

THURSTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PROCEEDING
June 15th, 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 15th, 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, County Roads Supervisor Mat Frazey, Susie Schrieber County Assessor Judd Allen with NACO, Lavern Kubik and Gene Case. 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 June 1st, 2026. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Abstained: Mueller. Motion carried.

Public Comments: None

Unfinished Business: None

Committee Report: Mark English spoke about the buildings in Walthill that needs to be tore down. The cost could be around \$250.00 or more per building. He will get with the Village of Walthill, doing more investigation and will report back to the next meeting. Walker spoke that the tribe was looking to also come to Walthill to clean up their lots

Veterans Service Board. Gene Case spoke on behalf of Penny Warren, veteran service officer. Gene spoke about the Veteran Aid fund is for honorably discharge veterans of the United State. The funds are to help them with food, shelter, fuel, medical, surgical aid or funeral expenses. He asked on behalf of Warren where the funds came from? Davin replied that the last funding of the account came from a transfer from the general fund to the Veterans Aid fund, years prior and that as the veterans service officer she is able to see all of her account balances. He sent Penny an email about where the money from the claims is being spent at. The county requires documentation on every receipt. They were going to have a meeting with Warren, French, Case, and Kubik in the days after this meeting.

Motioned by Mueller seconded by Roeber to go into Board of Equalization at 9:25 am. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Board of Equalization

The County Assessor Susie Schrieber presented into evidence a letter and other information for the next three board of equalization meetings. She then spoke about the processes and that for the first

meeting there were no protests. Georgia asked if it was compared with other counties. Schrieber stated that every County would be different based on sales.

Motioned by French seconded by Price to approve County Assessor's packet that contained letter and other information for the Board of Equalization. Roll call aye: English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker, French and Mayberry. Motion carried.

Motioned by Mueller seconded by Roeber to adjourn Board of Equalization at 9:28 am. Roll call aye: English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker, French and Mayberry. Motion carried.

Mat Frazey Road Supervisor: Culverts repairs. We are working on section of 24th Road. One belly dump trailer arrived, waiting for the second one to arrive, having issues with delivering it. Weather has been good, hauling gravel out of West Point on and off this week. The new trailer works great.

Motioned by Mueller seconded by Roeber to declare as surplus equipment two belly dump Trailers form Roads Department. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Motioned by Walker seconded by Price to advertise surplus roads equipment. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

9:35pm to Open bids for Employee Health Insurance for the year of July 1, 2026, to June 12, 2027. NACO presents the only bid. Judd Allen with NACO spoke about the bid. In recap he said last year the county saved money by moving to United Health Care. Due to claims the county was looking at a 46% rate increase. He presented options from United Health renewal, an option for \$7,000.00 deductible from United Health Care. A quote from Medica. Also present a few different options from Blue Cross and Blue Shield. He also said that Blue Cross might be a good option if the county wanted to join the NACO pool next year.

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

Motioned by English seconded by Mayberry to accept the bid from NACO for Blue Cross Blue Shield Freedom Choice at \$6,000.00 HSA, \$1,356.82 a month for single employee. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

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

Emergency Manager Report: English spoke on Tom's behalf about repeater problems. Brian with Tri-State Communications looked at the repeaters not working well. He inspected each repeater to see if he could diagnose what the issue was. The report discussed the East and West radio repeaters. At the West Repeater site, they think there was damage from the recent storms that have happened, Tom is going to try and get some of that replaced through FEMA, which we may get reimbursed. The east repeater unfortunately does not appear to be maintained well. Mice appeared to have damaged the wiring. Tri-State put a temporary unit for the time being, until decision can be made to

replace it. Estimate cost of \$28,000.00 to fix both repeaters. With a possible reimbursement from FEMA \$17,000.00. English then described the issues that the repeaters are causing and the need for it to be fixed. Tammy spoke in regard to the bid process. Briggs asked about State radio network and English spoke about the difficulty of moving to the state radio with the fire departments.

Briggs spoke about the status of the Law enforcement center. They are holding off on the sheet rock work until the new HVAC are installed.

County in Lieu of insurance rate increase was tabled.

Schneider spoke about the changes to the county website. He asked for all departments to check the "Ghost" website to review. The more eyes reviewing will make for a better website.

Motioned by English seconded by Mueller to approve County Attorney to sign STOP contract. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Correspondence: French spoke about an email from a attorney in regards to the condition of the courtroom. It asked for additional county funds to improve the courtroom. French asked the board to visit the courtroom after the meeting. So it can be discussed more at the next meeting.

Discuss preparation for the 2026-2027 budget, English spoke about possible involvement of Caleb Johnson who works with other counties in setting up the budgets. He travels from Ogallala and works with multiple counties. He is an expert in how to complete the budgets. He discussed it with Kathy in Dixon County and is very happy with his services. There was a conversation about roles Becky George with KRP, and Shelly Copple has done in the past and the amount of work that needs to be done. Mayberry spoke compensation for Shelly regarding last year's budget. There were some concerns about availability. All items relating to this are tabled until next meeting.

Motioned by Mayberry seconded by Mueller to approve the May 2026 fee report of County Clerk Steven Schneider in the amount of \$2,592.08. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Motioned by Mayberry seconded by Roeber to approve May 2026 fee report of District Court Clerk, Gina Roth in the amount of \$381.00. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

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

Motioned by Mueller seconded by Walker to adjourn at 10:16 am. Roll call aye: Mayberry, English, Mueller, Price, Roeber, Walker and French. Motion carried.

Steven Schneider- County Clerk

Davin French- Chairman