

SUPERVISOR'S RECORD NO. 18

SAUNDERS COUNTY, NEBRASKA

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PROCEEDINGS April 21, 2026

Pursuant to adjournment, the Board met with Bill Reece, Tom Hrdlicka, John Zaugg, Robert Thiessen, Frank Albrecht and John Smaus present. David Lutton was excused.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by published notice in a legal newspaper as shown by the proof of publication filed in the County Clerk's office. Notice of the meeting was emailed to all members of the Board and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and agenda is attached. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public, except when in closed executive session.

Vice-Chairman Smaus called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. informed the public of the location of the posting of the Open Meetings Act & Title VI Policy Statement are posted on the North wall (right hand side) as you enter the Board Room).

Open Discussion from the Public:

Gisele Olney, Yutan spoke to the Board about the updates at Estates Provencal, she is concerned about all of the trash from the construction being blown all over, probably 120 acres, because of the wind. She has sent pictures to one of the Board Members. Would like to see the contractors clean it up or fine them. Wanted to make the Board aware of it & that she would be talking to the Sheriff since the ditches are their jurisdiction & there is trash in the ditches. Would like the Board to consider this for the future & make sure it doesn't happen again

Jerry Johnson, on behalf of Wahoo City Council & Economic Development – wanted to speak with the Board about the action they took at the April 7, 2026 meeting regarding Economic Development, would like the motion from the April 7th meeting restated, rescinded or removed regarding paying 25% of the Ashland Area Economic Development Corporation Director's expenses as it does not state how much this person will be paid, & he feels it wasn't on the agenda appropriately; he also mentioned that there was nothing on the agenda removing the tenants from the building at the intersection of 92/77 & 92/109, also said he spoke to someone from the Greater Omaha Economic Development Partnership

Stuart Krejci, Wahoo City Council; surprised that the Board took action on the Economic Development with Ashland; Commends the Board for wanting to move forward with Economic Development; thinks the County is ready for their own Economic Development person; would like for everyone to be able to sit down and discuss this.

Melissa Harrell, City of Wahoo Administrator reiterate what Stuart said and also commends the Board with wanting to move forward, she started out in the Greater Wahoo Economic Development in 1994 they were wanting to start a Economic Development Office that served the County, the Board was not interested at that time, the Board was approached again in 2010 or 2012 when MAPA implemented their project 2050, population projections & projects in the metro area the County was not interested in joining MAPA at that time, they are just wishing that the City would have been included in these conversations as well as other Cities & Villages, prior to any action being taken.

Ryan Hurst, City of Wahoo Utilities General Manager – importance of involvement of the communities in the Economic Development, each community is unique in what they have to offer, utilities, zoning etc; moving forward would like to see all county communities involved.

Concerns were raised about some vendor claims. They were discussed. Per diem claims were also discussed; per Federal Law, if any meals are provided; they are to be subtracted from the Per diem. A policy will be written up for this.

Motion by Reece, seconded by Thiessen to approve vendor claims for the month of April, 2026 excluding the claims for reimbursement from Employees for gasoline reimbursement for a stranded motorist and TSA pre-checks paid by personal accounts. Preferred seating and Flight Insurance was paid with the office credit card; County will pay the claim to avoid any late fees, and the employee is required to reimburse the County. III Corps claim made to one person for per diem for three people to be re-submitted in May to each individual person (per State Auditor). Another Claim for III Corp was held out for a flight and preferred seating reimbursement pending guidance from the State Auditor's office. The County Treasurer is hereby authorized to issue a check to the Saunders County Imprest Account for the full amount for all funds. Voting yes were Reece, Hrdlicka, Zaugg, Thiessen, Albrecht and Smaus. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

Amber Pelan, Youth Services Director spoke to the Board about the Grant Applications. She also agreed on the questioning of the claims and what could be construed as Personal Gain on some of them. Amber has written some policies on her own that she will be sending the drafts to the Clerk to forward to the Board to look over and then to put on the agenda for Board approval.

Motion by Hrdlicka, seconded by Zaugg to authorize the Vice-Chairman to sign the Application and potential award for the 2027 Juvenile Justice Commission Grant Program and the application and potential award for the SFY 2027 Title II Formula and Delinquency Prevention Grant Application. Voting yes were Hrdlicka, Zaugg, Thiessen, Albrecht, Smaus and Reece. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

Motion by Albrecht, seconded by Hrdlicka to convene as a Board of Equalization at 9:42 a.m. Voting yes were Zaugg, Thiessen, Albrecht, Smaus, Reece and Hrdlicka. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION PROCEEDINGS April 21, 2026

Pursuant to adjournment Sine Die, the Board met with Tom Hrdlicka, John Zaugg, Robert Thiessen, Frank Albrecht, John Smaus and Bill Reece present. David Lutton was excused.

