

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
September 17, 2025
9:00 a.m.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors met in the Boardroom at the Knox County Courthouse in Center, Nebraska on the date of Wednesday, September 17, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. Present were Supervisors Martin J. O'Connor District #1, Kevin G. Mlady District #2, David L. Pierce District #3, James Sokol, Jr. District #4, Kevin D. Mackeprang District #5, Danny R. Schlote District #6, and James J. Borgmann District #7. Absent was none. Chairman Sokol, Jr. presiding.

Supr. O'Connor led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. announced to the public that a copy of the Public Open Meeting Act was posted in the Boardroom.

At 9:03 a.m., Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the advertised Budget Hearing for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to the 2025/2026 Knox County proposed budget.

At 9:03 a.m., Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the advertised special public hearing for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations of taxpayers relating to setting the Final 2025 Tax Request.

Discussion was held on the 2025/2026 proposed Knox County budget and the proposed 2025 tax request.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the open budget hearing at 9:24 a.m. Present during the hearing were the Board, County Clerk Fischer, County Sheriff Henery, County Assessor Beckmann, County Treasurer Ebel, Emergency Manager Taylor, Hwy. Supt. Barta, Zoning Administrator Jelinek, and public including media staff.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the open special hearing on the Final 2025 Tax Request at 9:24 a.m. Present during the hearing were the Board, County Clerk Fischer, County Sheriff Henery, County Assessor Beckmann, County Treasurer Ebel, Emergency Manager Taylor, Hwy. Supt. Barta, Zoning Administrator Jelinek, and public including media staff.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Mlady to approve the Final 2025 Tax Request of \$4,162,340.06 with a levy of \$0.132144 per \$100 of assessed value with the valuation being \$3,149,851,421. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Schlote to adopt **Resolution #2025-32** for the Adoption and Appropriations of the 2025/2026 Knox County Budget. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

KNOX COUNTY
RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION AND APPROPRIATIONS

RESOLUTION #2025 – 32

WHEREAS, a proposed County Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026, prepared by the Budget Making Authority, was transmitted to the County Board on the 17th day of September, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of SUPERVISORS of Knox County, Nebraska as follows:

SECTION 1. That the budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026, as categorically evidenced by the Budget Document be, and the same hereby is, adopted as the Budget for Knox County for said fiscal year.

SECTION 2. That the offices, departments, activities, and institutions herein named are hereby authorized to expend the amounts herein appropriated to them during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026.

SECTION 3. That the income necessary to finance the appropriations made and expenditures authorized shall be provided out of the unencumbered cash balance in each fund, revenues other than taxation to be collected during the fiscal year in each fund, and tax levy requirements for each fund.

DATED AND PASSED THIS 17th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2025.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

James Sokol, Jr. /s/
James Sokol, Jr., District #4, Chairman

Martin J. O'Connor /s/
Martin J. O'Connor, District #1

Kevin G. Mlady /s/
Kevin G. Mlady, District #2

David L. Pierce /s/
David L. Pierce, District #3

Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/
Kevin D. Mackeprang, District #5

Danny R. Schlote /s/
Danny R. Schlote, District #6

ATTEST: (Seal)
Joann M. Fischer /s/
Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk

James J. Borgmann /s/
James J. Borgmann, District #7

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded Supr. Borgmann to adopt **Resolution #2025 – 33** setting the 2025 property tax request at \$4,162,340.06 with a levy of 0.132144 per \$100 of valuation. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2025 - 33
RESOLUTION SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1601.02 provides that the Governing Body of Knox County passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request; and

WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Governing Body of Knox County, resolves that:

1. The 2025-2026 property tax request be set at \$4,162,340.06.
2. The total assessed value of property increased from last year's total assessed value by 7%.
3. The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property, would be \$0.127870 per \$100 of assessed value.
4. Knox County proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be \$0.132144 per \$100 of assessed value.
5. Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the operating budget of Knox County will be \$23,399,633.40 (does not include \$1,500,000 for cash reserve in the General Fund), which is 3% less than the last fiscal year's operating budget.
6. The cash reserve for the General Fund will be increased to \$1,500,000.00.

