

# HARLAN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

From **February 4, 2025**

The Harlan County Board of Supervisors met in regular session Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025, in the Community Room of the Harlan County Courthouse in Alma, NE, as advertised in the Harlan County Journal and posted on the County website [harlancounty.ne.gov](http://harlancounty.ne.gov), with Supervisors Joe Schnuerle; Rob Schmidt; Mike Clements; Cindy Boehler; Jeff Bash; George Scott and Janice Miller-Boston present. Also, present was Clerk, DaLynn Burgeson.

At 9:32 a.m., Chairman Boehler called the meeting to order, announced that there is a copy of the Open Meetings Act posted at the south end of the room which will be followed by the Board. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Treasurer Artz provided, for the Board's review, account balances, an Account Trial Balance and Delinquent Tax Listing and Clerk Burgeson provided an Investment Portfolio Pledged Securities Report from First State Loomis as of January 31, 2025.

The Board reviewed and discussed claims. Three payroll claims, No's 2025020445, 2025020464 and 2025020406 and a vendor claim #25020013 submitted by Joseph R. Hewgley & Associates, INC., Invoice #1053, dated 12/27/2024, were held for further discussion. Due to the time, the Board moved to the next scheduled agenda item.

Public Transportation Manager, Bryon Guthrie and Kayla Rhynalds, CFO of Harlan County Health Systems, came before the Board and provided an explanation of the Preliminary Agreement and Understanding for Harlan County Public Transit Services budgetary handouts that were provided for the Boards information and consideration. Discussions were held regarding the local match funding being requested for FY2026 and FY2027. A motion was made by Miller-Boston to approve the FY2026 and FY2027 Harlan County Transportation agreement and budget as presented. Second by Clements. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-yes; Schmidt-abstain; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-abstain; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Schnuerle to go into executive session at 11:07 a.m. to discuss personnel matters. Second by Scott. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-yes; Schmidt-yes; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried. Only the Board members were present during the executive session. A motion was made and seconded to exit executive session at 11:27 a.m. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-yes; Schmidt-yes; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Bash to approve payroll claims at the cost-of-living increase of 4% as previously approved by the Board and to not allow rounding up. Said payroll claim No's 2025020445, 2025020464 and 2025020406 shall be corrected in the next payroll. Second by Miller-Boston. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-yes; Schmidt-yes; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried. A motion was made by Clements to approve the claims as presented with the exception of the claim #25020013 submitted by Joseph Hewgley & Associates, Invoice #1053, dated 12/27/2024, being held for referral to the County Attorney. Second by Schmidt. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-yes; Schmidt-yes; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried.

Chairman Boehler asked the Board if they had reviewed the Minutes from the January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025, regular Board meeting and called for any additions or corrections. With none, a motion was made by Bash to approve the minutes from January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025, as presented. Second by Scott. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-yes; Schmidt-yes; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Schmidt to approve the renewal of the Medica health plan for 3/1/2025 as presented and recommended by Dustin Will of Benefit Management. Second by Clements. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-no; Schmidt-yes; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried. Supervisor Schnuerle stepped out of the meeting. A motion was made by Schmidt to keep the employee premiums for health insurance the same as last year whereas the County pays 100% of the employee only cost and the cost to an employee for their dependent(s) on the high deductible plan

remains the same at \$500 EE & Spouse, \$300 EE & Child, & \$800 Family. Second by Clements. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-absent; Schmidt-yes; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried. A motion was made by Bash to keep the HRA (health reimbursement account) contribution the same as current with the County covering 85% of costs after the employee deductibles of \$3000 single/\$6000 family have been met and increase the HSA (health savings account) contribution to \$1500 annually. Second by Schmidt. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-absent; Schmidt-yes; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried.

Clerk Burgeson provided information on the NPERS (Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems) Audit report. Supervisor Schnuerle returned to the meeting.

Schnuerle provided a brief update on the Village of Huntley unincorporating whereas County Attorney Schroeder (absent) completed a timeline and sent a letter pursuant to the Twin Valleys Public Power letter received by the Board. Further discussion will be held at the next board meeting.

Schnuerle provided information about the Nebraska Department of Transportation NEPA Professional Services Supplemental Agreement for project CN71282 BRO-7042(15), Stamford East between Harlan County and Olssons and the Resolution #2025-02 for the Environmental Services Supplemental Agreement BK2270-002. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Bash to approve Resolution #2025-02. Second by Schnuerle. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-yes; Schmidt-yes; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried. A motion was made by Schmidt to approve the NEPA Professional Services Supplemental Agreement as presented. Second by Scott. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-yes; Schmidt-yes; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried.

