

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, April 29, 2026 in the Board Room of the Courthouse, Fremont, Nebraska with the following members present: Beam, Giesselmann, Strand, Backens, Missel, Tawney and Bendig. Absent: None. 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 official's report, Board of Trustees Minutes for March 9, 2026 meeting and Statement of Revenues & Expenses YTD Comparison for the nine months ending March 31, 2026 and 2025 for Fremont Community Health Resources, bond Continuation Certificate for Thomas Grovijohn, Treasurer, Webster Township, Bond for Jason Kreikemeier, Treasurer, Pebble Township, *Moving to the Country* brochure from the Alliance for the Future of Agriculture in Nebraska, correspondence from the Nebraska Department of Transportation regarding the consultation process with non-metropolitan officials to provide additional opportunities for input into the development of statewide plans and programs, specifically the FY 2027 through FY 2030 portion of the State Transportation Improvement Plan and the FY 2027 through FY 2031 Nebraska Surface Transportation Program (referred to the Highway Department), April 15, 2026 Dodge County designation as a contiguous disaster county for drought by Secretary of USDA - farm operators are eligible to be considered for Farm Service Agency (FSA) emergency loan assistance, provided eligibility requirements are met, Receipt of Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare 2026-2027 budget request in the amount of \$97,496 (referred to the Finance Committee), Notice of Public Hearing of the City of Fremont Planning Commission to be held April 20, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. for a request by the MBEE and Marvin Planning Consultants to consider a Blight and Substandard Study covering approximately 22.1 acres described as part of TL 50, 120 & 132 in Section 12 T17 R8E. The site is generally located northeast of the intersection of North Cedar St. and East 23rd Ave. North and Notice of Public Hearing of the Fremont City Council to be held April 28, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. for the same request by the MBEE and Marvin Planning Consultants as noted above.

The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the April 15, 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.

Under any items of discussion, Supervisor Beam reported that there are currently 62 inmates in custody with 40 being held in Saunders County, 16 in Washington County, 1 in Douglas County, 3 at the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services and 2 at the Lincoln Regional Center. County Attorney Hopkins reported that she and the Sheriff have met with Saunders County regarding the housing of Dodge County inmates and they are making good progress.

At 9:06 A.M., the Board adjourned as a Board of Corrections until Wednesday, May 13, 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.

The Board unanimously approved the wage & hour claims as submitted in the amount of \$322,478.79.

The Board unanimously approved the financial claims as submitted in the amount of \$230,362.51.

The Board unanimously approved the proposed 2026-2027 Budget Calendar with a noted change on September 2nd; the budget year should be changed from 2025-2026 to 2026-2027.

The Board unanimously approved the reappointments of Christy Fiala and Jennifer Greunke for a 4-year term to the Fremont Municipal Inland Port Authority; the terms expire April 4, 2030.

Committee Reports – Supervisor Tawney requested that Supervisor Strand be added to the County Zoning Committee. He said with the hiring of Zoning Administrator Jeff Ray, he thinks during the transition there may be issues the committee can help him work through. Chairman Missel is in support of adding Supervisor Strand to the County Zoning Committee but would like County Attorney Hopkins to find out if this requires formal action by the Board.

A public hearing was held to consider the request of Bradford and Cynthia Wehner of 1546 CR P, Hooper, NE to obtain two Conditional Use Permits (CUP) to allow a lot split of less than 20 acres, but greater than 10 acres for an existing and a new No-Fee Residential Registration Permit in zoning district A-1, Intensive Agriculture, located in the NE ¼ of the SW ¼ and part of Tax Lot 1, Section 16, Township 18, Range 7 East of the 6th P.M. Zoning Administrator Jeff Ray reported that the Dodge County Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of the subdivision and the Conditional Use Permits. Hearing no testimony for or against the request, the Board unanimously accepted the recommendation of the Planning Commission and approved the Conditional Use Permits based on the conditional use conforms to the intent and purpose of the regulations and the use conforms to the regulations of the district in which they are located.

At 9:18 A.M, the Board recessed as a Board of Supervisors.

At 9:28 A.M., the Board reconvened as a Board of Supervisors. Chairman Missel dispensed with roll all members being present.

The Board unanimously received three bids that were opened for the County Road 2 Bridge Rehabilitation Project No. C-27 (647B), accepted all bids and authorized using the lowest bid from JMN Construction LLC in the amount of \$402,228.30.

