

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 1, 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 correspondence from Charter Communications regarding changes in channel lineup and pricing, Certification from County Treasurer Winterstein of Return of Tax Sale Proceedings, Notice of Public Hearings of the Fremont City Council on March 31, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. for the following: Request by David C. Mitchell – Yost Law Firm, for a Zoning Change from AG - Agriculture to LI – Light Industrial District on property generally located at PT TL 20 2.48A 35 18 8; Request by Ronald (Skip) and Judy Sawyer for a Conditional Use Permit to allow a boxing club/fitness center in LI – Light Industrial District on property generally located at 346 S. Broad St., Fremont, NE; Request by David C. Mitchell for a Conditional Use Permit to allow a Therapeutic Group Home for youth (specifically girls) in NC – Neighborhood Commercial District on property generally located at 749 E. 32nd St., Fremont, NE, Notice of Public Hearing of the Douglas County Planning Commission on March 18, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. for a request by David Dvorak for a text amendment update to the Douglas County zoning regulations regarding boat and RV storage, Certificate of Liability Insurance from Everett Township, Utility Installation Agreements with Skywave Wireless to install 48 count SJSA fiber optic cable in Webster and Pebble Townships, minutes of the March 25, 2026 meeting of the Dodge County Highway Department Safety Committee and Utility Installation Agreement with Northern Natural Gas to remove a casing in Hooper Township.

The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the March 18, 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 73 inmates in custody with 43 being held in Saunders County, 27 in Washington County, 2 at the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services and 1 at the Lincoln Regional Center. In March, 146 individuals were booked into custody.

At 9:06 A.M., the Board adjourned as a Board of Corrections until Wednesday, April 15, 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 \$305,832.47.

The Board unanimously approved the financial claims as submitted in the amount of \$267,562.22.

Sheriff Weitzel took a moment in front of the Board to recognize Logan Kampschnieder's promotion to Sergeant.

The Board unanimously approved allowing Mollie Brown, Coordinator for Fremont Public Schools Teammates Program, access to the courthouse to promote the program to employees of Dodge County. Mrs. Brown said Judge Klein approached her about getting Dodge County employees involved in the program. She intends to schedule a day in June at a location in the courthouse to educate and prepare interested county employees to become mentors starting in Fall of 2026. She said the meetings with the mentees occur during the school year and are typically scheduled between 10:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. She is hoping elected officials will allow interested employees to volunteer their time as mentors during the workday.

The Board unanimously accepted the recommendation of the Fremont & Dodge County Convention and Visitors' Bureau (CVB) Advisory Committee to grant \$10,000 of funding to John C. Fremont Days Inc. to support the Rodeo, Car Show/Downtown BBQ Contest and the Hot Air Balloon Glow/Watermelon Feed. Molly Paden, Executive Director of Fremont & Dodge County CVB, was present and told the Board the original request was for \$5,000/event; the CVB Advisory Committee settled on the \$10,000 total for all three events.

Committee Reports – Chairman Missel reported that Jon Canon, Executive Director of the Nebraska Association of County Officials, continues to follow the legislation currently under consideration; he provides summaries for county officials. Supervisor Tawney reported that County Attorney Hopkins has scheduled a meeting with Saunders County Corrections regarding the contract for housing Dodge County inmates.

