

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, February 18, 2026 in the Board Room of the Courthouse, Fremont, Nebraska with the following members present: Beam, Giesselmann, Strand and Missel. Absent: Backens, Tawney and Bendig. 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, Bond Continuation Certificate for Amanda Johnson, Treasurer, Ridgeley Township, correspondence from the Natural Resources Conservation Service regarding a Finding of No Significant Impact titled "Rawhide Creek Watershed Plan, Colfax and Dodge Counties of Nebraska", Acknowledgement that item #21 on the February 4, 2026 agenda ("Consideration of Inheritance tax refund for Robert D. Boettger in the amount of \$45,435.61 and possible action") that was tabled until today has been researched by County Attorney Hopkins and determined that the Inheritance tax refund should be processed by Dodge County and does not require the approval of the Dodge County Board of Supervisors, Notice of Public Hearing for the Fremont Planning Commission held on February 16, 2026 at 5:00 P.M. for the following: request by Pillar 23 Investments for a Pearson Subdivision Final Plat for property located at 425 W. Washington St., Fremont, NE; request by Alex Henry, Rainwood Development Partners for a Zoning Text Change so that "Education Facility, Primary & Secondary" use can be considered as substantially similar to the "Education Facility, College, University and Vocational Use" which would allow the Primary & Secondary Education use with the approval of a Conditional Use Permit in GC Zoning District & a request by Deerfield Fremont LLC (Michael Maley) for a Preliminary Plat Submission for 46-R2 (Low/Medium Density Residential District) Duplex Units (47 Lots) on property generally located southeast of Pathfinder Dr. & Wilmont Streets, Fremont, NE, and Certificates of Liability Insurance for Telaid Industries, Inc., Plumbing & Electric Services Inc., Ridgeley Township, J & R Concrete & Construction LLC and Midwest Crane Service LLC.

The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the February 4, 2026 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 Supervisors Backens, Tawney and Bendig.

Under any items of discussion, Supervisor Beam reported that there are currently 62 inmates in custody with 31 being held in Saunders County, 28 in Washington County, 2 in Douglas County and 1 at the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services.

At 9:06 A.M., the Board adjourned as a Board of Corrections until Wednesday, March 4, 2026 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 Supervisors Backens, Tawney and Bendig.

The Board unanimously approved the wage & hour claims as submitted in the amount of \$293,118.31.

The Board unanimously approved transferring funds from the General Fund as a result of the audit of financial records for FY ending 6/30/25 to the following: Road Fund in the amount of \$8,660.28 and two transfers to the First Responders Communications Fund; one transfer of \$3,959.49 and one transfer of \$16,361.06. The total amount to be transferred out of the General Fund is \$28,980.83.

The Board unanimously approved the financial claims as submitted in the amount of \$366,518.54.

The Board commenced discussions about changes to the per diem rate to be effective May 1, 2026 and renewal of the interlocal agreement with Sarpy County for the safekeeping of youth. County Attorney Hopkins had not reviewed the contract before the meeting and asked for an opportunity to do so before discussing the issue further. She did inform the Board that there are certain rules that must be followed when housing youth. By entering into the contract with Sarpy County, Dodge County is given priority when they request housing for a juvenile. She has researched other facilities that house youth, but she said the annual fee the county would pay to these facilities would exceed the amount of money the county would pay for Sarpy County to house them. She added that the amount of time youth are housed is minimal due to the protocols they follow.

The Board unanimously received the Staff Report from Shelly Holzerland and nominated Jamie Carlson (Dispatch Supervisor, Fremont/Dodge County Communications) as a candidate for the Nebraska Regional Interoperable Network (NRIN) Governing Board. Ms. Holzerland has been serving on the NRIN Governing Board since its inception in 2015 and said it is time to step down. She added that Ms. Carlson is more than qualified to step into this position. Chairman Missel noted that it is advantageous for Dodge County to have a member on this board.

Highway Superintendent Scott Huppert reported that employees are digging ditches, installing culverts, patching potholes and sealing cracks while the weather is warmer. He has been working with Burns and McDonnell engineers on the right-of-way for the Fremont Municipal Inland Port Authority. He is also participating in a conference call with Burns and McDonnell, the City of Fremont and Dana Harris to talk about the requirements of Hub grants that provide funding to develop shovel-ready sites, create innovation districts and support economic development. He has been collaborating with the engineers on estimates for the bridge rehabilitation and overlay project on County Road 2. He reminded the Board that the 1- & 6-year Road Plan will be presented in the March 4, 2026 meeting. He also reported that he continues to work with senators on LB1218 – Bridge Match Program.

Committee Reports – Supervisor Beam reported that the May Museum Board is considering moving an old schoolhouse from around North Bend to the parking lot area of the May Museum. Scrib's House Moving would transport the building at an estimated cost of \$50,000. The schoolhouse would become part of the "A Day in the Past" event that is attended by area fourth graders. He also said artifacts in the basement of the May Museum are going to be cleaned out and distributed.

At 9:20 A.M., the Board recessed as a Board of Supervisors.

At 10:00 A.M., the Board convened as a Board of Equalization. Chairman Missel dispensed with roll all members being present except Supervisors Backens, Tawney and Bendig.

The Board unanimously received correspondence from the Nebraska Tax Equalization & Review Commission regarding the following: Certification of Final Decision and Order for Wayne L. Stuehmer, Case Nos. 23A 0218, 23A 0219 & 23A 0220, Certification of Final Decision and Order for Terry R. Clarke, Case Nos. 22R 0213 & 22R 0215 and Entry of Appearance for RTG-WLG QAICB LLC Case No. 25C 1321.

The Board unanimously accepted the recommendation of County Treasurer Winterstein on form 457, Application for Exemption from Motor Vehicle Taxes for 2026 from Midland University for a 2018 Freightliner Executive Coach and a 2012 Ford E450 passenger bus, granted the exemption and authorized Chairman Missel to sign the form.

At 10:03 A.M., the Board adjourned as a Board of Equalization until Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at 10:00 A.M.

Immediately thereafter, the Board reconvened as a Board of Supervisors. Chairman Missel dispensed with roll all members being present except Supervisors Backens, Tawney and Bendig.

After County Attorney Hopkins' review of the interlocal agreement with Sarpy County for the safekeeping of youth, she advised the Board to renew the agreement. The per diem rate will be increased to \$300 per day from the current rate of \$235 per day and this modification will be effective May 1, 2026 (the overall contract renewal is effective October 1, 2026). The Board unanimously received the interlocal agreement and authorized the necessary signatures on the agreement.

At 10:04 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Supervisors until Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at 9:00 A.M.

Micki Gilfry
Dodge County Clerk