

**COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS**

Taylor, Nebraska

9:00 A.M.

June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026

The Loup County Board of Commissioners met pursuant to adjournment this 10<sup>th</sup> day of June 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at the Loup County Courthouse in Taylor, Nebraska. Present were Commissioners Larson, Steckel, and Kraus and County Clerk Copsey. County Engineer Johnson and County Attorney White were present later in the morning. Chairman Larson called the meeting to order. Board members acknowledged receipt of the May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026, meeting minutes. Kraus moved to approve the minutes with no additions or corrections. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steckel. Roll call vote; yes; Kraus, Steckel, Larson. Nays: none, absent: none, not voting: none. Receipt of advance notice and agenda for June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026, meeting was also affirmed by all members present. Chairman Larson referenced the Open Meeting Laws poster located in the meeting room and advised that handouts concerning said laws are available to the public. Also, present throughout the meeting were Ken Stobbe, Phil Hart, Jodi Worm, Madi Worm, Jake Stern, Terry Richard, Laura Kraus, Kyle Shepard, Rusty Ruppert, Jim Welniak, John Schroder, Brian Jordan, Bill Jordan, Brian Knust, William Beard, Russel Beard, Gary Buoy. Steckel moved to audit the claims. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larson. Roll call vote; yes; Steckel, Larson, Kraus. Nays: none, absent: none, not voting: none.

**GENERAL FUND**

SALARIES		\$41,062.32
IN LIEU OF INSURANCE		\$13,220.84
AFLAC	AFLAC	\$392.70
AMERITAS	EMPLOYER RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION	\$2,940.23
IRS	FEDERAL TAXES	\$4,082.52
JAMIE COPSEY HSA	HSA UB&T	\$550.00
DAVE/MELISSA LARSON HSA	HSA FLATWATER	\$729.16
APPEARA	RUGS	\$62.15
APPLIED CONNECTIVE	IT SERVICES	\$1,479.60
ASHLEY SPANEL	JUNE PHONE	\$40.00
BANKCARD PROC. CENTER	CLERK/ASSESSOR/TREASURER/SHERIFF	\$2,063.65
BURWELL TRIBUNE	PRINTING/PUBLISHING	\$679.28
CORNER STOP	FUEL	\$368.82
CPPD	ELECTRICITY	\$92.72
CUSTER COUNTY SHERIFF	SHERIFF FEE	\$67.08
DARCIE SIMMONS	ELECTION BOARD	\$195.00
DAS STATE ACCOUNTING	TECH FEE	\$150.00
DAVE LARSON	JUNE PHONE/MILEAGE	\$86.40
DEB STARR	JUNE PHONE	\$25.00
DEBBIE POSTANY	ELECTION BOARD/TRAINING	\$210.00
DEPT OF REVENUE/PAD	CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSE	\$700.00
DONNA STECKEL	JUNE PHONE/MILEAGE	\$42.90
DUSTIN SPANEL	JUNE PHONE	\$40.00
EAKES	SHERIFF/ZONING SUPPLIES	\$91.95
ERIKA PETERSEN	ELECTION BOARD/TRAINING	\$223.05
ES&S	ELECTION BALLOTS	\$481.79
FAMILY ADVOCACY NETWORK	26-27 DUES	\$500.00
GARFIELD COUNTY	GLW EXTENSION	\$1,934.99
GRINT FARM SUPPLY	WEED DEPARTMENTT SUPPLIES	\$27.85
HAMILTON	TELEPHONE	\$419.43
HOMETOWN LEASING	COPY MACHINE LEASE	\$70.49
J&J SANITATION	GARBAGE	\$41.35
JAMIE COPSEY	JUNE PHONE/REIMBURSEMENT	\$32.20

JASON WHITE	JUNE PHONE	\$40.00
JD KEEFE	JUNE PHONE	\$40.00
KAROLE STROHL	CANVASSING BOARD/TRAINING/MILEAGE	\$69.30
KARYL BROWN	ELECTION BOARD/TRAINING/MILEAGE	\$224.50
KATIE MOON	JUNE PHONE	\$25.00
KRISTI MEEKS	CANVASSING BOARD/TRAINING/MILEAGE	\$76.55
KYLE SHEPARD	JUNE PHONE	\$25.00
LAURA KRAUS	EMERGENCY MANAGER	\$250.00
MICROFILM	SCANNING EQUIPMENT	\$52.00
MIPS	PROGRAMMING	\$1,112.10
NACO	COUNTY ASSOCIATION DUES	\$1,290.81
NIRMA	INSURANCE PREMIUMS	\$33,237.00
SALLY HART	ELECTION BOARD/TRAINING/MILEAGE	\$210.73
SCHAPER & WHITE	SECRETARY SALARY	\$900.00
SUMMER STROHL	JUNE PHONE	\$25.00
TAYLOR PUBLIC LIBRARY	LIBRARY	\$1,060.00
TREVOR KRAUS	JUNE PHONE	\$40.00
VILLAGE OF TAYLOR	SEWER	\$56.58
ZANE YOUNG	JUNE PHONE	\$40.00
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>		<b>\$111,878.04</b>

