

HARLAN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
From **March 4th, 2025**

The Harlan County Board of Supervisors met in regular session Tuesday, March 4th, 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, with Supervisors Joe Schnuerle; Rob Schmidt; Mike Clements; Cindy Boehler; Jeff Bash; George Scott and Janice Miller-Boston present. Also, present were Clerk, DaLynn Burgeson and Highway and Weed Superintendent, Tim Burgeson.

At 9:31 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 List, and Delinquent Tax Listing.

The Board reviewed & discussed claims. Further discussion was held regarding payroll supporting documentation and a payroll claim affected by a weather-related courthouse closing. The personnel committee will address this with said employee. A motion was made by Schnuerle to approve the claims as presented. Second by Bash. 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 February 18th, 2025, regular Board meeting and called for any additions or corrections. One correction was noted on the second page, paragraph 5, whereas it states, "Second by George" and should be "Second by Scott". A motion was made by Clements to approve the minutes from February 18th, 2025, as presented, with the name correction as noted. Second by Schnuerle. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-yes; Schmidt-yes; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION: A motion was made by Bash at 10:19 a.m. to enter the Board of Equalization. Second by Miller-Boston. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-yes; Schmidt-yes; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried.

Assessor Kim Fouts came before the Board with tax list corrections #1422 through #1426 and provided an explanation for each necessary correction. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Schmidt to approve tax list corrections #1422 through #1426 as presented. Second by Bash. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-yes; Schmidt-yes; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried.

Treasurer Sandy Artz came before the Board in regard to a specific tax list correction presented by the Assessor wherein the City of Alma had stopped TIF with a local business, but the business had already paid taxes. Discussion was held. A motion was made by Clements for the Treasurer to move \$131.79 from the County's general fund to distribute the TIF breakdown of funds accordingly. 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 Bash to leave the Board of Equalization. Second by Schnuerle. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-yes; Schmidt-yes; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried. ***The Board returned to the regular meeting at 10:25 a.m.***

Jesse Langley and Justin Norris, Phelps County Emergency Manager, came before the Board, presented a handout that provided a cost summary for Dual Band and Single Band radio equipment for the Fire Departments within Harlan County including the Alma hospital. Discussion was held regarding funding for the equipment, possible grant funding available to update current radios from analog to digital and establishing a county budget line for said grant funds. A motion was made by Schmidt for the Treasurer to reactivate the Sheriff Grant Fund account #2501. Second by Scott. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-yes; Schmidt-yes; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-abstain; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried.

Jeremy Eschliman, Health Director and Jacki Haley, Clinical Section Manager, of Two Rivers Public Health Department (TRPHD) came before the Board and introduced themselves. A crystal plaque

was presented to Doris Brandon (in attendance) for her years of service (2011-2023) serving on the TRPHD board. TRPHD is currently working to fulfill Ms. Brandon's place on the Board. A second crystal plaque was presented to Cindy Boehler for her 5 years of service on the TRPHD board. Supervisor Scott is now on the TRPHD board representing Harlan County. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and supporting documentation was presented to the County Board pursuant to a new swimming pool program which includes routine inspections and permits for the public pools within Harlan County. An explanation of fees was provided also. The County Board shall have the MOU reviewed by the County Attorney and placed on the March 18th agenda to take action.

Applied Connective managers Travis Petsche and Jarvis Culler came before the Board and presented a few matters that were found while onboarding IT services for the County. Discussions were held. The Board agreed to switch from paying for Microsoft licensing monthly to an annual commitment to take advantage of annual savings. SLCG grant funding and cyber security training available for users were discussed also. Further discussion will be held.

Joseph Hewgley of Joseph Hewgley & Associates nor Ryan Stearns, formerly of Joseph Hewgley & Associates, appeared to discuss Claim / Invoice #1053 denied by the County Board on 2/4/25 in which supporting documentation was requested and to provide supporting details in reference to Midwest Door & Hardware Invoice #107702 dated March 25, 2024, presented to the County for payment. The County Attorney will handle these matters.

