

BUTLER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

October 6, 2025

A meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Butler County, Nebraska was held on the 6th day of October 2025 at the Butler County Courthouse in David City, Nebraska at 9:00 a.m.

Present were the following: Scott Steager, Tony Krafka, Scot Bauer, Jan Sypal, Bob Coufal, Brad Vandenberg.
Absent: Scott Griess.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication, a designated method for giving notice, as shown by the Proof of Publication attached to the minutes. Notice of this meeting was given to all members of the Board and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to the minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to all members of the board of this meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

Chairman Steager called the meeting to order and announced that a complete copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room.

Chairman Steager declared the minutes from the previous meeting shall stand approved as presented.

Consideration/Approval of Utility Permit Application from Vyve Broadband to replace damaged cable on Road 43 ½ and Road N with fiberoptic

Highway Superintendent Randy Isham presented a utility permit application from Vyve Broadband to replace a damaged cable on Road 43 ½. Township approval is not needed because the cable is located on the County road. Moved by Krafka, seconded by Bauer to approve the utility permit from Vyve Broadband. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Krafka, Bauer, Sypal, Coufal, Vandenberg, Steager.

Nay: NONE.

Absent: Griess.

Motion carried.

Supervisor Sypal left the meeting at 9:08 a.m. due to illness.

Consideration/Approval of Utility Permit Application from Black Hills Energy to bore a natural gas line along Road 35, Road I, and Road D

Isham presented a utility permit application from Black Hills Energy (BHE) to bore a natural gas line along Road 35, Road I, and Road D. He said for it to be in the right-of-way it would need to be bored 10 feet underground. Supervisor Bauer stated that he had heard from several residents in his district, 50% of whom were opposed to it. The proposed natural gas line is needed to serve 6 chicken barn sites. Farmers will not be able to hook up to it because grain dryers would directly compete against the chicken barns and there is not enough gas. Strong opposition was voiced from Sam Barlean. Jessica Kolterman, Lincoln Premium Poultry, spoke in favor of the utility permit and noted that the pipe would replace two existing LNG units, thereby reducing the number of trucks on the roads. If approved, BHE intends to start later this week. Moved by Krafka to approve the utility permit from Black Hills Energy. Motion died for lack of a second. Moved by Vandenberg, seconded by Bauer to deny the utility permit from Black Hills Energy. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Vandenberg, Coufal, Bauer.

Nay: Krafka, Steager.
Absent: Griess, Sypal.
Motion carried.

Roads Update

Isham noted that they are getting caught up on gravel. It has been a while since a bill was received from Kroeger Sand & Gravel. Isham will run out there today and request a bill. He said the dump truck is now in Hastings. The shredder is in service; however, the clutch started smoking last week so it is currently at Benes Service for repair. Supervisor Vandenberg asked Isham about ROW enforcement; Isham said some townships are better about enforcement than others. Supervisor Bauer suggested another letter be sent to the townships; Isham agreed and will send a second letter.

Lions Club Presentation

Kal Lausterer with the Nebraska Lions Club Organization appeared before the Board to let them know that they are trying to start a new Lions Club in Butler County. Lausterer is a member of the Wahoo Lions Club; they provide vision and hearing screenings for Butler County schools. This year's screenings were completed last week. Other Lions Club focus areas include hunger, diabetes education, environmental issues, etc. Lausterer encouraged Board members to be a part of the Lions Club in Butler County and to let him know if anyone is interested in learning more.

Consideration/Approval of Resolution 2025-35: Zoning Overlay District / Floodplain Management Ordinance Tabled.

County Clerk Monthly Fee Report

The County Clerk fee report for the month of September 2025 was accepted and placed on file.

Clerk of the District Court Monthly Fee Report

The Clerk of the District Court fee report for the month of September 2025 was accepted and placed on file.

Monthly Sheriff Report

The Monthly Sheriff Report for September 2025 was accepted and placed on file.

Expenditures Report for July 1, 2025 – September 30, 2025

The Expenditures Report for July 1, 2025 – September 30, 2025, was accepted and placed on file.

Approval of early payroll for separated employee

County Clerk Lori Aschoff presented an early payroll claim for a separated employee. Moved by Coufal, seconded by Vandenberg to approve the early payroll claim as presented. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Coufal, Vandenberg, Krafka, Bauer, Steager.

Nay: None.

Absent: Griess, Sypal.

Motion carried.

