

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
October 29, 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, October 29, 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. Borgmann 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 and Crofton Journal newspapers, 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 October 15, 2025 meeting minutes. Chairman Sokol, Jr. approved the October 15, 2025 meeting minutes.

Correspondence reviewed was a Nebraska Department of Water, Energy, and Environment letter regarding T&T Feedlot Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the public comment session at 9:44 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 \$473,581.19 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of October 13 – 24, 2025. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to authorize Chairman Sokol, Jr. to sign the Agreement for Legal Services – Knox County with Sunflower Law LLC for civil legal services and related support for Knox County. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Mlady to go into closed session at 9:53 a.m. for review of County Burial Application #2-2025. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held on review of County Burial Application #2-2025. County Clerk Fischer was present during the closed session. The Board came out of closed session at 9:58 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to close at 9:58 a.m. the closed session held on review of County Burial Application #2-2025. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Mlady to approve County Burial Application #2-2025. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the public comment session at 10:01 a.m. No there were no public comments.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 10:02 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:07 a.m. with all members present.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Discussed was leasing tractors to pull road drags. Currently the County rents three John Deere tractors from Grossenburg's Implement in Bloomfield. More options will be researched; 2.) The Center Federal Aid bridge is now open to the public; 3.) Bridge inspections have been completed and the information is being entered into the computer program; 4.) Oil Crew update; 5.) Bridge Crew update; 6.) Hwy. Supt. Barta attended a "Low Volume Road Conference in Sioux Falls recently; 7.) Update on the Jansen/Heimes fence issue.

Zoning Administrator Jelinek met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Mlady to approve the Vacation of Plat of Vested Holdings Subdivision Final Plat. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Motion by Supr. Mlady, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to approve Administrative Plat Application #P2516 Shane Greckel for a 7.07-acre tract in the NE1/4SE1/4 of Section 9, T31N, R3W of the 6th P.M., Knox County, Nebraska. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 3.) Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to place on file the Planning Commission August 12, 2025 meeting minutes. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 4.) Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the Report to Board of Supervisors from the Planning Commission regarding Conditional Use Permit #CU2502 For Belle's Sake that will be considered at a public hearing on November 12, 2025. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 5.) Z.A. Jelinek relayed a request from the Planning Commission to have a Supervisor attend the Planning Commission meetings. More discussion will be held at a future meeting.

County Sheriff Henery met with the Board on the following: 1.) Administrative Assistant Justine Wagner will be moving to the Highway Superintendent Office beginning November 1, 2025 and her name needs to be removed from the Sheriff bank accounts. Motion by Supr. Mlady, seconded by Supr. Pierce to remove Sheriff Office Administrative Assistant Justine Wagner's name from the Sheriff bank accounts at the Farmers & Merchants State Bank effective November 1, 2025. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Sheriff Henery presented a letter to the Board about shortages of dispatchers/jailers and asked the Board to allow former employees Heather Kienow and Daniel Henery to return to the office. The Board made no comment and no action was taken.

Senior Office Clerk Rhonda Surface updated the Board on the newly upgraded Knox County website.

Committee updates were given by the Building and Grounds Committee that new concrete is being placed near the garage/storage building and a heater was going to be fixed on the second floor of the Courthouse.

Officials' update was given by County Treasurer Ebel who said the 2025 levies were put in the system and review of such is taking place.

Emergency Manager Taylor met with the Board on the following: 1.) Update on events; 2.) As per request of Emergency Manager Taylor, motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Schlote to go into closed session at 11:03 a.m. so as to protect the reputation of an individual when discussion personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held so as to protect the reputation of an individual when discussing personnel. The Board came out of closed session at 11:38 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to close at 11:38 a.m. the closed session held on personnel. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moved the Board recess at 11:38 a.m. for lunch.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 12:38 p.m. with all members present.