Dated this 17th day of September 2025.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

James Sokol, Jr. /s/
James Sokol, Jr., District #4, Chairman

Martin J. O'Connor /s/
Martin J. O'Connor, District #1

Kevin G. Mlady /s/
Kevin G. Mlady, District #2

David L. Pierce /s/
David L. Pierce, District #3

Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/
Kevin D. Mackeprang, District #5

Danny R. Schlote /s/
Danny R. Schlote, District #6

ATTEST: (Seal)

James J. Borgmann /s/
James J. Borgmann, District #7

Joann M. Fischer /s/
Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to authorize Chairman Sokol, Jr. to sign the Budget Message of the adopted 2025/2026 Knox County Budget. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Mlady to adopt **Resolution #2025 - 34** to make monthly transfers through the claims process from the Knox County General Fund to the Knox County Road Fund during the 2025/2026 Fiscal Year. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Absent was none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2025 - 34

WHEREAS, due to Section 39-1904 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes, the 2025-2026 Knox County Road budget does not include a property tax dollar request, and

WHEREAS, the 2025-2026 Knox County budget was balanced by a fund transfer of \$864,495.66 from the Knox County General Fund to the Knox County Road Fund, and

WHEREAS, transfers through the claims process were needed from the Knox County General Fund to the Knox County Road Fund until the 2025-2026 budget was adopted to cover incurred expenses for July and August, 2025, and

WHEREAS, the Knox County Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution #2025-22 directing the Knox County Clerk to transfer through the claims process \$128,971.78 in July, 2025 and \$128,971.78 in August, 2025, from the Knox County General Fund to the Knox County Road Fund to cover the incurred expenses for July and August, and

WHEREAS, a remainder of \$606,552.10 needs to be transferred from September 2025 through June 2026 from the General Fund to the Road Fund, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Knox County Board of Supervisors that the 2025/2026 Knox County budget has now been adopted, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Knox County Clerk is hereby directed to make monthly transfers through the claims process from the Knox County General Fund to the Knox County Road Fund to be as follows: **\$60,655.21 for September 2025 through June of 2026.**

Dated this 17th day of September 2025.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

James Sokol, Jr. /s/
James Sokol, Jr., District #4, Chairman

Martin J. O'Connor /s/
Martin J. O'Connor, District #1

Kevin G. Mlady /s/
Kevin G. Mlady, District #2

David L. Pierce /s/
David L. Pierce, District #3

Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/
Kevin D. Mackeprang, District #5

Danny R. Schlote /s/
Danny R. Schlote, District #6

ATTEST: (Seal)

James J. Borgmann /s/
James J. Borgmann, District #7

Joann M. Fischer /s/
Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to adopt **Resolution #2025 - 35** to transfer through the claims process \$303,240.90 as tax relief from the Inheritance Fund to the General Fund during the 2025/2026 Fiscal Year which will be the fifth loan repayment for the Bloomfield North road project. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2025 - 35

WHEREAS, due to unfunded mandates, escalating prices, valuation increases, and loss of revenues, a transfer of funds from the Inheritance Fund would create a tax relief to the taxpayers of Knox County for the fiscal year 2025-2026, and

WHEREAS, transferring \$303,240.92 from the Inheritance Fund to the Knox County General Fund would then be transferred to the Flowage Easement for the Bloomfield North project and create that needed tax relief, and NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Knox County Board of Supervisors approves the **transfer of \$303,240.92 through the claims process from the Knox County Inheritance Fund to the Knox County General Fund during the 2025/2026 fiscal year as tax relief.**

Dated this 17th day of September 2025.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

James Sokol, Jr. /s/

James Sokol, Jr., District #4, Chairman

David L. Pierce /s/

David L. Pierce, District #3

ATTEST: (Seal)