A public hearing (tabled at the March 18, 2026 meeting of the Dodge County Board of Supervisors) was held to consider the request of Tyler Thernes to obtain a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to apply Biosolids on the following parcels: E ½ of the NW ¼ and Tax Lot 3 & 6 in Section 15, Township 19 N, Range 7 E of the 6th P.M.; Tax Lot 4 in Section 15, Township 19 N, Range 7 E of the 6th P.M. and Tax Lot 8 in Section 15, Township 19 N, Range 7 E of the 6th P.M.; SW ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 15, Township 19 N, Range 7 E of the 6th P.M. all in Dodge County, NE. Zoning Administrator Jeff Ray reported that the Dodge County Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of the CUP. Hearing no testimony against the request, the Board unanimously accepted the recommendation of the Planning Commission and approved the CUP 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 it is located. The permit is valid for 5 years; the product will be stockpiled in the fall and applied 2 times over the 5-year period. A conversation ensued about the permitting process for the application of Biosolids. Agronomist Scott Nun said each county has their own process. Washington County issues one permit for life; Saunders County requires a permit for every application, but their process is simpler than Dodge County's. The requirement for title searches in Dodge County makes obtaining the permit expensive. Supervisor Strand said he would like Mr. Ray to discuss changes to the permitting policy with the Dodge County Planning Commission and bring it back to the Board for more discussion.

The Board unanimously approved the request for payment to Burns & McDonnell for Morningside Road improvements, Project 185002 of 66% completion. The payment of \$252,330 will be made by the Fremont Municipal Inland Port Authority but needs to be approved by the Dodge County Board of Supervisors since it is road work.

The Board unanimously approved the request of Highway Superintendent Huppert to advertise a Notice to Bidders for County Road 2 Bridge Rehabilitation Project No. C-27 (647B), to be opened Monday, April 27, 2026 at 11:00 A.M. in the Office of the Dodge County Highway Department and authorized Chairman Missel's signature on the notice.

The Board unanimously approved the request of Highway Superintendent Huppert to advertise a Notice to Bidders for County Road 2 Milling and Overlay Project No. C-27 (647), to be opened Monday, April 27, 2026 at 11:00 A.M. in the Office of the Dodge County Highway Department and authorized Chairman Missel's signature on the notice.

The Board unanimously approved the request of Highway Superintendent Huppert to advertise for bids for 2026 Applied Traffic Paint Striping and to have the bids opened on April 27, 2026 at 10:00 A.M. in the office of the Dodge County Highway Department and authorized the necessary signatures on the bid notice.

The Board unanimously approved the request of Highway Superintendent Scott Huppert to purchase (2) Caterpillar motor graders and authorized Chairman Missel's signature on the agreements. One motor grader is in the budget for this fiscal year and the other will be paid off over the next three years. Superintendent Huppert said Caterpillar is giving them a good deal and the Caterpillar equipment has the best trade-in value. The county owns 6 motor graders.

Highway Superintendent Scott Huppert reported that employees are keeping up with cleaning out ditches, installing culverts and sealing cracks. Over the next couple of weeks, they will be removing the sanders from the trucks and taking down snow fence. He has been working with the City of Fremont and the State to select an environmental engineer from the federal list for the Morningside Road (Port Authority) project. Burns & McDonnell are the construction engineers, but they are not on the federal list of environmental engineers. It was determined that Burns & McDonnell can stay on as construction engineers; they have been involved in the planning from the start so this will save the environmental engineers a lot of time and the Port Authority a lot of money. Superintendent Huppert will be attending the bridge conference in Kearney the week of April 6 and the National Association of County Engineers (NACE) Conference in Texas the week of April 13.

At 9:44 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.

The Board unanimously approved tax roll corrections #5875 and #5876.

The Board unanimously received correspondence from the Nebraska Tax Equalization & Review Commission regarding the following: Certification of Final Decision and Order for Lane & Amy Nelson, Case No. 25R 0295 and Certification of Final Decision and Order for Wayne L. Stuehmer, Case Nos. 23A 0218, 23A 0219 & 23A 0220.

At 10:02 A.M., the Board adjourned as a Board of Equalization until Wednesday, April 15, 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.

At 10:03 A.M., the Board unanimously passed a motion to go into closed session to discuss general assistance claims.

At 10:13 A.M., the Board unanimously passed a motion to go back into open session from the discussion of general assistance claims. No action was taken as a result of the closed session.

Immediately thereafter, Chairman Missel adjourned the Board as a Board of Supervisors until Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 9:00 A.M.

Micki Gilfry
Dodge County Clerk