

August 26, 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 3:08 PM on August 26, 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 Lisa Kramer, Bob Frahm, Kevin Barnhill, Mike Mackie and Steve Kruger. Absent Jon Stewart. Also present: Sheriff Mike Robinson, County Attorney Scott Vander Schaaf and Deputy Clerk Lori Bensen

2. Approve agenda

Motion Kevin Barnhill and second by Lisa Kramer to approve agenda for 08/26/2025. Motion Carried.

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

3. Approve minutes for the 08/12/2025 meeting

Motion Kevin Barnhill and second by Lisa Kramer that the rules be suspended and the minutes of the 08/12/2025 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: Aye, Dethlefs: Aye, Frahm: Aye, Kramer: Aye, Kruger: Aye, Mackie: Aye, Stewart: Absent

4. Approve Claims

Motion Steve Kruger and second by Kevin Barnhill that the claims be approved and the deputy clerk ordered to issue warrants on the various funds for the same. Motion Carried.

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

5. Accept correspondence, consider and place on file

Motion Steve Kruger and second by Kevin Barnhill to receive correspondence from Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Cargill and place on file. Motion Carried.

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

6. Dave Kruger Hwy Superintendent: Road Dept update not limited to projects, equipment and personnel
Kruger displayed photos of the ongoing work around the county.

7. Chris Shewchuk, Planning & Zoning Administrator--Public hearing on the request of Payton Reynolds, for Karen Reynolds, for approval of a preliminary plat of a three-lot subdivision, Lots 1 - 3, Reynolds Acres, and a waiver of the drainage study. The property is legally described as Tax Lots 19 and 20 in Section 21-17-12 and Tax Lot 31 in Section 22-17-12. General location is County Road P36 and County Road 41, Fort Calhoun. D/PA

Shewchuk went through the request and answered questions from Board Members. There were no comments during the public hearing.

Motion Kevin Barnhill and second by Mike Mackie to approve the request of Payton Reynolds, for Karen Reynolds, for the preliminary plat of Lots 1 - 3, Reynolds Acres in Sections 21-17-12 and 22-17-12, and a waiver of the drainage study. Motion Carried.

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

8. Steve Lupardus, Cottonwood Cove: Request clarification on CUP granted on 08/25/2020 regarding number of permitted RV sites.

Steve Lupardus asked the Board for clarification on the overlay application and stated that he incorrectly put the wrong number of camp sites on the application. The board discussed at length and decided to direct the planning and zoning office to have Steve Lupardus reapply and waive the \$150.00 application fee.

9. Treasurer Marj Hoier: Receive Distress Warrant Report of Sheriff's activity on the 2024 Distress Warrants and receive permission to hand over to the Credit Bureau for collection.

Motion Steve Kruger and second by Kevin Barnhill to receive and place on file Distress Warrant Report on Sheriff's activity on the 2024 Distress Warrants and gave permission to hand over to the Credit Bureau for collection. Motion Carried.

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

10. Mike Robinson: Approve financing for one patrol vehicle for the 2025-2026 budget year. D/PA

Sheriff Robinson had the following financing bids: 1) RVR Bank, 5% interest, total \$90,257.74. 2) WCB, 5.75% interest, total \$91,662.04

Motion Kevin Barnhill and second by Steve Kruger to approve financing with RVR Bank for one patrol vehicle in the amount of \$80,305.21, total including equipment. Motion Carried.

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

11. Fastwyre Broadband Invoice. D/PA

Supervisor Kramer discussed ongoing issues with Fastwyre in attempting to cancel lines and services that have not been utilized by the county for over a year.

12. Finance Comm: Discuss FY25-26 county budget

Supervisor Kruger discussed the 2025-2026 certification of values that were recently provided by the County Assessor and stated that the real growth value was only 1.2%. This is less than expected, thus the Finance Committee is still having ongoing conversations with county offices to reduce the budget to be compliant with the new Property Tax Growth Limitation Act. The budget hearing is scheduled at the next board meeting on September 9, 2025. Mike Anderson spoke.

12.1. Budget Resolution regarding levy allocations for entities under the county's authority. PA-Adopt Res

Motion Steve Kruger and second by Bob Frahm to adopt resolution 2025-7; setting levy allocations for entities under the county's authority. Motion Carried.