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Notice of the meeting was given in advance by published notice in a legal newspaper as shown by the proof of publication filed in the County Clerk's office. Notice of the meeting was emailed to all members of the Board and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and agenda is attached. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Chairman Reece called the meeting to order at 9:42 a.m. and informed the public of the location of the posting of the Open Meetings Act & Title VI Policy Statement are posted on the North wall (right hand side) as you enter the Board Room.

Motion by Smaus, seconded by Thiessen to approve Tax Corrections 6041 – 6043 as presented by the County Assessor. Voting yes were Zaugg, Thiessen, Albrecht, Smaus, Reece and Hrdlicka. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

Motion by Hrdlicka, seconded by Zaugg to authorize the County Clerk to hire referees for the 2026 Protest Hearings. Voting yes were Thiessen, Albrecht, Smaus, Reece, Hrdlicka and Zaugg. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

The proceedings of the foregoing meeting were recorded and are on file in the County Clerk's office. All items considered by the Board of Equalization were included in the agenda published or posted prior to said meeting.

Chairman Reece declared the meeting adjourned Sine Die at 9:45 a.m.

ATTEST: _____
Saunders County Clerk

_____ Chairman Board of Equalization

Upon the adjournment of the Equalization Board, the Saunders County Board of Supervisors reconvened in their Regular Board meeting.

Motion by Albrecht, seconded by Hrdlicka to open bids at 9:45 a.m. for the construction of three (3) asphaltic concrete overlay Projects; C-78(803); C-78(895) and C-78(896). Voting yes were Albrecht, Smaus, Reece, Hrdlicka, Zaugg and Thiessen. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

The bids were opened by Adam Mace of Mainelli Wagner Associates as follows:

SAUNDERS COUNTY 2026 ASPHALT OVERLAYS

C-78(863), C-78(895), C-78(896) Bid Letting: April 21, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

BIDDER (Name & Address)	BOND	PROJECT	START DATE	COMPLETION DATE	PROJECT BID	TOTAL BID
Constructors 1815 Y St, P.O. Box 30268 Lincoln, NE 68501	XX					\$ 4,139,844.41
		C-78(863)	8/1/2026 or sooner	10/1/2026	\$ 3,926,892.48	
		C-78(895)	9/7/2026 or sooner	10/1/2026	\$ 148,431.73	
		C-78(896)	9/20/2026 or sooner	10/1/2026	\$ 64,520.20	
Hawkins Construction Company 2516 Dear Park Blvd. Omaha, NE 68105	XX					\$ 5,738,864.10
		C-78(863)	6/15/2026	8/3/2026	\$ 5,377,385.00	
		C-78(895)	8/31/2026	9/19/2026	\$ 247,661.90	
		C-78(896)	9/21/2026	9/30/2026	\$ 113,617.20	
Kniße River Midwest, LLC 2220 Hawkeye Drive Sioux City, IA 51105	XX					\$ 5,249,054.08
		C-78(863)	6/1/2026	10/1/2026	\$ 4,963,741.99	
		C-78(895)	6/1/2026	10/1/2026	\$ 173,607.74	
		C-78(896)	6/1/2026	10/1/2026	\$ 111,704.35	
Oldcastle Materials Midwest Co. DBA Omni Engineering 14012 Giles Rd Omaha, NE 68138	XX					\$ 4,239,884.30
		C-78(863)	7/13/2026 or sooner	8/31/2026 or sooner	\$ 3,973,761.18	
		C-78(895)	9/1/2026 or sooner	9/20/2026 or sooner	\$ 174,737.22	
		C-78(896)	9/21/2026 or sooner	10/1/2026 or sooner	\$ 81,385.90	
Pavers Inc. 12303 Hwy 6 Waverly, NE 68462	XX					\$ 4,621,971.02
		C-78(863)	8/1/2026 or sooner	10/1/2026 or sooner	\$ 4,417,603.46	
		C-78(895)	8/1/2026 or sooner	10/1/2026 or sooner	\$ 139,689.56	
		C-78(896)	7/15/2026 or sooner	8/1/2026 or sooner	\$ 64,678.00	
Werner Construction, Inc. 129 E. 2nd St Hastings, NE 68901	XX					\$ 3,664,887.00
		C-78(863)	7/20/2026	9/8/2026	\$ 3,430,346.81	
		C-78(895)	9/9/2026	9/18/2026	\$ 161,656.90	
		C-78(896)	9/19/2026	9/30/2026	\$ 72,883.29	
Western Engineering Company, Inc. P.O. Box 350 Harlan, IA 51537	XX					\$ 3,824,484.88
		C-78(863)	8/13/2026 or sooner	10/1/2026 or sooner	\$ 3,619,345.10	
		C-78(895)	9/12/2026 or sooner	10/1/2026 or sooner	\$ 137,554.58	
		C-78(896)	9/22/2026 or sooner	10/1/2026 or sooner	\$ 67,585.20	

