

September 23, 2025 Minutes
Washington County Board of Supervisors
Supervisor's Room Courthouse
1555 Colfax Street
Blair, NE 68008

The Washington County Board of Supervisors of Washington County, Nebraska, met in regular session at 3:02 PM on September 23, 2025 in the Supervisor's meeting room at the Courthouse in Blair, Nebraska. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Pilot-Tribune. A copy of the proof of publication is on file in the office of the County Clerk. Notice of the meeting was given to the members and a copy of their acknowledgement of the receipt of notice and the agenda are on record at the office of the County Clerk. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice of the members. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Chairman Steve Dethlefs declared the meeting was in session and that the meeting is being recorded. Dethlefs made note that the Open Meetings Law is posted on the door and the west wall.

1. Meeting called to order

Present: Chairman Steve Dethlefs, board members Jon Stewart, Lisa Kramer, Bob Frahm, Mike Mackie, and Steve Kruger. Absent: Kevin Barnhill. Also present: Co Clerk Barbara Sullivan, Sheriff Mike Robinson, and Co Attorney Scott Vander Schaaf

2. Approve agenda

Motion Steve Kruger and second by Lisa Kramer to approve the agenda for September 23, 2025. Motion Carried.

Barnhill: Absent, Dethlefs: Aye, Frahm: Aye, Kramer: Aye, Kruger: Aye, Mackie: Aye, Stewart: Aye

3. Approve minutes for the September 9, 2025 meeting

Motion Lisa Kramer and second by Bob Frahm that the rules be suspended and the minutes of the 9/9/25 meeting be approved but not read for the purpose that all board members were furnished a copy of said minutes prior to the meeting. Motion Carried.

Barnhill: Absent, Dethlefs: Aye, Frahm: Aye, Kramer: Aye, Kruger: Aye, Mackie: Aye, Stewart: Aye

4. Approve Claims

Motion Steve Kruger and second by Bob Frahm that the claims be approved and the Clerk ordered to issue warrants on the various funds for the same. Motion Carried.

Barnhill: Absent, Dethlefs: Aye, Frahm: Aye, Kramer: Aye, Kruger: Aye, Mackie: Aye, Stewart: Aye

5. Accept correspondence, consider and place on file

Motion Steve Kruger and second by Lisa Kramer to receive correspondence from Dodge County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors and place on file. Motion Carried.

Barnhill: Absent, Dethlefs: Aye, Frahm: Aye, Kramer: Aye, Kruger: Aye, Mackie: Aye, Stewart: Aye

6. Dave Kruger, Hwy Supt: Road Dept update not limited to projects, equipment, and personnel

Kruger discussed some of the maintenance and projects on county roads, culvert installations, and provided an update on FEMA claims.

6.1. Accept & approve Change Order #1 for Ft Calhoun West Road 32 project

Motion Steve Kruger and second by Mike Mackie to approve Change Order #1 for Ft Calhoun West Road 32 project for a decreased amount of \$33,172.46. Motion Carried.

Barnhill: Absent, Dethlefs: Aye, Frahm: Aye, Kramer: Aye, Kruger: Aye, Mackie: Aye, Stewart: Aye

7. Ryan Sullivan, Planning & Zoning Administrator, Public hearing on the following items:

7.1. Conditional Use Permit (CUP) - Jeremiah Blomker is requesting a CUP to allow a temporary 2nd dwelling on the property while constructing a new home on Tax Lot 23 in the NW quarter of Section 35, Township 20 North, Range 10 East of the 6th PM. The location is 18970 County Road P4, Herman. D/PA

Sullivan went through the request and stated that the Planning Commission voted 5-0, 2 absent, in favor of recommending approval. There were no comments during the public hearing.

Motion Steve Kruger and second by Jon Stewart to approve the CUP request of Jeremiah Blomker to temporarily allow for two single-family residences for a two-year term on Tax Lot 23 in 35-20-10. Motion Carried.

