

HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S MINUTES

July 14, 2026

A Meeting of the Howard County Board of Commissioners was convened in open and public session on the 14th day of July, 2026, in the Boardroom, Howard County Courthouse, St. Paul, Nebraska.

Notice of the meeting was given thereof on the 8th day of July, 2026. 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 8:40 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 during the Board of Equalization meeting.

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, Jerry Thompson were present to discuss an employee resignation. Larry Poss is retiring from the County as of July 24, 2026. Urbanski made a motion to approve the resignation of Mr. Poss as presented and seconded by Lukasiewicz. Roll Call: Lukasiewicz, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye. Road Personnel Wages were also discussed. Mr. Thompson talked with the Commissioners regarding road employee Rawlings. Lukasiewicz made a motion to approve Jamison Rawlings moving from a Road Worker I- Step 1B to Road Worker I- Step 2 effective July 19, 2026 and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Hirschman, Nay; Urbanski, Aye; and Lukasiewicz, Aye. Road project updates were also discussed. The Build Grant that was applied for with several other Counties, was denied. Pivots watering the roads were briefly discussed.

Mail-

Letter regarding Payment in Lieu of Taxes

Information regarding Fees and Bonds for Underground Permits

Unfinished Business – None.

Planning & Zoning Administrator-Cherri Klinginsmith-Request for Engineering Study- Present are Planning and Zoning Administrator, Cherri Klinginsmith, Highway Superintendent, Janet Thomsen, and Road Foreman, Jerry Thompson. Two neighbors in a flood plain in a rural area of

Howard County have complaints against each other regarding flooding on their property. One landowner built a berm on his property. The other landowner was doing general farm maintenance to return the crop land to its normal use by disking in ditches. Turkey creek runs through both of the properties. It was stated this situation also caused flooding on the county road. After further review, the road does not warrant an engineering study. Ms. Klinginsmith asked about requesting an independent engineering study and who would pay for it. The Commissioners felt this was a dispute between two landowners. Lukasiewicz made a motion to deny the request for an engineering hydrology study and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Urbanski, Aye; Lukasiewicz, Aye; and Hirschman, Aye.

Mid Plains Construction Co.-Status Inquiry- Urbanski made a motion to table The Mid Plains Construction Status Inquiry until more information is obtained and seconded by Lukasiewicz. Roll Call: Lukasiewicz, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

Discuss Open Meetings Act- The Commissioners discussed the updates to the Open Meetings Act effective July 18, 2026. The County will be required to publish meeting notices in the paper four times a year. For the remainder of 2026, the meeting notices will need to be published a minimum of four times. The agendas will continue to be placed on the County website. Special and emergency agendas will continue to be posted on the website, courthouse, post office, Citizens Bank and Homestead Bank.

Approve/Deny SDL Application-Beer Barrel Bar- The application was reviewed and discussed. Lukasiewicz made a motion to approve the Special Designated License for a street dance to be held at 307 Spruce Street in St. Libory, Nebraska on August 22, 2026, and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Lukasiewicz, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

Courthouse Generator- Pat Koperski was present to update the Commissioners on the status of the generator. Tim Wood with Powertech had checked out the generator. The start and cycle isn't working on the generator. It was estimated that the generator is at least forty-five years old. Mr. Wood is looking to find parts to repair the generator so it will start and cycle. If not, the generator would have to be started manually about one time per week.

Budget- The Commissioners reviewed all department budgets.

Consent Agenda - The Board reviewed the claims dated 7/14/2026, and the Commissioner meeting minutes dated 6/10/2026 and 6/23/2026. The Board also reviewed the Clerk, District Court, Treasurer, and Attorney Reports as presented. Motion was made by Urbanski and seconded by Lukasiewicz to approve the claims dated 7/14/2026, General \$241,687.88, Roads- \$137,257.83, and E911 Wireless Service Fund \$6,800.00 for a total of \$385,745.71, meeting minutes dated 6/10/2026 and 6/23/2026, and authorize Board Chair, Kathy Hirschman to sign

the minutes, and approve reports received from the Clerk, District Court, Treasurer, and Attorney. Roll Call: Hirschman, Aye; Urbanski, Aye; and Lukasiewicz, 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 11:47 a.m. Roll Call: Hirschman, Aye; Urbanski, Aye; and Lukasiewicz, Aye. Meeting Adjourned. The next regular meeting of the Howard County Board of Commissioners will be July 28, 2026.

Dated this 14th day of July, 2026.

Kathy Hirschman
Howard County Board Chair

ATTEST:

Howard County Clerk
Brenda Klanecky