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

RESOLUTION #2025-7 Levy Allocations

WHEREAS, under L.B. 1154 (1996) any property tax for political subdivisions will be included in the County's tax levy.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Washington County Board of Supervisors that pursuant to law, the County has subdivisions levy authority as specified on the County Levy Limit Form. Based on the preliminary levy requests submitted, the County Board grants the following levy authority:

Ag Society.....	\$ 190,000
Historical Society.....	\$ 140,000
Herman Cemetery District.....	\$ 26,000

Townships:

Township #1.....	\$ 335,000
Township #2.....	\$ 20,000
Township #5.....	\$ 110,750
Township #6.....	\$ 186,000
Township #7.....	\$ 95,000

Rural Fire Districts: (excluding bond amounts)

Arlington Fire District.....	\$ 92,197
Blair Rural Fire District.....	\$ 216,000

Fort Calhoun Rural Fire Protection District....\$ 208,000
Herman Rural Fire District.....\$ 68,000
Kennard Fire District.....\$ 110,000

DATED this 26th day of August, 2025, at Blair, Nebraska.

Lori Bensen
Deputy County Clerk

Steve Dethlefs
Chairman, Washington County Board of Supervisors

13. Comments from public: Mike Rooks introduced Niki Ferguson as the new Chamber Director. Sheriff Robinson stated that Brice Beckman will be recognized as the Sherriff's Association Deputy of the Year. Mike Andersen also spoke.

14. Committee Reports: Committee reports were briefly discussed

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. No items for a closed session.

16. Motion to adjourn meeting

Motion Kevin Barnhill and second by Lisa Kramer to adjourn from the Board of Supervisors meeting at 3:48 p.m. Motion Carried.

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

CLAIMS:

GENERAL FUND - 100

EMPLOYEE	Payroll 8-15-25	\$287,642.19
AMERITAS	Retirement	\$21,181.82
BCBS-HEALTH	Health	\$60,130.35
WASHINGTON COUNTY BANK	H.S.A	\$10,492.50
BCBS	Life-Dental-Vision	\$780.78
WASHINGTON COUNTY BANK	FICA/MEDI	\$20,914.67
AIRGAS USA, LLC	Medical	\$28.64
ALEGENT CREIGHTON CLINIC	Medical	\$916.00
BELLAMY, ROBERT	Reimbursement	\$208.66
BEST CARE EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROG	Service	\$3,495.00
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	Service	\$675.33
BLAIR ACE HARDWARE	Supplies	\$55.92
BOMGAARS	Supplies	\$36.47
BRAZELTON, PHILIP E	Reimbursement	\$325.94
BROADVOICE	Service	\$186.96
BYELICK GREGORY	Uniform Allowance	\$345.00
CAMPBELL AMAN FUNERAL HOME	Service	\$1,000.00
CAVANAUGH NICOLE	Service	\$2,708.33
CITY OF BLAIR	Library Fee's	\$1,325.00
CITY OF FORT CALHOUN	Contract Fee's	\$100.00
CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT FILING FEES	Fee's	\$303.00
COUNTRY TIRE SERVICE CENTER BLAIR	Maint/Repairs	\$503.48
CREDIT BUREAU SERVICES	Fee's	\$2,040.49
CUBBY'S INC- CORRECTIONS	Fuel	\$351.87
CUBBY'S INC- SHERIFF OFFICE	Fuel	\$3,319.98
DAS STATE ACCNTING-CENTRAL FINANCE	Service	\$472.00

DEIN JACK	Uniform Allowance	\$345.00
DODGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	Fee's	\$8.19
DUNN LAW	Service	\$7,500.00
EAGLETON MEGAN	Reimbursement	\$21.38
EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	Supplies	\$1,819.30
ELITE VEHICLE OUTFITTERS	Repairs	\$437.50
ENTERPRISE MEDIA GROUP	Media	\$99.53
FLORA WAYNE	Uniform Allowance	\$226.82
GONZALEZ LISA	Service	\$2,916.66
GREAT PLAINS UNIFORMS LLC	Uniform Allowance	\$67.99
HILLYARD,INC DBA-HILLYARD DESMOINES	Supplies	\$2,577.84
HIRCHERT-OLSEN AUTO SERVICE INC.	Repairs	\$1,058.92
HOMETOWN LEASING	Service	\$217.17
INFOSAFE SHREDDING, INC	Service	\$210.00
JENSEN LAWN SOLUTIONS, INC.	Service	\$1,975.00
JONES CHRISTI	Reimbursement	\$15.60
JUDKINS ASHLEY	Reimbursement	\$248.23
KEATTS CADDON	Uniform Allowance	\$345.00
MCNEIL JANE LAW OFFICE	Service	\$2,708.33
MEBULBS	Supplies	\$2,275.00
MEMORIAL COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	Medical	\$2,176.92
MORGAN JAMES	Uniform Allowance	\$195.18
MOTOROLA	Repairs/Maint	\$442.02
NACO	Conference	\$30.00
NEBRASKA NOTARY ASSOCIATION	Supplies	\$156.00
O'REILLY AUTOMOTIVE INC	Supplies	\$7.49
OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	Service	\$320.00
PHYSICIANS LABORATORY PC	Medical	\$2,750.00
PITNEY BOWES INC-SUPPLIES	Supplies	\$42.49
PLACKE BRIANA	Reimbursement	\$191.80
POSTMASTER STAMPS	Supplies	\$780.00
POULSEN,CALVIN	Service	\$1,938.75
ROCHESTER MIDLAND CORPORATION	Service	\$940.00
SAVILLE, DEBBIE	Reimbursement	\$17.99
SE SMITH & SONS	Supplies	\$39.46
SECRETARY OF STATE	Reprod/Cert	\$40.00
SHEWCHUK CHRIS	Mileage Reimb	\$281.26
SHOTWELL GLASS LLC	Repairs	\$817.38
SID DILLON CHEV-OLDS-PONT, INC	Maint/Repairs	\$750.22
STAMP FULFILLMENT SERVICES	Supplies	\$494.95
STANEK FIRE PROTECTION	Service/Repairs	\$245.00
SUMMIT FOOD SERVICE, LLC	Service	\$4,848.36
TOTAL FIRE & SECURITY, INC.	Service	\$1,413.75
TRIPP, ADAM R LAW OFFICE	Service	\$1,472.50
VERIZON WIRELESS SURVEYOR	Service	\$40.01
VERIZON WIRELESS SHERIFF	Service	\$1,670.46
WOODHOUSE FORD INC	Maint/Repairs	\$826.18
YOST,LAMME,HILLIS,MITCHELL,SCHULZ	Service	\$1,831.25

