

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska  
September 3, 2025  
9:30 a.m.

A regular meeting of the Knox County Board of Supervisors was held in the Boardroom at the Knox County Courthouse in Center, Nebraska on the date of Wednesday, September 3, 2025 at 9:30 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. Mlady 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.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Creighton News newspaper, as shown by the Affidavit of Publication attached to these minutes.

Notice of this meeting was simultaneously given to all members and a copy of their acknowledgment and receipt of notice and agenda is attached to these minutes. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was opened to the attendance of the public.

County Clerk Fischer read the minutes of the August 20, 2025 meeting and the August 27, 2025 meeting.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. approved the minutes of the August 20, 2025 meeting and the August 27, 2025 meeting.

Correspondence reviewed was the following: 1.) Nebraska Annual Report of County Inheritance Taxes Paid July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the public comment session at 9:56 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce that all claims, 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. Claims totaling \$368,700.73 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the public comment session at 9:59 a.m. No public comments were given.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 9:59 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:05 a.m. with all members present.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of August 18 – 29, 2025. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

The windows in Annex #1 need to be replaced. Quotes received were: The Glass Edge, Inc., Norfolk NE - \$23,947 base bid (not including trim work) with alternative bid to install awning windows in the bottom 24" portion and the top portion to be fixed in lieu of venting casements – base bid of \$23,947 less \$1,644 = \$22,303.00; Bartak Glass, O'Neill NE - \$17,900 installed. Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to accept the quote from Bartak Glass of O'Neill, Nebraska in the amount of \$17,900 to replace six windows in the Annex #1 building. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Oil Crew update; 2.) Bridge Crew update; 3.) Update on the Highway 12 East and West project. Many truck loads of sand will be hauled and Hwy. Supt. Barta recommended the trucks use State highways as much as possible so as not to damage the County roads; 4.) A grant is being applied for that would help pay for upgrading the old 108 highway.

County Clerk Fischer updated the Board on a Special Designated Liquor License application for The 812 Bar for the special event of "Fall at the Farm – Wild Arrow Farm" on September 11, 2025 from 5 p.m. – 10 p.m. that she had signed so they could meet a deadline on the liquor license portal for the SDL. The Board had given County Clerk Fischer the ability to sign the SDL applications if a deadline was before a Board meeting. Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Mlady to acknowledge and approve the issuance of a Special Designated Liquor License application for The 812 Bar for a special festival event on September 11, 2025. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

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 #P2512 Lorene Kinnison, etal for a 7.07-acre lot split in the N1/2NW1/4 of Section 14, T30N, R8W of the 6<sup>th</sup> P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the August 2025 Permits Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 3.) Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened at 10:45 a.m. the advertised public hearing on Amendment Request #Z2502 submitted by Arron Wetovick to amend the Categories/Matrix Section 4.15.06 Height and Lot Requirement for Commercial Corridor, use categories of Conditional Use Permit and Other Permitted Uses lot area (acres) from 3 acres to 1 acre. Arron Wetovick was present. The Planning Commission recommended to the Board of Supervisors that they amend from 3 acres to 2 acres on the Categories/Matrix Section 4.15.06. Comments made were that the amendment would encourage much-requested economic development in this area. Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the public hearing at 10:52 a.m. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Mlady to adopt **Resolution #2025 – 31** to amend the Knox County Zoning Regulations 4.15.06 Height and Lot Requirement Matrix for Commercial Corridor – Use Category Conditional Use Permit – Lot Area (acres) from 3 acres to 2 acres and use Category Other Permitted Uses – Lot Area (acres) from 3 acres to 2 acres. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

### **RESOLUTION #2025 – 31**

**WHEREAS**, Arron Wetovick has applied for an amendment to the Knox County Zoning Regulations with application #Z2502 to amend the Commercial Corridor District 4.15.06 Height and Lot Requirement Matrix "other permitted uses" and "conditional use permit" lot area (acres) from 3 acres to 1 acre minimum; and

