

May 27, 2025

Pursuant to notice published in the May 15th, 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. April was a slower revenue month and teamed with higher costs, it resulted in an operating and overall loss for the month. The facility is still reporting a year-to-date gain. Eight scholarships were awarded by the Foundation for Annie Jeffrey to local seniors pursuing further education in a medical field. An ambulance committee has been formed and meets weekly to monitor the progress of the hospital's ambulance with the intent of putting it in service sometime this fall. The payroll process has been migrated to a new system and the IT switches will need to be replaced by October at an estimated cost of \$85,000. The new washing machine has been installed. One of the hospital's four compressors went out and has been repaired at a cost of \$24,000. A change in how the four compressors function together will be made to potentially reduce the amount of wear on them and extend their life. The Foundation's annual golf tournament will be held on June 20th and the next blood drive will be on July 10th during the County Fair. Chick-fil-A will be at the hospital for the staff and the public on June 25th.

Highway Foreman Ericson updated the Board on the work being done in the Road Dept. The crew plans to spot in gravel on the county roads once the sun returns to dry up the county roads. Supt. Theis has met with City of Osceola representatives and the developer for the Fox Run Subdivision to discuss water drainage in the area. No additional information has been received on the 141st Road West project.

Weed Supt. Carlson brought the Board up to date on the activities of the Weed Dept. He will attend the Platte Valley Weed Management Area meeting tomorrow where they will discuss asking counties to contribute funds to offset the management area's losses in grant revenues used to fund the control of noxious weeds in and along the Platte River. A random inspection of several sections of ground in Polk County resulted in no infestations found. Spraying of guardrails and shop yards continues, as well as leafy spurge infestations in the right-of-way. Thistle inspections are also underway.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 11:35 a.m. to meet again on June 3rd and 17th, 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