ROADS - 200

EMPLOYEE	Payroll 8-15-25	\$57,973.92
AMERITAS	Retirement	\$3,913.28
BCBS-HEALTH	Health	\$13,226.76
WASHINGTON COUNTY BANK	H.S.A	\$2,250.00
BCBS	Life-Dental-Vision	\$302.81
WASHINGTON COUNTY BANK	FICA/MEDI	\$4,198.51
BEANS EQUIPMENT & AUCTION	Equipment	\$4,600.00
BIG IRON	Equipment	\$5,005.00
BLUFF AGGREGATE LLC	Gravel/Borrow	\$22,628.67
BOMGAARS	Supplies	\$1,293.57
BOWSER TRANSFER LLC	Gravel/Borrow	\$7,484.65
BRAKKAN TRUCKING INC	Gravel/Borrow	\$3,191.25
CINTAS CORPORATION	Medical	\$138.34
DALE R JOHNSON ENT, INC TRUCKING	Gravel/Borrow	\$6,348.86
FIRST NATIONAL BANK	Supplies	\$52.53
FIRST NATIONAL BANK	Supplies	\$1,128.60
FIRST NATIONAL BANK	Supplies	\$1,067.41
FREMONT ELECTRIC, INC. - BLAIR	Supplies	\$3,251.36
KNUDSEN OIL & FEED	Fuel	\$3,631.00
MEMORIAL COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	Medical	\$137.00
MENARDS - FREMONT	Supplies	\$37.98
MO VALLEY TIRES, LLC	Repairs	\$477.98
OLD CASTLE MATERIALS	Surfacing	\$581,620.04
PLATTE VALLEY EQUIPMENT LLC	Service	\$14,500.00
WOODHOUSE FORD INC	Parts	\$228.75

HARD SURFACING - 300

SPEECE LEWIS ENGINEERS, INC	Engineering	\$13,163.40
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REGISTER OF DEEDS - 1150

EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	Supplies	\$683.10
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INSURANCE FUND - 1275

WASHINGTON COUNTY BANK-BCBS WIRE	Medical	\$74,352.00
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STOP PROGRAM - 2356

ATV MOTORSPORTS	Equipment	\$9,652.98
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JUVENILE SERVICES -2506

EMPLOYEE	Payroll 8-15-25	\$2,310.00
AMERITAS	Retirement	\$155.93
BCBS-HEALTH	Health	\$486.46
WASHINGTON COUNTY BANK	H.S.A	\$93.75
BCBS	Life-Dental-Vision	\$13.64
WASHINGTON COUNTY BANK	FICA/MEDI	\$174.69
OWENS EDUCATIONAL SERVICES, INC.	Service	\$37.80

911 ENHANCED WIRELESS - 2913

GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS INC	Service	\$108.00
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E-911 SYSTEM FUND

HIGH MAINTENANCE AND MODS, INC.	Deductible	\$1,000.00
MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS CREDIT COMPANY	Service	\$44,225.00
TALLEY COMMUNICATIONS	Parts	\$204.33

Attest: Lori Bensen
Washington County Deputy Clerk

Steve Dethlefs, Chairman
Washington County Board of Supervisors

I, Lori Bensen, Deputy County Clerk, in and for Washington County, Blair, Nebraska, do hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings took place during the August 26, 2025 Washington County Board of Supervisors.

Lori Bensen, Washington County Deputy Clerk