Barnhill: Absent, Dethlefs: Aye, Frahm: Aye, Kramer: Aye, Kruger: Aye, Mackie: Aye, Stewart: Aye

7.2. Conditional Use Permit (CUP) - Terry and Lori Stueckrath are requesting a CUP to allow a temporary 2nd dwelling on the property while constructing a new home on Tax Lot 25 in the NE quarter of Section 24, Township 17 North, Range 11 East of the 6th PM. The location is 3652 State Hwy 133, Blair. D/PA

The Planning Commission voted 5-0, 2 absent, in favor of recommending approval. Applicant Lori Stueckrath spoke, then Brian McCoy spoke in opposition during the public hearing.

Motion Steve Kruger and second by Mike Mackie to approve the CUP request of Terry and Lori Stueckrath to temporarily allow for two single-family residences for a two-year term on Tax Lot 25 in 24-17-11. Motion Carried.

Barnhill: Absent, Dethlefs: Aye, Frahm: Aye, Kramer: Aye, Kruger: Aye, Mackie: Aye, Stewart: Aye

8. Arron Hoden, Register of Deeds: Accept & approve contract with Fidler Technologies

County Attorney Vander Schaaf asked the board to table until the Tech Committee is given the chance to review the proposal with Turnkey.

Motion Jon Stewart and second by Lisa Kramer to table approval of contract with Fidler Technologies until Tech Committee can review. Motion Carried.

Barnhill: Absent, Dethlefs: Aye, Frahm: Aye, Kramer: Aye, Kruger: Aye, Mackie: Aye, Stewart: Aye

9. Ed Lautrup, Veterans Services Officer: Disabled American Veterans vehicle update

Lautrup said the DAV program has been successful since its inception, with an average of 12 veterans utilizing the service per month, which is the anticipated average. Lautrup also announced that the Veterans Service Office of Washington Co will be receiving \$45,000 in grant funds from the Walter Scott Family Foundations, which will pay for a new DAV vehicle. The new vehicle should arrive around the 1st of September 2026.

10. Sheriff Mike Robinson: Approve addendum to the Arlington & Ft Calhoun Law Enforcement Contract. D/PA

Sheriff Robinson said the addendum is for a rate change to both contracts for an increase of 11%, \$97,310.00 per year.

Motion Lisa Kramer and second by Steve Kruger to approve addendum to the Arlington & Ft Calhoun Law Enforcement Contract. Motion Carried.

Barnhill: Absent, Dethlefs: Aye, Frahm: Aye, Kramer: Aye, Kruger: Aye, Mackie: Aye, Stewart: Aye

11. Finance Committee: Budget Resolution 2025-9; adopting the 2025-26 Washington County Budget

Kruger gave a summary of the Joint Public Hearing held last week and stated that it was productive and respectful.

However, there have been no changes made to the proposed budget.

Motion Steve Kruger and second by Bob Frahm to adopt Res 2025-9; adopting the 2025-26 Washington County Budget.

Motion Carried.

Barnhill: Absent, Dethlefs: Aye, Frahm: Aye, Kramer: Aye, Kruger: Aye, Mackie: Aye, Stewart: Aye

WASHINGTON COUNTY

RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION AND APPROPRIATIONS 2025-9

WHEREAS, a proposed County Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, prepared by the Budget Making Authority, was transmitted to the County Board on the 23rd of September, 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of SUPERVISORS of Washington County, Nebraska as follows:

SECTION 1. That the budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, as categorically evidenced by the Budget Document be, and the same hereby is, adopted as the Budget for Washington County for said fiscal year.

SECTION 2. That the offices, departments, activities and institutions herein named are hereby authorized to expend the amounts herein appropriated to them during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026.

SECTION 3. That the income necessary to finance the appropriations made and expenditures authorized shall be provided out of the unencumbered cash balance in each fund, revenues other than taxation to be collected during the fiscal year in each fund, and tax levy requirements for each fund.

DATED AND PASSED THIS 23RD DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2025.

County Board: Steve Dethlefs, Lisa Kramer, Jon Stewart, Bob Frahm, Mike Mackie, Steve Kruger

11.1. Adopt Resolution 2025-10; setting the 2025-26 levy of taxes

Motion Steve Kruger and second by Mike Mackie to adopt Resolution 2025-10; setting the 2025-26 levy of taxes.
Motion Carried.

