

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

August 18, 2025

The Pierce County Board of Commissioners met pursuant to adjournment on Monday, August 18, 2025, at 9:10 A.M. with the following members present: John Steinkraus, Brad Albers and Carl Martinson. Co. Clerk Shannon Wragge, Co. Attorney Ted Lohrberg, Zoning Adm. Heather McWhorter, Deputy Co. Clerk Susan Peters, Co. Assessor Jean Lubke, Co. Treasurer Chris Bahr, Mike Pommer, Dale Clipston, Jim Wachter, Kenny Venteicher, Michelle Reikofski, Brian Moes, Jolene Moes, Jim Schmit and News Reporter Randee Falter were present.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance as shown by the Certificate of Publication on file in the County Clerk’s office. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice of the meeting. All proceedings shown hereafter were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public. Chairman Martinson called the meeting to order at 9:10 A.M. and presided. Chairman Martinson stated that the Open Meetings Act is posted on the north wall of the board room with more copies available at the County Clerk’s office.

Motion by Steinkraus, seconded by Albers, to approve the agenda. Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

The minutes of August 4, 2025 were approved as printed.

Discussion was held on levy allocation for the fire districts and agricultural society. The Board stated that since they tried to keep a 3% increase for the County Offices and Road Fund Budgets, they should follow suit with the levy allocations for the Ag Society and Fire Districts. The MFO agreement between the county fire districts states all parties agreed to a levy of .270 mill so therefore that is the max levy the County Board can approve for the fire districts and statute states that rural MFO fire districts need that same levy 1 in 3 years and the first year of the new MFO for the county rural fire districts is 25/26 fiscal year.

Motion by Steinkraus, seconded by Albers, to approve Resolution 2025-14 as follows:

RESOLUTION #2025 - 14

WHEREAS, Nebraska State Statute 77-3443(3) requires all political subdivisions subject to county levy authority to submit a preliminary request for levy allocation to the county board; and

WHEREAS, the Pierce County Board of Commissioners is the levy authority for the following Fire District Subdivisions in Pierce County,

WHEREAS, all Fire Districts are given not more than 3.5 cents of the County’s 15 cents for miscellaneous political subdivisions (per \$100 of valuation);

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Pierce County Board of Commissioners/Board of Equalization that the tax allocation for the following subdivisions for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year be limited to and is approved as follows:

<u>SUBDIVISION</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>REQUEST</u>	<u>APPROVED</u>	<u>LEVY</u>
Pierce Rural Fire	General	\$162,896.00	\$162,896.56	2.1104 cents
Plainview Rural Fire	General/Sinking	\$175,000.00	\$152,389.53	2.1508 cents
Osmond Rural Fire	General	\$153,818.50	\$144,030.05	2.1065 cents
Hadar Rural Fire	General	\$45,000.00	\$46,013.19	2.1921 cents

Dated this 18th day of August, 2025, at Pierce County, Nebraska.

Chairman of the Board of Equalization

/s/ Carl Martinson, Chairman

/s/ Brad Albers

/s/ John Steinkraus

ATTEST: /s/ Shannon Wragge, Pierce County Clerk

Whereas the original is on file at the office of the Pierce County Clerk and available for inspection. Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Steinkraus, seconded by Albers, to approve Resolution #2025-15 as follows:

RESOLUTION # 2025 - 15

WHEREAS, Nebraska State Statute 77-3443(3) requires all political subdivisions subject to county levy authority to submit a preliminary request for levy allocation to the county board; and

WHEREAS, the Pierce County Board of Commissioners is the levy authority for the Pierce County Agricultural Society Subdivision in Pierce County,

WHEREAS, the Ag Society is to be given not more than 3.5 cents of the County’s 15 cents for miscellaneous political subdivisions and may be given an additional 3.5 cents for capital construction and maintenance of county fairgrounds per Nebraska State Statutes 2-257 and 2-259 (per \$100 of valuation);

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Pierce County Board of Commissioners/Board of Equalization that the tax allocation for the following subdivision for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year be limited to .4512 cents for General is approved as follows:

<u>SUBDIVISION</u>	<u>FUND</u>	<u>REQUEST</u>	<u>APPROVED</u>
Pierce County Ag. Society	General	\$190,000.00	\$132,616.62

Dated this 18th day of August, 2025, at Pierce County, Nebraska.