Joann M. Fischer /s/

Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk

Martin J. O'Connor /s/

Martin J. O'Connor, District #1

Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/

Kevin D. Mackeprang, District #5

James J. Borgmann /s/

James J. Borgmann, District #7

Kevin G. Mlady /s/

Kevin G. Mlady, District #2

Danny R. Schlote /s/

Danny R. Schlote, District #6

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Schlote to adopt **Resolution #2025 – 36** to transfer through the claims process during the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 from the Inheritance Fund to the General Fund as tax relief. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2025 - 36

WHEREAS, due to unfunded mandates, escalating prices, valuation increases, and loss of revenues, a transfer of funds from the Inheritance Fund would create a tax relief to the taxpayers of Knox County for the fiscal year 2025-2026, and

WHEREAS, transferring \$200,000.00 from the Inheritance Fund to the Knox County General Fund would create that needed tax relief, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Knox County Board of Supervisors approve the **transfer of \$200,000.00 through the claims process from the Knox County Inheritance Fund to the Knox County General Fund during the 2025/2026 fiscal year as tax relief.**

Dated this 17th day of September 2025.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

James Sokol, Jr. /s/

James Sokol, Jr., District #4, Chairman

David L. Pierce /s/

David L. Pierce, District #3

ATTEST: (Seal)

Joann M. Fischer /s/

Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk

Martin J. O'Connor /s/

Martin J. O'Connor, District #1

Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/

Kevin D. Mackeprang, District #5

James J. Borgmann /s/

James J. Borgmann, District #7

Kevin G. Mlady /s/

Kevin G. Mlady, District #2

Danny R. Schlote /s/

Danny R. Schlote, District #6

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to adopt **Resolution #2025 – 37** to transfer through the claims process during the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 from the County Wellness Fund to the General Fund as tax relief and to be used to assist with the payment of health insurance benefit premiums. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2025 - 37

WHEREAS, Knox County provides a health insurance policy to eligible employees as a benefit, and

WHEREAS, the health insurance benefit is a partially self-funded policy through 90 Degree Benefits based in Muskogee, Oklahoma, and

WHEREAS, premiums for the health insurance coverage are sent to 90 Degree Benefits and then deposited into a bank account for Knox County at the FIRSTAR BANK in Muskogee, Oklahoma, and

WHEREAS, health insurance claims for enrolled eligible employees, enrolled spouses, enrolled child(ren), or enrolled family are paid from the FIRSTAR bank account, and

WHEREAS, claims were low so a large balance had accumulated in the FIRSTAR bank account which was a non-interest bearing account, and

WHEREAS, the Knox County Board of Supervisors changed the health insurance benefit for eligible employees on July 1, 2024 to allow enrollment of spouses, child(ren) or family with Knox County paying the entire health insurance premium as a benefit, and

WHEREAS, a transfer in the amount of \$60,000.00 from the County Wellness Fund to the County General Fund would be tax relief as the \$60,000.00 would assist in paying the health insurance benefit premiums, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Knox County Board of Supervisors approves the **transfer of \$60,000.00 through the claims process from the County Wellness Fund to the Knox County General Fund during the 2025/2026 fiscal year as tax relief and to be used to assist with the payment of insurance health benefit premiums.**

DATED this 17th day of September 2025.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

James Sokol, Jr. /s/
James Sokol, Jr., District #4, Chairman

Martin J. O'Connor /s/
Martin J. O'Connor, District #1

Kevin G. Mlady /s/
Kevin G. Mlady, District #2

David L. Pierce /s/
David L. Pierce, District #3

Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/
Kevin D. Mackeprang, District #5

Danny R. Schlote /s/
Danny R. Schlote, District #6

ATTEST: (Seal)
Joann M. Fischer /s/
Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk

James J. Borgmann /s/
James J. Borgmann, District #7

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Schlote to adopt **Resolution #2025 - 38** to transfer through the claims process \$303,240.92 from the General Fund to the Flowage Easement Fund to be used as the fifth loan repayment for the Bloomfield North Road project with the transfer to be made during the 2025/2026 Fiscal Year. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2025 - 38