Barnhill: Absent, Dethlefs: Aye, Frahm: Aye, Kramer: Aye, Kruger: Aye, Mackie: Aye, Stewart: Aye

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-10

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE WASHINGTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, WASHINGTON COUNTY, NEBRASKA:

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1632 and 77-1633 provides that the Governing Body of Washington County passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request; and

WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held on September 18, 2025, as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governing Body of Washington County, Nebraska, resolves that:

1. The 2025-2026 property tax request be set at:

General Fund:	\$ 12,713,556
Jail Bond Fund:	\$ 1,600,000
E911 Fund:	\$ 380,848

2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by 7.90%
3. The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property, would be \$.273940 per \$100 of assessed value.
4. That Washington County proposed to adopt a property tax request that will cause total tax rate to be: .290884 per \$100 of assessed value.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 23rd DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2025.

Attest: Barbara Sullivan
County Clerk

Steve Dethlefs
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

12. Accept & approve Annual Certification of Program Compliance and adopt resolution
Motion Lisa Kramer and second by Jon Stewart to authorize the Chairman to sign County Annual Certification of Program Compliance and adopt Resolution 2025-11. Motion Carried.
Barnhill: Absent, Dethlefs: Aye, Frahm: Aye, Kramer: Aye, Kruger: Aye, Mackie: Aye, Stewart: Aye

RESOLUTION 2025-11

SIGNING OF THE COUNTY ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF PROGRAM COMPLIANCE 2025

Whereas: State of Nebraska Statutes, sections 39-2115, 39-2119, 39-2120, 39-2121, and 39-2510(2), requires an annual certification of program compliance to the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and standards; and

Whereas: State of Nebraska Statute, section 39-2120 also requires that the annual certification of program compliance by each county shall be signed by the County Board Chairperson and shall include the resolution of the governing body of the county authorizing the signing of the certification.

Be it resolved that the County Board Chairperson of Washington County is hereby authorized to sign the County Annual Certification of Program Compliance.

Adopted this 23rd day of September, 2025 at Blair Nebraska.

County Board: Jon Stewart, Lisa Kramer, Bob Frahm, Steve Dethlefs, Mike Mackie, Steve Kruger
Attest: Barbara Sullivan, Washington County Clerk

13. Comments from public: There were no comments from the public

14. Committee Reports: Tech Committee resolved billing issues with Fastwyre. The Building and Grounds Committee met with the cleaning company for the courthouse to discuss quality expectations. The Finance Committee met with Eakes Office Solutions to narrow down the printer cost proposal.

15. Closed session: for the purpose of discussing attorney client privileged information, attorney client privileged information regarding current, potential, imminent threat of litigation, and contract negotiations involving Washington County. D/PA

Motion Steve Kruger and second by Mike Mackie to go into closed session at 3:42 p.m. Motion Carried.

Barnhill: Absent, Dethlefs: Aye, Frahm: Aye, Kramer: Aye, Kruger: Aye, Mackie: Aye, Stewart: Aye

Those present in closed session were 6 board members and County Attorney Vander Schaaf.

Motion Steve Kruger and second by Mike Mackie to come out of closed session at 3:57 p.m. Motion Carried.

Barnhill: Absent, Dethlefs: Aye, Frahm: Aye, Kramer: Aye, Kruger: Aye, Mackie: Aye, Stewart: Aye

There was no action in open session.

16. Adjournment

Motion Lisa Kramer and second by Mike Mackie to adjourn from the Board of Supervisors meeting at 3:58 p.m. Motion Carried.

