

October 28, 2025

Pursuant to notice published in the October 23rd, 2025 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.

Marcus Augustin and Nataly Sanley updated the Board on the activities of the hospital. The Heartbeat and the Foundation for Annie Jeffrey's annual fundraising letters have recently been mailed with the proceeds from the fundraising campaign to be used towards the purchase of a new ultrasound machine. The fall health fair was very well attended and members of the hospital staff will participate in the Halloween festivities at all four towns in the county. Various mock surveys have been completed or are currently underway with an infant abduction drill also conducted. Since July the hospital's ambulance has been used to transfer 19 patients. A used pulmonary function machine has been purchased from the David City hospital at a cost of approximately one third of a new machine. September was a very good revenue month with an operating loss and a small overall loss reported. The cost report has been submitted to Medicare but the funds will probably not be received until sometime in 2026.

A motion was made by Boss authorizing the Chairman to sign the Hospital Licensure Renewal Application. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Boruch, aye; Westring, aye.

Road Foreman Ericson updated the Board on the work being done in the Road Dept. The contractor plans to start on the milling portion of the Osceola North project tomorrow with the laying of the new asphalt on Shelby North to also begin tomorrow. Trees and brush in the road ditches are also being removed, especially where they can create a drifting snow problem. Boss brought up the condition of a minimum maintenance road located just southwest of 7 Mile Inn. A long stretch of the road is nothing but very fine sand which makes the road impassable. It appears that the only options are to go through the statutory process to close the road or make improvements to the road to make it passable.

Weed Supt. Carlson brought the Board up to date on the activities of the Weed Dept. The evaluation of the department by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture was recently completed with the Polk County Noxious Weed Department receiving a perfect score. The Dept. of Ag also spot inspected portions of the county with only slight to no infestations of noxious weeds found. The spraying of brush and curly dock continues in the right-of-way and Supt. Carlson will soon begin preparing for the annual state reports.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 11:40 a.m. to meet again on November 4th and 18th, 2025. 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