WHEREAS, the Knox County Board of Supervisors approved at their February 13, 2020 meeting, a road project named "Bloomfield North" project where the County would oil 7.4 miles between Hwy. 84 and Hwy. 12 on 543 Ave. North of Bloomfield would be milled, graded and oiled with hot-mix by Western Engineering Co., Inc., Harlan, IA, in the amount of approximately \$3.03 million, and

WHEREAS, the Knox County Board approved at their August 26, 2021 meeting to pay for the Bloomfield North project from the Flowage Easement Road Fund, as a loan to be repaid over 10 years or earlier and the repayment to be made by taxation, or if needed sometime during the repayment period, to use some funds from the Inheritance Fund, and

WHEREAS, the Flowage Easement Road Fund was created when the County of Knox sued the U.S. Corps of Engineers and received \$10,049,868 from the Court settlement to cover the expenses associated with rebuilding bridges and roads damaged by the Missouri River and its' tributaries due to sedimentation, and

WHEREAS, the funds to repay the loan to the Flowage Easement Road Fund will be collected in the General Fund and then transferred to the Flowage Easement Road Fund, and

WHEREAS, the project was completed in the 2020/2021 fiscal year with the final cost of the project being \$3,032,409.17 making a total of \$303,240.92 due each year for 10 years, and

WHEREAS, loan repayments in the amount of \$303,240.92 from the General Fund to the Flowage Easement Road Fund were made in 2021/2022, 2022/2023, 2023/2024 and 2024/2025 fiscal years and

NOW, BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Knox County Board of Supervisors adopted the 2025/2026 Knox County budget, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Knox County Board of Supervisors approves the **transfer of \$303,240.92 from the General Fund to the Flowage Easement Road Fund through the claims process during the 2025/2026 Fiscal Year** to be used as the fifth partial loan repayment for the Bloomfield North Road project.

Dated this 17th day of September 2025.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

James Sokol, Jr. /s/
James Sokol, Jr., District #4, Chairman

Martin J. O'Connor /s/
Martin J. O'Connor, District #1

Kevin G. Mlady /s/
Kevin G. Mlady, District #2

David L. Pierce /s/
David L. Pierce, District #3

Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/
Kevin D. Mackeprang, District #5

Danny R. Schlote /s/
Danny R. Schlote, District #6

ATTEST: (Seal)
Joann M. Fischer /s/
Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk

James J. Borgmann /s/
James J. Borgmann, District #7

Motion by Supr. Mlady, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to adopt **Resolution #2025 - 39** to transfer through the claims process \$25,000 during the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 from the General Fund to the C & C Development Fund for the 2025/2026 Budget Year. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2025 - 39

WHEREAS, Knox County entered into an Interlocal Cooperation Act Agreement with other entities in Knox County and Great Plains Communications, Inc. for the creation of the Knox County Development Agency, and

WHEREAS, the Knox County Development Agency hires an executive director to operate the program so as to educate and organize promotion, encouragement, development, research, increased knowledge, appreciation and practice of economic development and to help to preserve and enhance the Knox County community's economic growth, and

WHEREAS, Knox County contributes \$25,000 towards the Executive Director's salary plus benefits that includes full family County-paid health insurance, health insurance stipend, a County-paid single dental/vision insurance policy, a County-paid \$15,000 single life insurance policy, the County-paid retirement rate and the County's share of FICA/MEDICARE (Social Security) along with an office space, and

WHEREAS, the taxes to pay Knox County's share of the Interlocal Agreement is collected in the General Fund and is to be transferred to the C & C Development Fund, and

WHEREAS, the 2025/2026 Knox County budget is approved, and
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Knox County Board of Supervisors approves the transfer of \$25,000 during the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 through the claims process from the General Fund to the C & C Development Fund to pay the budgeted amount for the Executive Director's salary, and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the full family health insurance benefit premium, the County-paid single dental/vision insurance benefit premium, the County-paid premium for a \$15,000 single life insurance policy, the County-paid retirement rate and the County's share of FICA/MEDICARE (Social Security) will be paid from the General Fund.