Discussion/Possible Action – appointment of Brittany Schmit as Interim 911 Coordinator

An Interim 911 Coordinator needs to be named due to the resignation of 911 Coordinator Jami Bowers. Moved by Vandenberg, seconded by Coufal to appoint Brittany Schmit as Interim 911 Coordinator. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Vandenberg, Coufal, Bauer, Steager.

Nay: Krafka.

Absent: Griess, Sypal.
Motion carried.

Approval of Official Bond and Oath for James Rerucha, Skull Creek Township

Moved by Bauer, seconded by Coufal to approve the bond and oath for James Rerucha, Skull Creek Township, as presented. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Bauer, Coufal, Vandenberg, Krafka, Steager.

Nay: NONE.

Absent: Griess, Sypal.
Motion carried.

Approval of Official Bond and Oath for Jason Truksa, Olive Township

Moved by Coufal, seconded by Bauer to approve the bond and oath for Jason Truksa, Olive Township, as presented. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Coufal, Bauer, Krafka, Vandenberg, Steager.

Nay: NONE. Absent: Griess, Sypal.

Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Health Care Center Committee: Chairman Steager received an email from BCH CEO Don Naiberk that Diane Moravec will be resigning from the hospital board at the end of the year. They are currently reviewing candidates. He also stated that the hospital hopes to be finished with their construction project by year end.

Roads & Bridges Committee: Supervisor Vandenberg noted that the Deere and CAT motor graders will need to be replaced soon.

Emergency Management Liaison: Chairman Steager noted that the 911 tower was installed last Friday and should be up and running by the end of October. This is a radio communications tower for local law enforcement and fire departments to provide centralized coverage of the County.

Community Development Committee: Minutes from the August 2025 Butler County Development Board meeting are included in today's meeting packets.

Correspondence

None.

Public Comments

None.

Certificates of Service

Certificates of Service were presented to Mlriah Rees (Detention Center – 5 years) and Denise Marvin (Senior Center – 5 years).

Discussion/Possible Action – request for County to serve as applicant/sponsor for the Chamber's BCAFF grant application for office equipment

Chamber Director Brittany Schmit appeared before the Board to request that the County serve as applicant/sponsor for the Chamber's BCAFF grant application for office equipment. The Chamber moved to their current location in the old Bone Creek Art Museum building and need a conference table and chairs. They are unable to apply for the grant on their own because the Chamber is a 501(c)6, not a 501(c)3. Moved by Coufal, seconded by

Bauer to have the County serve as applicant/sponsor for the Chamber's BCAFF grant application. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Coufal, Bauer, Krafka, Vandenberg, Steager.

Nay: NONE.

Absent: Griess, Sypal.

Motion carried.

Meeting recessed at 9:51 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 10:00 a.m.

Discussion/Possible Action – formal complaint against Summit Township

Joseph Peterson appeared before the Board to express concerns about Summit Township's enforcement of its regulations. Peterson provided the Board with the regulations passed by Summit Township. No action was taken by the Board.

Authorize Chairman to sign Comprehensive Planning Agreement with Hanna:Keelan Associates

County Attorney Julie Reiter presented a revised agreement and timeline from Hanna:Keelan as the original agreement did not line up with the proposed timeline. The revised contract end date is August 1, 2026. Moved by Bauer, seconded by Coufal to approve the revised Comprehensive Planning Agreement with Hanna:Keelan Associates. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Bauer, Coufal, Vandenberg, Krafka, Steager.

Nay: NONE.

Absent: Griess, Sypal.

Motion carried.

Reiter also noted that the terms of the Planning Commission members are effective as of the date they were appointed, which was October 1, 2025. The initial terms will expire 9/30/2026, 9/30/2027, and 9/30/2028, after which they will be staggered three-year terms.

Discussion/Possible Action – mutual aid interlocal agreement with City of David City

Reiter stated that she reviewed the agreement and spoke with Sheriff Tom Dion; they are both fine with it. The agreement allows DCPD to patrol to the City's extra-territorial jurisdiction (ETJ) line, which is a mile beyond city limits. Steager noted that the agreement will allow the City to patrol the waste lagoon and the airport and enforce City zoning laws. The agreement is effective for 6 months, at which time it can be reviewed and extended. Interim 911 Coordinator Brittany Schmit asked who should be dispatched if an accident occurs within the ETJ; Reiter responded that primary dispatch would be to the City in that instance. A resolution is needed; Steager tabled the agreement until the next meeting so County Clerk Aschoff can draw up a resolution to attach to the agreement for Board approval.

There being no further business to come before the board, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 10:49 a.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be October 20, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

Lori L. Aschoff
County Clerk

Scott Steager
Chairman