**ROAD FUND**

SALARIES		\$15,812.64
AMERITAS	EMPLOYER RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION	\$1,067.35
IRS	FEDERAL TAXES	\$1,151.93
BANKCARD PROC. CENTER	MAILINGS FOR ROAD HEARING	\$24.32
CHRISTOPHER SLAGLE	JUNE PHONE	\$40.00
CORNER STOP	FUEL	\$7,219.26
CPPD	ELECTRICITY	\$160.15
CULLIGAN OF BROKEN BOW	WATER FOR SHOP	\$38.00
DANIEL HARTMAN	JUNE PHONE/MILEAGE	\$98.00
DUSTIN COPSEY	JUNE PHONE	\$40.00
ED SHERBECK	JUNE PHONE	\$40.00
GRINT FARM SUPPLY	PARTS	\$61.03
HAMILTON	INTERNET	\$74.95
J&J SANITATION	GARBAGE	\$21.21
JOHNNY SCHRODER	JUNE PHONE	\$25.00
MAINELLI & WAGNER	HWY SUPER/CO. SURVEYOR/CONSULTING	\$4,500.00
MIPS	TIME CLOCK	\$57.40
OLCOTT WELDING	EQUIPMENT PARTS/REPAIR	\$169.81
SHARON SHERBECK	MAY MOWING- BOTH SHOPS	\$240.00
THOENE FARM SERVICES	PARTS/SUPPLIES	\$24.03
<b>TOTAL ROAD FUND</b>		<b>\$30,865.08</b>

**BRIDGE FUND**

MAINELLI & WAGNER	BRIDGE PROJECT	\$105.00
<b>TOTAL BRIDGE FUND</b>		<b>\$105.00</b>

**INHERITANCE FUND**

GIDEON HEATING & AIR	HVAC NEW SHOP	\$17,149.90
MIDLAND TELECOM	SECURITY CAMERAS	\$2,031.00
<b>TOTAL INHERITANCE FUND</b>		<b>\$19,180.90</b>

**AMBULANCE FUND**

CORNER STOP	FUEL	\$95.75
DEARBORN LIFE INSUR. CO.	INSURANCE	\$30.96
HAMILTON	INTERNET	\$74.95
JACKIE LEWIS	TRAINING REIMBURSEMENT	\$554.12
LAURA KRAUS	SUPPLIES REIMBURSEMENT	\$2,422.00
MIDLAND TELECOM	5 PAGERS	\$2,475.00
NIPPON SANSO MATHESON, INC.	SUPPLIES	\$46.35
<b>TOTAL AMBULANCE FUND</b>		<b>\$3,917.63</b>

Steckel moved to allow claims. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kraus. Roll call vote; yes; Steckel, Kraus, Larson.

Nays: none, absent: none, not voting: none.

Steckel moved to adopt resolution to transfer funds from the General Fund to the Road Fund. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larson. Roll call vote; yes; Steckel, Larson, Kraus. Nays: none, absent: none, not voting: none. Said resolution can be found in Commissioners Record No. 10 Page 722.

The Board reviewed the Clerk of the District Court monthly fee report, fund balances from Treasurer, and the Treasurer's tax remaining reports.

Elaine Menzel of NACO met with the Board to discuss upcoming NACO events and legislative updates.

Jim Welniak and John Schroder met with the Board to discuss new grant opportunities and request permission to utilize Loup County as primary applicant and SAM registration information. Also discussed equipment purchases with grant funding and using formal bidding process. Jim Welniak also provided update on the Department of Interior grant that was applied for earlier this year. Steckel moved to allow Loup County Volunteer Fire Department permission to utilize SAM registration information. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larson. Roll call vote; yes; Steckel, Larson, Kraus. Nays: none, absent: none, not voting: none.

