October 27, 2026

The Merrick County Board of Supervisors met Tuesday, October 27, 2026 at 9:05 a.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.

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 Wiegert 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.

Moved Dexter, second Wiegert to approve the agenda with the removal of Resolution 2026-23 for Year-End Certification of Highway Superintendent. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Jarecke, second Weller to approve the minutes from October 13, 2026. Roll Call: All Ayes

Meetings: NIRMA Conference in Kearney October 22nd and 23rd- Weller, Jarecke, Placke, Dexter and Kucera October 21 thru 23rd; NDOT October 16 in Lincoln and 4H Achievement Awards at the Fairgrounds October 25-Kreachbaum; CNCAP in Loup City October 20, Legislative Conference in Burwell-Jarecke; Bader Park October 20-Weller; Good Life Center October 21-Placke; Litzenburg Memorial LTC Sampson Construction October 15-Placke and Dexter;

Officials Reports: County Attorney Kunz and Clerk Fate reported they attended the NIRMA conference in Kearney. Clerk Fate stated 30% of the General Election ballots have been returned. Planning & Zoning Betka reported there will be an agenda item next board meeting and workshops began regarding solar energy.

Long Term Maintenance Supervisor Jeff Trumble provided updates on the construction and informed the board the new chiller will be installed Wednesday and the new boiler was put into place. Melissa VanDeWalle also provided updates on Long Term Care.

District Court Clerk Good informed the board they would need to approve her to be able to wire funds and complete ACH entries to the USDA as they no longer accept paper checks. Moved Jarecke, second Kreachbaum to approve District Court Clerk Good the authorization to wire funds and/or make ACH entries when necessary. Roll Call: All Ayes

Conservation Easement Application for Michael L. Santin was presented to the board.

Moved Weller, second Placke to approve the Conservation Easement for Michael Santin as presented. Roll Call: All Ayes

Township Agreements with the county was discussed with the township agrees to pay Merrick County the sum of $500 per mile per year for regular maintenance and snow removal and $250 per mile per year for minimum maintenance road miles. Moved Wiegert, second Placke to sign the agreement with the townships. Roll Call: Ayes-Dexter, Weller, Wigert, Placke, Kucera; Nays-Jarecke. Motion Carried 6-1.

Highway Superintendent Kunze presented a packet for discussion with estimated bond amounts for road and bridge improvements. No action taken at this time.

Moved Jarecke, second Kreachbaum to approve the payroll. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Kreachbaum, second Dexter to move into Executive Session at 10:55 a.m. for jail discussion for the protection of public interest. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Jarecke, second Dexter to move out of Executive Session at 11:16 a.m. Roll Call: All Ayes

Human Resource position was discussed with Chad Thies, President of Zelle via phone call explaining for a fee of $3000/month there will be a representative available virtually and will be on-site as needed. The position would begin in January. Moved Jarecke, second Dexter to approve hiring Zelle for the Human Resource position. Roll Call: All Ayes

Moved Wiegert, second Dexter to move into Executive Session at 11:47 a.m. for protection of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. Roll Call: All Ayes
Moved Placke, second Wiegert to move out of Executive Session at 12:41 p.m. Roll Call: All Ayes
Moved Placke, second Jarecke to adjourn at 12:42 p.m. Roll Call: All Ayes
/s/Carolyn Kucera, Chairwoman
/s/Trisha L Fate, County Clerk