Estimates were received from Lakeview K-Lawn, Thistle Control and TwoPturf LLC for the Courthouse lawn fertilizer and weed control for 2025. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Scott to approve and accept the estimate submitted by TwoPturf and choose the Pay-1 payment option. Second by Miller-Boston. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-yes; Schmidt-yes; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried.

Discussion was held to establish members for the Policy and Procedures committee. Supervisor Miller-Boston, Supervisor Bash and Treasurer Artz were designated as the members.

Clerk Burgeson provided miscellaneous information to the Board.

Clements provided a Building & Grounds committee update in which Anderson Brothers will be preparing a proposal for the Courthouse exterior lighting and that the committee is proceeding with options for the Southside entrance railings. Scott provided an update on finishing the carpet laying project in the County Court office.

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:31 p.m. to return at 1:30 p.m. for a Broadband Fiber for Rural Harlan County meeting with South Central Economic Development District (SCEDD). At 1:31 p.m., LeAnn Jochum with SCEDD welcomed guests from Pinpoint, Glenwood, Furnas County, Phelps County, Franklin County, and West Central Nebraska District. Introductions were made. Information was presented in regard to Broadband Fiber for Rural Harlan County and grant money available to provide the fiber to all areas of Harlan County. There were questions and discussions.

At 2:53 p.m., the Board returned to the regular meeting to finish the remaining agenda items. Supervisor Schmidt left the meeting. Discussion was held about changing the county employee pay cycle from monthly to bi-monthly. The Personnel committee will meet to further discuss this matter and draft a brief survey to gather employee input.

At 3:10 p.m., a motion was made by Schnuerle to go into executive session to discuss union contract negotiations. Second by Scott. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-yes; Schmidt-absent; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried. Only Board members were present during the closed session. At 4:07 p.m., a motion was made by Clements to exit executive session. Second by Bash. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-yes; Schmidt-absent; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried.

**Public Forum:** No comments.

With no further business, a motion was made by Clements to adjourn the meeting. Second by Schnuerle. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-yes; Schmidt-absent; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried. Chairman Boehler adjourned the meeting at 4:07 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025, commencing at 9:30 a.m. for consent agenda items and 10:00 a.m. for business agenda items.

***ATTEST:***

/s/ DaLynn Burgeson, County Clerk

/s/ Cindy Boehler, Chairman

Agenda & Minutes can be found on the County website: [harlancounty.ne.gov](http://harlancounty.ne.gov)

**CLAIMS:**

***GENERAL:*** Payroll \$80,478.91 / Claims: American Family Life \$435.05; Ameritas Life Insurance-Vision \$266.34; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp-Retirement \$13,014.20; Melodie Bellamy-Mileage Legislative Conference \$281.40; Community Bank-Payroll Deduction HSA \$1480.00; Bryan Crowder-Maintenance Cell phone/mileage \$132.08; First State Bank-payroll deductions \$24,223.58; Harlan County Senior Center-Nov. & Dec. 2024 \$6041.05; Harlan County Treasurer-Postal Services \$500.00; Harlan County Treasurer-Inter Fund Transfer to Road Fund \$50,000.00; Holdrege Electric-Electrical work \$3975.98; Marvin Planning Consultants-Planning & Zoning-Comp Plan \$3100.00; Medica-Insurance \$14,348.10 & Medica-Insurance Employee deduction \$2100.00; NACO – County Board Handbooks (x3) \$300.00; NE Department of Revenue-payroll deductions \$3480.27; Point C/Benefit Administrators – Insurance Premium \$304.00; Darcie Porter-Phone allowance \$45.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance-premiums \$1410.17; Whitney Schroeder-Child Support Enforcement Salary \$1100.00. **General Fund total:** \$211,391.13. ***ROAD FUND:*** Payroll \$33,022.05 / Claims: American Family Life \$848.44; Ameritas Life Insurance-Vision \$195.76; Ameritas Life Insurance-Retirement \$5373.16; Community Bank-payroll deductions \$565.00; Credit Management Services-Garnishment \$410.26; First State Bank-payroll deductions \$10,874.22; Medica-Insurance \$7526.40 & Medica-Insurance Employee deduction \$800.00; Nebraska Child Support Payment Center-Employee withholding \$1423.50; NE Department of Revenue-payroll deductions \$1554.12; NE Public Employees Local 251-Union Dues \$275.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance-premiums \$662.46. **Road Fund total:** \$63,530.37. ***TOURISM:*** Jordann Dunlay-Admin Salary \$1200.00. **Grand total: \$276,121.50**