

# SUPERVISOR'S RECORD NO. 18

SAUNDERS COUNTY, NEBRASKA

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS PROCEEDINGS September 1, 2026

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

Notice of the meeting was given in advance by emailing to all members of the Board and posting in the Courthouse and on the website. 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.

Chairman Lutton 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).

Melodi Szymczak, Big Red Keno, spoke to the Board about the Satellite Application by Woodcliff Restaurant LLC, DBA Woodcliff Marina, Fremont and reminded the Board about the contract percentages: Compensation and proceeds 8.75% to the County, 2% of the gross proceeds will be used by the City of Omaha to pay the State Lottery Tax, 1% of the gross proceeds retained by City of Omaha to defray Administrative Costs trying to eliminate work that the County Clerk would have to do and the remaining proceeds retained by the City of Omaha to be used for paid prizes and compensation for lottery

Motion by Reece, seconded by Thiessen to approve the Satellite Application by Woodcliff Restaurant LLC, DBA Woodcliff Marina, Fremont for the operation of KENO and authorize the Chairman to sign. Voting yes were Reece, Hrdlicka, Zaugg, Thiessen, Albrecht and Lutton. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

Motion by Thiessen, seconded by Reece to Authorize the County Assessor to purchase a new refrigerator from Simons Home Store, Wahoo, in the amount of \$640.00 due to the fact that the refrigerator that she had purchased personally for her office stopped working when it was moved for the courthouse bathroom remodel. Voting yes were Hrdlicka, Zaugg, Thiessen, Albrecht, Lutton and Reece. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

Public Works Director reported on the following:

- ~Dirt Crew – Working at Main Road & County Road 27 working east cleaning ditches. Will be moving to County Road 20&N&O
- ~Culvert Crew – Working at project (880) Ceresco West, County Road 20&A&Ashland Road installing Twin 84"x42' CMPs on 15° skew (RHB)
- ~Contractor – Project (863) Cedar Bluffs Paving Project Contractor plans on starting September 7<sup>th</sup>
- ~Contractor – County Road 19&20&H Bridge Repair, Contractor has mobilized bridge repair. Will take about 2 weeks

Motion by Albrecht, seconded by Reece to adopt **Resolution #26-2026**, reclassification of a minimum maintenance road, County Road 30 between County Road D and County Road E, Oak Creek Township. Voting yes were Zaugg, Thiessen, Albrecht, Lutton, Reece and Hrdlicka. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

Director of Facilities and Grounds reported on the following:

- ~South Parking Lot was striped Saturday
- ~McKinnis did some repairs on the roof to stop the current leaks
- ~Bathrooms – waiting on marble work, to be completed to be able to finish up the rest – Late Sept early Oct for Completion

Grant Anderson – Emergency Management Director gave the Board some updates

- ~FEMA released EMPG Funding for 25-26 FY, 26-27 should drop this Fiscal Year
- ~completed preliminary course work to receive his certification for Emergency Management through NEMA
- ~has had several requests for more exercises, just did another tabletop with SMC, working with the schools and cities and villages, working on one for the County
- ~Working with the Schools updating their safety plans
- ~not quite out of severe weather season but gearing up for winter weather
- ~PET Region, which consists of about 7 counties, EOC grant funding possible for 2027, it will be a managed grant by the State

Chris Meeks, Government & Community Relations Strategist – Public Affairs for OPPD spoke to the Board about some projects that OPPD is doing

- ~Integrated Systems Plan – Look at Generations Sources, Transmission Lines, Sub Stations, Distribution Network, it's an overview of how power gets from the generators to the actual houses of customers, it a 5 year look ahead for how to set up priorities for the system, wanting input from community leaders & customers, have sent out a survey, would like the Board to participate in that survey
- ~Smart Meters – soft launch to customers in Saunders County, 10,000 meters that were launched in the territory, in the next few months, customers will be seeing some of these meters installed. Start with commercial and irrigation customers. Saunders County is a difficult area, cellular meters that communicate with OPPD through the cellular network; field area network areas, such as Ashland and the eastern side of the County, areas closer to the Metro Area, which is WIFI; the meters have direct communication with OPPD; will let them know when there is an outage; greater insights on energy usage – to learn more about smart meters oppd.com/smart meters
- ~doing a lot of transmission projects, more to come in the next 5 to 10 years

