

PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska
January 21, 2026
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, January 21, 2026 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 Wausa Gazette 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 January 7, 2026 meeting minutes. Chairman Sokol, Jr. approved the January 7, 2026 meeting minutes.

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

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. Pierce that all claims except Claim #26010140, 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.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the public comment session at 10:00 a.m.

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

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:09 a.m. with all members present.

Motion by Supr. Mlady, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of January 5 – 16, 2026. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the County Treasurer's Semi-Annual Report of Collections, Disbursements and Balances for Six Months ending December 31, 2025, and that there were no unpaid claims against Knox County as of December 31, 2025. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mlady, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the Weed Superintendent Annual Reports for 2025. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Highway Superintendent Office Manager Fritz met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to adopt **Resolution #2026 – 05** for Final Acceptance of Project Construction on Project Number BRO 7054 (22), Control #32313, Center West Bridge Project. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION
FINAL ACCEPTANCE OF PROJECT CONSTRUCTION**

**Knox County
Resolution No. 2026 – 05**

Whereas: Knox County and State entered into an LPA Program Agreement for State to assist County in the development and construction of an LPA Federal-aid transportation project;

Whereas: The project construction has been tentatively accepted and the State, on LPA's behalf, has recommended that the project is ready for final acceptance.

Whereas: County has reviewed the state's recommendation and agrees that the project has been constructed according to the plans, specifications and any change order(s) and that the construction is ready for final acceptance;

Whereas: County believes that the traffic control and permanent signs on the project are appropriate, have been properly placed and are acceptable to the County.

Be It Resolved by the County Board of Knox County that:

The Chair, James Sokol, Jr., is hereby authorized to sign the bottom of this resolution and submit it to the State signifying the County's final acceptance of the project construction.

The permanent signing and traffic control on the project are appropriate, have been properly placed and are acceptable to County. The County hereby accepts maintenance of the project and agrees to meet all environmental and other commitments related to the project.

NDOR Project Number: BRO 7054 (22)

NDOR Control Number: 32313

NDOR Project Description: Center West

Adopted this 21st day of January, 2026 at Center Nebraska.

The County Board of Knox County, Nebraska

James Sokol, Jr. /s/
Martin J. O'Connor /s/
James J. Borgmann /s/
Kevin D. Mackeprang /s/

Kevin G. Mlady /s/
Danny R. Schlote /s/
David L. Pierce /s/

Board/Council Member – Supr. Pierce
Moved the adoption of said resolution

Knox COUNTY
(NAME OF COUNTY BOARD CHAIR)
James Sokol, Jr. /s/
Chair, County Board

Attest: (Seal)
Joann M. Fischer /s/
County Clerk Signature

Highway Superintendent Office Manager Fritz continued with the following: 2.) The 2026 Safety Inspection of County Sheds will take place on February 13, 2026; 3.) Discussion was held on purchasing a used Case IH 7220 tractor from Donnie Petersen of Wakonda SD. The ad for the sale of the tractor was found on social media and Hwy. Supt. Barta and Mechanic Crosley viewed and test-drove the tractor. Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Schlote to purchase a used Case IH Magnum 7220 tractor from Donnie Petersen of Wakonda SD in the amount of \$50,000.00 and such tractor to be used to pull road drags. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mlady, seconded by Supr. Borgmann that Claim #26010140 payable to Donnie Petersen of Wakonda SD in the amount of \$50,000.00 written from the Road Fund, 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 \$389,528.99 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Highway Superintendent Office Manager Fritz continued with the following: 4.) Bridge Crew update; 5.) Oil Crew update; 6.) Discussed boring in new culverts on the Rec Road; 7.) Road employee Dustin Crosley submitted his two-week notice. The Board discussed asking Mr. Crosley to stay on as a part-time employee for February in case of snowstorms. Advertising to fill the full-time position will take place.

Zoning Administrator Jelinek met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to place on file the October 14, 2025 Planning Commission meeting minutes. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Working on flood insurance updates.

Emergency Manager Taylor met with the Board on the following: 1.) Discussed the renewal of the Hyper Reach Technology Services Agreement. E.M. Taylor said that he was able to negotiate the renewal price to \$5,250 for 2026 and he will research the date when the new agreement begins; 2.) Discussion was held on the presented office update. Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the Knox County Emergency Management Update of January 21, 2026. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Legislative bills were discussed.

Committee update was given by Supr. Pierce who attended a Northeast Nebraska Area Agency on Aging meeting and presented a report to the Board showing the total 60+ population per county, the percentage of total 60+ population per county in the Northeast District and the FY 2027 County Assessment amounts. The Knox County 2010 census showed the 60+ population was 2,567 with the percentage of total 60+ population being 5.84%.

Officials' updates were given by the following: 1.) Chairman Sokol, Jr. informed the Board of a special election by the Knox County Ag Society on restricted funds; 2.) Supr. Mackeprang told the Board that work continues regarding the deputy sheriff wages and overtime calculation.