**WHEREAS**, the Knox County Planning Commission has given public notice as required by the Nebraska State Statutes, of a public hearing held on August 12, 2025, at the Board of Supervisors' meeting room in the Knox County Courthouse on the proposed amendments; and

**WHEREAS**, the Knox County Planning Commission has reviewed the amendments and make the recommendation to the Knox County Board of Supervisors for approval:

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS BE APPROVED AND ADOPTED:**

**KNOX COUNTY ZONING REGULATIONS**

**4.15.06 Height and Lot Requirement Matrix**

Amendments to the Land Use Categories/Matrix Section 4.15.06 for CC (Commercial Corridor).

Use Category – Conditional Use Permit – Lot Area (acres) – change from 3 to 2

Use Category – Other Permitted Uses – Lot Area (acres) – change from 3 to 2

Dated this 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

At 11:00 a.m., Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the advertised bid opening for Steel H-Pile, Steel Sheet Pile, Sub-Structure Steel, Super-Structure Steel, Metal Decking, Deck Reinforcing Steel and Bridge Guardrail for a 90 ft. x 24 ft. 6 inch wide roadway bridge being the Crofton South Bridge Replacement Project in Dolphin Township. Bids received were: **Husker Steel, Inc., Columbus NE 68602** - \$248,760 for steel material; **Oden Enterprises, Inc., Wahoo, NE 68066**– No bid. Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce to accept the bid from **Husker Steel, Inc., Columbus NE** in the amount of \$248,760 for steel materials for the Crofton South Bridge Replacement Project, Knox Bridge No. 12-1 W4, NDOT Bridge No. C005442835. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Angie O'Connor with Avera met with the Board on the Onsite Wellness held in June, 2025 and reports were reviewed.

Supr. Schlote shared a video of tree shredding along a county road.

The Board discussed appointing a temporary county attorney, attorneys contacted in the area and neighboring counties, working out court days so as not to conflict with other court dates in neighboring counties, wages and benefits to offer and what is being paid by other counties. More information and contacts will be made.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 11:56 a.m. for lunch.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 12:55 p.m. with all members present.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Pierce to go into closed session at 12:55 p.m. to discuss Courthouse security. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held on Courthouse security. The Board came out of closed session at 1:26 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Mlady, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to close at 1:26 p.m. the closed session held on Courthouse security. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

The Board, County Clerk Fischer and CPA Jill Clay via telephone discussed the proposed 2025 Knox County budget and tax request/levy. A revision was made to the proposed budget due to a projected shortfall of the highway allocation. An additional \$30,000 will be added to the initial tax proposal to be collected in the General Fund and transferred to the Road Fund. Other cuts had been made to the proposed budget to keep the tax request low and to meet future budget requirements. The 2025 budget and the 2025 tax request hearings will be held at the September 17, 2025 meeting.

Officials' updates were given by the following: 1.) Emergency Manager Taylor gave an update of recent trainings and news of vandalisms at livestock farms.

**GENERAL FUND.** Salaries, 105,865.08; Bizco Technologies, computer, 4,691.01; Bomgaars, oil, 27.96; Bonnie R. Cash, prior service, 9.00; Cathleen Sue Stark, prior service, 12.00; Clerk of District Court, court costs, 75.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 8,080.40; Connie J. Janecek, prior service, 15.00; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 34,332.50; Creston Fertilizer Co. Inc., weed chemicals, 243.85; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, radios/backup, 666.00; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, teletype, 537.60; Diane L Eckert, prior service, 36.00; Eakes Office Solutions, copier agreement/supplies, 689.35; Elite Court Reporting Service Inc., court costs, 112.05; First National Bank Omaha, gas/meals/postage/supplies, 4,402.96; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet/fax, 1,619.95; James F. Janecek, prior service, 21.00; JoAnn Eisenbeiss, prior service, 45.00; K/V Electric LLC, repairs, 130.24; Lancaster County Sheriff, service fees, 40.38; Laura Hintz, prior service, 15.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 154.22; Loffler, copier agreement, 143.08; Lois Colwell, prior service, 27.00; Madison County Sheriff, service fees; 60.82; Mark S. Duncan, security, 1,000.00; MIPS Inc., computer programs, 883.45; Monica J McManigal, prior service, 15.00; NACO, registrations, 300.00; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 2,604.02; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 664.28; Principal Life Insurance

