

September 22, 2026

The Merrick County Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, September 22, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. in the Supervisors Room, County Courthouse, Central City, NE, with, Jarecke, Dexter, Wiegert, Placke, Kucera, Weller, Kreachbaum, Clerk Fate and County Attorney Kunz present. Brad Wells and Ken Anderson were also present for the budget hearing.

Notice of the Budget Hearing 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.

Moved Kreachbaum, second Dexter to convene as Board of Supervisors at 1:00 p.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 1:00 p.m.

Moved Placke, second Dexter to open the budget hearing at 1:00 p.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

Clerk Fate stated \$95,000.00 principal and \$5,000.00 interest was added into the budget for the 4H P&I Fund, with this addition, \$100,000.00 was removed from the General Cash Reserve, leaving \$550,000.00 in General and \$200,000.00 in the Roads Cash Reserve. The total property tax request authority is \$6,662,316.33, the actual property tax request for 2026-2027 is \$6,446,973.38 leaving \$215,342.95 unused property tax request authority created for future years. Fate also explained the Courthouse Bond Fund has \$33,047.18 left after paying off the bond.

Placke stated her concerns regarding Juvenile Diversion and Child Support staffing as well as individuals being paid for volunteer activities. Placke said she did not agree with some departments giving employees up to 6% increases when 3% was decided by the board and employees making 86-89% of the officials' wages.

Brad Wells had a public comment regarding an increase in employment.

Moved Dexter, second Jarecke to close the Budget Hearing at 1:20 p.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Jarecke, second Wiegert to approve Resolution 2026-18: Adoption of Merrick County Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027. Roll Call: Ayes- Kreachbaum, Weller, Dexter, Jarecke, Wiegert and Kucera. Nays-Placke. Motion carried 6-1.

Moved Dexter, second Placke to adjourn at 1:22 p.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

/s/Carolyn Kucera, Chairwoman

/s/Trisha L Fate, County Clerk