

September 23, 2025,

The Merrick County Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, September 23, 2025 at 9:05 a.m. in the Supervisors Room, County Courthouse, Central City, NE, with Kreachbaum, Jarecke, Dexter, Wiegert, Placke, Weller, Kucera present. County Clerk Strobel and County Attorney Kunz present.

Notice of the meeting was given thereof by publications in the Republican Nonpareil and The Palmer Journal and the Merrick County Website. Proof of publication is filed in the Clerk's Office. Copies of the agenda were given to each Supervisor and kept current and available to the public at the County Clerk's Office.

Chairwoman Kucera declared the meeting was preceded by publicized notice and having acknowledged and identified the location of the posting of the current copy of the Open Meetings Act, called the meeting to order and in open session at 9:05 a.m.

Moved Wiegert, second Kreachbaum to convene as Board of Supervisors at 9:05 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes
Agenda: Moved Dexter, second Placke to approve the agenda. Roll Call: All Ayes

Minutes: Moved Dexter, second Weller to approve the minutes from September 9, 2025 as published.

Roll Call: All Ayes

Meeting Reports: NACO Central District Meeting in Aurora, September 18-Weller, Placke, Kreachbaum, Dexter, Jarecke, Kucera, Wiegert; Joint Public Hearing September 22nd at the Performing Arts Center-Dexter, Kreachbaum, Placke, Kucera, Jarecke and Wiegert; Senior Center September 16-Placke; Long Term Care September 17th-Placke, Jarecke, Kreachbaum; CNCAP-Loup City September 16-Jarecke; 4H Building Committee September 15th-Kreachbaum, Wiegert; MNIS September 17th-Kucera.

Officials Reports: Highway Superintendent Kunze informed the board of an accident involving a motor grader and Clerk Strobel stated she and Crystal Burkhardt will be attending Power Profile training in Kearney Thursday and Friday.

Melissa VanDewalle provided an update regarding Long Term Care.

Moved Weller, second Dexter to approve the chairwoman to sign Resolution 2025-17 to regulate parking at Stranberg Park. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Jarecke, second Dexter to approve the contract for property appraisal with Central Plains Valuation, LLC in the amount not to exceed \$5000.00. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Kreachbaum, second Weller to approve the SDL application for Prairie Creek Vineyards October 11, 2025 from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Wild Roots Greenhouse. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Kreachbaum, second Dexter to approve sick time donation for a road employee from three other road employees. Roll Call: All Ayes

Highway Superintendent Kunze presented a proposed agreement between the Village of Palmer, Merrick and Nance counties. The interlocal would be cost shared for road surface maintenance between the three entities. Engineers estimate is \$1,028,000.00; approximately 15,145 feet in length for Merrick County \$716,000.00, 4080 feet Nance County \$179,000.00 and 2285 feet for Village of Palmer \$121,000.00.

Moved Wiegert, second Dexter to approve the chairwoman to sign the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement between Merrick County, Nance County and the Village of Palmer. Roll Call: All Ayes

Past due accounts were presented by Treasurer Gilg for the Roads/Highway Department. Gilg suggested a possible write off for the invoices dating back to 2010 with an approximate amount of \$1500.00. The item will be placed back on for the next board meeting.

Kunze provided some estimates for resurfacing Z Road (Smiley Barn Road) received from an engineer. First option: crack sealing, filling joints and armor coat-\$215,000.00 avg life span 5 to 10 years, second option: remove joints, new asphalt with armor coating- \$350,000.00 avg life span 10 to 15 years, third option: overlay \$785,000.00, 20+ years. Kunze would use the Road Buy Back Fund for this project. Jarecke suggested option two seemed to be the best option.

Moved Placke, second Dexter to open the Road Closure Hearing at 10:00 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

Highway Superintendent Kunze stated the closure would be in the public interest to abandon 10th Road between V Road and W Road.

With no public input or any discussion, moved Placke, second Dexter to close the Road Closure Hearing at 10:03 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Dexter, second Weller to approve the chairwoman to sign Resolution 2025-16: Closing 10th Road from the intersection at V Road Northward to the Intersection at W Road effective September 23, 2025.

Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Dexter, second Weller to approve up to \$25 per employee for the appreciation dinner (excluding alcohol) to be used by June 30, 2026. Roll Call: All Ayes

County Clerk Strobel provided the Engagement Letter that was received from Lengemann & Associates, P.C. Fee for the services will not exceed \$19,400.00 for the audit ending June 30, 2025.

Moved Jarecke, second Dexter to sign the Engagement Letter from Lengemann & Associates, P.C. for the Merrick County audit for the year ending June 30, 2025. Roll Call: All Ayes

County Administrator talks continued with more discussion to follow at the next board meeting.

Moved Wiegert, second Dexter to approve the payroll as presented. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Placke, second Dexter to adjourn at 10:23 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

/s/Carolyn Kucera, Chairwoman

/s/Trisha L Fate-Strobel, County Clerk