

Pursuant to notice published in the January 15th, 2026 issue of the Polk County News, the Board of County Commissioners convened at 9:30 a.m. with all members present. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Chairman Westring informed those in attendance that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room.

A motion was made by Boruch that Jerry Westring be elected as Chairman for 2026. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye.

A motion was made by Boss that Ron Boruch be elected as Vice Chairman for 2026. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye.

The County Board membership of various boards was reviewed. Board members will continue as members of the boards they are presently serving on.

A motion was made by Boruch to designate the Polk County website (polkcounty.nebraska.gov) as an additional method of providing notice of the County’s meeting. The website will also provide closing information for holidays, inclement weather and notice of any special meetings. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye.

The Board signed the annual signature report for the Secretary of State’s office.

Claims were audited and a motion was made by Westring that claims, except the claim to Boruch Masonry Construction, be allowed and warrants drawn against the various funds in the amounts listed below. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Westring, aye; Boruch, aye; Boss, aye. A motion was made by Boss to approve the claim to Boruch Masonry Construction for concrete work done at the Osceola Road Shop and authorize a warrant to be drawn on the Road Fund. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, abstain. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND

General Fund	Salaries	\$91,389.33
Banner Press	Service	\$113.99
Bellari Maid Cleaning Services LLC	Service	\$340.00
Black Hills Energy	Service	\$1,624.06
Bryan Medical Center	Service	\$32.00
Burg Auto Repair Inc	Service	\$131.25
Carl's Skrap	Service	\$624.00
Central Valley Ag	Service	\$1,182.69
Clearfly	Service	\$183.94
Colonial	Insurance	\$181.19
DAS State Acctg - Central Finance	Service	\$209.00
DNA Diagnostics	Service	\$51.00
Dubas Funeral Home Inc	Service	\$2,200.00
Eakes	Supplies	\$23.00
Economy Hometown Market	Supplies	\$326.17
Cheryl Erickson	Mileage	\$118.30
First Concord Benefits Group	Insurance	\$26.25
Gary's Plumbing LLC	Supplies	\$111.99
Graham Tire Co. North	Service	\$352.74
Great Plains Uniforms	Service	\$49.00
Hays Land Surveying LLC	Service	\$4,975.00
Jackson Services Inc.	Service	\$179.78
Erik C Klutman	Service	\$281.25
Norman Kronberg	Service	\$30.00
Lifeline Systems Co.	Service	\$766.99
MARC	Supplies	\$246.00
McKesson Medical	Supplies	\$250.52
Microfilm Imaging Systems, Inc.	Rent	\$90.00

NACO	Dues	\$75.00
NE Association of County Assessors	Dues	\$100.00
Nebraska Supreme Court	Supplies	\$164.15
Physicians Laboratory PC	Service	\$300.00
Pinnacle Bank Visa	Supplies	\$58.70
Pinnacle Bank Visa	Supplies	\$87.23
Pinnacle Bank Visa	Service/Supplies	\$118.08
Polk County Clerk	Retirement	\$6,378.38
Polk County Clerk	Social Security	\$6,903.53
Polk County Health Ins Deductible	Reimbursement	\$3,706.78
Polk County Court	Fees	\$385.63
Polk County Extension	Reimbursement	\$60.00
Polk County Extension Tax Account	Reimbursement	\$296.51
Polk County News LLC	Service	\$45.00
Shelby Lumber	Supplies	\$1,241.30
Jaci Swantek	Mileage	\$29.40
Taylor Cammack	Mileage	\$46.90
Tonniges Chevrolet Inc.	Service	\$971.73
Milton J Toy	Mileage	\$106.40
Vyve Broadband	Service	\$773.64
Windstream	Service	\$16.83

ROAD FUND

Road Fund	Salaries	\$36,212.00
Boruch Masonry Construction	Service	\$150.00
Carl's Skrap	Service	\$40.00
Central Valley AG	Fuel	\$12,674.35
CINTAS	Service	\$153.83
City Of Osceola	Service	\$117.84
Colonial Life & Accident	Insurance	\$72.76
Cubbys	Fuel	\$556.31
Dean E James & Marian K James Trust	Acquisition Contracts	\$448.00
Frontier Cooperative Company	Fuel	\$1,054.35
JEO Consulting Group Inc	Fees	\$7,480.00
Johansen Repair	Service	\$3,500.00
Johnson Sand & Gravel Co. Inc.	Gravel	\$17,402.36
NMC, Inc.	Service	\$17,204.83
Pinnacle Bank	Service	\$83.47
Polk County Clerk	Retirement	\$2,309.33
Polk County Clerk	Social Security	\$2,744.42
Polk County Clerk	Fees/Recording	\$22.00
Polk Light & Water	Service	\$161.31
Polk Service & Repair	Service	\$230.79
PowerPlan	Service	\$568.71
Rally Auto Parts	Service	\$595.31
Shelby Auto Clinic	Service	\$16.72
Shelby Lumber Co	Supplies	\$71.19
Verizon Wireless	Service	\$66.10
Windstream Nebraska Inc.	Service	\$258.37
2L Farms LLC	Easement	\$504.00
Village of Shelby	Service	\$93.63

