

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS
December 8, 2025

The Pierce County Board of Commissioners met pursuant to adjournment on Monday, December 8, 2025, at 9:10 A.M. with the following members present: John Steinkraus, Brad Albers and Carl Martinson. Co. Clerk Shannon Wragge, Co. Assessor Jean Lubke, Co. Attorney Ted Lohrberg, Hwy Supt. Brian McDonald, Co. Sheriff Rick Eberhardt, Clerk of District Court Vickie Prince, David Hood, EMS Bobbi Risor, Tim Braithwait, Sue Buckley 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 Albers, to approve the agenda. Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

The minutes of November 24, 2025 were approved as printed.

Assessor Jean Lubke presented the Eagleview Contract to the Board for the aerial view Pictometry and discussion was held.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Steinkraus, to approve and authorize Chairman to sign the 6 year contract with Eagleview at \$50,000 per year from June 2026 to June 2031. Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Steinkraus, to Authorize Chairman to sign Memorandum of Understanding between Madison and Pierce Counties which designates Madison County Attorney's Office as the official applicant and lead county for the NE Crime Commission's 2026-2027 Community Based Juvenile Services Grant application. Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Steinkraus, seconded by Albers, to approve County Burial 2025-3. Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the tree trimming bill for \$9,665.00 from C&N Firewood & Tree Removal LLC for trimming trees along the county road where a house was being moved. Board had directed the Clerk to bill the landowners for their portion of the bill. After much discussion it was determined that proper notification and procedures were not followed therefore Clerk Wragge was directed to return the checks received to date along with a letter to all stating that they do not need to pay for their portion of bill.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Steinkraus, to approve Resolution #2025-29 as follows:

RESOLUTION #2025 – 29

Pierce County, Nebraska

WHEREAS, Section 23-1114 Nebraska Revised Statutes, requires the County Board to set the salaries of all elected county officials for the following four-year term of office prior to January 15 of the year in which a general election will be held for the respective county offices; and

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Association of County Officials did a salary study and published "2027-2030 Salary Recommendations for County Officials" in October of 2025; and

WHEREAS, said NACO salary study set a minimum base salary of elected officials, in Pierce County, to be between \$78,520 and \$82,875 for the year of 2027 with annual increases for the years 2028, 2029, and 2030; and

WHEREAS, the Pierce County Board of Commissioners has carefully considered and analyzed the responsibilities and duties of the various elective offices, the Nebraska Association

of County Officials' salary study, and salaries of comparable positions in other governmental sectors; and

The annual salary for the office of County Commissioner be established at \$46,710.00 for the calendar year 2027, plus an annual increase during the term of office (2028, 2029, 2030) in January 2029 based on the Consumer Price Index for all Urban (CPI-U) as published by the Federal Bureau for Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor in December of the preceding year.

WHEREAS, 2026 is an election year in which elective county offices are to be filled pursuant to the election process by virtue of primary elections held in May of 2026 and general elections held in November of 2026, and

WHEREAS, said salary study states that the minimum base salary recommendation should be the least amount acceptable to provide a livable income for a person maintaining the duties of the county office; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the office of County Commissioners be established at \$46,710.00 for the calendar year 2027, plus an annual increase during the term of office (2028, 2029, 2030) in January 2029 based on the Consumer Price Index for all Urban (CPI-U) as published by the Federal Bureau for Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor in December of the preceding year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Pierce County Board of Commissioners hereby establishes the following base salaries for the various elective offices for the term beginning January 2027:

County Clerk/Register of Deeds/Election Commissioner	\$77,100.00
County Treasurer	\$77,100.00
County Assessor	\$77,100.00
Clerk of District Court	\$77,100.00
County Sheriff	\$77,100.00
County Attorney	\$77,100.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED those elected officials in each of the above offices shall be given an annual salary increases in the amounts of \$4,000.00 for 2028, \$4,000.00 for 2029 and \$4,000.00 for 2030 which shall be added to the previous year's salary; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in addition to the above stated base salary, the County Sheriff shall receive \$700.00 per month or \$8,400.00 per annum for the operation of the County Jail, with an additional annual increase of \$250.00 per annum for 2028, 2029 and 2030, which shall be added to the previous year's increase, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in addition to the above stated base salary, the County Attorney shall receive \$516.67 per month or \$6,200.00 per annum for specialized training and continuing legal education with an additional annual increase of \$200.00 per annum for 2028, 2029 and 2030, which shall be added to the previous year's increase, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the salaries for the appointed deputies of the County Attorney, Clerk of District Court, County Clerk, County Treasurer, County Assessor, Clerk of District Court and County Sheriff shall be set at a minimum of 65% of the County Official's base salary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in addition to the above stated salary adjustments, each elected official shall be enrolled in and receive the benefits of the County Employees' Retirement System as set forth by Section 23-2301 et seq. Nebraska Revised Statutes, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a "Cash-in lieu" plan is available for qualifying elected officials and other County Employees that opt out of the health insurance plan. This option will be available as permitted by state and federal statutes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in addition to the above stated salary adjustments, each elected official shall receive, during his or her term of office, the benefits of the same health, dental and medical group insurance plan which is offered to all county employees, subject to the same terms, conditions, and contributions and subject to any modifications of such plan made during the term of office.

Adopted at Pierce, Nebraska the 8th day of December 2025.

PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ Carl Martinson, Chairman and District #3 Commissioner

/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.

