

## VALLEY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES

The Valley County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 9:00am, Tuesday, March 10, 2026, in the Courthouse Boardroom. Pledge of Allegiance recited, roll call taken: VanSlyke, Ference, Baker, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel present. Absent: none. Clerk verified meeting notice published; agenda posted. Motion by Ference to approve the minutes of February 24, 2026, regular meeting, second Baker. Carried. Yes: Ference, Baker, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke. No: none. Absent: none. Motion by Baker to approve the minutes of March 3, 2026, regular meeting, second Ference. Carried. Yes: Baker, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference. No: none. Absent: none. Motion by Ference to approve the minutes of March 9, 2026, meeting as Wozab Fund Advisory Committee, second DeRiso. Carried. Yes: Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, VanSlyke, Ference, Baker. No: none. Absent: none. Abstain: Stunkel. Magiera moved to adopt the agenda, second Ference. Carried. Yes: Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Baker, Magiera. No: none. Absent: none. Open Meetings Act posted on the west wall, public copies available on the counter. No public comment.

Valley County Flag contest four finalists were present: Finn Reilly, Hailey Veskerna, Koebin Edghill, and Kaylyn Holmes. There were a total of 89 entries received from students throughout Valley County. Announcement of winners: 1<sup>st</sup> Place Kaylyn Holmes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Koebin Edghill, tie for 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Hailey Veskerna and Finn Reilly. Each winner was presented with a 1 ounce authenticated silver card donated by Stunkel and a cash prize from donations. The winning entry will be used in creation of the Valley County Flag which will also be flown at the State Fair. Each winner read their description of their flag and pictures were taken by the Ord Quiz.

Plans for the One and Six Year Highway and Street Improvement Hearing scheduled for March 31 at 9:00am were reviewed.

No new updates on Mortensen Site, survey continues to be in progress.

Clerk KeShara Poland presented the February Register of Deeds report and gave an election update.

County and District Courts Fees and Fines Reports were reviewed.

The Veteran of the Month for March is Bob Stowell. There is a display in the courthouse lobby. Discussion with starting a quarterly recognition event for Veterans of the Month.

Discussion on email received from Schemmer for proposal for Phase 2 for Valley County Jail.

Treasurer Peggy Brott presented the month end fund report and trial balances, month end balance sheet, miscellaneous receipts, pledge security, and tax sale listing and certification. Stunkel was absent from the meeting at 9:27am. Discussion on tax sales.

Motion by Ference to enter Board of Equalization at 9:29am, second Baker. Carried. Yes: DeRiso, VanSlyke, Ference, Baker, Magiera, Petska. No: none. Absent: Stunkel. Assessor Aurora Griebel presented tax corrections for year 2022. These corrections were following audits recently performed. Motion by Petska to approve the tax corrections, second DeRiso. Carried. Yes: DeRiso, VanSlyke, Ference, Baker, Magiera, Petska. No: none. Absent: Stunkel. Discussion on commercial appraisal. Current commercial appraiser is running for Hall County Assessor. Stunkel returned to the board meeting at 9:36am. Griebel will look into other companies. Tabled until next meeting. Motion by Petska to exit board of equalization at 9:48am, second Magiera. Carried. Yes: Ference, Baker, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke. No: none. Absent: none.

Tentative Wozab Grant Awards from the March 9, 2026, meeting were reviewed. Motion by Baker, second Magiera to approve the following Wozab Grant Awards: Bethany Lutheran Church \$1,000; Valley County Health System \$0; Ord Legion Baseball Post 38 \$3,500; The Gathering Place request was deemed ineligible by Nebraska Community Foundation; Arcadia Township Library

\$1,000; Loup Valley Veterans Memorial \$3,000; Arcadia Legion Post 251 request was deemed ineligible by Nebraska Community Foundation; Central NE Farm Safety 4 Just Kids \$3,000; St John's Lutheran Church – Community Thanksgiving Dinner \$500; Ord Girls Softball \$1,500; Valley County Historical Society and Museum \$3,000; Heartland Youth Ranch \$500; North Loup Rural Fire Board \$1,000; North Loup Recreation Committee \$1,000; Central Community College Foundation \$1,000; Ord Wrestling Club \$1,000; Village of Arcadia \$1,000; Paula Johnson as Arcadia Resident request was deemed ineligible by Nebraska Community Foundation; Paula Johnson as Arcadia Veterans' Memorial Garden \$2,000; Ord Chant Youth Sports \$2,000; VCHS Child Development Committee \$1,000; North Loup Public Library \$500; Synovation Valley Leadership Academy Inc \$500; Valley Performing Arts Theater \$3,000. Yes: Baker, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference. No: none. Absent: none.

Motion by Stunkel to approve the fund request of \$50,565.32, second DeRiso. Carried. Yes: Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Baker. No: none. Absent: none.

Back up plan for phones and internet outages tabled until the next meeting.

Discussion on County Government Day of April 14. Will begin the board meeting in the District Courtroom and then break and reconvene in the supervisors meeting room.

Further discussion on Mortensen Site, with possible grant available.

Motion by Stunkel to enter the Hearing on Appointment of Vacant Township Positions at 10:01am, second Ference. Carried. Yes: Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Baker, Magiera. No: none. Absent: none. Interested parties present and emails received for interest. Motion by Ference, second Baker to appoint the following: Elyria Township – Sharon Iwanski, Karen Collins, Rich Collins; Noble Township – Randy Gydesen and Sharon Gydesen; Michigan Township – Mark Knight and Nancy Welniak; Liberty Township – Bryan Hawley and Trey VanSlyke; Enterprise Township – Sydney Lange; Yale Township – Kenny Dorsey and Darby Lutz. Carried. Yes: Baker, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference. No: none. Absent: none. Discussion on open township board positions. Appointments will appear on the next agenda. Interested persons encouraged to attend or send notice of interest. Motion by Ference to exit the Hearing on Appointment of Vacant Township Positions at 10:17am, second Magiera. Carried. Yes: Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Baker. No: none. Absent: none.

The board took a short break at 10:17am and reconvened at 10:26am with all members present.

Motion by Baker to put all new hires on a set pay schedule of actual hours, with pay continuing monthly basis, second DeRiso. Carried. Yes: DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Baker, Magiera, Petska. No: none. Absent: none.

No new items for Valley County Economic Development.

Review of upcoming NACO events.

Review of upcoming hearings scheduled for March 31. Will additionally advertise for tax credit sale in other newspapers.

Committee reports included Petska for Region 26 with preliminary budget and possible round up campaign, Ference with Law Enforcement Committee for city police, and Petska for Industrial Development for grant options. Stunkel was absent from the board meeting from 10:42am and returned at 10:44am.

Mail folder included Award Nomination for Wozab Foundation Fund for Community Development & Improvement Award and letter from CNEDD.

The board took a short break at 10:56am and reconvened at 10:59am with Baker and Stunkel absent.

Sheriff Dave Scheideler reported on email received from Schemmer about Phase 2 with Valley County Jail, US Marshalls responding positively, and Flock cameras helping catch a stolen

vehicle recently. Ference was absent from the meeting at 11:16am and returned at 11:17am. Discussion on possible jail sites. Valley County Jail to appear on the next meeting agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 11:21am, to reconvene on March 31, 2026, at 9:00am for a regular meeting, and 9:30am as board of equalization. Complete minutes of the February 24, 2026, meeting, the March 3, 2026, meeting, and the March 9, 2026, meeting and an agenda for the March 10, 2026, 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.

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KeShara Poland, Valley County Clerk