

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE KNOX COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Center, Nebraska

June 10, 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, June 10, 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.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. 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 Niobrara Tribune 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 acknowledgement 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 May 27, 2026 meeting minutes. Chairman Sokol, Jr. approved the May 27, 2026 meeting minutes.

EMZA Taylor met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Borgmann, seconded by Supr. Mlady to place on file the October 8, 2024 Board of Adjustments' meeting minutes. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Discussed was that a camper has been parked in the Bon Homme Subdivision. The owner of the property who has the camper was given a 30-day notice to remove the camper; 3.) Discussion was held on cargo container houses. Civil County Attorney Myers-Noelle gave options for permitting and there may need to be amendments to the zoning regulations as to meeting standards, limit what subdivisions to allow cargo container houses and building materials to be used. More discussion will be held in the future.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. opened the public comment session at 9:45 a.m.

Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. O'Connor 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 \$387,849.12 are listed at the end of these proceedings.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. closed the public comment session at 10:24 a.m. No one gave public comments.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 10:25 a.m. for Board of Equalization.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 10:36 a.m. with all members present.

Economic Development Director Miller met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Schlote to approve the following 2026 Knox County Visitor's Promotion Funds' distribution: Crofton's Dam Race \$1,500; Verdigre Improvement Club – Kolach Days \$1,000; Niobrara State Park – attractions \$1,000; Center 125 Celebration \$500; Winnetoon BBQ \$500; Bloomfield Community Club – Appreciation Days \$1,000; Niobrara Promoters – Bridge Days \$1,000; Creighton Area Chamber of Commerce – Berry Pepper Days \$1,000; Shannon Trail Promoters – Statues \$300; Wausa Community Club – Labor Day, Taco Feed, Farmers Market & Christmas in Wausa \$1,000; Knox County Fair \$1,000; Harm & Tulley's – promoting/advertising events \$300; Lewis & Clark SRA – Crofton's Dam Race \$1,000. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Economic Development update; 3.) The Zoom meeting with Judith Stanton was canceled; 4.) UNL Intern Brandon Jurgen was introduced to the Board.

Hwy. Supt. Barta met with the Board on the following: 1.) Hwy. Supt. Office Manager Fritz presented the 2026 NIRMA/NIRMA II 2026-27 renewal and asked the Board if they wanted to change the deductibles on coverages. Motion by Supr. Mlady, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to leave the NIRMA/NIRMA II deductibles as \$1,000 for Auto Physical Damage and Mobile/Remote coverages and \$2,500 for Property, Building & Contents coverage for the Policy Period of July 1, 2026 to July 1, 2027. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Oil Crew update; 3.) Bridge Crew update; 4.) County/Township Allocation review; 5.) North Frankfort Township Board Treasurer Peter Bramschreiber, Jr. inquired about putting concrete on an approach to a subdivision. As Knox County owns the property the County would need to apply for the permit. No action was taken; 6.) Civil County Attorney Myers-Noelle has not heard back from SID #1 Attorney Ryan Cwach regarding the entrance road into Kohles Acres; 7.) A request was received from Delbert Jansen about putting a reflective sign on his gate; 8.) Beaver are tunneling under roads in the Knox County/Boyd County line area.

Veterans Service Officer Hanvey met with the Board on the following: 1.) Motion by Supr. Schlote, seconded by Supr. O'Connor to reappoint James Hames to the Veterans Service Committee for another five-year term. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Recovery of a war medallion; 3.) Honoring Korean War veterans will be held on July 26, 2026 at the Creighton Community Center.

Sheriff Henery presented a renewal of the Knox County/Village of Niobrara Interlocal Agreement. Motion by Supr. Pierce, seconded by Supr. Mackeprang to approve the Knox County/Village of Niobrara Interlocal Agreement for County Law Enforcement with the Village of Niobrara to pay Knox County on a monthly basis from July 15, 2026 through July 15, 2027 a total of \$87,714.80, July 15, 2027 through July 15, 2028 a total of \$90,346.24 and July 15, 2028 – July 15, 2029 a total of \$93,056.63. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried; 2.) Supr. Mlady asked Sheriff Henery about a matter of someone placing an electric fence in a road ditch and the person said that he had permission from a supervisor. Supr. Mlady said he did not give permission and did speak to the landowner.