Steckel moved to adopt resolution to transfer funds from the Inheritance Fund to the General Fund. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larson. Roll call vote; yes; Steckel, Kraus, Larson. Nays: none, absent: none, not voting: none. Said resolution can be found in Commissioners Record No. 10 Page 723.

Larson moved to designate the state print shop for joint public hearing postcards. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kraus. Roll call vote; yes; Larson, Kraus, Steckel. Nays: none, absent: none, not voting: none.

Kraus moved to reappoint Phillip Hart to the Loup County Veteran's Service committee for an additional 5-year term expiring 6/30/2031. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steckel. Roll call vote; yes; Kraus, Steckel, Larson. Nays: none, absent: none, not voting: none.

Larson moved to retain the Veteran Service officer, Emory Haynes. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kraus. Roll call vote; yes; Larson, Kraus. Steckel. Nays: none, absent: none, not voting: none.

Kyle Shepard, Zoning Administrator, met with the Board to discuss zoning regulations regarding data centers. Loup County has no zoning regulations for data centers currently and Kyle Shepard discussed the importance of the county being proactive with this issue and getting regulations established. The Loup County Area Planning committee will plan to meet to discuss regulations and then have information to present to the Board at the August meeting.

Discussion was held regarding installation of handrail(s) for front entrance of the courthouse to increase safety for public. Clerk Copey will move forward with quotes for installing handrail.

Final Inspection notice for project FL-HSIP-SRR-58(10), South Lake Road was presented.

Employee handbook policy for part-time road department employee benefits was discussed. The policy will be restructured, no action taken.

Brian Jordan met with the Board to discuss his concerns and opposition to the proposed road closure.

The Board recessed for Public Road Hearing at 10:00 a.m. and returned to regular session at 10:18 a.m.

Chairman Larson opened the Road Closing Hearing at 10:00 a.m. as published and posted for a road located in S1, T24, R18 and running through S1, S2, S7, S12, and S18 and ending in S18, T24, R17. Present were Commissioners Larson, Steckel, and Kraus, County Clerk Copsey, County Attorney White, and County Engineer Johnson. Also present were Ken Stobbe, Phil Hart, Jodi Worm, Madi Worm, Jake Stern, Terry Richard, Laura Kraus, Kyle Shepard, Rusty Ruppert, Jim Welniak, John Schroder, Brian Jordan, Bill Jordan, Brian Knust, William Beard, Russel Beard, Gary Buoy. Discussion ensued with Brian Jordan, Bill Jordan, Gary Buoy, Brian Knust in opposition of proposed road closing and William and Russel Beard supporting proposed road closure. Various matters were brought forward including but not limited to access to the cemetery, public safety for better accessibility for assist for wild fires, access to fields to haul hay, county's disregard of this road's maintenance over the past several years, option of making it a minimum maintenance road or the benefits of keeping the road open as a one lane passable road, increased unnecessary public access to the area, installation of culverts to repair road, cost of repairing the road, mutual easements for all parties concerned which would provide access to those areas now and in the future, option of closed gate across road to decrease access, and additional advantages/disadvantages to closing the road. County Engineer Johnson presented findings of road study, answered questions regarding road abandonment, discussed options, and the potential of NPPD using this road as an access route for the R-project. Chairman Larson closed said hearing at 10:18 a.m.

Kraus moved to accept County Engineer Johnson's findings in road study. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steckel. Roll call vote; yes; Kraus, Steckel, Larson. Nays: none, absent: none, not voting: none.

County Engineer Johnson updated the Board of the ongoing discussion of the guardrail on South Lake Road. Some areas of damaged guardrail have been removed by county road department. County Engineer Johnson discussed the proposed NPPD haul road route contract and had some concerns regarding items missing from the contract. He plans to make additions to the contract and present it to the Board at the next meeting. Also discussed fiber optic route along Knobby Ridge Road. Kraus moved to approve the attached fiber optic route. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larson. Roll call vote; yes; Kraus, Larson, Steckel. Nays: none, absent: none, not voting: none.

Laura Kraus, Emergency Manager, provided an update that the ambulance department was awarded the grant they had applied for resulting in \$47,000 to be used for equipment. Public Comment: Jodi Worm- reports she was in attendance due to concerns about data centers; however, states her concerns were addressed earlier in the meeting.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

s/ David Larson, Chairman of the Loup  
County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:  
Jamie Copsey  
Loup County Clerk