

VALLEY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES

The Valley County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, May 27, 2025, in the Courthouse Boardroom. Pledge of Allegiance recited, roll call taken: VanSlyke, Ference, Baker, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel present. Clerk verified meeting notice published; agenda posted. The Minutes of May 13, 2025, were approved on motion of DeRiso, second Stunkel. Carried. Yes: VanSlyke, Ference, Baker, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel. No: none. Absent: none. Baker moved to adopt the agenda, second Ference. Carried. Yes: Ference, Baker, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke. No: none. Absent: none. Open Meetings Act posted on the west wall; public copies available on the counter. Joe Novotny and Tyler Klabernes appeared from Twin Loups Reclamation for public comment. They provided details on a 40 year contract with the bureau that will either renew or they would need to take ownership of federal facilities currently owned by the US Department of the Interior.

After public comment had ended, discussion followed on consideration of support for Twin Loups Reclamation to seek transfer of title of federal facilities. Motion by Magiera to have the County Board sign a notice in support of Twin Loups Reclamation District title transfer of Federal Facilities to local ownership, second Baker. Carried. Yes: Baker, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference. No: none. Absent: none.

Road Superintendent Jay Meyer and Secretary Sandy Simpson appeared. Simpson gave report on claims and balances with detailed report on bridge and street buybacks. Meyer gave report on starting to mix asphalt, box culvert complete, installing stop and stop ahead signs, spraying for weeds, and a transmission out in a truck. Motion by Baker to set date and time to receive gravel bids for June 24, 2025, at 9:15am, second Ference. Carried. Yes: Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Baker. No: none. Absent: none.

Motion by Baker to enter board of equalization at 9:34am, second DeRiso. Carried. Yes: Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Baker, Magiera. No: none. Absent: none. County Attorney Brandon Hanson gave update on TERC Cases, all still scheduled to be heard in Broken Bow, but possibility of continuances. Assessor Linda Waltman presented TERC opinions from current evaluations, gave update on current valuations being mailed out soon, and gave key reasons for increases for 2025 valuations. Motion by Baker to exit board of equalization at 9:43am, second Magiera. Carried. Yes: DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Baker, Magiera, Petska. No: none. Absent: none.

Motion by Baker to approve use of courthouse lawn for Stars and Stripes Concert on July 5 beginning at 3pm, second DeRiso. Carried. Yes: Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Baker, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso. No: none. Absent: none.

Caleb Pollard, Katie Walmsley, and Emily Reilly appeared with Economic Development. Walmsley gave financial report and Pollard presented upcoming budgets. Stunkel was absent from 9:48am and returned at 9:50am. Baker left the meeting at 9:56am.

Ashley Woodward and Chelsea Ortmeier appeared with Valley County Health System. Woodward gave report on May board meeting to include opening a clinic in Sargent 1 day a week, switching from Etna to BCBS, upcoming annual health fair on June 10, and upcoming active shooter drill. Ortmeier gave report on April Financial report.

The board too a short break at 10:07am and reconvened at 10:16am.

Jerry Berggren with Berggren Architects appeared. Information on proposed experiment for repairing exterior of courthouse was given. Berggren will check on status of application for the Nebraska State Historic Tax Credit.

County Attorney gave report on recent meeting between law enforcement agencies and VCHS and gave details on 10 day notice for noxious weed.

Clerk KeShara Poland reported on new hire that will begin the next week.

Motion by Petska to approve the fund request of \$740,195.57, second Ference. Carried. Yes: Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso. No: none. Absent: Baker.

Interlocal agreement with Region 26 was reviewed. Motion by DeRiso to approve resolution to approve signing of interlocal agreement with Region 26, second Ference. Carried. Yes: VanSlyke, Ference, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel. No: none. Absent: Baker.

Fiscal Year 2025-2026 match request for Region 26 was presented. Motion by Magiera to approve match request, second Stunkel. Carried. Yes: Ference, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke. No: none. Absent: Baker.

Motion by Stunkel to appoint Aurora Griebel as County Assessor, effective September 1, 2025, providing for the retirement of current Assessor Linda Waltman, second Magiera. Carried. Yes: Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Baker. No: none. Absent: none.

Committees and representatives for the county board was reviewed with changes made and creation of a budget committee. Motion by Stunkel to approve updates and new budget committee, second Ference. Carried. Yes: Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Magiera. No: none. Absent: Baker.

Magiera gave report on Region 3 meeting.

Motion by Stunkel to eliminate any and all fees associated with reserving the Wozab Gazebo, second Magiera. Carried. Yes: DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Magiera, Petska. No: none. Absent: Baker.

Schedule of upcoming audit for fiscal year 2024-2025 was discussed, would like to begin in October. A Contract with the auditors was also discussed.

Creation of a new fund was discussed. Motion by Ference to create a new fund titled Internal Reserves, to have funds from transfers from inheritance, transfers from unused budgeted funds from all departments and offices, miscellaneous revenues for the county, and miscellaneous reimbursements, to be used to cover cash shortages from any and all funds of Valley County, fund special projects and or purchases as approved by the county board, second Stunkel. Carried. Yes: Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso. No: none. Absent: Baker.

The meeting adjourned on motion of Magiera at 11:59am, to reconvene on June 10, 2025, at 9:00am in regular session and 9:30am as Board of Equalization. Complete minutes of the May 13, 2025, meeting and an agenda for the May 27, 2025, meeting are available for public inspection in the office of the County Clerk and on the County website <https://valleycountyne.gov>.

I, the undersigned County Clerk, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of proceedings had and done by the County Board, that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and available for public inspection at the office of the County Clerk; that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; that said minutes were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days and prior to the next convened meeting of said body; that all news media requesting notification concerning meetings of said body were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

KeShara Poland, Valley County Clerk