

## **PROCEEDINGS OF THE DODGE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Regular meeting of the Dodge County Board of Supervisors was called to order by Chairman Missel at 9:00 A.M. on Wednesday, July 9, 2025 in the Board Room of the Courthouse, Fremont, Nebraska with the following members present: Beam, Strand, Backens, Missel, Tawney and Bendig. Absent: Giesselmann. Prior to roll call Chairman Missel announced the meeting to be an open public meeting and that the current open meeting laws are posted on the wall and available for anyone to review.

The Board unanimously declared the meeting legally convened.

The Board unanimously approved the agenda as printed and received and placed on file county officials' reports, correspondence from Charter Communications regarding a change in channel lineup and changes in pricing, Department of Economic Development Community Development Block Grant for Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Compliance Monitoring Review for Hazard Mitigation 23-03-311 Grants River Gauges and Cameras and 23-03-317 East Drainage Project, correspondence from Nebraska State Probation, Sixth Probation District, Patty Lyon, Chief Probation Officer, regarding Probation – Quarterly County Billings 2024/2025 and reimbursement of expenses to Dodge County for the period April 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025, Minutes of the June 25, 2025 Dodge County Courthouse Safety Committee meeting, Notice of Public Hearing for the Fremont City Council to be held on July 8, 2025 at 7:00 P.M. for a request of Jerry Buman for a Conditional Use Permit to allow storage facilities in a Light Industrial District located at 2195 W. County Road S, Fremont, NE, Certificate of Insurance for Anchor Trucking Service, Inc., Utility Installation Agreement for Allo Communications to install fiber optic line and Minutes of the June 26, 2025 Dodge County Highway Department Safety Committee meeting.

The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the June 25, 2025 meeting as printed.

At 9:05 A.M., the Board recessed as a Board of Supervisors and convened as a Board of Corrections. Chairman Missel dispensed with roll all members being present except for Supervisor Giesselmann.

Under any items of discussion, Supervisor Beam reported that there are currently 69 inmates in custody with 49 being held in Saunders County, 13 in Washington County, 1 in Sarpy County, 2 at the Lincoln Regional Center and 4 at the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services. During the first week of July, 33 individuals were booked into custody.

At 9:06 A.M., the Board adjourned as a Board of Corrections until Wednesday, July 23, 2025 at 9:05 A.M.

Immediately thereafter, the Board reconvened as a Board of Supervisors. Chairman Missel dispensed with roll all members being present except for Supervisor Giesselmann.

The Board unanimously approved the wage & hour claims as submitted in the amount of \$297,744.28.

The Board unanimously approved the financial claims as submitted in the amount of \$1,554,831.56. Large claims included the bond payment for radio equipment and the payment to the Eastern Nebraska Human Services Agency (ENHSA) – DUET which normally occurs quarterly but is being made in one lump sum this year. Next year the payments to ENHSA will resume the quarterly payment schedule.

The Board unanimously approved renewing the Interlocal Agreement that established the Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN) and an NRIN Governing Board to govern, manage and coordinate NRIN to support public safety communications in Nebraska and authorized the necessary signatures on the Resolution approving the agreement. Shelly Holzerland, Director of Communications Fremont/Dodge County 911, is currently the representative for Dodge County on the NRIN Governing Board.

The Board unanimously approved the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the Fremont Rural Fire District for Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) APP Licenses and authorized the necessary signatures on the agreement.

Angi Heller, Engagement Zone Coordinator for Dodge County Extension, introduced the new 4-H Administrative Assistant Macy Flescher and the new 4-H Educator Kelly Schole. She said the work the extension office does with youth throughout Dodge County has grown and necessitated the hiring of these individuals. She added that they all strive to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars in Dodge County.

The Board unanimously approved the WatchGuard M390 Total Security Suite 3-Year Renewal for Firebox with Applied Connective Technologies, LLC and authorized Supervisor Bendig to sign the renewal document. Supervisor Bendig said this is the license for the county's firewall. 1-year and 3-year pricing was available, but the 3-year pricing was better so he recommended going with the 3-year pricing amount of \$6,835.00.

The Board unanimously received the Water Rescue Team 2025-2026 budget request in the amount of \$10,000 and referred it to the Finance Committee. Supervisor Backens told the Board the team needs more funding to pay for equipment and certification of new team members.

