

VALLEY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES

The Valley County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 9:00am, Tuesday, May 12, 2026, in the District Courtroom. 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 Magiera to approve the minutes of April 28, 2026, regular meeting, second Baker. Carried. Yes: Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, VanSlyke, Ference, Baker. No: none. Abstain: Stunkel. Absent: none. Motion by Stunkel to adopt the agenda, second Magiera. 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.

Road Superintendent Jay Meyer appeared. Discussion on comparison of dump trucks. Ference was absent from the board meeting at 9:15am and returned at 9:15am. Motion by Stunkel to approve purchase of Mac Dump Truck, second Baker. Carried. Yes: DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Baker, Magiera, Petska. No: none. Absent: none. Motion by Ference to use a combination of roads funds and inheritance funds to purchase the truck with roads fund reimbursing the inheritance fund for that amount next fiscal year, second Baker. Carried. Yes: Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Baker, Petska. No: Magiera, DeRiso. Absent: none.

David Brandon and Mike Kreifels appeared. Discussion on abandoned cemeteries. Six cemeteries need care: Comstock, Round Park, Vinton, Mira Valley, Davis Creek, Pleasant Hill Cemeteries. Kriefels would like to take care of Mira Valley with men's church group. Brandon would like to care for the remainder on the list. Discussion on amount that the county can pay for care and upkeep with County Attorney Brandon Hanson discussing state statutes. Road Superintendent Jay Meyer offered for roads department to haul trees away if they are piled in an accessible area. Motion by Ference to pay \$1,000 for each of the listed cemeteries for each calendar year, with Kreifels caring for Mira Valley Cemetery and Brandon caring for Comstock, Round Park, Vinton, Davis Creek, and Pleasant Hill Cemeteries, second Baker. Carried. Yes: VanSlyke, Ference, Baker, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel. No: none. Absent: none.

Motion by Petska to enter board of equalization at 9:44am, second Ference. Carried. Yes: Ference, Baker, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke. No: none. Absent: none. Motion by Petska to approve tax correction for parcel #880024668, second Stunkel. Carried. Yes: Baker, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference. No: none. Absent: none. Motion by Baker to set protest and destroyed real property hearing dates of June 9, 2026, at 9:30am, June 30, 2026, at 9:30am, July 14, 2026, at 9:30am, and July 16, 2026, at 7:00pm, second DeRiso. Carried. Yes: Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Baker. No: none. Absent: none. Motion by Baker to approve permissive exemption application for parcel #880037277, second Ference. Carried. Yes: DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Baker, Magiera. No: Petska. Absent: none. Motion by Petska to exit board of equalization at 9:56am, second Magiera. Carried. Yes: DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Baker, Magiera, Petska. No: none. Absent: none.

Assessor Aurora Griebel reported on no retainer fee for commercial appraiser and pick up work in the fall.

Clerk KeShara Poland gave report on election update with polls currently open for Primary Election and register of deeds report. Discussion on upcoming increase of doc stamps from \$2.32 per \$1000 to \$3.32 per \$1000 with county share of \$.50 remaining the same and the remainder being remitted to the State.

Caleb Pollard appeared with request for use of courthouse grounds for Maker's Market. Motion by Stunkel to approve use of courthouse grounds for Maker's Market on July 4 from 9:00am

– 3:00pm, second Ference. Carried. Yes: DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Baker, Magiera, Petska. No: none. Absent: none.

County Attorney Brandon Hanson reported on autopsies and jury trials being settled.

Treasurer Peggy Brott reported on month end fund report, trial balance listing, month end balance sheet, and pledge securities.

VanSlyke reported on concerns received with planning and zoning not answering or returning phone calls. Motion by Petska to discontinue allowance paid for personal cell phone and provide planning and zoning with a county cell phone effective June 1, second Ference. Carried. Yes: Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Baker, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso. No: none. Absent: none.

Building and Grounds Superintendent Danny Vanek reported the pulley system on the flagpole on the top of the courthouse is broken. Discussion on how to fix and equipment needed to access it.

The board took a short break at 10:29am and reconvened at 10:37am with all members present.

Further discussion on a boom to reach the flagpole.

Review of County and District Courts fines and fees reports and tentative schedule for the Nebraska Supreme Court Summer Tour.

Motion by Stunkel to approve the fund request of \$47,444.94, second Baker. Carried. Yes: VanSlyke, Ference, Baker, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel. No: none. Absent: none.

Discussion on recording current leases at the Mortensen Site with the register of deeds. Working with Olsson and County Attorney Hanson to review out lot information. Ference was absent from the meeting at 10:44am and returned at 10:46am. Discussion on road access.

Sheriff Dave Scheideler reported new digital fingerprint machine being installed soon. Discussion on placement and charges for fingerprints. Scheideler reported on utilization of flock cameras with the assisting with many cases being solved.

Stunkel gave update on County Flag status. Currently working on adaptation of winning design.

Motion by Ference to approve Region 3 Behavioral Health Services FY 2027 match request, second DeRiso. Carried. Yes: VanSlyke, Ference, Baker, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel. No: none. Absent: none.

Review of upcoming NACO County Board Workshop.

Committee reports included Petska with Region 26 dispatchers being frustrated on which law enforcement to call for service when calls are within city limits, Petska reported received financial paperwork for Wozab, Stunkel with Loup Basin Health Department with different quorum rules and pool inspections, and Stunkel with building and grounds committee on courthouse roof condition and repair. Stunkel went on record stating that “wants nothing to do with Berggren” Architects. Discussion on historical designation.

Planning and Zoning Administrator Sheri Goodrich appeared and was advised of cell phone decision. Goodrich reported on a Mortensen Site lease wanting to install a fence. Discussion on property by Arcadia needing driveway built to tie into the approach to the highway before will approve building permit and application for a dog kennel. Stunkel was absent from the board meeting at 11:50am and returned at 11:51am. Hearing date for dog kennel will be set at next board meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:53am, to reconvene on May 26, 2026, at 9:00am for a regular meeting, and 9:30am as board of equalization. Complete minutes of the April 28, 2026, meeting and agenda for the May 12, 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.

KeShara Poland, Valley County Clerk