

July 28, 2026

Pursuant to notice published in the July 23rd, 2026 issue of the Polk County News, the Board of County Commissioners convened at 9:30 a.m. with Boruch and Boss present. Westring was absent. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Vice Chairman Boruch 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 month of June was another good revenue month with over a million dollars in operating revenues reported. A small operating loss but an overall gain were reported for the month with a year-to-date loss of just over \$200,000. The home sleep study accreditation was passed as was as the infectious control inspection. The hospital's ambulance has now transferred 69 patients since it was put into service. Windows in the business office entryway need to be replaced with an estimated cost of \$12,000. Information for the hospital's budget for the 2026-2027 fiscal year was provided along with some small bond scenarios to fund minor upgrades to the physical building.

Emma Johnson, with Southeast Nebraska Collaborative, presented information to the Board about the services they provide in our area. They are grant funded and provide financial assistance and financial coaching to the clients they work with. Approximately 45 households in Polk County have been helped through their programs and the collaborative is seeking a letter of support.

Highway Foreman Ericson updated the Board on the activity in the Road Dept. and reviewed the machine utilization reports. The Polk Southeast bridge project is now complete as well as the grading of G Road near the bridge. A small bridge near 127th Road and N Road between Osceola and Stromsburg will be replaced with culverts. Mid States will be coring the existing concrete road east of Lone Star and the two miles running west from Lone Star. U Road running south from Lone Star also needs to be graded. The Polk elevator road is currently being graded as weather conditions permit.

Weed Supt. Carlson updated the Board on the activities of the Weed Dept. The right-of-way and blind intersections continue to be sprayed. He has noticed a lot of shredding of the right-of-ways is being done by the farmers and is appreciated. Cost share chemicals are available to be distributed to landowners along the river and the spraying of phragmites and purple loosestrife will begin soon.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 11:40 a.m. to meet again on August 4th and August 18th, 2026. An agenda of the meetings will be available at the office of the County Clerk.

Approved: /S/ Debra S. Girard
County Clerk

/S/ Ron Boruch
Vice Chairman