

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 8, 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 officials' reports, correspondence from Charter Communications regarding a change in channel lineup, Water Rescue Team 2026-2027 budget request in the amount of \$10,000 (referred to the finance committee), Notice of Public Hearing of the Fremont City Council to be held June 30, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. for a request by Mitch Sawyer, Quad County Property Management, for a zoning change from R1 – Low Density Residential District to R2 – Low/Medium Density Residential District on property generally located at Washington Heights 6th Addition: Lots 6A through 10B, Block 1, Fremont, NE, Certificate of Insurance for Dolezal Sand & Gravel and Minutes of the June 30, 2026 meeting of the Dodge County Highway Department Safety Committee.

The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the June 24, 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 60 inmates in custody with 39 of them being held in Washington County, 6 in Thurston County, 11 in Platte County, 2 at the Lincoln Regional Center and 2 at the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services. In June, 113 individuals were booked into custody.

At 9:06 A.M., the Board adjourned as a Board of Corrections until Wednesday, July 22, 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 \$312,380.61.

The Board unanimously approved the financial claims as submitted in the amount of \$1,229,049.91. Supervisor Bendig pointed out that over \$1 million of the financial claims is for the 1st Responders bond payment.

The Board unanimously approved paying Duet in one lump sum for FY2026-2027. Traditionally, payments to Duet have been made quarterly. Supervisor Tawney explained that Duet is under new management and it would help set the groundwork for the next fiscal year for them to receive all of their funding in one payment.

The Board declared the addition of emergency items to the agenda. The first being the

unanimous receipt of a resignation letter from Sheriff Dustin L. Weitzel effective at the end of the day on July 7, 2026. Chairman Missel read the resignation letter for the record.

At 9:09 A.M., the Board unanimously passed a motion to go into closed session to discuss legal matters regarding personnel.

At 9:34 A.M., the Board unanimously passed a motion to go back into open session from the discussion of legal matters regarding personnel.

As a result of the closed session to discuss legal matters regarding personnel, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Robert D. Reynolds as Interim Sheriff to fulfill the term of Dodge County Sheriff Dustin L. Weitzel which expires in January 2027. Chairman Missel said the Board considered Mr. Reynolds' experience and track record in the past as Dodge County Sheriff and Chief Deputy for many years. Chairman Missel said it is important to the Board to restore the public's trust. Interim Sheriff Reynolds will be sworn in later today.

At 9:38 A.M., the Board unanimously passed a motion to go into closed session to discuss possible litigation.

At 9:44 A.M., the Board unanimously passed a motion to go back into open session from the discussion of possible litigation. No action was taken as a result of the closed session.

Highway Superintendent Scott Huppert reported that his employees continue their work on project #666 road rehabilitation project from County Road F to County Road C Blvd on County Road 16. Employees are also working on cleaning out ditches, installing culverts, shredding and trimming around bridges. Superintendent Huppert received a letter from the State giving approval to start work on the right-of-way and environmental engineering for the Morningside Road port authority project. The work on bridge approaches on County Road 8 should be completed within the next 2 days. Project 647B bridge rehabilitation project on County Road 2 is scheduled to start on July 20, 2026. The railroad crossing, safety grant project on County Road 6 and Shoreline Drive is still in the environmental review phase.

The Board unanimously received information from the Coalition Against Bigger Trucks (CABT) and authorized the necessary signatures on letters to Senator Deb Fischer, Senator Pete Ricketts and Congressman Mike Flood voicing concerns about the negative impacts on county infrastructure of raising the current weight limit on trucks from 80,000 pounds to 91,000 pounds. Superintendent Huppert told the Board that the Nebraska Association of County Engineers, County Highway Superintendents and County Surveyors has been talking with legislators about this and he supports signing the letters.

Committee Reports – Supervisor Bendig reminded the Board of the budget kickoff meeting today at 1:30 p.m. Chairman Missel reported that he will be attending a meeting tomorrow morning with North Risk Partners for a mid-year review of the county's health insurance.

At 9:53 A.M., the Board unanimously passed a motion to go into closed session to discuss general assistance claims.

At 10:07 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.

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

The Board unanimously received and referred to County Attorney Hopkins correspondence from the Nebraska Tax Equalization & Review Commission regarding Certification of Final Decision and Order for Dan Knosp, Case Nos. 24R 0697 through 24R 0703.

The Board unanimously accepted the recommendation of County Treasurer Winterstein on form 457, Application for Exemption from Motor Vehicle Taxes for 2026 from Dodge County Head Start for a 2025 Micro Bird Bus, granted the exemption and authorized Chairman Missel to sign the form.

The Board unanimously received the 2026 Report of Destroyed Real Property (Form 425) from Travis Bird (parcel #270027272), accepted the Assessor's recommended final reassessment value and authorized Chairman Missel's signature on the report.

The Board unanimously received 2026 property valuation protests #78 through #306.

At 10:11 A.M., the Board recessed as a Board of Equalization.

At 10:40 A.M., the Board reconvened as a Board of Equalization with the following members present: Beam, Strand, Backens, Missel, Tawney and Bendig. Absent: Giesselmann.

Immediately thereafter, the Board acted on 35 of the protests filed for 2026. Of the 35 parcels protested, the Board lowered the valuation on 17 protests and denied any change to 18 parcels.

At 10:49 A.M., the Board adjourned as a Board of Equalization until Wednesday, July 15, 2026 at 9:00 A.M.

Immediately thereafter, Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Supervisors until Wednesday, July 22, 2026.

Micki Gilfry
Dodge County Clerk