The Board unanimously received the request from CASA of the Midlands for financial support in the amount of \$37,000 (Dodge County population x 1) in the 2025-2026 budget year and referred it to the Finance Committee. Executive Director for CASA (Court-appointed Special Advocate) of the Midlands Happy Aldana was present and spoke to the need for funding for the organization. She said four years ago they lost funding for 40% of their budget and this year lost funding for 20% of their budget. They typically serve approximately 130 children each year, but this year they have only been able to serve 89 children. County Attorney Hopkins said the CASA program helps decrease the amount of money the county is spending for court-appointed attorney costs. When a child has a CASA with them in court, the court-appointed attorney has a valuable resource for background on that particular case and they don't need to spend as much time researching the case.

Highway Superintendent Scott Huppert reported that employees are working on ditch cleaning for the FEMA grant, shredding and trimming grass and patching potholes.

They are waiting for culverts for a few projects. Ditch cleanout and dirt work is being done on County Road 17 north of the Highway 30 Expressway. The overlay work done last week on Old Highway 275 is done and they did an excellent job the second time around. The State is finishing signage and sealing work on Platte River Road; the speed limit will be changed back to 55mph after they complete the work. The relinquishment agreement for Platte River Road with the State is still not finalized; Superintendent Huppert is working with County Attorney Hopkins on the wording in this agreement. There is a relinquishment agreement for Old 275 in Scribner as well that needs to be finalized; portions of the old highway are Dodge County's responsibility. The Morningside Road project is ongoing. Surveying for placement of utilities is the biggest consideration right now; the utilities must be in place before any road work can begin. Engineers are finalizing what is needed for the railroad crossing at Shoreline Drive and County Road 6. The Union Pacific Railroad wants to close one of their crossings in Dodge County. Superintendent Huppert is finalizing the right-of-way for Project 643 – box culvert on Luther Road. Engineers are getting estimates for the panel repair on the hard surface road on the west side of Dodge. Many panels need to be fixed before the grinding and overlay work can be done. Engineers are marking the right-of-way for the culvert and shoofly work to be done on F Road. County Attorney Hopkins commented on the relinquishment agreement with the State on Platte River Road. She said the language in the agreement sets standards for the maintenance of the road that are applicable to the standards for a state highway. She said it seems they want the road maintained to this level for the purpose of using it as an emergency diversion off the Highway 30 Expressway. Dodge County accepted the relinquishment of Platte River Road (back to the county) in an agreement that was signed in 2014. However, the expectations written into this contract are not compatible with what was communicated to the Board in 2014.

At 9:45 A.M., the Board recessed as a Board of Supervisors.

At 9:51 A.M., the Board reconvened as a Board of Supervisors. Chairman Missel dispensed with roll all members being present except for Supervisor Giesselmann.

Immediately thereafter, the Board unanimously passed a motion to go into closed session to discuss general assistance claims

At 10:03 A.M., the Board unanimously passed a motion to go back into open session from the discussion of the claims. No action was taken on any of the claims as a result of the closed session.

At 10:04 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Supervisors until Wednesday, July 23, 2025 at 9:00 A.M.

Immediately thereafter, the Board convened as a Board of Equalization. Chairman Missel dispensed with roll all members being present except for Supervisor Giesselmann.

The Board unanimously approved tax roll corrections #5779 through #5782.

The Board unanimously received correspondence from the Nebraska Tax Equalization and Review Commission (TERC) regarding the following: Order for Single Commissioner Hearing & Notice of Hearing for Dale Wimer, Case No. 24R 0514, Order for Single Commissioner Hearing & Notice of Hearing for 47 Holdings LLC, Case No. 24R

0515 and Order for Single Commissioner Hearing & Notice of Hearing for 47 Holdings LLC, Case No. 24R 0516.

The Board unanimously approved using the State Print Shop to print the postcards for LB644 - the "Property Tax Request Act" joint public hearing.

The Board unanimously received 2025 Property Valuation Protests #146 through #388.

In two separate motions, the Board unanimously received the list from County Assessor Marshall of parcels where Forms 425 (Report of Destroyed Real Property) have been filed for 2025 and passed a motion to accept the County Assessor's recommendations on the parcels meeting or exceeding the 20% damage and to deny any change to the valuation of the remainder that did not meet or exceed the 20% damage and authorized the County Clerk to mail notices to the owners of the parcels.

The Board unanimously authorized approval of the assessor's recommendation on all protests that the assessor and the referee were in agreement. The Board acted on 38 of the property valuation protests for 2025. Of the 38 parcels protested, the Board denied any change to valuation on 14 parcels, lowered the building value on 21 parcels, lowered the land value on 1 parcel and rejected protest #70 and #71 due to the information provided by the protestor being for 2024.

At 10:23 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Equalization until Wednesday, July 16, 2025 at 9:00 A.M.

Micki Gilfry  
Dodge County Clerk