Barnhill: Absent, Dethlefs: Aye, Frahm: Aye, Kramer: Aye, Kruger: Aye, Mackie: Aye, Stewart: Aye

CLAIMS:

GENERAL FUND -100

EMPLOYEES	Payroll 9-12-25	\$ 292,186.92
AMERITAS	Retirement	\$ 21,673.73
BCBS-HEALTH	Health	\$ 59,259.83
WASHINGTON COUNTY BANK	H.S.A	\$ 10,541.25
BCBS-HEALTH	Life-Dental-Vision	\$ 760.04
WASHINGTON COUNTY BANK	FICA/MEDI	\$ 21,266.95
AIRGAS USA, LLC	Medical	\$ 28.64
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	Service	\$ 883.94
BLAIR ACE HARDWARE	Supplies	\$ 219.99
BLUFF MOBILE DETAIL	Service	\$ 107.00
BROADVOICE-LOCKBOX#913150	Service	\$ 186.93
CALHOUN AUTO REPAIR INC	Maintenance	\$ 135.19
NICOLE CAVANAUGH	Service	\$ 2,708.33
CERRIS SYSTEMS	Service/Repairs	\$ 547.00
CREDIT BUREAU SERVICES, INC.	Service	\$ 90.31
CUBBY'S INC	Fuel	\$ 460.47
CUBBY'S INC	Fuel	\$ 1,651.47
CUBBYS CORPORATE OFFICE	Fuel	\$ 198.80
DAS STATE ACCNTING-CENTRAL FINANCE	Service	\$ 472.00
DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	Fee's	\$ 19.46
DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF	Fee's	\$ 24.38
WILLIAM P. DUNN	Service	\$ 7,500.00
PAT DUNN	Reimbursement	\$ 141.20
EAGLE AUTO REPAIR	Maintenance	\$ 85.45

EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	Service/Supplies	\$ 1,748.63
ELITE VEHICLE OUTFITTERS	Service	\$ 1,328.59
ENTERPRISE MEDIA GROUP	Media	\$ 1,477.22
FAIRFIELD INN SUITES	Conference	\$ 404.85
FASTWYRE BROADBAND	Service	\$ 20.59
FUCHS WORKS LLC-AUSTIN FUCHS	Maintenance	\$ 700.00
JOHNSON, PEKNY LAW	Service	\$ 2,916.66
GREAT AMERICA FINANCIAL SVCS	Service	\$ 179.24
GREAT PLAINS REPORTING COMPANY	Service	\$ 280.60
JUVENCIO HERNANDEZ	Service	\$ 3,200.00
HILLYARD, INC.	Supplies	\$ 973.44
HOMETOWN LEASING	Service	\$ 411.84
INFOSAFE SHREDDING, INC	Service	\$ 150.00
JAMICO	Service	\$ 23,288.00
JENSEN LAWN SOLUTIONS, INC.	Service	\$ 2,143.00
REID LIVERMORE	Uniform Allowance	\$ 250.28
JANE MCNEIL	Service	\$ 2,708.33
MEMORIAL COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	Medical	\$ 10,976.22
MENARDS - FREMONT	Supplies	\$ 432.62
NACO	Conference	\$ 1,120.00
NEBRASKA ASSOC OF COUNTY OFFICIALS	Conference	\$ 30.00
O'REILLY AUTOMOTIVE INC	Supplies	\$ 224.80
OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	Service	\$ 1,265.85
PITNEY BOWES INC	Service	\$ 942.63
CALVIN POULSEN	Service	\$ 1,801.25
POUNDS PRINTING INC	Supplies	\$ 580.00
PROGRESSIVE BUSINESS TECHNOLOGIES	Supplies	\$ 70.00
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	Training	\$ 270.00
RADIOLOGY CONSULTANTS PC	Medical	\$ 602.00
ROADS DEPARTMENT FUND 200	Funds Transfer	\$ 2,000,000.00
DEBBIE SAVILLE	Reimbursement	\$ 37.44
SECRETARY OF STATE	Certification	\$ 20.00
SECRETARY OF STATE	Workshop	\$ 115.00
SEILER INSTRUMENT & MFG CO, INC.	Subscription	\$ 798.00
RYAN SULLIVAN	Fuel Reimb	\$ 33.53
SUMMIT FOOD SERVICE, LLC	Service	\$ 9,447.40
SUNSET LAW ENFORCEMENT	Supplies	\$ 279.30
THE FILTER SHOP	Supplies	\$ 171.00
TOTAL FIRE & SECURITY, INC.	Service	\$ 395.00
TURNKEY TECHNOLOGY, LLC	Service	\$ 2,736.00
US BANK EQUIPMENT FINANCE	Service	\$ 164.60
VERIZON WIRELESS	Service	\$ 86.05
VERIZON WIRELESS	Service	\$ 40.01
VERIZON WIRELESS	Service	\$ 218.68
WASHINGTON COUNTY BANK	Payments	\$ 56,210.27
WASHINGTON COUNTY BANK	Supplies	\$ 405.14
WOODHOUSE FORD INC	Maintenance/Repairs	\$ 623.06
WOODS & AITKEN LLP	Service	\$ 547.50