Hwy Supt Brian McDonald was present and updated the Board on the current road and bridge projects, discussed the 2025 bridge inspection report, microsurfacing and paving in 2026 and discussed the vacating of 861 Rd between 534/535 Ave.

Motion by Steinkraus, seconded by Albers, to approve Resolution #2025-30 as follows:

RESOLUTION #2025 - 30

WHEREAS, the Pierce County Board of Commissioners directed the County Highway Superintendent to study the use of the County Road 861 Between 534 and 535 Avenues. The road is located between Sections 18 and 19, Townships 27 North, Range 4 West of the 6th Principal Meridian, Pierce County Nebraska.

WHEREAS, a written report of the use of the road has been completed by the Highway Superintendent and is filed with the County Clerk.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Pierce County, Nebraska, that a public hearing date be set for January 5th, 2026 at 9:11 A.M. to consider whether or not to vacate or abandon road. The County Clerk is hereby directed to send copies of this resolution by registered or certified mail to the abutting and adjacent landowners.

Adopted at Pierce, Nebraska the 8th day of December 2025.

PIERCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/ Carl Martinson, Chairman and District #3 Commissioner

/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.

Discussion was held on Hwy Supt. McDonald applying for bridge match fund with NDOR in 2026 as Pierce County did not receive match in 2025.

Discussion was held on the new law stating bridge rating signs must be placed at the intersections for bridges in the upcoming mile and needs to be completed and posted by Jan. 2029.

Motion by Steinkraus, seconded by Albers, to approve the fee reports as submitted by Rick Eberhardt, County Sheriff for October & November 2025; Vickie Prince, Clerk of District Court and Shannon Wragge, County Clerk for November 2025; approve Treasurer's receipts for various funds for Christine Bahr, County Treasurer, for November 2025 and placed on file in the County Clerk's office, total \$403,297.37 and 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-court appointed attorney-\$1,461.30; Antelope county Sheriff-prisoner boarding-\$2,520.00; Applied Connective Technologies-IT software & support-\$3,327.10; Binswanger Glass-repairs-\$887.97; Bishop Business-supplies-\$52.87; Black Hills Energy-utilities-\$58.59; Charmtex Inc-supplies-\$297.80; Cintas-supplies-\$12.76; Ewalt Law Office PC-court appoint attorney-\$15,818.26; Fitzgerald Vetter & Temple-court appointed attorney-\$614.80; Floor Maintenance-supplies-\$811.52; LexisNexis-law library-\$196.00; Lynn Peavey Co-supplies-\$78.29; Magdanz-supplies-\$432.06; Microfilm Imaging Systems-scanner rent-\$92.00; Midwest Bank-co share-\$5,361.01; MIPS-IT services, website, micro filming-\$2,944.43; NE NE News-publishing-\$829.92; One Office Solution-supplies-\$143.04; Pierce Co Court- court costs-\$100.00; Pierce Telephone-service-\$1,805.62; Plainview News Inc-publishing-\$238.37; Prime Stop-gas-\$120.69; Quill-supplies-\$114.14; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas Life Ins. Corp-co. share-\$4,950.41; State of NE Central Financing-service-\$701.95; Stonacek Funeral Chapel-County Burial #2025-3-\$3,200.00; Tiger Town-prisoner food-\$460.54; Payroll-\$71,713.80.

COUNTY HIGHWAY FUND: Altwine Hardare & Home LLC-repair parts-\$16.36; Appeara-uniforms-\$103.76; B's Enterprises-signs-\$1,859.00; Bauer Built-repair parts-\$7,296.20; Bazille Aggregate Co LLC-rock-\$649.77; Cintas-supplies-\$51.04; Colonial Research Chem Corp-chemicals-\$210.33; Farmer's Pride-diesel-\$14,179.30; Filtercare-repairs-\$163.25; Integrated Care-consortium fees-\$150.00; JEO Consulting Group Inc-engineering-\$26,370.00; Magdanz-supplies-\$71.96; Matheson Tri Gas Inc-gas-\$62.35; McLean Village-utilities-\$81.30; Midwest Bank, NA-co share-\$3,275.37; NE Machinery Co-repairs-\$1,595.01; North Central PPD-utilities-\$203.24; Osmond Farm Supply Center Inc-gas-\$2,827.10; Pierce Telephone-service-\$236.84; Plainview Telephone-service-\$100.46; City of Plainview-utilities-\$89.86; R & D Welding-repairs-\$164.00; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas Life Ins. Corp-co. share-\$2,873.89; Safety Kleen Systems Inc-repairs-\$701.56; Wattier's True Value-supplies-\$38.37; West Hodson Lumber Co LLC-supplies-\$71.63; Payroll-\$43,862.60.

E911 FUND: Optk Networks-service-\$529.40.

E911 WIRELESS FUND: Motorola Solutions Inc-service-\$15,141.00; Pierce Telephone-service \$341.15.

REGISTER OF DEEDS FUND: MIPS-support-\$361.88; Mobile Binders-supplies-\$327.19.

David Hood was present to discuss the position of Hwy Superintendent. Co. Attorney Lohrberg was directed to draw up a Hwy Supt. contract by the December 22, 2025 Board Meeting.

There being no further business, Chairman Martinson adjourned the meeting at 10:50 A.M. and will meet at a regular meeting on Monday, December 22, 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