The Board unanimously approved Bowman Work Order No. 013 to Master Professional Services Agreement a Supplemental Agreement for Observation of Construction for Project No's. C-27 (647) & (647B), Structure No. C002710335 (County Road 2 Bridge Rehabilitation) and authorized Chairman Missel's signature on the document.

The Board unanimously received six bids that were opened for the County Road 2 Milling and Overlay Project No. C-27 (647), accepted all bids and authorized using the low bid from Western Engineering Co., Inc. in the amount of \$419,325.02.

The Board unanimously approved Bowman Work Order No. 014 to Master Professional Services Agreement a Supplemental Agreement for County Road 2 Overlay for Project No. C-27 (647) and authorized Chairman Missel's signature on the document.

The Board unanimously received the bid for 2026 Applied Traffic Paint Striping opened on April 27, 2026 at 10:00 A.M. and authorized Chairman Missel to sign the contract awarded to Straight-Line Striping Inc. of Grand Island, NE. The price per gallon went from \$25.61 in 2025 to \$25.77 per gallon for 2026.

The Board unanimously approved the Local Public Agency (LPA) Agreement – Morningside Road Improvements, Project No. DPS-7847(1), CN 23023 with the State of Nebraska, Department of Transportation and authorized the necessary signatures on the agreement and Resolution – Signing of the Project Program Agreement – BL2620. This is for work on Morningside Road for the Fremont Municipal Inland Port Authority. The \$3,000,000 Federal funds in this grant award that are obligated to Dodge County will go towards construction costs of design, utility work and obtaining R-O-W.

The Board unanimously approved Bowman Work Order No. 012 to Master Professional Services Agreement for right-of-way staking services and authorized Chairman Missel's signature on the document. Supervisor Strand thanked County Surveyor Clark Boschult for providing these services over the years as a favor to the Roads Department.

Highway Superintendent Scott Huppert reported that employees are working on Project 667 by Scribner on County Road F between County Roads 8 and 10. Employees continue ditch cleanout and culvert work. The railroad crossing improvements project on Shoreline Drive and County Road 6 is waiting for the environmental engineers to complete their work; the Nebraska Department of Transportation is pushing to get the project done faster. The Morningside Road project is also in an environmental phase of construction; the engineers are working on the wetlands delineation.

At 10:06 A.M., the Board adjourned as a Board of Supervisors until Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at 9:00 A.M.

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

The Board unanimously approved tax roll corrections #5877 through #5879.

The Board unanimously received correspondence from the Nebraska Tax Equalization & Review Commission and referred it to County Attorney Hopkins regarding the Decision and Order Affirming the Decision of the Dodge County Board of Equalization for Hidden Brook Townhomes II, LLC, Case Nos. 22R 0304 through 22R 0309; Decision and Order Reversing the Decision of the Dodge County Board of Equalization for Hidden Brook Townhomes II, LLC, Case Nos. 22R0302, 22R 0303, 22R 0310 & 22R 0311.

The Board unanimously received correspondence from the Nebraska Tax Equalization & Review Commission and referred it to County Attorney Hopkins regarding Decision and Order Affirming the Decision of the Dodge County Board of Equalization for The Row Fremont, LP, Case Nos. 22R 0331 through 22R 0355.

The Board unanimously approved the County Assessor's Policy for on-site Assessment Inspections that was developed with the help of County Attorney Hopkins.

County Assessor Marshall said a criminal trespass case against the Washington County Assessor prompted the Attorney General to investigate the law; employees of the county assessor's office are not covered by the law. County Assessor Marshall, County Attorney Hopkins and Sheriff Weitzel collaborated to create the policy that will allow employees of the assessor's office to do their job while respecting the wishes of property owners. County Attorney Hopkins explained that another objective of the policy is to protect the employees against personal liability for doing their job. County Attorney Hopkins plans to talk with the Fremont Police Department also so everyone is on the same page.

The Board unanimously approved the Referee Agreement and letter used to solicit valuation protest referees noting the need to add an invitation to a pre-season meeting with the referees. County Attorney Hopkins told the Board this meeting would give the Assessor's Office, Clerk's Office, Board of Supervisors and her office a chance to convey their expectations to the referees. She said if a protest decision is appealed to the Nebraska Tax Equalization and Review Commission, it is important to know how the referee arrived at the value they placed on that parcel.

At 10:28 A.M., Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Equalization until Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at 10:00 A.M.

Micki Gilfry
Dodge County Clerk