Dated this 17th day of September 2025.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

James Sokol, Jr. /s/
James Sokol, Jr., District #4, Chairman

Martin J. O'Connor /s/
Martin J. O'Connor, District #1

Kevin G. Mlady /s/
Kevin G. Mlady, District #2

David L. Pierce /s/
David L. Pierce, District #3

Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/
Kevin D. Mackeprang, District #5

Danny R. Schlote /s/
Danny R. Schlote, District #6

ATTEST: (Seal)
Joann M. Fischer /s/
Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk

James J. Borgmann /s/
James J. Borgmann, District #7

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to adopt **Resolution #2025 – 40** to transfer through the claims process \$3,000.00 during the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 from the General Fund to the Veterans Aid Fund. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2025 - 40

WHEREAS, due to Section 39-1904 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes, the 2025-2026 County Veterans Aid Fund does not include a property tax dollar request, and

WHEREAS, the 2025-2026 Knox County budget was balanced by fund transfer of \$3,000.00 from the Knox County General Fund to the Knox County Veterans Aid Fund.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Knox County Board of Supervisors that the Knox County Treasurer is hereby directed to transfer \$3,000.00 through the claims process from the Knox County General Fund to the County Veterans Aid Fund.

Dated this 17th day of September 2025.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

James Sokol, Jr. /s/
James Sokol, Jr., District #4, Chairman

Martin J. O'Connor /s/
Martin J. O'Connor, District #1

Kevin G. Mlady /s/
Kevin G. Mlady, District #2

David L. Pierce /s/
David L. Pierce, District #3

Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/
Kevin D. Mackeprang, District #5

Danny R. Schlote /s/
Danny R. Schlote, District #6

ATTEST: (Seal)
Joann M. Fischer /s/
Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk

James J. Borgmann /s/
James J. Borgmann, District #7

Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the public comment session at 9:40 a.m.

County Clerk Fischer read the September 3, 2025 regular meeting minutes and the September 10, 2025 Supervisors' emergency meeting minutes. Chairman Sokol, Jr. approved the minutes of the September 3, 2025 regular meeting minutes and the September 10, 2025 Supervisors' emergency meeting minutes. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Mlady that all claims except Claim #25090175, audited and approved for payment by the Claims Committee, be allowed subject to delinquent personal taxes. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Borgmann that Claim #25090175 payable to Preston Schlote in the amount of \$72.00, audited and approved for payment by the Claims Committee, be allowed subject to delinquent personal taxes. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #5 and #7. Nays none. Abstain District #6. Motion carried.

Claims totaling \$426,774.25 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the public comment session at 10:00 a.m. No public comment was given.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 10:00 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:14 a.m. with all members present.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Mlady to go into closed session at 10:14 a.m. for pending litigation. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held on pending litigation. The Board came out of closed session at 12:10 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to close at 12:10 p.m. the closed session held on pending litigation. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 12:10 p.m. for lunch.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 12:51 p.m. with all members present.

Zoning Administrator Jelinek met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to approve Administrative Plat Application #P2511 Bryan and Crystal Hestekind for a boundary line adjustment in the N1/2 of Section 18, T30N, R6W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to approve Administrative Plat Application #P2513 Jordan Johnson for a 5.03-lot split in the W1/2NW1/4 of Section 28, T29N, R2W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 3.) Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to approve Administrative Plat Application #P2514 Riverpoint Bay LLC on a lot combination of Lot 305 and part of Lots 303 and 304, Riverpoint Bay Subdivision. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 4.) Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Mlady to approve Administrative Plat Application #P2515 Riverpoint Bay LLC on a lot combination of Lot 403 and part of Lot 402, Riverpoint Bay Subdivision. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 5.) The Building Permit Application will be updated.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Oil Crew update; 2.) Bridge Crew update. Pictures were reviewed of the culvert replacement near the Allen Leader farm; 3.) Culvert extension in Sparta Township was completed; 4.) Update on the Center Federal Aid project; 5.) A grant application was submitted for funds to repair Old Highway 108; 6.) A call was made to attorney David Domina regarding the Lazy Rivers Acres; 7.) The surplus equipment and truck were hauled to Hartington for the upcoming auction; 8.) Hwy. Supt. Barta attended a three-day bridge class and passed the course successfully.

