

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS  
May 26, 2026

The Pierce County Board of Commissioners met pursuant to adjournment on Tuesday, May 26, 2026, at 9:10 A.M. with the following members present: John Steinkraus, Brad Albers and Carl Martinson. Co. Assessor Jean Lubke, Co. Clerk Shannon Wragge, Hwy Supt. Brian McDonald, Zoning Adm. Heather McWhorter, Co. Treasurer Christine Bahr, Co. Attorney Ted Lohrberg, David Hood, Dan Koehler, Randy Stromberg, Todd Kumm, Ryley Kumm, Dalton Kumm, Jim Schmit, Dennis Kuhl 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 May 11, 2026 were approved as printed.

Discussion was held on the Schluns driveway tax sale that matured in October 2025. No one bought the taxes therefore County Attorney Lohrberg was directed by the County Board to start procedures for filing a foreclosure on the Schluns driveway property. The personal property taxes for Chad Bernhardt and Jason Eckert need to be collected on the County Attorney needs to send letters letting them know and if no response then Sheriff's in respective counties would collect. No decisions were made.

Hwy Supt Brian McDonald was present and the legal was read for the 9:15 a.m. opening of sealed bids for the 2026 Paint Striping-JEO Project No. 261204. The bids were opened in the presence of all present.

The following bid was received for the 2026 Paint Striping-JEO Project No. 261204: Sir Lines A Lot, Lawton, IA, at a total cost of \$16,500.00 with a start date of July 27, 2026.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Steinkraus, to accept and award the bid for the 2026 Paint Striping-JEO Project No. 261204 to Sir Lines A Lot, Lawton, IA, at a total cost of \$16,500.00 with a start date of July 27, 2026. Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Hwy Supt Brian McDonald was present, and discussion was held on the one bid received for the Plainview South-JEO Project #251704, Plainview South Project 2-JEO Project #241112 and for the Osmond Northwest-JEO Project #251706 which was opened on May 11, 2026. Jim Schmit and Dennis Kuhl were present to represent Osmond City and to ask the County Board to not spend the money on the concrete pavement/concrete overlay north of Osmond by cemetery but instead pave the miles from the Bloomfield Road going east (865 Rd) past the Osmond High School on Prairie Street to Hwy 20.

Motion by Steinkraus, seconded by Albers, to accept and award the bid for the Plainview South-JEO Project #251704, Plainview South Project 2-JEO Project #241112 and the Osmond Northwest-JEO Project #251706 to A & R Construction Co, Plainview, NE, for the Plainview South-JEO Project #251704-\$1,063,928.80, Plainview South Project 2-JEO Project #241112-\$1,305,653.43 and the Osmond Northwest-JEO Project #251706-\$536,764.01 at a total cost of \$2,906,346.24 with a start date of March 1, 2027. Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the solar farm roads and other problem roads and bridges that need attention.

Zoning Adm. Heather McWhorter was present and discussion held on the Todd Ryley Dalton Lot Split for Cedar Feedlots Inc in pt of the NE ¼ 11-27-2 (16.52 acres).

Motion by Albers, seconded by Steinkraus, to approve the Todd Ryley Dalton Lot Split in pt of the NE ¼ Section 11, Township 27 North, Range 2 West, Pierce County, NE (16.52 acres). Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Steinkraus, to recommend and approve the appointment of Shauna Gossman to the Pierce County Planning & Zoning Board. Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Bridge Inspector Randy Stromberg visited with the County Board on the changes for doing routine bridge inspections and the cost per bridge for the inspections.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Steinkraus, to authorize and approve Randy Stromberg to inspect the routine county bridges that need to be done in 2026 at a cost of \$125.00 per bridge with the option of increase if fuel costs rise. Roll call vote: Aye: Kuether, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on Bridge No. 1910 south of Foster that needs attention.

Discussion was held on the replacement of the cement around veteran's monument at the courthouse.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Steinkraus, to approve the bid quote from Wragge Construction Inc for the replacement of the cement around the Veterans Monument at the courthouse at a cost of \$15,940.61. Roll call vote: Aye: Kuether, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on applying for the Scrap Tire Grant Project for 2027 with NE DEQ.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Steinkraus, to authorize the Clerk to apply for grant funds for the Scrap Tire Grant Project for 2027 with Nebraska Dept. of Environmental Quality Waste Management Division, with the project to be held at the Osmond Shop if granted. Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Albers, seconded by Steinkraus, to Approve Resolution #2026-9 as follows:

RESOLUTION # 2026 - 9

WHEREAS, due to Section 39-1904 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes, the 2025-2026 County Road Fund budget does not include a property tax dollar request, and

WHEREAS, the 2025-2026 county budget was balanced by a fund transfer of \$2,650,000.00 from the General Fund to the County Road Fund,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Pierce County Board of Commissioners that the Pierce County Clerk is directed to transfer the following funds thru the claim process as follows:

Road/Bridge Fund	<u>\$820,000.00</u>
Total	\$820,000.00

of the Property Taxes collected by the General Fund to above list. Disregard any previous resolutions on transfers.

