

## HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S MINUTES

December 23, 2025

A Meeting of the Howard County Board of Commissioners was convened in open and public session on the 23rd day of December, 2025, in the Boardroom, Howard County Courthouse, St. Paul, Nebraska.

Notice of the meeting was given thereof on the 17th day of December, 2025. Copies of the agenda were posted in the courthouse, emailed to each Commissioner, and kept current and available to the public at the Clerk's office. A proof of publication is filed in the Clerk's office.

Chairman Hirschman called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Roll Call: Kirt Lukasiewicz, Aye; Kathy Hirschman, Aye; and Jessie Urbanski, Aye. Also, present is County Clerk, Brenda Klanecky.

**Pledge of Allegiance-** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chairman Hirschman stated to those in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is available for review and indicated the location of such copy in the room where the meeting is being held.

**Public Comment-** None.

**County Road Discussion** –Highway Superintendent, Janet Thomsen and Road Foreman, Ray Hurt were present to discuss various County roads and maintenance work done in the last 45 days.

**Tim Terjack-discuss Yutan Rd/Davis Creek**-The Commissioners, Ms. Thomsen, Mr. Hurt and Tim Terjack discussed progress made on Yutan Rd. and work that needs to be completed on the bridge area. Rip rap, pilings, and bridge condition were among the other items discussed.

**Road Dept. Maintenance Software-** Mr. Lukasiewicz has been looking into software for the Road Department to use. Discussed were the costs and what the software can do. The Commissioners will continue to work on what the County currently has and what they would require.

**County Building Update-** Ms. Thomsen did a walk through with the fire marshal. Miscellaneous items to be finished up in the new building were discussed. The Road's department will begin moving items into the new building the day after Christmas.

### **Mail-**

Vital II Correspondence-Is the County Interested

CNCAA Christmas Card

Assist Award Notification-Emergency Manager

NIRMA-Cybersecurity Best Practices

Planning and Zoning Letter to Floodplain Landowners in Howard County

**Connie Holmes-Crime Commission Grant-** Connie Holmes, Executive Director of Central Nebraska Council on Alcoholism and Addictions was present to discuss the applications for Community-Based Aid allocated to Howard County for fiscal year 2026-2027 and an Enhancement Community-Based Aid grant. Motion was made by Urbanski to approve the applications for the Community-Based Aid Grant for fiscal year 2026-2027 in the amount of \$34,693.00 and the Enhancement CBA Grant in the amount of \$17,115.00 and approve Board Chair, Kathy Hirschman signing the applications and seconded by Lukasiewicz. Roll Call: Lukasiewicz, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

**Arlan Johnson-Approve Hospital Board Member-**Howard County Medical Center CEO, Arlan Johnson was present to discuss the re-appointment of a hospital board member. Motion was made by Urbanski and seconded by Lukasiewicz to approve the re-appointment of Dan Nielsen to a seven-year term on the hospital board. Roll Call: Lukasiewicz, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

**Petition to Vacate Road-Bell Street located in St. Libory-** The Commissioners reviewed the Petition to vacate Bell Street located in the Buhrman Subdivision in St. Libory. Highway Superintendent, Janet Thomsen stated that the County has not maintained Bell Street. Lukasiewicz made a motion to have Ms. Thomsen perform a road study on Bell Street and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Lukasiewicz, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

**Administrative Subdivision-Allan Griebel-** Planning and Zoning Administrator, Cherri Klinginsmith was present to discuss an application for the administrative single lot subdivision application for Allan Griebel. Following discussion, Urbanski made a motion to approve the Allan Griebel Subdivision and seconded by Lukasiewicz. Roll Call: Lukasiewicz, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

**NIRMA-Property Inspection/Appraisal Update-** The Commissioners reviewed the appraisal update on the County properties insured by NIRMA. Following discussion, Lukasiewicz made a motion to approve the appraisal update as presented and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Lukasiewicz, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

**Rob Schultz-Weed Management Area Update-Loup River Spraying-**Weed Superintendent, Rob Schultz was present to discuss spraying on the area rivers in the past few years for phragmites. Mr. Schultz would like the support of the County to get more funding from the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Schultz asked about the \$1,000.00 claim that had previously been submitted. Mr. Schultz was advised to re-submit the claim and the Commissioners would review it.

**Brennan's Lawn Care Inc.-**The Commissioners reviewed a fertilizer estimate from Brennan's Lawn Care Inc. Lukasiewicz made a motion to approve the fertilizer estimate from Al Brennan in

the amount of \$1,580.00 and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Lukasiewicz, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

**Sheriff's Dept.-Discuss Patrol Car and Impound Yard-** Sheriff, Mike Hoff and Chief Deputy, Paul Tartaglia were present to discuss patrol cars and an impound yard. The Sheriff's department is currently looking at a lease agreement to obtain patrol cars. The cars would be completely outfitted and the Sheriff's department would need to install the radio system. Following discussion, the consensus of the Commissioners agreed that the Sheriff's department look into a leasing program and bring the information back to the Commissioners. An impound yard was also discussed. A number of different options will be looked into.

**Resolution 2025-29-County Attorney Part-time/Private Practice-**Lukasiewicz made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-29, changing the position of County Attorney from a full-time position to a part-time position and allow the County Attorney to have a private practice if they wish and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Lukasiewicz, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

**Official Salaries-**County Attorney, Heather Sikyta, Treasurer, Sara Roy, Sheriff, Mike Hoff, Assessor, Neal Dethlefs and County Clerk, Brenda Klanecky were present for the discussion. A general consensus was reached. A resolution with the amounts will be drafted with the Clerk and Board Chair working on the amounts based on the discussion. Officials will be able to review the amounts prior to the next meeting. Salaries will need to be set for the officials for years 2027, 2028, 2029 and 2030 by the next meeting.

**Consent Agenda** - The Board reviewed the payroll and claims dated 12/23/2025, and the Commissioner Meeting and regular minutes dated 12/9/2025. Motion was made by Urbanski and seconded by Lukasiewicz to approve the payroll and claims dated 12/23/2025, General \$253,601.18, and Roads-\$73,637.25, for a total of \$327,238.43, and Commissioner meeting minutes dated 12/9/2025, and authorize Board Chair, Kathy Hirschman to sign the minutes. Roll Call: Lukasiewicz, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

There being no further business to come before the Board, motion was made by Urbanski and seconded by Lukasiewicz to adjourn the meeting at 12:24 p.m. Roll Call: Lukasiewicz, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye. Meeting Adjourned. The next regular meeting of the Howard County Board of Commissioners will be January 13, 2025.

Dated this 23rd day of December, 2025.

Kathy Hirschman  
Howard County Board Chair

ATTEST:  
Brenda Klanecky  
Howard County Clerk