The Board discussed appointment of a temporary civil County Attorney. By an Amended Order of District Judge James Kube, the Nebraska Attorney General's Office was appointed to represent the State of Nebraska in all felony criminal matters in Knox County, Nebraska including all pending criminal cases as well as present and future criminal investigations which might result in felony criminal charges being filed. The appointment will remain in place until further order of the Court. A number of attorneys were contacted and several responded with interest with one being Danielle Myers-Noelle of Norfolk. After a discussion, motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to contract with attorney Danielle Myers-Noelle of Norfolk at \$125 per hour as needed and no benefits to act as temporary civil Knox County Attorney. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of September 2 – 12, 2025. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Mlady to place on file the Clerk of District Court August 2025 Fee Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Pierce to accept the County Treasurer's List of Delinquent Taxes not sold for want at last annual tax sale and to direct County Treasurer Ebel to issue County Tax Sales on property with two years delinquent taxes. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to approve the HWY 12 LLC/Lindy Bar & Grill liquor license amendment to add a beer garden. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Abstain District #2. Motion carried.

County Clerk Fischer asked the Board if they would consider the deer dumpsters again this year. J & J Sanitation of O'Neill said they would deliver the deer dumpsters to the Niobrara and Creighton County Yards like they have in past years. Motion by Supr. Mlady, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to approve service with J & J Sanitation of O'Neill for deer dumpsters at the Creighton and Niobrara County Yards from October 31 – December 1, 2025 and costs to be paid from the KENO Fund. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the HHS Office space. Currently the County must provide at no cost 468 feet in the HHS office area in Annex #2 and the remainder space of 1,764 feet is rented by the State of Nebraska. The State Legislature passed legislation that in 2028, the County is no longer required to provide unpaid space to HHS. The HHS Office is asking counties if they will continue to offer space for the HHS Office. Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Schlote to continue supporting HHS office operations in the existing space and to meet with them for a smooth and coordinated path forward. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

America's counties have a long and proud history of serving our nation's veterans, a legacy that continues to this day to ensure that the former service members in our communities have access to the resources they need to thrive. This coming Veterans Day, the National Association of Counties (NACo) and the National Association of County Veteran Service Officers (NACVSO) invite the nation's 3,069 counties, parishes and boroughs to join Operation Green Light and show support and appreciation for veterans by lighting their buildings green from November 4 to November 11, 2025. Knox County residents are encouraged to display a green light in a window of their place of business or residence at that time. County Clerk Fischer asked the Board if they would approve participation again this year. Clerk of District Court Fischer said he would set up the green lights again as he has done in the past. Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Mlady to adopt **Resolution #2025 – 41** supporting Operation Green Light for Veterans by "shining" green on the Courthouse Complex buildings November 4 – 11, 2025. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Resolution #2025 - 41

Supporting Operation Green Light for Veterans

WHEREAS, the residents of Knox County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all the men and women who have selflessly served our country and this community in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of those who served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Knox County seeks to honor individuals who have made countless sacrifices for freedom by placing themselves in harm's way for the good of all; and

WHEREAS, veterans continue to serve our community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, religious groups, civil service, and by functioning as County Veterans Service Officers in 29 states to help fellow former service members access more than \$52 billion in federal health, disability and compensation benefits each year; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 20 percent increase of service members will transition to civilian life in the near future; and

