

Pursuant to notice published in the September 18<sup>th</sup>, 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 Boss to appoint Avis Blase as one of Polk County’s representatives on the Aging Partners Areawide Advisory Council. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Boruch, aye; Westring, aye.

Marcus Augustin and Nataly Sanley updated the Board on the activities of the hospital. The month of August was a good revenue month with an operating loss but overall gain reported for the month. The debt to equity ratio for the hospital remains very strong. The audit has been completed and will be presented to the Hospital Board at their meeting tonight. The fall health fair will be held on October 7<sup>th</sup> and the Foundation for Annie Jeffrey will soon kick off their new fundraising campaign with the proceeds to be used towards the purchase of a new ultrasound machine. CHI has completed a review of the hospital’s policies and will conduct a mock state audit at the end of October. Two nurses at the facility have been named to the Top 40 Under 40 list by the Nebraska Nursing Association. The ambulance has been utilized for 13 transfers thus far and the new local service is going well. Upgrading the floor of the storage building located to the north of the hospital owned by the County where the ambulance is housed was discussed. A motion was made by Boss to concrete the west 40’ of the building’s floor and to concrete a 12’ wide strip from the west 40’ to the east overhead door. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye.

At 10:00 a.m., a motion was made by Boss to open the County Budget hearing as advertised. The motion was seconded by Boruch and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Boruch, aye; Westring, aye. No members of the general public attended. At 11:30 a.m., a motion was made by Boruch to close the hearing. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Westring, aye; Boss, aye. A motion was made by Boruch to adopt the 2025-2026 County Budget as proposed. The motion was seconded by Boss and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Boss, aye; Westring, aye. The adopted budget contains the following tax request:

General Fund	\$3,732,826.00
Equipment Sinking Fund	\$45,000.00
Veterans’ Aid Fund	\$1,000.00
Highway Bond Fund	\$762,934.00
Total	\$4,541,760.00

The tax request hearing will be held at 10:00 a.m. during the October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025 meeting of the Board.

Matt Childress with Applied Connective met with the Board to present a proposal for upgrades to the IT network for the courthouse, including moving the Clerk’s Office from the state’s network to the county network. A motion was made by Boruch authorizing the County Clerk to sign the proposal from Applied Connective for the upgrades to the IT network in the courthouse. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boruch, aye; Westring, aye; Boss, aye.

A motion was made by Boss to direct the Highway Supt. to have a traffic study conducted for the intersection of 127<sup>th</sup> Road and J Road to determine if traffic control devices should be installed at that location. The motion was seconded by Westring and the roll call vote was Boss, aye; Westring, aye; Boruch, aye.

Highway Supt. Theis updated the Board on the work being done in the Road Dept. The overlay project north of Shelby has started and the road crew will wait until after harvest to starting any new grading projects. The Board questioned whether or not the new AGP soybean plant near David City will increase rail traffic through Polk County. If there is an increase in rail

traffic, who would be responsible for determining if stop signs should be placed at the rural crossings? Highway Supt. will check into the issue.

Weed Supt. Carlson updated the Board on the activities of the Weed Dept. Brush and curly dock are currently being sprayed in the right-of-way, along with some leafy spurge and phragmites. Brush spraying will continue until a hard freeze. Once our area has received its first killing frost, the fall spraying of the shop yards, courthouse, Sheriff's Office and fairgrounds will be done.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 11:55 a.m. to meet again on October 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, 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