

June 23, 2026

The Merrick County Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, June 23, 2026 at 9:18 a.m. in the Supervisors Room, County Courthouse, Central City, NE, with Kreachbaum, Jarecke, Dexter, Wiegert, Placke, Weller, Kucera, 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.

Moved Kreachbaum, second Dexter to convene as Board of Supervisors at 9:18 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 9:18 a.m.

Moved Weller, second Dexter to approve the agenda. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Jarecke, second Dexter to approve the minutes from June 9, 2026 as published. Roll Call: All Ayes
Meetings: Long Term Care, June 17th-Kreachbaum, Jarecke, and Placke; CNCAP, June 16-Jarecke; Senior Center, June 16-Placke; Central District Health, June 9-Wiegert; Midland Area on Aging, June 11-Wiegert; SCEDD housing call, June 17-Dexter; Dexter met with Sheriff Westman and Captain Bauer on June 11 and Rebekah Osman on June 15.

Officials Reports: Anna Sedlacek, HR from Zelle thanked the board for her time with the county.
Highway Superintendent Kunze stated on July 14th there will be a gravel bid opening for gravel requirements for fiscal year 2026-2027. Melissa Van DeWalle with Long Term Care provided an update. Asbestos is moving forward with ESI.

Moved Placke, second Dexter to reappoint Robert Fuelberth as a member of the Veterans Service Committee. Roll Call: All Ayes

Andy Forney with DA Davidson appeared before the board with financing options for a nursing home bond. Moved Jarecke, second Dexter to approve a 25-year term project fund not to exceed \$3.8 million. Roll Call: Ayes-Wiegert, Placke, Kreachbaum, Jarecke, Dexter; Nays-Weller and Kucera. Motion carried 5-2.

Roll Call: Ayes-Placke, Kreachbaum, Jarecke, Dexter and Kucera; Nays-Wiegert and Weller. Motion carried 5-2.

Moved Weller, second Placke to open the public hearing at 10:02 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

Planning & Zoning Hillary Betka informed the board of a request to amend section 4.08.07, Supplemental Regulations for maximum density in the A-1 District of the Merrick County Zoning Regulations. The request would allow additional dwellings with the issuance of a conditional use permit. Betka stated the Joint Planning Commission recommended approval of the request.

Moved Dexter, second Weller to close the public hearing at 10:07 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Jarecke, second Dexter to approve the chairwoman to sign Resolution 2026-11 approving the request for amendment 4.08.07 as presented. Roll Call: All Ayes

Jordanne McNeff, Juvenile Diversion Officer presented two grants for the chairwoman to sign upon approval.

Moved Jarecke, second Kreachbaum to approve the chairwoman to sign the grants as presented for Juvenile Diversion. Roll Call; All Ayes

Moved Jarecke, second Weller to approve the chairwoman to approve the Gunbarrel Lake Subdivision as presented. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Weller, second Dexter to approve the extension of the moratorium. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Dexter, second Weller to approve Rebekah Osman as the NIRMA contact. Roll Call: All Ayes

Anna Sedlacek, Human Resources, provided the board with the amendment to the handbook in regards to the county vehicle policy. Moved Jarecke, second Dexter to approve the county vehicle policy as presented. Roll Call: All Ayes

Jeff Trumble with Long Term Care appeared before the board with an emergency request to replace the existing chiller. Trumble had received three bids: Rutt's Mechanical Services \$204,000.00, High Plains Boiler \$207,116.35 and Nebraska Heating & Air \$223,908.00. Moved Kreachbaum, second Placke to accept Rutt's Mechanical Services bid for the replacement chiller. Roll Call: Ayes-Wiegert, Weller, Dexter, Kreachbaum, Placke and Kucera. Nays-Jarecke. Motion carried 6-1.

Treasurer Gilg came before the board in regards to the county match request received from Region III. The county will continue to use the Opioid Funds for the match request.

Moved Jarecke, second Dexter to approve the chairwoman to sign Resolution 2026-6: Directing the Transfer of Funds from General to Sinking. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Dexter, second Weller to approve the chairwoman to sign Resolution 2026-7: Directing the Issuance of County Tax Sale Certificates. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Dexter, second Wiegert to approve the chairwoman to sign Resolution 2026-8: Directing funds from General Miscellaneous to General Child Support. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Dexter, second Weller to approve the chairwoman to sign Resolution 2026-9: Directing funds from General Miscellaneous to General Reappraisal for \$12,452.35. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Dexter, second Wiegert to approve the chairwoman to sign Resolution 2026-10: Directing funds from General Miscellaneous to LATCF for \$915.33 in interest paid in 2025-2026. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Jarecke, second Dexter to approve the signing of the Audit Management Representation letter with the date of June 22, 2026. Roll Call: All Ayes

Wage discussion for employees other than officials began for budget purposes.

Moved Jarecke, second Dexter to approve a wage increase of up to 2.5% for employees. Roll Call: Ayes-Jarecke, Dexter. Nays-Weller, Wiegert, Placke, Kreachbaum and Kucera. Motion denied with a 2-5 vote.

Moved Placke to approve a wage increase of up to 3% for employees. Motion died for lack of a second.

Moved Kreachbaum, second Wiegert to approve a wage increase of up to 4% for employees. Roll Call: Ayes: Kreachbaum and Wiegert. Nays: Jarecke, Placke, Dexter, Weller and Kucera. Motion denied with a 2-5 vote.

Moved Kreachbaum, second Dexter to approve a wage increase of up to 3.5% for employees. Roll Call: Ayes: Placke, Kreachbaum, Dexter, Kucera; Nays-Wiegert, Weller and Jarecke. Motion carried 4-3

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

GENERAL	MIPS INC.	SUPPLIES	\$371.75
	QUADIENT LEASING USA, INC	POSTAL	\$516.99
TOTAL			\$888.74

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

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget talks began with the following offices: Extension, District Court, Sheriff, Clerk, Attorney, Assessor, Veteran's Service, Treasurer and Roads. No action taken at this time.

Moved Dexter, second Wiegert to move into Executive Session at 12:47 p.m. to discuss potential litigation. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Jarecke, second Placke to close the Executive Session at 1:54 p.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Dexter, second Wiegert to start a feasibility test with Carlson, West, Povandra Architects. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Wiegert, second Dexter to adjourn at 1:57 p.m. Roll Call All Ayes

/s/Carolyn Kucera, Chairwoman

/s/Trisha L Fate, County Clerk