WHEREAS, studies indicate that 44-72 percent of service members experience high levels of stress during transition from military to civilian life; and
 WHEREAS, active military service members transitioning from military service are at a high risk for suicide during their first year after military service; and
 WHEREAS, the National Association of Counties encourages all counties, parishes and boroughs to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans; and
 WHEREAS, the Knox County Board of Supervisors appreciates the sacrifices of our United States military personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted; and
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with designation as a Green Light for Veterans County, the Knox County Board of Supervisors hereby declares from November 4 – 11, 2025, as a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifices of our men and women in uniform transitioning from active service; and
 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in observance of Operation Green Light, Knox County will “shine” green lights on the Courthouse Square buildings; and
 THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in observance of Operation Green Light, the Knox County Board of Supervisors encourages the Knox County citizens in patriotic tradition to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying green lights in a window of their place of business or residence from November 4th through the 11th, 2025.

KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

<u>James Sokol, Jr. /s/</u> James Sokol, Jr., District #4, Chairman	<u>Martin J. O'Connor /s/</u> Martin J. O'Connor, District #1	<u>Kevin G. Mlady /s/</u> Kevin G. Mlady, District #2
<u>David L. Pierce /s/</u> David L. Pierce, District #3	<u>Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/</u> Kevin D. Mackeprang, District #5	<u>Danny R. Schlote /s/</u> Danny R. Schlote, District #6
ATTEST: (Seal) <u>Joann M. Fischer /s/</u> Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk	<u>James J. Borgmann /s/</u> James J. Borgmann, District #7	

Officials' updates were given by the following: 1.) County Treasurer Ebel said that there is almost \$500,000 left to collect on the 2024 taxes; 2.) County Assessor Beckmann said the Argo Hotel sold and gave an update on the accelerated personal property taxes; 3.) Emergency Manager Taylor informed the Board that he has submitted his interest in holding a position on the Northeast NACO Board of Directors. Also, an updated Crisis K9 Program report was reviewed; 4.) Update from the recent Northeast NACO Fall Workshop.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to go into closed session at 1:44 p.m. to discuss Courthouse Security issues. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held on Courthouse Security issues. The Board came out of closed session at 2:48 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to close at 2:48 p.m. the closed session held on Courthouse Security issues. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Supr. Mackeprang left the meeting at 2:49 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Mlady to go into closed session at 2:49 p.m. on pending litigation namely the North Fork Wind, LLC, etal v Knox County, etal lawsuit. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held on pending litigation namely the North Fork Wind, LLC, etal v Knox County, etal lawsuit. The Board came out of closed session at 3:00 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Schlote to close at 3:00 p.m. the closed session held on pending litigation namely the North Fork Wind, LLC, etal v Knox County, etal lawsuit. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #2, #3, #4, #6 and #7. Nays none. Absent was District #5. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 115,021.32; Amy Johnson, mileage, 85.40; Applied Connective Technologies LLC, it costs, 6,330.58; Bohemian One Stop LLC, gas, 122.68; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 8,802.18; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 31,072.50; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 55.72; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, publishing, 2,083.25; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, backup, 472.00; Eakes Office Solutions, office supplies, 120.46; Ecowater, bottled water, 1,754.00; Fairfield Inn & Suites, lodging, 809.70; Farmers & Merchants State Bank, ACH fee, 240.00; Gragert's Grocery, jail food, 625.99; Great Plains Communications, tower internet, 74.33; Kari Ebel, mileage, 72.80; Kersten Auto Co LLC, repairs, 4,800.00; Knox County Sheriff, paper fees, 6.00; Knox County Treasurer, transfer from the General Fund to the Road Fund, 60,655.21; KV Electric LLC, repair lights, 130.24; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 142.65; Lois Kumm, jail food, 12.00; LTL Holdings Inc., gas, 27.05; Megan Hanefeldt, mileage, 98.00; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 40.50; North Central Public Power District, tower electricity, 45.95; Postmaster, permit fees, 740.00; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 1,049.85; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 766.59; R&K Motor Parts, oil/filter/repairs, 102.14; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 8,183.10; Secretary of State Elections Division, registrations, 180.00; Tauber Lumber & Supply LLC, ceiling tiles, 184.70; US Cellular, cell phones, 233.23; US Cellular, cell phones, 362.68; Verdigre Farm Service, gas, 35.46; Village of Center, water/sewer/garbage, 414.41.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 41,432.65; Art's Garbage, garbage, 72.25; Bauer Built Inc., tires, 506.75; Big Red Mini Mart, gas, 367.54; Black Hills Energy, heating fuel, 124.80; Bloomfield Auto Parts, repairs, 22.85; Bohemian One Stop LLC, gas, 617.29; Brian Sandoz, prior service, 18.00; Bruce Hagge, prior service, 24.00; Bruce Peters, prior service, 24.00; CHS, propane/diesel, 3,423.67; City of Creighton, water/sewer, 132.54; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 3,117.65; Cornhusker International Trucks Inc., repairs, 2,748.37; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 12,602.50; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 651.88; Crofton