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- ~More generation, have 4 gas turbines under construction right now, in the last 2 years opened up 2 new stations
- ~new peak this summer for energy usage

Lily Teeple – Saunders County Economic Development Director updated the Board on Economic Development

- ~met with SMC, potential partnerships
- ~went out to the Extension Office and met with them, great facility
- ~went to the Yutan Pancake Feed
- ~met with Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, Ag works corridor, potential partnerships
- ~went to Lincoln for 6 Regions One Nebraska Conference, potential partnerships for Childcare, Regional Infrastructure Partnerships, particularly water infrastructure, wanting more information on the Childcare portion it's an ongoing issue throughout the County and State, looking at developing a substitute pool, just like a substitute pool for teachers
- ~Ashland Community Development Corporation (ACDC) Annual Meeting coming up September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at the Carol Joy Holling – Hazel Dillon Lodge, Ashland – Alec from the Greater Omaha Chamber will be there to speak
- ~Zoom meeting with NDOT on September 4<sup>th</sup> regarding the 2 projects they are doing in the County; any Board members are welcome to join in
- ~Presented Placer.ai software quote to the Board, beneficial for the whole County, visitors where they are going and where they are coming from; visitors spend data; Ashland has used this in the past, used an Economic Development Grant from the County to purchase it, the County or Cities and Villages can contact Lily to get the information for their area, Lily is the only one that can pull the data, because the more users that have access to it would be more money, this program receives this information from cell phones
- ~Has emailed Village Clerks to set up meetings

Motion by Reece, seconded by Thiessen to approve the purchase of Placer.ai software in the amount of \$18,950.00 to be re-evaluated in a year. Voting yes were Thiessen, Albrecht, Lutton, Reece, Hrdlicka and Zaugg. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

Motion by Hrdlicka, seconded by Zaugg to approve the Special Designated Liquor License applications by 1) Andgo LLC, DBA: The Woodcliff Restaurant, for a wedding, September 18, 2026 from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., at Heartland Country Barn, 1063 County Road U, Fremont and 2) PIVO'S Tavern for a wedding reception, September 12, 2026 from 12:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m., at Heartland Country Barn, 1063 County Road U, Fremont and 3) El Paraiso Dorado Inc, for an End of Summer Celebration, October 3, 2026 from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., at Rancho Nuevo, 940 County Road 3, Ashland; and authorize the Chairman to sign the Local Recommendation Form. Voting yes were Albrecht, Lutton, Reece, Hrdlicka, Zaugg and Thiessen. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

Motion by Hrdlicka, seconded by Reece to approve the payroll for the September 4<sup>th</sup> Pay Period. 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 Lutton, Reece, Hrdlicka, Zaugg, Thiessen and Albrecht. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

Motion by Reece, seconded by Zaugg to approve the written county policy for miscellaneous and travel expenses with corrections as presented by Jennifer Joakim, County Attorney and Mac Rothe, Saunders County HR Director. Corrections are to the travel time; employees should get their regular daily hours for travel during the week, but not for weekend travel, they are traveling on behalf of the County, they should be paid their regular hours for the week and not be shorted. Voting yes were Reece, Hrdlicka, Zaugg, Thiessen, Albrecht and Lutton. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

Motion by Zaugg seconded by Thiessen to approve the minutes of the August 25<sup>th</sup> meeting and the August 25<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing for 2025-2026 Fiscal Year Budget. Voting yes were Hrdlicka, Zaugg, Thiessen, Albrecht, Lutton and Reece. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

The Board met with Jose Jaimes, Interim Public Defender about the reimbursement claim he submitted.

Motion by Albrecht, seconded by Zaugg to convene in closed session at 10:42 a.m. for personnel (84-1410). Voting yes were Zaugg, Thiessen, Albrecht, Lutton, Reece and Hrdlicka. Voting no were none. Motion carried.

Thiessen excused at 10:45 a.m.

Motion by Albrecht, seconded by Zaugg to adjourn from closed session and re-convene in regular meeting at 11:44 a.m. Voting yes were Albrecht, Lutton, 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 Supervisors were included in the agenda posted prior to said meeting.

Chairman Lutton declared the meeting adjourned at 11:44 a.m.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Saunders County Clerk

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Chairman Board of Supervisors