

REGULAR SESSION
JUNE 16, 2025

The Board of Nemaha County Commissioners met in regular session on Monday, June 16, 2025 in the Commissioner's Room of the Nemaha County Courthouse. The meeting was called to order with Chairman Jason Koch leading the flag salute. Present also were Commissioners Ben Glace and Joe Dalinghaus, County Counselor Austin Parker, County Administrator Robert Reece, and County Clerk Mary Kay Schultejans recording the minutes.

Jason Koch led those present in an opening prayer to begin the meeting this morning.

The board set the agenda for today's meeting. Ben Glace moved to approve the agenda for June 16, 2025 as presented. Joe Dalinghaus seconded the motion. The motion carried with all voting aye.

The board reviewed the minutes from the June 9, 2025 meeting. Ben Glace moved to approve the minutes as amended. Joe Dalinghaus seconded the motion. The motion carried with all voting aye.

Chairman Jason Koch called for Open Public Forum to begin at 9:15 am. No one came before the board to speak during today's forum. Chairman Jason Koch ended public forum at 9:24 am.

Jeff Kidd and Bryan Schmitz with SBS Insurance came before the board to speak to Commissioners about the county's property and casualty insurance renewal on July 1, 2025. Jeff and Bryan informed Commissioners that they were probably looking at a 6% increase on overall premium for 2025-2026.

Commissioners took a short break at 10:00 am.

Road and Bridge/Solid Waste Report:

Road and Bridge/Solid Waste Supervisor Adam Kuckelman advised the board that:

- the road crew is still blade patching county roads. Adam stated that they might get close to being finished by the end of this week.
- they finally got the fire put out at the landfill this past Friday.
- the truck reviewed last week sold before Adam was able to purchase it. He shared information with Commissioners concerning a 2018 International tractor that he found that was for sale.

Jason Koch moved to hold a fifteen-minute executive session until 10:30 am to discuss the pay and performance of non-elected personnel. Joe Dalinghaus seconded the motion. The motion carried with all voting aye. Present for the executive session was the Board of Commissioners, County Counselor Austin Parker, and County Administrator Robert Reece. The meeting returned to open session at 10:30 am with no action taken by the board following the executive session.

Commissioners discussed the recently adjusted, accurate rates at the landfill. The trash rates have been moved to \$85 per ton in-county and \$95 per ton out-of-county. The C&D rates have been moved to \$50 per ton in-county and \$60 per ton out-of-county.

Commissioners opened a sealed bid received for the sale of a used air compressor. Joe Dalinghaus moved to reject all bids and place the item in a county facility for a future auction. Ben Glace seconded the motion. The motion carried with all voting aye.

Jason Koch moved to appoint Kerri Koch as the interim county appraiser for Nemaha County effective June 24th due to the retirement of current appraiser Betty Roeder on June 23rd. The pay for this position will be the same as the appraiser's salary set in the 2025 Reorganization document. Ben Glace seconded the motion. The motion carried with all voting aye.

Jason Koch moved to transfer the credit card for the Appraiser's Office from Betty Roeder's name to Kerri Koch's name effective June 24th as well. Ben Glace seconded the motion. The motion carried with all voting aye.

Jason Koch announced that Commissioners attended the Rural Development Association business tour last Monday. They visited the Kaeb, LLC welding shop; had lunch at The Parlor in Sabetha where they listened to a presentation by E-Scape Design concerning the building of affordable duplexes and the grants available for such, a presentation by Wendy Enright with the Kansas Department of Commerce concerning housing programs, and a presentation by Senator Craig Bowser concerning the last legislative session; visited Triple C Manufacturing; toured the newly renovated Sabetha Nutrition Center; and stopped by the Glacial Hills business in Sabetha.

Sheriff Rich Vernon and Under Sheriff Bob Cross came before the board to let Commissioners know that Nemaha County is not on the list of sanctuary counties at this time.

They also let Commissioners know that the Fire Marshall is now requiring quarterly inspections of fire suppression systems. Rich stated that an issue was found during a recent inspection that will need to be repaired costing an estimated amount of \$9,500. Rich asked if he could take this cost out of funds earmarked for the Sheriff’s Office in the Capital Outlay Fund.

They also let Commissioners know that they are currently in the process of getting contracts signed with local fire departments for the purchase of radios out of the county’s ARPA funds. Rich stated that once these contracts are signed, they will be working with Haug Communications to get the radios installed.

Clerk Mary Kay Schultejans spoke to Commissioners again about staffing in the Clerk’s Office. Commissioners reviewed staffing levels and responsibilities of other county clerk offices in Kansas. Mary Kay has decided to forgo hiring any additional staff at this time and instead plans to hire a full-time employee to begin in 2026 as long as the funding for this employee is approved by Commissioners in the Clerk’s 2026 budget.

County Administrator Robert Reece shared information with Commissioners that he put together showing the actual revenues for the county’s General Fund and the Employee Benefits Fund for the years from 2020 – 2024. Discussion was held concerning this information and concerning keeping the ad valorem tax for these funds at a more consistent level in the future. Robert explained to Commissioners that when they see the 2026 proposed budget that he prepares, it will have about ten years included in it (from about 2020 – 2030). Robert advised Commissioners that future work sessions outside of the regularly scheduled Monday meetings will be necessary to complete the budget in a timely manner.

Ben Glace moved to authorize the potential purchase upon review of a 2018 International tractor at a cost not to exceed \$43,000 pending further discussion or review. Joe Dalinghaus seconded the motion. Jason Koch advised County Administrator Robert Reece to make sure that this is the truck that Road and Bridge/Solid Waste Supervisor Adam Kuckelman really wants. The motion carried with all voting aye. The cost of this truck is to be paid out of the Special Machinery Fund.

The board reviewed vouchers submitted by the different departments to be paid this week. Ben Glace moved to approve the AP warrants to be paid on June 17, 2025 as presented. Joe Dalinghaus seconded the motion. The motion carried with all voting aye.

WARRANTS ISSUED THRU FIRST HERITAGE BANK
JUNE 17, 2025

General Fund	\$5,374.65
Law Enforcement Expense Fund	\$10,573.82
Road and Bridge Fund	\$138,207.44
Election Fund	\$660.88
Transportation for Aging	\$346.99
Title III C-1	\$1,350.30
Title III C-2	\$2,013.75

Economic Development	\$25,000.00
Capital Outlay Fund	\$5,257.00
Solid Waste	\$13,700.13
Grant - State Formula Grant	\$619.58
Cell Phones-e911	\$118.31
Enhanced 911-Phone Service	\$852.71

Grand Total: \$204,075.56

With no further county business coming before the board, Chairman Jason Koch adjourned the meeting at 1:33 pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, June 23, 2025 at 9:00 am.

SIGNED AND APPROVED
NEMAHA COUNTY COMMISSION

ATTEST:

CHAIRMAN

CLERK