

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
November 26, 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, November 26, 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. Mackeprang 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 Crofton Journal 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 hereinafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was opened to the attendance of the public.

County Clerk Fischer read the November 12, 2025 and November 14, 2025 meetings' minutes. Chairman Sokol, Jr. approved the November 12, 2025 and November 14, 2025 meetings' minutes.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the public comment session at 9:50 a.m. Dale Van Heek gave public comment regarding Courthouse security and commended the Board. Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the public comment session at 9:58 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Mlady 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 \$406,246.00 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

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

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:08 a.m. with all members present.

Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of November 10 – 21, 2025. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to authorize Chairman Sokol, Jr. to sign a Service Contract with Heartland Heating and Air Conditioning of Norfolk NE for continued HVAC service. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Mlady to approve the 2026 Printing Report as follows: Legal papers – Niobrara Tribune and Wausa Gazette; print Delinquent Tax List – Bloomfield Monitor and Verdigre Eagle; print County Treasurer's Semi-Annual Report – Creighton News and Crofton Journal; notices for road work and bridge and improvements to be published in the newspaper nearest to the project or improvement. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce to go into closed session at 10:13 a.m. to protect the public interest to receive confidential and privileged legal advice. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Chairman Sokol, Jr. reiterated the closed session will be held protect the public interest to receive confidential and privileged legal advice. The Board came out of closed session at 10:41 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Mlady, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to close at 10:41 a.m. the closed session held to protect the public interest to receive confidential and privileged legal advice. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Schlote to rescind actions taken, if any, at the August 27, 2025 meeting of the Knox County Board of Supervisors. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Schlote to reinstate County Sheriff employee Daniel Henery to employment effective November 26, 2025. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mlady, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to approve and authorize Chairman Sokol, Jr. to sign on behalf of Knox County the settlement agreement and general release with Daniel Henery. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to reinstate County Sheriff employee Heather Kienow effective December 1, 2025. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Schlote to approve and to authorize Chairman Sokol, Jr. to sign on behalf of Knox County the settlement agreement and general release with Heather Kienow. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. and Supr. Mlady read statements regarding the safety and welfare of the employees and public, concerns to access and listening to zoning meetings and Board meetings, computer forensics, and opportunity to rectify the issues by dismissal of employees.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Mlady to reaffirm the decision made by the Board at its August 20, 2025 meeting to eliminate the Deputy County Attorney position effective September 6, 2025 for budgetary reasons. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce to reinstate Hanna Knox Jensen as Acting County Attorney. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Mlady to appoint and hire Danielle Myers-Noelle as the County Attorney. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce to terminate the appointment of Hanna Knox Jensen as Acting County Attorney. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Supr. O'Connor and Supr. Schlote gave statements regarding NIRMA directing reinstatement, no accountability, funds for the Courthouse security attorneys paid from the Inheritance Fund, tax levy was lowered, employees were not dismissed by the Sheriff and Supervisors forced to take the actions today.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to appoint the members of the Board of Supervisors as the sole members of the Security Committee. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Hwy. Supt. Barta and the Board discussed options for purchasing or leasing used tractors to pull soil mixers and road drag. No action was taken.

Zoning Administrator Jelinek met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Mlady, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to reappoint David Arens, Rob Ganz, Keith Nielsen and Greg Kuhlman to the Planning Commission for additional three-year terms. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the revised October Permits Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 3.) Update on the Marina project.

Committee update was from the Building and Grounds Committee regarding microsurge meters.

Officials' updates were given by County Treasurer Ebel who said the tax statements will be mailed next week.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 100,626.10; Bomgaars Supply Inc., supplies/k9 supplies, 73.39; Classic Carpet Care, mop rental, 40.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,711.66; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 31,072.50; CMart LLC, gas, 23.50; Crofton Journal/Niobrara Tribune, advertising, 12.00; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, backup/radios, 659.00; First National Bank Omaha, gas/postage/supplies/meals, 5,779.41; Holt County Independent, advertising, 142.70; Jane Wilmes, election help, 120.15; Knox County Treasurer, transfer from General Fund to Road fund, 60,655.21; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 120.86; NACO, registration, 160.00; NACO Planning & Zoning, dues, 40.00; Northeast Weed Management Area, dues, 100.00; Pitzer Digital, publishing, 685.22; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 1,073.18; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 178.24; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 7,098.02; Sanne Guns & Ammo/Repair, EM truck, 6,860.82; Tyler Technologies, vetraspec, 475.94; University of Nebraska, training, 50.00; US Cellular, cell phones, 166.33; Village of Center, water/sewer/garbage, 451.84.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 39,861.45; Art's Garbage, garbage, 92.25; Black Hills Energy, heating fuel, 103.56; Bohemian One Stop LLC, gas, 733.65; Bomgaars Supply Inc., shop supplies/tordon/repairs/snow fence, 2,531.85; Carlson Home & Auto inc., heat conversion, 4,115.48; Cedar-Knox Public Power District, electricity, 149.93; Choteau Ridge Quarry LLC, crushed gravel, 3,539.21; CMart LLC, gas, 445.51; CNH Industrial Retail Accounts, repairs, 244.60; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,992.95; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 12,602.50; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 554.17; First National Bank Omaha, meals/lodging, 302.29; Freeman Oil Co LLC, diesel, 1,284.50; J&J Sanitation, garbage, 50.18; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, shop supplies, 375.92; Laflan Medical Clinic, drug test, 170.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 60.23; LTL Holdings Inc., gas, 280.22; Medical Enterprises Inc., drug test, 77.00; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 270.45; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 419.94; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,633.88; Schreier's Lumber Company, rock, 2,773.00; Vakoc Excavating LLC, gravel, 39,270.85; Village of Center, water/sewer, 38.80; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 28,556.25.

VISITOR'S PROMO FUND. First National Bank Omaha, meals, 70.00; Stacy Miller, reimburse meals, 50.00.

C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND. Salaries, 1,982.26; Savannah Brabec, speed dating, 462.00; First National Bank Omaha, gas/leadership/supplies, 220.49; KBRX, advertising, 65.00; Legendary Graphics LLC, screen printing, 189.00; Pitzer Digital, advertisement, 88.00; The Barn at God's Country, hall rent, 200.00.

INHERITANCE FUND. Andrew J Marshall, special county attorney, 200.00; Elder Law & Estate Planning, special county attorney, 17,998.60; Liberty Law Group LLC, special county attorney, 15,280.92.

KENO FUND. First National Bank Omaha, postage, 21.95.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. First National Bank Omaha, phone, 195.59.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. First National Bank Omaha, phone, 315.50.

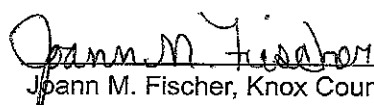
TOTALS

General Fund	\$224,376.07
Road Fund	144,530.62
Visitor's Promo Fund	120.00
C & C Development Fund	3,206.75
Inheritance Fund	33,479.52
Keno Fund	21.95
911 Emergency Fund	195.59
911 Wireless Service Fund	315.50
Total	\$406,246.00

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 11:20 a.m. on Wednesday, November 26, 2025, until Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. for a regular meeting.

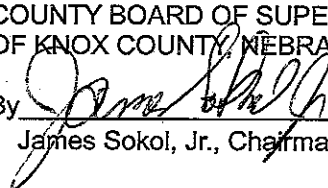
I, Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk, do hereby certify that the County Board of Supervisors' minutes are correct to the best of my knowledge.

ATTEST:


Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk



COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

By 
James Sokol, Jr., Chairman