Dated this 26<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2026

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.

Discussion was held on the 2024/2025 fiscal year county audit which is now completed.

Motion by Steinkraus, seconded by Albers, to approve and accept the 2024/2025 fiscal year county audit as presented and direct the Clerk to submit to NE State Auditor's Office. Roll call vote: Aye: Steinkraus, Albers and Martinson. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Board tabled the quarterly courthouse and jail inspection.

Motion by Steinkraus, seconded by Martinson, 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-\$597.75; Jodie Altwine-election work-\$240.00; Antelope County Sheriff-prisoner boarding \$11,360.00; BCBS-health premiums-\$30,087.84; Bailey Backer-reimbursement-\$29.70; Leann Beltz-election work-\$236.25; Marietta Bjorklund-election work-\$213.75; Marilyn Blunck-election work-\$217.50; Beata Burkink-election work-\$213.75; Classic Carpet Care-maintenance-\$319.53; Crowne Plaza Kearney-travel expense-\$434.85; Diane Evans-election work-\$225.00; Election Systems & Software-Primary 2026 Election-\$1,534.60; Carla Ellsworth-election work-\$213.75; Susan Fehringer-election work-\$225.00; Melissa Forbes-election work-\$217.50; FP Finance Program-lease-\$223.05; Jennifer Fritz-election work-\$228.75; Sylvia Furstenau-election work-\$232.50; Nancy Green-election work- \$217.50; GWorks-software & support-\$28,719.00; Hampton Inn Kearney-lodging-\$644.40; Jack's Uniforms & Equipment-supplies-\$120.39; Johnson's Inc-repairs-\$989.53; Kate Jorgensen-public defender-\$4,720.83; Justice Data Solutions Inc-software support-\$3,400.00; Patricia Ketelsen-election work-\$217.50; Jan Kramer-election work-\$232.50; Melissa Lind-election work-\$232.00; Beth Manzer-election work-\$217.50; Linda Mattson-reimbursed flowers-\$166.05; Midwest Bank-co share-\$5,284.02; NACO-officials workshop fees-\$250.00; NE Assessors Assn-2026 dues-\$25.00; NE Health & Human Services-boarding-\$90.00; NIRMA-employee training-\$378.00; One Office Solution-supplies-\$405.00; Pierce Economic Development-4<sup>th</sup> quarter dues-\$16,641.25; Pierce Co Leader-publishing-\$1,184.70; Pierce County Treasurer-transfer from General to RB-\$820,000.00; Pierce City-utilities-\$2,148.27; Julia Polt-reimbursement-\$34.01; Quill-supplies-\$81.56; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas Life Ins. Corp-co. share-\$4,833.09; Brett Rix-reimbursement-\$69.72; Rhonda Rowley-election work-\$252.00; Lisa Samuelson-election work-\$213.75; Barbara Schaefer-election work-\$225.00; Denise Schmit-election work-\$217.50; Catherine Schutt-election work-\$228.00; Leanne Silhacek-election work-\$60.00; Dolores Steinkraus-election work-\$202.50; Diane Sullivan-election work-\$264.00; Melissa Tarr-election work-\$217.50; Terminex-service-\$130.00; Tiger Town-prisoner food-\$1,081.09; Tom's Service LLC-gas & repairs-\$924.22; VISA-supplies-\$250.03; Sharon Wagner-election work-\$217.50; Lori Wragge-election work-\$228.75 ; Payroll-\$70,712.08.

**COUNTY HIGHWAY FUND:** AKRS Equipment Solutions-repair parts-\$10.76;; Black Hills Energy-gas-\$102.29; Bomgaars-shop supplies-\$192.26; Classic Carpet Care-maintenance-\$211.03; Colonial Research-shop supplies-\$1,122.30; Lawson Products-supplies-\$276.98; Midwest Bank, NA-co share-\$2,867.46; Midwest Coatings-road maintenance \$195,470.00; Pierce Co Leader-publishing-\$99.76; Pierce City-utilities-\$210.51; Plainview City-utilities-\$1251.65; RDO Truck Centers-repairs-\$1,115.13; Retirement Plans Division of Ameritas Life Ins. Corp-co. share-\$2,534.00; Staybridge Suites-lodging-\$1,320.00; Steinkraus Service-gas-\$512.10; Tom's

Service LLC-gas & repairs-\$506.77; US Postal Service-\$100.00; Wattier's True Value-supplies-\$26.00; Weldon Parts Inc-repair parts-\$272.96; Payroll-\$38,837.84.

**E911 WIRELESS FUND:** Norfolk City-support-\$130.48; NRIN-contract renewal \$3,000.00

There being no further business, Chairman Martinson adjourned the meeting at 9:55 A.M. and will meet again at a regular meeting on Monday, June 8, 2026, 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