Development Director Miller and Scott Kostal, Executive Director of the Missouri River Sedimentation Coalition met with the Board regarding engagement of Grant Administration & Consulting LLC/Judith Stanton of Laurel for identifying and applying for grants to address the critical issue of sedimentation in the Missouri River. Discussion ensued regarding dredging, finding sources to use the dredged sedimentation, services offered by Ms. Stanton, and finding other entities to participate in the process. Motion by Supr. O'Connor, seconded by Supr. Mlady to commit to 20 hours at \$80 per hour with Grant Administration & Consulting LLC/Judith Stanton of Laurel NE to research and identify grants that would address a remedy for the sedimentation problem in the Missouri River and the cost of \$1,600 to be paid from the Flowage Easement Fund. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

The Board made a visit to the Knox County Jail as per Statute 47-109.

GENERAL FUND. Salaries, 102,985.11; Antelope County Sheriff, board prisoners, 855.00; Bohemian One Stop LLC, gas, 20.42; C-Mart LLC, gas, 24.35; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 7,858.25; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 40,213.50; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 8.16; DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, backup, 472.00; Farmers & Merchants State Bank, safety deposit box rent, 30.00; Grandma Pam's, meals, 72.00; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 1,239.67; Hefner Hardware, supplies, 45.55; Knox County Sheriff, service fees/transport prisoner, 961.76; Knox County Treasurer, transfer from General Fund to Road Fund, 60,655.21; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 155.33; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 40.50; Moody Motor Company, oil change, 84.34; NACO, treasurer dues, 75.00; Pitzer Digital, publishing/subscription, 378.80; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 1,207.36; R&K Motor Parts, oil/filter/repairs, 1,047.99; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 7,200.17; Tri-State Communications Inc., radio installation, 2,654.00; Verdigre Farm Service, gas, 30.01; Village of Center, water/sewer/garbage, 463.50.

ROAD FUND. Salaries, 39,200.82; Art's Garbage, garbage, 80.25; Bloomfield Auto Parts, oil/filter/repairs/shop tools, 144.52; Bohemian One Stop LLC, gas/propane, 331.98; Cedar-Knox Public Power District, electricity, 303.78; CHS, diesel, 817.77; City of Creighton, water/sewer, 132.99; C-Mart LLC, gas, 470.77; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 2,941.72; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 14,240.50; Creighton 59 LLC, gas, 484.27; Donnie Peterson, used tractor, 50,000.00; Farmers Pride, diesel/propane, 2,257.76; Husker C-Mart, gas, 305.71; J&J Sanitation, garbage, 50.18; Jedlicka's Hardware Hank, shop

supplies, 534.58; LCL Truck Equipment Inc., repairs, 103.60; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 60.23; LTL Holdings Inc., gas, 503.89; NMC Inc., repairs, 754.59; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 443.52; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,586.07; R&K Motor Parts, repairs/oil/filters/shop supplies, 4,100.39; Riverside Hydraulics, repairs, 1,693.09; Santee Utility Commission, garbage, 65.00; Schaefer Grain & Feed Co, road salt, 6,936.30; Schreier's Lumber Company, shop supplies, 210.05; Steffen's Service Station, gas, 159.81; Sucha Repair, repairs, 106.60; Truck Center Companies, repairs, 1,534.51; Verdigre Farm Service, gas/diesel/ repairs/shop supplies, 2,517.15; Vic's Service LLC, tires/repairs/gas, 805.12; Village of Center, water/sewer, 36.00; Village of Niobrara, water/sewer, 51.00; Village of Verdigre, water/sewer/garbage, 94.45.

CHILD SUPPORT FUND. Hometown Leasing, copier lease, 173.82; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 81.00.

VISITOR'S PROMO FUND. Salaries, 1,854.95; Harm & Tulley's Event Center, promo grant, 265.33.

COUNTY WELLNESS FUND. Avera Sacred Heart Hospital, wellness, 125.00.

INHERITANCE FUND. Albin Law Office, court appointed attorney, 906.25; Cedar County Transit, public transit contract, 2,750.00; Fitzgerald, Vetter, Temple, Bartell & Henderson, court appointed attorney, 8,905.00; Jamie Miller Legal Services LLC, court appointed attorney, 10,395.21.

911 EMERGENCY FUND. City of Norfolk, networking, 39.14; NESCA, training, 31.50.

911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND. City of Norfolk, networking, 91.34; NESCA, training, 73.50.

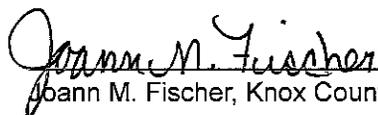
TOTALS

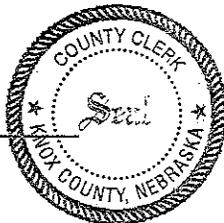
General Fund	\$228,777.98
Road Fund	135,058.97
Child Support Fund	254.82
Visitor's Promo Fund	2,120.28
County Wellness Fund	125.00
Inheritance Fund	22,956.46
911 Emergency Fund	70.64
911 Wireless Service Fund	164.84
Total	\$389,528.99

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 11:52 a.m. on Wednesday, January 21, 2026 until Wednesday, February 4, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. for a regular meeting.

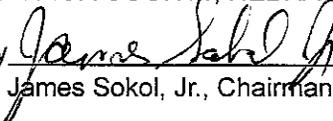
I, Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk, do hereby certify that the County Board of Supervisors' minutes are correct to the best of my knowledge.

ATTEST:


Joann M. Fischer, Knox County Clerk



COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF KNOX COUNTY, NEBRASKA

By 
James Sokol, Jr., Chairman