SENIOR CITIZEN SERVICE FUND

Midwest Covenant Home	Service	\$13,683.77
VYVE Broadband	Service	\$306.29

INHERITANCE TAX FUND

DAS State Acctg-Central Finance	Service	\$275.00
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WEED FUND

James Carlson	Reimbursement	\$80.00
City of Osceola	Service	\$116.34
Constellation Newenergy Gas Div.	Service	\$30.68

Frontier Cooperative Co	Fuel	\$163.67
M&O Door Products LLC	Service	\$546.06

The following fees for the month of December were earned by the various offices and submitted to the County Treasurer. County Treasurer receipts show fees earned were credited to the appropriate county funds.

Jodie L. Roberts, Clerk of Dist. Court \$290.00

A motion was made by Boss to reappoint Daniel J. Theis (License Number S-1365, Class A) as Highway Superintendent for calendar year 2026. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Boruch, aye; Westring, aye.

A motion was made by Boss to reappoint James L. Carlson as Weed Superintendent for calendar year 2026. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Boruch, aye; Westring, aye.

A motion was made by Boss to reappoint Jerry Westring as Zoning Administrator for calendar year 2026. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Boruch, aye; Westring, aye.

A motion was made by Boss to appoint Debra S. Girard to prepare the 2026-2027 county budget. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Boruch, aye; Westring, aye.

Commissioner Boruch informed the other members of the Board that he was approached by the City of Osceola regarding drilling a test well on the county owned property north of the hospital. The Board felt that this location was far enough away from the other test wells drilled by the City to get favorable test results.

At 9:40 a.m., a motion was made by Boruch to go into executive session to discuss an application for burial assistance. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye. Also present were the applicant's next of kin and the County Clerk. At 9:45 a.m., a motion was made by Boruch to come out of executive session. The motion was seconded by Boss and all members voted in the affirmative. Chairman Westring stated for the record that no formal action was taken and that only burial assistance matters were discussed. A motion was made by Boss to approve the request for burial assistance. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye.

Crystal Gay met with the Board to ask for approval for a special designated permit to have alcohol at a function to be held on the Polk County Fairgrounds. A motion was made by Boss to allow American Legion Post #91 to sell and serve alcohol on February 14, 2026 in the Ag Pavilion on the Polk County Fairgrounds. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye.

A resolution authorizing the installation of stop signs at all rural railroad crossings was discussed. Highway Supt. Theis reported that NIRMA was having reservations about Polk County installing these stop signs without a traffic study. Brian McDonald with JEO was also present for the discussion and will review the Nebraska traffic safety manual to determine appropriate regulations concerning installing traffic control signs at railroad crossings. The Board tabled action on the resolution.

Brian McDonald with JEO reviewed the plans for the replacement bridge over the north branch of the Blue River on G Road. The grade will be raised approximately two feet over the existing bridge and the temporary and permanent easements have been secured for the project. A Polk County Rural Public Power District power pole may need to be relocated but the relocation would only affect one customer. The presence of long-eared bats will restrict when the existing bridge can be removed as the demolition must occur before April 1st or after October 31st. A motion was made by Boruch to move forward with construction of the bridge and authorize the advertising of bids for the project. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Westring, aye; Boss, aye.

Highway Supt. Theis also updated the Board on the work being done in the Road Dept. While Brian McDonald is here today, they will look at the 127th and J Road intersection for the possible addition of traffic control devices as well an intersection on the Butler County line. The Road Dept's semi tractor is experiencing mechanical issues again. Before subscribing, the Board would like an on sight demonstration of Caterpillar's Vision Link program.

Weed Supt. Carlson updated the Board on the activities of the Weed Dept. A motion was made by Boss authorizing the Chairman to sign the Activity Report, the Noxious Weed Infestation Report, the Noxious Weed Control Plan, the Budget Report, and the Nebraska Invasive Plant Watch List Infestation Report as presented by Weed Supt. Carlson. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Boruch, aye; Westring, aye. The total number of infested acres in the county decreased by approximately 32 acres. While decreases were reported in the number of infested acres of musk thistle and leafy spurge, increases were reported in plumeless thistle, Canada thistle, purple loosestrife, and phragmites infestations.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 11:55 a.m. to meet again on January 27th and February 3rd, 2026. An agenda of the meetings will be available at the office of the County Clerk.

Approved: /S/ Debra S. Girard /S/ Jerry Westring
County Clerk Chairman