copies from \$9 to \$16 dollars. LB 596 about archiving medium changes and other bills affecting county government.

Paul Randall presented two bids for painting on the exterior of the courthouse. One for \$12,900.00 from TM painting and handyman. Second bid Sioux City Tree Co./ Pro Painting for \$36,800.00 Paul only received replies from two companies, and the other companies contacted did not provide a bid.

Motioned by Mayberry seconded by Mueller to accept the bid from TM painting and handyman for painting and other work on the courthouse for \$12,900.00. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Emergency Manager Report: French welcomed back Tom Perez. Tom reported that he is back to working as much as he can, on a modified work agenda.

Discussion was held on the East Repeater which will need a new antenna, the repeater is working fine. Mayberry asked how soon it could be repaired as it is a safety issue. Tom estimates it will cost roughly \$8,000.00

Motioned by Mayberry seconded by Roeber to repair the antenna on the East Repeater for estimated cost of \$8,000.00. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the West Repeater; there is a cable that is broken and needs to be fixed as soon as possible. The repeater is broken, we have a temporary one in place, until we get another repeater. The repeater is bad from a combination of factors including age. Estimated cost of \$10,000.00

Motioned by Mayberry seconded by Mueller to repair the cable and a new repeater on the West Repeater for estimated cost of \$10,000.00. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the East Repeater which will need a new cable for the antenna, this will be a project that will be turned into FEMA for reimbursement for storm damage. Tom estimates it will cost roughly \$7,000.00

Motioned by Mayberry seconded by Walker to replace the cable on the East Repeater for estimated cost of \$7,000.00 and submit to FEMA for reimbursement. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Due to issues with getting a check via mail to Konexus, would like board approval for ACH payment

Motioned by Roeber seconded by English to pay the Konexus via ACH and void prior issued check. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

There was discussion about In Lieu of payment. It was decided that they would work on that number at a later date.

Briggs spoke about the status of the Law enforcement center; Service Pro was there to estimate the cost of sheetrock and painting. French spoke to Rasmusson's about the county retaining the old HVAC units.

Discuss on Quick Current ROW Application was tabled until information can be reviewed.

County Clerk spoke about Clerks conference in Kearney, which most information was covered by Jon Connon with NACO.

The clerk's office will be advertising in for help in the clerk's office.

Motioned by Price seconded by Roeber to budget pay for Shelly Copple for 2025-26 Budget in the amount of \$1,500.00. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Clerk spoke about longevity pay for Shelly, in the amount of \$850.00. County attorney expressed concerns about constancy and the need for to be added to the handbook. The county attorney also spoke about possibility issue with deputy wages. French spoke that that this will need to be looked into more in the future.

County in Lieu of insurance rate increase was no action taken.

Caleb Johnson spoke to the board about assisting with the budget. He currently works with 22 counties right now and has an excellent relationship with the state auditor's office. He would work

with Clerk's office putting things together, with the intent of possibly doing it fully next year. He anticipated hours to help of 10 hours.

Motioned by Roeber seconded by Price to hire j13 Enterprises, llc to assist in the budget and sign letter of engagement for budget preparation. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

No action was taken on the 2026-2027 budget planning.

Motioned by Roeber seconded by Walker to approve State Print Shop as the Printing company for LB 644 Postcards for 2026. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Becky George from KRP spoke with the board via Zoom on the final draft of 2024-2025 Audit report.

Motioned by English seconded by Roeber to approve 2024-2025 Audit Report from KRP. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Motioned by Mayberry seconded by Mueller to approve fee report for Sheriff Russ Briggs in the amount of \$24,991.48 for the month of April 2026. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Motioned by Mayberry seconded by English to approve fee report for Sheriff Russ Briggs in the amount of \$34,043.05 for the month of May 2026. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Correspondence: Letter from Lower Elkhorn NRD

Motioned by English seconded by Mueller to approve Resolution #26-17 to transfer \$488,793.26 from County General (0100) to Roads (0200) . Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Motioned by English seconded by Mueller to approve Resolution #26-18 to transfer \$250,000.00 from County Roads (0200) to Inheritance (2700). Roll call aye: English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Nye: Mayberry. Motion carried.

Motioned by English seconded by Walker to approve Resolution #26-19 to transfer \$2,600.00 from County General (0100) to Vet's Aid (1900). Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Motioned by English seconded by Mueller to approve Resolution #26-20 to transfer \$5,000.00 from County General (0100) to Courthouse Building (4001). Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

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

Motioned by Mueller seconded by Roeber to adjourn at 11:15 am. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Steven Schneider- County Clerk

Davin French- Chairman