

December 23, 2025,

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

Moved Placke, second Kreachbaum to convene as Board of Supervisors at 9:05 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes
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.

Agenda: Moved Dexter, second Placke to approve the agenda with the deletion of county burial and Vehicle use policy/log for county vehicle items. Roll Call: All Ayes

Minutes: Moved Weller, second Wiegert to approve the minutes of December 9, 2025 as published. Roll Call: Ayes

Meeting Reports: NACO Convention in Kearney: Weller-December 17; Dexter, Jarecke, Kreachbaum, Wiegert and Kucera-December 17 through 19; Long Term Care-December 17-Placke; Safety meeting December 10-Dexter.

Officials Reports: Anna Sedlacek updated the board on the County Administrator applicants.

Public Comment: Tyson Benner reiterated to the board after spending nearly half a million dollars on the Long-Term Care facility in engineering fees, he strongly urged the board to decide whether they will proceed or terminate moving forward.

Melissa Van DeWalle provided an update on Long Term Care and they are continuing the future planning of the facility with RDG.

Juvenile Diversion Officer McNeff appeared before the board to go over the Interlocal and grant for 2027.

Moved Jarecke, second Placke to approve the Juvenile Diversion Interlocal 2027. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Placke, second Dexter to approve the chairwoman to sign the Juvenile Diversion Grant for 2027.

Roll Call: All Ayes

Highway Superintendent Kunze discussed the 3rd Road asphalt overlay. The 3rd Road bridge needs to be replaced with a culvert the bidding be due by January 8th and completed by June 15th. Funding the project was also discussed. No action needed at this time.

Hilary Betka, Planning & Zoning discussed the ordinance agreement with City of Grand Island for the Interjurisdictional Planning Commission. Moved Jarecke, second Dexter to terminate Ordinance #90-38 with City of Grand Island. Roll Call: All Ayes

E911 sign placement was decided to place signs by mailboxes or box culverts. No action needed.

The board decided to have Luke Bonkiewicz with NACO meet with the finance committee via phone in regards to the 2027-2030 Official Salary recommendations for Nebraska elected officials.

General Gross: \$90,994.49 Net: \$64,967.92; Roads Gross: \$36,555.52, Net: \$27,574.26; Juvenile Diversion Gross: \$3,928.41, Net: \$2,758.17. Total Gross: \$131,478.42, Net: \$95,300.35.

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

Moved Wiegert, second Kreachbaum to adjourn at 10:17 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

/s/Carolyn Kucera, Chairwoman

/s/Trisha L Fate-Strobel, County Clerk