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The Highway Superintendent and Mr. Mace went out in the hallway to go over the bids and will come back in with a recommendation.

Motion by Reece, seconded by Hrdlicka to sign the application for a National Provider Identifier (NPI) and Conflict of Interest Policy for County Transportation. Voting yes were Smaus, Reece, Hrdlicka, Zaugg, Thiessen and Albrecht. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

Public Works Director reported on the following:

- ~Dirt Crew – Shouldering County Road A & County Road R. Installing culvert at County Road 25&W 36'x55' CMP
- ~Culvert Crew - Working at Project (876) South T Corner Rd&County Road I installing twin 96"x48' CMP with steel headwalls. Will be moving to project (880) Ceresco West, County Road 20&A&Ashland Road installing Twin 84"x42' CMPs on 15° skew (RHB)
- ~Contractor – Project (890) Prague West County Road 29&Q&R, 90' span NU 900 Concrete Girder Bridge 0° skew. Last week the Contractor poured both the east and west rails for the deck. This week the contractor will be pouring Part of the headwalls. The grading process will also be moving forward with the shaping of the ditches and final Grading of the road before laying rock.
- ~Contractor – Project (577) Wahoo Northwest County Road M&19&20 3-span continuous concrete slab bridge 20° skew RHB. Last week we worked on form disassembly for Bend 1 and backfilling around Bent 1. This week we worked on the sheet piling for Abutment 1 and began to prep the area for concrete forms. Next week we will continue the work on Abutment 1, with form assembly and a concrete pour.

Motion by Hrdlicka, seconded by Albrecht to award the bid for three (3) asphaltic concrete overlay Projects; C-78(803); C-78(895) and C-78(896), to Werner Construction Inc, Hastings, NE as low bidder in the amount of \$3,664,887.00. Voting yes were Reece, Hrdlicka, Zaugg, Thiessen, Albrecht and Smaus. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

Derek Schmitz – Sand Creek Construction – Update on Restoration of Bathrooms – getting close to wrapping up the Men's 1st and 2nd floor bathrooms; in the finish stages – ready to start painting, marble is getting polished up and Fixtures are starting to be installed, should be able to turn over those bathrooms the first part/middle of May. Have run into obstacles in the plumbing, lead pipes have been found and had to be replaced. Would have transitioned over to the 3rd but the lead piping needs replaced and a majority of it is in the Treasurer's Office ceiling and her office is in the middle of collecting taxes and the Clerk's office is in the middle of an Election, so the Clerk's office bathroom restoration has been pushed back as well. Will push the end date of completion out by about 2 months to the end of October, beginning of November. After men's bathrooms on 1st and 2nd floor are complete, will transition to the women's bathrooms and after those are complete will transition to the 3rd floor bathrooms.

Doug Elting – Berggren & Associates – update of Historical Tax Credits, approval with conditions and wanting to see how The new drinking fountain was going to be installed on the wall, will need to update the application as there were Some discrepancies. Berggren & Associates are very happy with Sand Creek Construction; doing a very good job as Well as their sub-contractors

Motion by Reece, seconded by Albrecht to open the Public Hearing at 10:21 a.m. for Application #1332 by Ann Dostal for a zone change from TA-1 (Transitional Agricultural) to RE (Residential Estates), Parcel ID#003009000, 1125 County Road V, 15-16-8, Pohocco Township. Voting yes were Hrdlicka, Zaugg, Thiessen, Albrecht, Smaus and Reece. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

Ann Dostal spoke to the Board about this application. She wants to give her grandson land to build a house on.

Nancy Hoppes, 1161 County Road V spoke to the Board about some concerns; precedence of creating future residential Developments, preserving ag land

Motion by Reece, seconded by Zaugg to close the Public Hearing at 10:31 a.m. Voting yes were Zaugg, Thiessen, Albrecht, Smaus, Reece and Hrdlicka. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

Motion by Hrdlicka, seconded by Zaugg to approve Application #1332. Voting yes were Albrecht, Smaus, Reece, Hrdlicka and Zaugg. Voting no was Thiessen. Motion carried.

