

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS
September 29, 2025

The Pierce County Board of Commissioners met pursuant to adjournment on Monday, September 29, 2025, at 9:10 A.M. with the following members present: John Steinkraus, Brad Albers and Carl Martinson. Co. Clerk Shannon Wragge, Zoning Adm. Heather McWhorter, Co. Attorney Ted Lohrberg, Co. Treasurer Christine Bahr, Co. Assessor Jean Lubke, Veterans Service Officer Brett Rix, Clerk of District Court Vickie Prince, Gary Ronspies 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 hereafter shown 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 Martinson, to approve the agenda and minutes. Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

The minutes of September 15, 2025, were approved as printed.

Discussion was held on the presented 2025/2026 Fiscal Year budget. There were no written comments for or against the 2025/2026 FY budget and no one from the public was present, only county employees.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Steinkraus, to approve and adopt the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year Pierce County Budget as submitted, approve an additional 1% increase in restricted funds authority and approve Resolution #2025-21 as follows:

RESOLUTION # 2025 – 21

SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST 2025/2026 FISCAL YEAR

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised State Statute 77-1632 and 77-1633 provides that the Governing Body of the County of Pierce passes by a majority vote a resolution setting the tax request; and

WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the County of Pierce that the property tax request for the current year be a different amount than the property tax request for the prior year.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governing Body of the County of Pierce, by a majority vote, resolves that:

1. The 2025-2026 property tax request be set at \$5,600,000.00.
2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by 10%
3. The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property, would be .17266 per \$100 of assessed value
4. The County of Pierce proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be \$0.190521 per \$100 of assessed value
5. Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of County of Pierce will decrease last years by 0.10%
6. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before September 30, 2025.

*Does not apply to miscellaneous subdivisions that request levy authority from a county or municipality.

NOTE: The Property Tax Request per the Budget Document is reported in total. If you need separate levies for separate funds your resolution should identify the tax request by fund.

Dated this 29th day of September 2025.

PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ Carl Martinson, Chairman

/s/ John Steinkraus, District #1 Commissioner

/s/ Brad Albers, District #2 Commissioner

ATTEST: /s/ Shannon Wragge, Pierce County Clerk

Whereas the original for said resolution 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 Albers, seconded by Steinkraus, to recommend approval to the NE Liquor Control Commission for the request of a special designated liquor license for the Pierce American Legion Post 72 for an event on Saturday, October 18, 2025, from 3:00 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 Steinkraus, seconded by Albers, to approve and authorize Clerk and Treasurer to place weed and tree notices into the 2025 tax statements. Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Steinkraus, to approve Pay Application #1 for the Hadar West/JEO Project #221896 with Theisen Construction for an amount of \$121,387.98. Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on inclement weather, who calls it to close the courthouse, vacation of first year employees and sick time.

Motion by Steinkraus, seconded by Albers, to approve new hires to receive 5 days of vacation time after their 90 Day Probationary Period with it to be used in their first year of employment (from 91 days to 365 days), effective immediately. Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Zoning Adm. Heather McWhorter and Gary Ronspies presented the Gary R. Ronspies Lot Split, 5.32 in pt of the SW ¼ SW ¼ 27-27-1 and discussion was held.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Steinkraus, to approve the Gary R. Ronspies Lot Split, 5.32 acres in pt SW ¼ SW ¼ of Section 27, Township 27 North, Range 1 West, Pierce Co. NE. Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Assessor Jean Lubke and Deputy Assessor Bailey Backer were present to discuss with the Board, Eagleview, a Pictometry Software Program for the Assessor's Office at many different costs depending on the pixel size and how often updated. Assessor would like to have a contract with Eagleview for arial photos. No decision was made.

Motion by Steinkraus, seconded by Albers, 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: AC Land-rent for PCED office space in Osmond-\$708.00; Amazon Capital Services-supplies-\$149.03; Antelope County Sheriff-paper service-\$135.00; Bailey Backer-mileage-\$105.00; Bishop Business-supplies-\$14.14; Buffalo County Sheriff-paper service-\$22.96; Cintas-supplies-\$16.70; Classic Carpet-service-\$304.88; Dollar General-supplies-\$51.20; Eakes Office-supplies-\$45.71; Elite Court Reporting-service-\$100.00; FP Finance Program-meter rent-\$202.06; Johnson's Inc-repairs-\$2,725.24; Lacy Kimes-mental health board

costs-\$121.00; Mid America Admin. & Retirement Solutions-quarterly costs-\$16,100.00; Midwest Bank-co share-\$5,030.76; NE NE News Company-publishing-\$785.54; NE State Fire Marshal Agency-inspections-\$120.00; NE HHSS-August 2025 housing-\$93.00; NE State Treasurer-unclaimed property-\$229.23; Overhead Door-repairs-\$60.00; Pierce City-utilities-\$2,594.81; PIP Marketing-election envelopes-\$1,566.72; Plainview News Inc-publishing-\$596.94; Prime Stop-gas-\$98.12; Vickie Prince-reimb. supplies-\$284.89; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas Life Ins. Corp-co. share-\$4,620.80; Brett Rix-reimb. travel-\$543.15; RRJ-supplies-\$101.89; Secretary of State-election training registration-\$60.00; State of NE DAS Central Finance-services-\$747.95; Ryan Stover-health board costs-\$121.00; Daniel Sturgis-health board costs-\$121.00; Tiger Town Food Center-prisoner food-\$1,109.64; Tom's Service-repairs & gas-\$2,317.35; NBS/Wahltext-supplies-\$3,837.75; Payroll-\$67,396.83.

COUNTY HIGHWAY FUND: B's Enterprises-blades-\$1,820.00; Bauer Built Inc-repair parts-\$535.96; Bazile Aggregate Co LLC-gravel-\$24,606.54; Black Hills Energy-service-\$59.31; Cintas-supplies-\$57.01; Classic Carpet Care-service-\$190.43; Colonial Research Chem Corp-supplies-\$829.97; Filter Care-repairs-\$106.75; Kimball Midwest-repair parts-\$597.30; Lawson Products-supplies-\$594.76; Meisinger Oil Co-supplies-\$5,424.15; MidAmerican Research Chemicals-supplies-\$699.91; Midwest Bank-co share-\$2,721.48; NE State Treasurer-unclaimed property-\$625.80; NE Power-utilities-\$248.00; Osmond City-utilities-\$141.00; Overhead Door-repairs-\$1,098.35; Pierce City-utilities-\$211.79; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas Life Ins. Corp-co. share-\$2,361.79; Safety Kleen-repairs-\$423.93; Theisen Construction Inc-Pay App 1 for Hadar West Project-\$121,387.98; Tom's Service-gas-\$550.68; Van Diest Supply Co-repair parts-\$1,094.00; Wattier True Value Hardware-supplies-\$30.96; Payroll-\$36,771.89.

VISITOR PROMO FUND: NE NE News Company-publishing-\$7.00.

REGISTER OF DEEDS FUND: NE Central Finance-support-\$150.00.

INHERITANCE FUND: NE State Treasurer-unclaimed property-\$6,723.65.

911 FUND: GeoComm Inc-service-\$4,750.00.

911 WIRELESS FUND: City of Norfolk-cost share 911-\$130.48.

There being no further business, Chairman Martinson adjourned the meeting at 10:05 A.M. and will meet at a regular meeting on Tuesday, October 14, 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*