ROADS -200

EMPLOYEES	Payroll 9-12-25	\$	61,615.95
AMERITAS	Retirement	\$	4,159.14
BCBS-HEALTH	Health	\$	14,948.65
WASHINGTON COUNTY BANK	H.S.A	\$	2,062.50
BCBS-HEALTH	Life-Dental-Vision	\$	330.08
WASHINGTON COUNTY BANK	FICA/MEDI	\$	4,511.99
ARPS	Concrete/Fuel	\$	3,955.00
BLAIR ACE HARDWARE	Supplies	\$	5.98
BLUFF AGGREGATE LLC	Gravel/Borrow	\$	52,113.82
BOMGAARS	Supplies	\$	1,455.21
BOWSER TRANSFER LLC	Gravel/Borrow	\$	3,914.05
BRAKKAN TRUCKING INC	Gravel/Borrow	\$	5,247.10
CARQUEST AUTO PARTS	Parts	\$	388.12
DALE R JOHNSON ENT, INC.	Gravel/Borrow	\$	12,690.35
DMC WEAR PARTS	Equipment	\$	10,388.49
FIRST NATIONAL BANK	Parts/Supplies	\$	3,025.15
FIRST NATIONAL BANK	Supplies	\$	286.93
FIRST NATIONAL BANK	Parts	\$	601.31
GRAINGER	Parts/Supplies	\$	76.24
HI-LINE INC	Supplies	\$	732.37
JAMICO	Concrete/Service	\$	5,249.64
JOHN DEERE CREDIT, INC.	Parts	\$	3,171.74
KNUDSEN OIL & FEED	Fuel/Propane	\$	12,076.64
DAVID KRUGER	Reimburse	\$	125.00
LALO CONSTRUCTION	Repairs/Maint	\$	2,700.00
MEDICAL ENTERPRISES, INC	Medical	\$	36.00
MENARDS - FREMONT	Supplies/Maint	\$	864.73
MICHAEL TODD & COMPANY INC	Parts	\$	967.72
MO VALLEY TIRES, LLC	Maint/Repairs	\$	5,666.07
SAPP BROS, INC	Fuel	\$	8,247.21
STRAIGHT-LINE STRIPING, INC.	Service	\$	92,452.10
SUNBELT RENTALS INC	Rental	\$	119.73
VERIZON WIRELESS	Service	\$	419.97
WOODHOUSE FORD INC	Parts/Supplies	\$	233.24

HARD SURFACING - 300

OLD CASTLE MATERIALS	Engineering Fees	\$	37,097.38
SPEECE LEWIS ENGINEERS, INC	Engineering Fees	\$	20,681.80

REGISTER OF DEEDS - 1150

HOMETOWN LEASING	Service	\$	99.42
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INSURANCE FUND - 1275

WASHINGTON COUNTY BANK	Insurance	\$	39,041.98
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DRUG COURT - 2390

CDW-G GOVERNMENT	Equipment	\$	1,609.74
VISA	Equipment	\$	25.99

ARPA - 2580

SPEECE LEWIS ENGINEERS, INC	Engineering Fees	\$	1,040.00
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LACTF - 2585

MARY LOFTIS

SHIP

\$ 775.00

Attest: Barbara Sullivan
Washington County Clerk

Steve Dethlefs, Chairman
Washington County Board of Supervisors

I, Barbara Sullivan, County Clerk, in and for Washington County, Blair, Nebraska, do hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings took place during the September 23, 2025 Washington County Board of Supervisors.

Barbara Sullivan, Washington County Clerk
