HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S MINUTES

August 25, 2026

A Meeting of the Howard County Board of Commissioners was convened in open and public session on the 25th day of August, 2026, in the Boardroom, Howard County Courthouse, St. Paul, Nebraska. Notice of the meeting was given thereof on the 20th day of August, 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. 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, Jerry Thompson were present to discuss the following:

Vendors/Supplies- The Commissioners had questions about supplies ordered from two vendors. Ms. Thomsen explained to the Commissioners. The Commissioners recommended that Ms. Thomsen and Mr. Thompson try to buy supplies locally when possible. Current road projects were reviewed. Recent rains have slowed down some of the road projects.

Mail-

Senator Pete Ricketts' Federal Issues Forum
2026 Nebraska Pipeline Association
Thank You from Howard County 4-H
Nominations for NACO Secretary/Treasurer
Letter from NDOT
P & Z Letter to Helmuth
Bylaws Central Nebraska District

Unfinished Business- None.

Planning and Zoning Complaint-Planning and Zoning Administrator, Cherri Klinginsmith was present to review a Citizen's Complaint #2026-105, received by her office. Ms. Klinginsmith did not find any violations. A letter was sent to the Complainant and they were told they could be on the Planning and Zoning agenda for August 19, 2026, if they had additional questions. The

complainant did not attend the meeting. The Planning and Zoning Commission agreed with no findings by Ms. Klinginsmith. No action was taken by the Commissioners.

Petition to Vacate Portion of B Street-Highway Superintendent, Janet Thomsen was present to discuss a Petition received from Brad Morse to vacate a portion of B Street in St. Libory, Nebraska. Following discussion, Urbanski made a motion to accept the Petition and seconded by Lukasiewicz. Roll Call: Hirschman, Aye; Urbanski, Aye; and Lukasiewicz, Aye. Lukasiewicz made a motion to direct the Highway Superintendent to perform a road study within 30 days and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Urbanski, Aye; and Lukasiewicz, Aye; and Hirschman, Aye.

County Inventories/County Real Estate Inventory - Lukasiewicz made a motion to approve the County Inventories and County Real Estate Inventory as presented and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Urbanski, Aye; Lukasiewicz, Aye; and Hirschman, Aye.

Treasurer's Report-Distress Warrants- Treasurer, Sara Roy was present to discuss the County Distress Warrants with the Commissioners. The Board acknowledges the distress warrants. No other action taken.

County/City Dispatch Agreement- Board Chair, Hirschman presented the County/City Dispatch Agreement dated August 15, 2026, with the Commissioners. Effective October 1, 2026, the monthly payment from the City will be $3,675.00 for a total of $44,100.00, annually. Urbanski made a motion to approve the Dispatch Agreement as presented and seconded by Lukasiewicz. Roll Call: Lukasiewicz, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye. The Dispatch Agreement will be effective October 1, 2026.

Health Insurance Renewal- The Commissioners reviewed the renewal premiums and coverages for health insurance received at their August 11, 2026, Commissioner Meeting. Following discussion, Urbanski made a motion to approve the renewal plan with the same coverages and deductibles as the current plan and seconded by Lukasiewicz. Roll Call: Hirschman, Aye; Urbanski, Aye; and Lukasiewicz, Aye. The renewal is effective October 1, 2026

Government Email Addresses-The Board Chair, Hirschman and Clerk, Klanecky have been working with IT regarding cybersecurity. The recommendation is for the Commissioners to use government email addresses for County business. Lukasiewicz made a motion to approve to allow the Clerk to move forward on government email addresses for each of the Commissioners and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Lukasiewicz, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

MIPs Employee Portal- Clerk, Klanecky discussed the new accounts payable and payroll programs with the Commissioners. Klanecky presented the enhancements that could be helpful for employees through a portal. Lukasiewicz made a motion to approve acquiring the necessary information for employees to have access to the portal and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Urbanski, Aye; Lukasiewicz, Aye; and Hirschman, Aye.

Budget- The budget was reviewed. Adjustments were made. The Clerk will make the adjustments as requested and send to the accountant.

Waive Waiting Period for Employee Health Insurance Coverage-Currently there is a first of the month following a 30-day waiting period from date of hire to be eligible for health insurance. Following discussion, Lukasiewicz made a motion to change the employee handbook to make employees eligible for the health insurance package the first of the month following hire date and seconded by Urbanski. Roll Call: Lukasiewicz, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

County/City Interlocal Law Enforcement Agreement Discussion- Mayor, Mike Feeken and Chief Deputy, Paul Tartaglia were present during the discussion. The financial side of the agreement was discussed in great detail. Date payments would be due from the City to make the County budget flow was also discussed.

Set Budget Hearing Date- Urbanski made a motion to set the date for the public hearing for the budget on September 22, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. and seconded by Lukasiewicz. Roll Call: Lukasiewicz, Aye; Hirschman, Aye; and Urbanski, Aye.

Consent Agenda - The Commissioners reviewed the payroll and claims dated 8/25/2026. Motion was made by Lukasiewicz and seconded by Urbanski to approve the payroll and claims dated 8/25/2026, General $253,004.05, and Roads-$66,993.24, for a total of $319,997.29, and Commissioner regular and BOE meeting minutes dated 8/11/2026, and authorize Board Chair, Kathy Hirschman to sign the minutes. Roll Call: Urbanski, Aye; Lukasiewicz, Aye; and Hirschman, Aye.

There being no further business to come before the Board, motion was made by Lukasiewicz and seconded by Urbanski to adjourn the meeting at 1:03 p.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 September 8, 2026.

Dated this 25th day of August, 2026.

Kathy Hirschman
Howard County Board Chair
ATTEST:

Brenda Klanecky
Howard County Clerk