Company, insurance County pays, 1,143.17; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 70.78; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 7,462.88; Scottsbluff County Sheriff, service fees, 18.73; Verdigre Printworks, inspection sheets, 355.00; Virginia Buerman, prior service, 27.00.

**ROAD FUND.** Salaries, 42,832.82; B's Enterprises Inc., patch material, 980.00; Bomgaars, repairs/oil/grease/shop tools/shop supplies, 1,999.50; City of Bloomfield, water, 38.00; CMart LLC, gas, 350.26; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 3,224.74; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 12,602.50; Diesel Machinery Inc., repairs, 134.68; Freeman Oil Co. LLC, diesel, 1,142.58; Gary Becker, sand, 1,200.00; Great Plains Communications, phone, 213.38; Grossenburg Implement, repairs/filters, 2,866.85; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel, 3,592.59; Jebro Inc., road oil, 51,985.80; K/V Electric LLC, repairs, 442.52; Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 60.23; Maxon Industries Inc., repairs, 1,417.59; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 178.57; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 310.17; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 419.94; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,834.44; Roger Lemke, clay, 450.00; Rohrer Welding, repairs, 449.49; Santee Utility Commission, garbage, 65.00; Village of Center, water/sewer, 34.00; Village of Wausa, water/sewer, 122.60; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 43,640.95.

**CHILD SUPPORT FUND.** Great Plains Communications, phone/internet/fax, 170.85; Maximus Inc., cost allocation, 1,250.00.

**VISITOR'S PROMO FUND.** Knox County Ag Society, promo grant, 1,000.00; Lewis & Clark SRA, promo grant, 1,000.00.

**ROD PRES./MOD. FUND.** MIPS Inc., computer program, 398.74.

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

**C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND.** Salaries, 1,856.67; First National Bank Omaha, gas/leadership, 179.95; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 62.08.

**INHERITANCE FUND.** Elder Law and Estate Planning, special county attorney, 6,285.87; Liberty Law Group LLC, special county attorney, 2,846.10; Rodney W Smith, public defender, 2,083.33.

**KENO FUND.** First National Bank Omaha, postage, 18.75.

**911 EMERGENCY FUND.** First National Bank Omaha, office supplies, 249.98; Great Plains Communications, phone, 234.58; Three River Telco, phone, 66.42.

**911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND.** Great Plains Communications, phone, 406.46; Three River Telco, phone, 154.99.

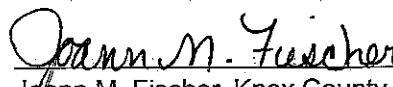
TOTAL

General Fund	\$176,596.76
Road Fund	173,589.20
Child Support Fund	1,420.85
Visitor's Promo Fund	2,000.00
ROD Pres/Mod Fund	398.74
County Wellness Fund	250.00
C & C Development Fund	2,098.70
Inheritance Fund	11,215.30
Keno Fund	18.75
911 Emergency Fund	550.98
911 Wireless Service Fund	561.45
Total	\$368,700.73

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 2:51 p.m. on Wednesday, September 3, 2025, until Wednesday, September 17, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. for a regular meeting.

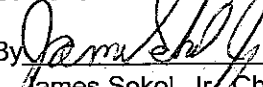
I, Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk, do hereby certify that the County Board of Supervisors' minutes are correct to the best of my knowledge.

ATTEST:

  
Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk



COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

By   
James Sokol, Jr., Chairman