Highway & Weed Superintendent, Tim Burgeson came before the Board and presented a resolution (2025-04) to transfer \$250,000 from the Inheritance Tax Fund to the Road / Bridge Construction fund (0800) for the F Road bridge replacement project pursuant to the agreement with BNSF Railroad. The resolution was reviewed and discussed. A motion was made by Schnuerle to approve Resolution #2025-04 as presented. Second by Schmidt. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-yes; Schmidt-yes; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried. Burgeson provided an update on the road department's septic system, on what the road crew have been and will be working on and an update from a joint meeting held for the F Road Bridge project.

A brief union negotiation update was provided by Schnuerle. Schnuerle spoke to Tony Burkhalter, President of the Nebraska Public Employees Local 251. The Road Committee will meet today to further discuss negotiations.

Village of Huntley unincorporating. Schnuerle provided an update. A letter prepared by Deputy County Attorney Schroeder was sent to the Village of Huntley referencing procedural steps with statutory requirements as stated in Chapter 17 and to encourage a joint meeting with representatives from the County board and Village board. Schroeder has been in contact with Goodwin Siegfried LLC obo Twin Valley Public Power District.

Personnel Committee. A contract has been drafted between Harlan County and Whitney Schroeder for the county attorney position. Discussion was held in regard to having an outside attorney review the contract. At 11:45 a.m., a motion was made by Schnuerle to go into an executive session for personnel matters. Second by Clements. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-yes; Schmidt-yes; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried. Only Board members were present during the executive session. At 12:01 p.m., a motion was made to exit the executive session. Second. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-yes; Schmidt-yes; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried.

Building & Grounds committee updates. Clements provided that the electrical estimate for the East and West side of the Courthouse lighting should be completed and received by next week. Scott provided that a meeting was held to discuss the possibility of having the Alma High School shop class build additional railings for the south side of the courthouse entrance. An estimate will be submitted.

Treasurer Artz came before the Board to discuss floor tiles that are pulling up in the Treasurer's vault that need attention due to the concern of possible asbestos and having it disturbed. Discussion was held. Crowder, courthouse maintenance will do an assessment to include all areas of the courthouse with tile. The surplus committee is working diligently to identify all county surplus items.

Clerk Burgeson provided the Board with a letter from the Nebraska Dept. of Environment and Energy regarding WBH Cattle Feeding, LLC Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation-General Permit

and other information including Statement of Financial Interest for 2024 reporting due and the upcoming Central District meeting registration & agenda.

Public Forum: No comments.

With no further business, a motion was made by Bash to adjourn the meeting. Second by Schnuerle. Roll call votes: Schnuerle-yes; Schmidt-yes; Clements-yes; Boehler-yes; Bash-yes; Scott-yes; Miller-Boston-yes. Motion carried. Chairman Boehler adjourned the meeting at 12:32 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 18th, 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

CLAIMS:

GENERAL: Payroll \$75,965.57 / Claims: American Family Life \$485.88; Ameritas Life Insurance-Vision \$342.24; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp-Retirement \$12,328.09; Clark County Sheriff-Sheriff's Fees \$300.00; Community Bank-Payroll Deduction HSA \$1730.00; Bryan Crowder-Maintenance Cell phone/mileage \$158.68; Daake Law Office-Public Defender \$4375.00; First State Bank-payroll deductions \$22,528.90; Harlan County Senior Center-January 2025 \$569.67; Darron Hohnholt-County Court/Judges office carpet install \$1822.00; Medica-Insurance \$13,590.36 & Medica-Insurance Employee deduction \$2100.00; NE Department of Revenue-payroll deductions \$3179.03; Darcie Porter-Phone allowance \$45.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance-premiums \$1569.39; Whitney Schroeder-Child Support Enforcement Salary \$1100.00. **General Fund total:** \$142,189.81.

ROAD FUND: Payroll \$29,499.14 / Claims: American Family Life \$953.41; Ameritas Life Insurance-Vision \$189.24; Ameritas Life Insurance-Retirement \$4824.07; Black Island Material LLC-Gravel/Rock \$2427.04; Community Bank-payroll deductions \$565.00; Credit Management Services-Garnishment \$317.68; First State Bank-payroll deductions \$9591.36; 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 \$1320.13; NE Public Employees Local 251-Union Dues \$275.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance-premiums \$662.46. **Road Fund total:** \$60,374.43. **TOURISM:** Jordann Dunlay-Admin Salary \$1200.00. **Grand total: \$202,894.57**