Chairman of the Board of Equalization

/s/ Carl Martinson, Chairman

/s/ Brad Albers

/s/ John Steinkraus

ATTEST: /s/ Shannon Wragge, Pierce County Clerk

Whereas the original is on file at the office of the Pierce County Clerk and available for inspection. Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

CPA Mike Pommer discussed with the County Board the 25/26 FY budget request and the budget hearings. Because of the possible legislative changes coming for 2025/2026 FY for the counties the board decided to keep the levy the same as last year and to add additional money to cash reserve for 25/26 FY. The County will have to be part of the joint public budget meeting planned for Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2025 at 6:15 p.m. at the Plainview Public Library meeting room.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Steinkraus, to Authorize Clerk to advertise and set the county public hearing date for Tuesday, September 2, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. to receive input regarding 2025/2026 fiscal year budget, followed by a second public hearing at 11:15 a.m. for the adoption of property tax at an amount different than prior fiscal year (per SS 148). Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Zoning Adm. Heather McWhorter and Jerid Starkel were present and discussion held on the Starkel's Second Subdivision in pt NW ¼ and pt W ½ 1-25-2, 16.37 acres.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Steinkraus, to approve the Starkel's Second Subdivision, a replat of Lot 4 Starkel's Subdivision in pt NW ¼ and pt W ½ of Section 1, Township 25 North, Range 2 West, 16.37 acres. Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Hwy Supt. Brian McDonald discussed the Solar Farm Roads and the 1 & 6 Year Rd Plan with the Board. Kenny Venteicher was present and also talked with the Board about the Solar Farm Roads.

Brian & Jolene Moes were present to discuss the road conditions of roads by their farm. Commissioner Albers and Steinkraus were going to look at these roads and intersections.

Motion by Steinkraus, seconded by Albers, to recommend approval to the NE Liquor Control Commission for the request of a special designated liquor license for Pierce American Legion for Saturday September 6, 2025, both from 4:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. at the Pierce County Fairgrounds Pavilion. Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Steinkraus, to audit and allow the following claims presented for payment and instructed the County Clerk to issue checks for payment of same on the various funds. Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND: Mark Albin, Atty-court appt costs-\$1,453.25; Amazon Capital Serv-supplies-\$1,081.04; Antelope Co Sheriff-inmate housing-\$2,900.00; Applied Connective Technologies-IT services-\$3,853.80; Jennifer Bedwell-Funston-refund premium-\$261.37; Bishop Business-supplies-\$20.00; BCBS of NE-premiums-\$56,632.51; Chad's Tire Serv.-repairs-\$108.80; Classic Rentals-service-\$412.31; Egley,Fullner,Montag,Morland Easland-court appointed costs-\$296.46; FP Finance Program-lease postage meter-\$180.09; Government Forms & Supplies-supplies-\$515.00; Heartland Fire Protection -service-\$92.50; Jack's Uniforms & Equipment-uniforms-\$45.89; Jenkins Electric – repairs-\$995.07; Kate M. Jorgensen PC LLO-public defender-\$4,583.33; LexisNexis-software-\$186.00; Madison County Sheriff-court costs-\$36.41; Magdanz Inc-supplies-\$226.25; Microfilm Imaging Systems Inc-scanner rent-\$138.00; Midwest Bank-co share-\$5,030.69; MIPS-Website, software & support-\$2,944.43; NACO-registration-\$30.00; NE NE News Co-publication costs-\$293.06; One Office Solution-supplies-\$3.79; Osmond Mini Mart-gas-\$111.20; Pierce County Court-court costs-\$88.00; Pierce County Leader-publication costs costs-\$1,070.53; Pierce District Court-court costs-\$194.28; Pierce Telephone Co Inc-service-\$1,901.88; Prime Stop-gas-\$146.06; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas Life Ins. Corp-co. share-\$4,622.47; Steinkraus Service-gas-\$79.50; Stratton,DeLay,Doele,Carlson-court appointed costs-\$4,001.80; Tiger Town-prisoner food-\$348.86; Tom's Service-gas & repairs-\$538.59; Verizon-telephone-\$457.64; Western Oil Inc-gas-\$384.15; Payroll-\$67,391.54.