Lumber, shop supplies, 26.63; Dendinger Ag LLC, equipment rental, 818.25; Farmers Pride, diesel, 2,617.97; Hefner Hardware, repairs, 9.99; Herbert Feed & Grains Co., diesel/gas, 3,611.25; Hrbek Construction, equipment rental, 6,930.00; Husker C-Mart, gas, 97.80; Husker Steel, steel, 9,546.00; J&J Sanitation, garbage, 50.18; Jebro Inc., road oil, 48,817.28; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, shop supplies, 147.74; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 60.23; LTL Holdings Inc., gas, 105.86; Marc Mastalir, prior service, 21.00; Powerplan, repairs, 3,931.67; Preston Schlote, labor, 72.00; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 419.94; Pump Hook & Placement, equipment rental, 1,095.00; R&K Motor Parts, repairs/filter, 599.97; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,739.93; Santee Utility Commission, garbage, 65.00; Scott Grim, prior service, 30.00; Simon Trucking & Pumping, equipment rental, 350.00; Sucha Repair, oil/filter, 58.53; Truck Center Companies, repairs, 93.49; US Cellular, cell phones, 593.50; Verdigre Farm Service, diesel/gas/shop supplies, 6,043.83; Village of Niobrara, water/sewer, 43.25; Village of Verdigre, water/sewer/garbage, 179.50; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 17,115.38.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 173.82; Microfilm Imaging Systems Inc., scanner rent, 81.00; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 573.96.

VISITOR'S PROMO FUND. Crofton's Dam Race, promo grant, 1,000.00; Wausa Community Club, promo grant, 1,000.00.

COUNTY WELLNESS FUND. Name Redacted, reimburse deductible, 250.00.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 1,853.91; Legendary Graphics LLC, embroidery, 55.00; US Cellular, cell phone, 61.95.

INHERITANCE FUND. Elder Law & Estate Planning, special county attorney, 2,236.50; Jamie Miller Legal Services LLC, court appointed attorney, 456.05; Liberty Law Group LLC, special county attorney, 771.00.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. City of Norfolk, networking, 39.14.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. City of Norfolk, networking, 91.34.

TOTALS

General Fund	\$245,952.67
Road Fund	172,177.91
Child Support Fund	828.78
Visitor's Promo Fund	2,000.00
County Wellness Fund	250.00
C & C Development Fund	1,970.86
Inheritance Fund	3,463.55
911 Emergency Fund	39.14
911 Wireless Service Fund	91.34
Total	\$426,774.25

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 17, 2025, until Wednesday, October 1, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. for a regular meeting.

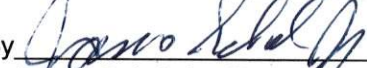
I, Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk, do hereby certify that the County Board of Supervisors' minutes are correct to the best of my knowledge.

ATTEST:


Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk



COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

By 
James Sokol, Jr., Chairman