

Osceola, Nebraska
June 23, 2026

Pursuant to notice published in the June 18th, 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 Boss to transfer \$750,000 from the County General Fund to the Road Fund as budgeted. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye.

A motion was made by Boss to adopt a resolution increasing the County Commissioner budget by \$1,000.00 and to transfer the needed funds from the Miscellaneous Budget within the General Fund. The transfer was needed to cover an increased need for salaries. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye.

A motion was made by Boss to adopt a resolution increasing the County Clerk budget by \$5,500.00 and to transfer the needed funds from the Miscellaneous Budget within the General Fund. The transfer was needed to cover an increased need for salaries. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye.

A motion was made by Boss to adopt a resolution increasing the Public Defender budget by \$51,000.00 and to transfer the needed funds from the Miscellaneous Budget within the General Fund. The transfer was needed to cover an increased need for attorney fees. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye.

A motion was made by Boss to adopt a resolution increasing the Coroner budget by \$14,500.00 and to transfer the needed funds from the Miscellaneous Budget within the General Fund. The transfer was needed to cover an increased need for autopsy fees. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye.

A motion was made by Boss to adopt a resolution increasing the Buildings and Grounds budget by \$4,400.00 and to transfer the needed funds from the Miscellaneous Budget within the General Fund. The transfer was needed to cover an increased need for boiler maintenance. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye.

A motion was made by Boss to adopt a resolution increasing the Agricultural Extension Agent budget by \$2,100.00 and to transfer the needed funds from the Miscellaneous Budget within the General Fund. The transfer was needed to cover an increased need for salaries. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye.

A motion was made by Boss to adopt a resolution increasing the County Sheriff budget by \$131,000.00 and to transfer the needed funds from the Miscellaneous Budget within the General Fund. The transfer was needed to cover an increased need for salaries and fuel. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye.

A motion was made by Boss to adopt a resolution increasing the County Attorney budget by \$2,000.00 and to transfer the needed funds from the Miscellaneous Budget within the General Fund. The transfer was needed to cover an increased need for salaries. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye.

A motion was made by Boss to adopt a resolution increasing the County Jail budget by \$19,000.00 and to transfer the needed funds from the Miscellaneous Budget within the General Fund. The transfer was needed to cover an increased need for prisoner board. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye.

A motion was made by Boss to adopt a resolution increasing the Veterans Service Officer budget by \$21,500.00 and to transfer the needed funds from the Miscellaneous Budget within the General Fund. The transfer was needed to cover an increased need for salaries. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye.

A motion was made by Boruch to officially designate MIPS as the vendor to print and mail the postcards required by §77-1633 (3g). The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye. The cost of the cards and postage will be shared by the entities who are required to participate in the special joint hearing.

Marcus Augustin and Nataly Sanley updated the Board on the activities of the hospital. Although there was almost a million dollars in revenue for the month of May, an operating and overall loss were reported for the month. Eleven teams participated in the Foundation's annual golf tournament and an all staff meeting was held last week. The ambulance has now been used to transfer 64 patients since it was put into service last year. The entrance door for the emergency room has been fixed and repairs to the chiller cost \$38,000. The fiscal year audit is scheduled for August 24th and hospital room rates will be reviewed in the near future.

Shari Weber and Heather Lytle presented the annual report for Blue Valley Community Action to the Board and made a request for continued funding in an amount equal to last year's request. There has been a cut in federal funding for their programs and they are looking for new sources of revenue. The Polk County location for Blue Valley has recently been moved from Osceola to Stromsburg.

Gravel bids were opened as advertised. Bids were received from five different vendors. A motion was made by Boss to accept all bids, thereby allowing Supt. Theis to purchase gravel from the supplier that could fill the orders in the most timely fashion. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye. The average gravel price was higher than last year and the cost to gravel a mile of county road will be over \$2,600.

Highway Supt. Theis also updated the Board on the activity in the Road Dept. He reported that the total amount spent on gravel from the Road budget during the 25-26 fiscal year was \$822,000, \$72,000 over the budgeted amount for the line item. One motor grader has been repaired and is back in service and another now needs new injectors at an estimated cost of \$12,000. Polk County RPPD has reset the power poles moved for the Polk SE bridge project but the guard rails have not yet been installed. An on-site meeting for the Shelby North bridge project will be held on July 8th.

Weed Supt. Carlson updated the Board on the activities of the Weed Dept. Musk thistles have now reached the growing stage where it is too late to spray them for effective control. The location of the thistles will be marked for fall spraying. The Platte River has been surveyed from Columbus to Clarks but drones will be used to spray the bank areas of the river. County shop yards, bridge approaches and the right-of-way continue to be sprayed as weather conditions permit.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 11:50 a.m. to meet again on July 7th and July 21st, 2026. An agenda of the meetings will be available at the office of the County Clerk.

Approved: /S/ Debra S. Girard
County Clerk

 /S/ Jerry Westring
Chairman