Don Henery in the capacity as Spade Township Clerk and personally informed the Board 532 Street is a Spade Township road that the Bazile Creek bank is now within 15 feet of the road right of way. The road leads to his home and property as well as several other landowners and is a dead-end road. As it is a township road, the NRCS cannot assist with fixing the road and the township does not have the funds to do so. Mr. Henery said he would donate the land if the road could be moved in that area and asked the County to rip rap the bank, fix the road or move the road. Civil County

Attorney Myers-Noelle said the road is a township road, the township would be in charge of the project and the County would not be taking over this as it is financially the township's responsibility. Mr. Henery said contractor Layne Pahl has not viewed the area nor has the Santee Sioux Nation been contacted as they have property in this area. No action was taken.

Civil County Attorney Myers-Noelle updated the Board on the cul de sac matter in the Devils Nest/SID #2. She is still working with SID #2 Attorney Mark Fitzgerald on the process of vacating cul de sacs in SID #2. No action was taken.

County Clerk Fischer informed the Board that she had approved a Special Designated Liquor License application for the Lindy Bar & Grill for an event to be held on June 19 and 20, 2026. The application had to be approved by the Board and submitted to the Liquor Control Commission (LCC) within ten working days of the event and due to computer complications for the applicant, the application was not received until June 2, 2026 in the County Clerk's Office. As the Board was not meeting until June 10, the approval would delay the submission to the LCC, and the license would not be received for the event. Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Schlote to place on file the Special Designated Liquor License application approved by Knox County Clerk Fischer for the Lindy Bar & Grill special event on June 19 and 20, 2026. By roll call vote. Ayes Districts #1, #3, #4, #5, #6 and #7. Nays none. Abstain District #2. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Borgmann to place on file the Clerk of District Court May 2026 Fee Report. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

Motion by Supr. Mlady, seconded by Supr. Pierce to place on file the Receipts Revenue List of May 25 – June 5, 2026. By roll call vote. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried.

The Board, Officials and Department Heads met with the Board regarding annual employee wage increases.

Chairman Sokol, Jr. moves the Board recess at 12:18 p.m. for lunch.

The Knox County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 1:13 p.m. with all members present.

Discussion continued on employee wage increases. Motion by Supr. Mackeprang, seconded by Supr. Mlady to set the annual wage increase cap starting June 28, 2026, for Category 1, 2 and 3 employees at 70 cents per hour. Ayes all Districts. Nays none. Motion carried. Appointed Officials will have their annual job evaluations held at the June 24, 2026 meeting and their annual wage increases will be considered at that meeting.

Officials' update was given by Sheriff Henery who said a new patrol vehicle will be delivered next week and one of the current patrol vehicles will be given to the Roads Department.

Committee update was given by Supr. Mackeprang regarding the new statutory requirement that Counties and Cities/Villages must inspect swimming pools due to new legislation and North Central District Health Department can conduct inspections. Also, as Knox County's Spirited Citizen to the NCDHD Board has moved, a replacement will be needed.

**GENERAL FUND.** Salaries, 105,073.76; Antelope County Sheriff, house prisoner, 810.00; Applied Connective Technologies, IT costs, 5,429.73; Bloomfield Pharmacy, meds, 19.80; Bonnie R Cash, prior service, 9.00; Cathleen Sue Stark, prior service, 12.00; Clerk of District Court, court costs, 114.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 8,047.55; Connie J Janecek, prior service, 15.00; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 37,502.00; Creston Fertilizer Co Inc., weed chemicals, 877.75; Derrick Barr, meeting/mileage, 85.90; Diane L. Eckert, prior service, 36.00; Eakes Office Solutions, copier agreement/supplies, 459.47; Ecowater, bottled water, 587.00; Gragert's Grocery, jail food, 572.34; Great Plains Communications, phone/internet/fax, 2,440.20; James F. Janecek, prior service; 21.00; Jo Ann Eisenbeiss, prior service, 45.00; Kay Morrill, meeting/mileage, 40.95; Knox County Sheriff, paper fees, 242.02; Laura Hintz; prior service, 15.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 151.05; Loffler, copier agreement, 123.71; Lois Colwell, prior service, 27.00; Megan Hanefeldt, mileage/supplies, 167.62; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 40.50; MIPS Inc., computer program, 7,396.74; Monica J. McManigal, prior service, 15.00; Moody Motor Company, repairs, 3,800.80; NACO, dues/registration, 2,688.64; Nick Stout, meeting/mileage, 84.45; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 2,039.14; Pitney Bowes, postage meter ink, 338.61; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 1,183.19; Quill Corporation, office supplies, 1,371.35; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 7,337.05; Robert Ganz, meeting/mileage, 40.95; Security Shredding Services, shredding, 100.00; Tauber Lumber & Supply LLC, floor paint, 129.99; Travis Barney, meeting/mileage, 43.85; US Cellular, cell phones, 46.99; US Cellular, cell phones, 346.42; Verdigre Eagle, subscription, 42.00; Verdigre Printworks, envelopes, 509.35; Virginia Buerman, prior service, 27.00.

