

Osceola, Nebraska
June 24, 2025

Pursuant to notice published in the June 19th, 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.

A motion was made by Boruch to adopt a resolution increasing the Public Defender budget by \$7,700.00 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 Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye.

A motion was made by Boruch to adopt a resolution increasing the Coroner's 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 autopsy related costs. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye.

A motion was made by Boruch to adopt a resolution increasing the Buildings and Grounds budget by \$37,000.00 and to transfer the needed funds from the Miscellaneous Budget within the General Fund. The transfer was needed to cover an increased need for boiler maintenance and building repairs. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye.

A motion was made by Boruch to adopt a resolution increasing the Sheriff budget by \$31,000.00 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 training expenses. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye.

A motion was made by Boruch to adopt a resolution increasing the Jail budget by \$15,000.00 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 and prisoner medical expenses. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye.

A motion was made by Boruch to adopt a resolution increasing the Veterans Service Officer budget by \$9,750.00 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, rent, telephone, registrations, and office equipment. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye.

A motion was made by Boss to close the 911 Emergency Management Fund as there is no longer a need to have a separate 911 Emergency Management Fund and direct the Treasurer to transfer all money remaining in the fund to the General Fund on June 30, 2025. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye.

A motion was made by Westring to approve the Subaward Agreement with the City of Lincoln for the Aging Partners Program for the 2025-2026 fiscal year as presented. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Westring, aye; Boruch, aye; Boss, aye. The subaward provides funding tied to the Aging Partners Areawide Plan which has been approved by the State Unit on Aging.

Marcus Augustin and Nataly Sanley updated the Board on the activities of the hospital. May was an average month for the facility with a small operating and overall gain reported. The fiscal year to date numbers also are showing a net gain for the year. The Foundation's annual golf tournament was again a success with \$6,000 raised. Getting the ambulance ready to be put in service is ongoing with the inspection the next step to be completed. The hospital is required to belong to a Health Info Exchange network by July 3rd and this requirement has been met.

Shari Weber and Jen Harre met with the Board to review the services and programs offered to residents by Blue Valley Community Action. According to the US Census, the

poverty rate in Polk County is 6.22% and Blue Valley has assisted 186 individuals in the county during the last fiscal year and the local food pantry is well used. A loss or reduction in funding is anticipated due to the proposed federal cuts. A request of \$4,200.00 was made for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Gravel bids were opened as advertised. Bids were received from four different vendors. A motion was made by Westring 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 Boss and the roll call vote was Westring, aye; Boss, 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 \$2,500.

Highway Supt. Theis also updated the Board on the work being done in the Road Dept.

Weed Supt. Carlson updated the Board on the activities of the Weed Dept. The cost share chemicals for the river area will be delivered in August and he was been spraying thistles, hemlock, and rag weed in the right of way, including at blind intersections. A musk thistle complaint received from the public has been investigated and a control plan developed.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 11:45 a.m. to meet again on July 1st and 15th, 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