COUNTY HIGHWAY FUND: AKRS-repair parts-\$49.70; Allstar Parts-repair parts-\$674.20; Altwine Hardware & Home LLC-supplies-\$18.99; Appera-service-\$128.74; B's Enterprises-blades, supplies-\$1,999.00; Backus Sand & Gravel-gravel-\$67,505.23; Black Hills Energy-service-\$52.40; Chad's Tire Service-repairs-\$284.09; Classic Rentals-service-\$284.83; Cornhusker Intl Trucks-repairs-\$40.69; Farmers Pride-tank lease-\$46.88; Fastwyre Broadband-service-\$113.93; Filtercare of NE-repairs-\$128.15; JEO Consultant Group-service-\$26,521.25; Kayton International-supplies-\$9,362.52; Leiting Auto Supply-repair parts-\$92.12; Magdanz Inc-supplies-\$61.66; Matheson Tri Gas Inc-gas-\$109.60; McLean Village-utilities-\$83.55; MidAmerican Research Chemical-supplies-\$3,106.24; Midwest Bank, NA-co share-\$2,720.64; NE Machinery Co-repair parts-\$2,290.58; North Central Public Power-utilities-\$197.57; Northeast Glass-repairs-\$366.00; Osmond Mini Mart-gas-\$397.19; Pierce Automotive Supply-repair parts-\$821.24; Pierce Telephone Co Inc-service-\$238.67; Plainview Telephone Co Inc-service-\$100.42; Plainview City-utilities-\$182.36; Power Plan-repair parts-\$1,302.33; Randolph Farm Supply-diesel & gas-\$3,004.53; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas Life Ins. Corp-co. share-\$2,360.26; Sapp Bros Norfolk-supplies-\$123.75; Ronald Schwanebeck-refund premium-\$61.37; Steinkraus Service-gas-\$136.00; Tom's

Service-gas-\$385.55; True Ag & Turf-repair parts-\$193.14; Wattier True Value-repair parts-\$359.99; Western Oil Inc-gas-\$411.66; Payroll-\$36,801.34

INHERITANCE TAX FUND: North Central District Health Dept-Miles of Smiles-\$3,220.00.

REGISTER OF DEEDS FUND: MIPS-IT service-\$361.88.

E911 FUND: Geocomm-mapping-\$5,015.00; Optk Networks-service-\$529.40.

E911 WIRELESS FUND: Pierce Telephone Co Inc-911 service-\$341.15; Plainview Telephone Co Inc-911 service-\$151.00.

There being no further business, Chairman Martinson adjourned the meeting at 9:55 A.M. and will meet again at a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 2, 2025 at 9:10 A.M. as County Board of Commissioners, said meeting is open to the public. An agenda for such meeting, kept continuously current, is available for public inspection at the office of the County Clerk.

/s/ Carl Martinson
Chairman, Pierce County
Board of Commissioners

/s/ Shannon Wragge
Pierce County Clerk

I, Shannon Wragge, Pierce County Clerk, do hereby certify that all the subjects contained in the foregoing proceedings are contained in the agenda for the meeting kept continuously current and available for public inspection at my office; that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least 24 hours prior to the meeting; that the minutes of said meeting were in written form and available for public inspection within 10 working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body; that any news media requesting notification concerning said meetings or said County Board were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meetings and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

/s/ Shannon Wragge
Pierce County Clerk