Mike Long, applicant for Application #1321, The Towers, LLC, dba Vertical Bridge spoke to the Board about the application.

Motion by Reece, seconded by Hrdlicka to approve Application #1321 by The Towers, LLC, dba Vertical Bridge to construct a monopole cellular tower, parcel ID#001743500, 36-14-7, Stocking Township. Voting yes were Albrecht, Smaus, Reece, Hrdlicka, Zaugg and Thiessen. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

Motion by Reece, seconded by Albrecht to approve the Pawnee Ridge Subdivision Agreement. Voting yes were Smaus, Reece, Hrdlicka and Albrecht. Voting no were Zaugg and Thiessen. Motion carried.

Discussion regarding the County Credit Cards. In November, a credit limit increase was approved for the Sheriff's office. Paperwork was filled out and sent in. Later it was requested by the Bank to have someone's Social Security number The account. Mitch was not willing to do that, the Sheriff said he was willing to give his. The Board does not think That anyone's SS# should be used, the County has a Federal ID# that should be able to be used. They do not want That number. The Board said to go with a different credit card that works with NACO for counties. The County Attorney's office is working on that.

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Motion by Reece, seconded by Hrdlicka to authorize the Clerk's office to do a Journal Entry of \$1,191.00 that was spent out of the 911 Wireless Fund in error and show it coming out of the General Fund. Voting yes were Reece, Hrdlicka, Zaugg, Thiessen and Smaus. Albrecht was absent during roll call and not voting. Motion carried.

Thiessen excused at 11:42 a.m.

Discussed adopting the Resolution to establish an HR Committee; Reece wanted verbiage added to include committee not to exceed 5 members and table the Resolution until the 28th Agenda

Budgets – Finance Committee to start looking at the budgets they have

Public Safety Radio System – Issue with Cedar Bluffs site, pad for the generator was poured in front of the building in front of the door this is an issue, won't be able to get things in to the building with it there will need to be removed and poured in a different spot

Economic Development – Jerry Johnson was asked about his concerns about the motion made at the April 7th meeting. He feels the Board's Intent is for Ashland to be the lead partner when it comes to the County Wide Economic Development, that is not the intent of the Board, the intent is Ashland (ACDC) has decided on their own to apply to The Greater Omaha Economic Development Partnership as a City entity. The way the partnership works they will not have two entities from a County, it has to be either A City or The County. The County does not have a director right now for Economic Development so the County can't apply. Ashland has applied. That was their decision, not the County's. It enables the County to have a voice. The County will be getting 25% of the Ashland Director's time, to devote right now for County business in Economic Development. It may at some point lead to a County Economic Director, we don't know. We are looking for help to formulate and rewrite the County's current corporation. That is the only intent. It had nothing to do with excluding other communities. This is for the Whole County. One of the concerns is placement on the agenda. Also wants to know how much control the Greater Omaha Economic Development Partnership would have over communities, will call & check. The County is ready to move forward with Economic Development at this time. This was not meant to hide anything from Wahoo or to take anything away from Wahoo, it's for the County to get something going so we can all be involved. The agreement with Ashland can be terminated at any time if the County decides to hire their own director. Jerry's concern is still the County's accountability for Open Meetings Act, even though the item was included on the agenda, under Carried Over Items as it has been for several weeks

Motion by Hrdlicka, seconded by Zaugg to approve the minutes of the April 7th meeting with a correction to the Economic Development discussion. Voting yes were Hrdlicka, Zaugg, Albrecht, Smaus and Reece. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

Motion by Albrecht, seconded by Hrdlicka to convene in closed session at 11:56 a.m. for Personnel (84-1410). Voting yes were Hrdlicka, Zaugg, Albrecht, Smaus and Reece. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

John Zaugg excused at 12:03 p.m.

Motion by Reece, seconded by Albrecht to adjourn from closed session at 12:13 p.m. with no action taken. Voting yes were Albrecht, Smaus, Reece and Hrdlicka. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

Motion by Reece, seconded by Hrdlicka for the HR committee to move forward with hiring an HR Director at a minimum salary of \$75,000.00 per year. Voting yes were Smaus, Reece, Hrdlicka and Albrecht. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

The proceedings of the foregoing meeting were recorded and are on file in the County Clerk's office. All items considered by the Board of Supervisors were included in the agenda published or posted prior to said meeting.

Vice-Chairman Smaus declared the meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

ATTEST: _____
Saunders County Clerk

Vice-Chairman Board of Supervisors