Motion by Supr. Mlady, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to go into closed session at 12:40 p.m. to discuss pending litigation/Courthouse security. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held on pending litigation/Courthouse security. The Board came out of closed session at 2:10 p.m.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to close at 2:10 p.m. the closed session on pending litigation/Courthouse security. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 97,125.33; Albin Law Office, mental health board, 262.50; Applied Connective Technologies LLC, web cam, 87.50; Avera Medical Group, drug test, 386.00; Bomgaars Supply Inc., repairs/k9 supplies, 66.65; Classic Carpet Care, mop rental, 45.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,572.79; Country Creations and More, signs for EM pickup/trailer, 864.00; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 62.26; Crowne Plaza Kearney, lodging, 449.85; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, backup/radios, 659.00; David A. Arens, meeting/mileage, 74.00; Dean Wilken, meeting/mileage, 52.30; Egan Supply Co., janitor supplies, 60.05; Election Systems & Software Inc., Wausa School Bond special election, 1,403.67; First National Bank Omaha, gas/postage/supplies/meals, 6,236.73; Flock Group Inc., renewal, 9,000.00; Gragert's Grocery, jail food, 20.50; Greg D. Kuhlman, meeting/mileage, 58.60; Jim Kotrous, meeting/mileage, 47.40; Keith Nielsen, meeting/mileage, 43.90; Knox County Sheriff, paper fees, 2.00; Knox County Treasurer, transfer from General Fund to Road Fund, 60,655.21; Madison County Sheriff, mental health board/house prisoner, 380.41; Madison County Treasurer, probation officer annual billing, 7,433.99; Madison District Court, mental health board, 50.00; MIPS Inc., JPH costs, 399.90; PIP Marketing, election envelopes, 5,295.33; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 26.70; Police Officers' Association of Nebraska, dues, 30.00; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 237.01; Robert Larsen, meeting/mileage, 37.60; Robert Ganz, meeting/mileage, 40.40; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 6,789.97; Verdigre Eagle, publishing, 19.64; Village of Center, water/sewer/garbage, 809.74.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 38,617.21; Black Hills Energy, heating fuel, 126.76; Bomgaars Supply Inc., shop supplies, 618.23; Cedar-Knox Public Power District, electricity, 134.45; City of Bloomfield, water, 35.00; CMart LLC, gas, 603.04; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,954.21; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 509.19; David Huigens, CDL renewal, 60.00; First National Bank Omaha, registration/adobe, 414.88; Frevert Excavating LLC, dig out ditches, 2,900.00; Herbert Feed & Grains Co., diesel, 3,134.04; Hrbek Construction, equipment rental, 1,430.00; Husker C-Mart, gas, 128.31; J&J Materials, gravel/haul, 1,223.90; Jebro Inc., road oil, 101,529.24; Kayton international Inc., equipment rental, 3,000.00; Kimball Midwest, shop supplies, 1,259.96; Laflan Medical Clinic, drug test, 85.00; Lawson Products, shop supplies, 68.85; LTL Holdings Inc., gas, 224.72; Medical Enterprises Inc., drug test, 36.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 147.99; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,549.90; Samuel P Sukup, gravel/clay, 150.00; Straight-Line Striping Inc., centerline striping, 42,768.70; Village of Center, water/sewer, 36.40; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 16,903.40.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. First National Bank Omaha, Zoom subscription, 168.69.

VISITOR'S PROMO FUND. Village of Niobrara, improvement grant, 2,500.00.

COUNTY WELLNESS FUND. Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, 2025 Wellness, 9,706.20.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 1,838.41; First National Bank Omaha, gas/leadership/subscription, 510.39.

INHERITANCE FUND. Andrew J. Marshall, special county attorney, 900.00; Cedar County Transit, public transit, 2,500.00; Elder Law & Estate Planning, special county attorney, 17,457.23; Liberty Law Group LLC, special county attorney, 8,673.00.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. City of Norfolk, networking, 39.14; OPTK Networks, networking, 228.44.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. City of Norfolk, networking, 91.34; OPTK Networks, networking, 533.04.

TOTALS

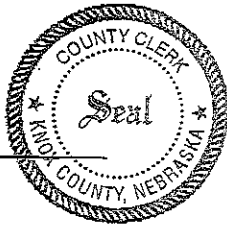
General Fund	\$206,785.93
Road Fund	221,649.38
Child Support Fund	168.69
Visitor's Improvement Fund	2,500.00
County Wellness Fund	9,706.20
C & C Development Fund	2,348.80
Inheritance Fund	29,530.23
911 Emergency Fund	267.58
911 Wireless Service Fund	624.38
Total	\$473,581.19

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 2:10 p.m. on Wednesday, October 29, 2025, until Wednesday, November 12, 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
Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk



COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

By James Sokol, Jr.
James Sokol, Jr., Chairman