**ROAD FUND.** Salaries, 41,178.69; B's Enterprises Inc., culvert/patch material/signs, 14,794.00; Big Red Mini Mart, gas, 119.85; Carhart Lumber Company, shop supplies, 9.07; City of Bloomfield, water, 35.00; Collector of Internal Revenue, Social Security County pays, 3,088.83; County of Knox Employee Benefit c/o Healthcare Solutions Group Inc., insurance County pays, 15,308.00; Freeman Oil Co., diesel, 1,804.00; Great Plains Communications, phone, 427.58; Grossenburg Implement, repairs/filters, 19,191.98; Herbert Feed & Grain Co., diesel/gas/spikes, 3,665.04; J&K Auto, gas, 120.00; JEO Consulting Group Inc., engineer fees, 4,148.75; Lance Rudloff, cdl physical, 150.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance Co., insurance County pays, 60.23; LTL Holdings Inc., gas, 540.71; Medical Enterprises Inc., alcohol/drug tests, 41.00; Nebraska Public Power District, electricity, 49.55; North Central Public Power District, electricity, 299.89; Pomp's Tire Service Inc., tire repair, 338.63; Powerplan, repairs, 12,449.86; Principal Life Insurance Company, insurance County pays, 443.70; Retirement Plans Div. of Ameritas, retirement County pays, 2,719.57; Schreier's Lumber Company, shop supplies, 19.90; Sucha Repair, repairs/oil/filter, 618.68; US Cellular, cell phones, 593.86; Vakoc Excavating LLC, gravel, 28,642.96; Village of Verdigre, water/sewer/garbage, 87.50; Willow Creek Sand & Gravel, gravel/haul, 17,370.07.

**CHILD SUPPORT FUND.** Great Plains Communication, phone/internet/fax, 171.90; Microfilm Imaging Systems, scanner rent, 81.00.

**VISITOR'S PROMO FUND.** Friends of the Missouri River, dues, 125.00; Southeast South Dakota Tourism Association, dues, 375.00.

**VISITOR'S IMPROVEMENT FUND.** Salaries, 1,992.48.

**C&C DEVELOPMENT FUND.** Great Plains Communication, phone/internet/fax, 61.91; US Cellular, cell phone, 61.98.

**INHERITANCE FUND.** Bartak Glass Inc., annex 1 windows, 17,900.00; M & W Portables, event toilets, 370.00; Rodney W. Smith, public defender contract, 2,083.33; Sunflower Law LLC, special county attorney, 4,400.00.

**911 EMERGENCY FUND.** Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 234.81; OPTK Networks, networking, 228.44.

**911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND.** Great Plains Communications, phone/internet, 406.46; OPTK Networks, networking, 533.04.

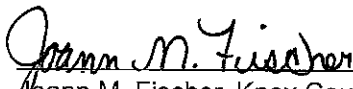
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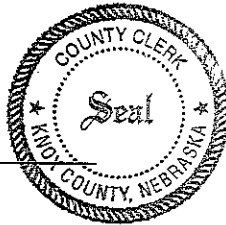
General Fund	\$190,506.87
Road Fund	168,316.90
Child Support Fund	252.90
Visitor's Promo Fund	500.00
Visitor's Improvement Fund	1,992.48
C & C Development Fund	123.89
Inheritance Fund	24,753.33
911 Emergency Fund	463.25
911 Wireless Service Fund	939.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$387,849.12</b>

Chairman Sokol, Jr. adjourned the Knox County Board of Supervisors at 2:17 p.m. on Wednesday, June 10, 2026, until Wednesday, June 24, 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