

VALLEY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' MINUTES

The Valley County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 9:00am, Tuesday, July 28, 2026, in the Courthouse Boardroom. Pledge of Allegiance recited. Roll call taken: VanSlyke, Baker, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel present. Absent: Ference. Clerk verified meeting notice published; agenda posted. Motion by Baker to approve the minutes of July 14, 2026, regular meeting, second Magiera. Carried. Yes: Baker, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke. No: none. Absent: Ference. Motion by Baker to approve the minutes of July 16, 2026, regular meeting, second DeRiso. Carried. Yes: Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Baker. No: none. Absent: Ference. Motion by DeRiso to adopt the agenda, second Baker. Carried. Yes: Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Baker, Magiera. No: none. Absent: Ference. Open Meetings Act posted on the west wall, public copies available on the counter. No public comment.

Road Superintendent Jay Meyer and Secretary Sandy Simpson appeared. Simpson reported on July claims and balances. Meyer gave general report to include finishing millings and ditch cleaning. Ference arrived at the meeting at 9:08am. Discussion on moving bridge match funds to NPAIT.

Clerk KeShara Poland gave elections update.

Upcoming meeting for Darrell Kaminski for Noxious Weed.

Discussion on interest rates for accounts held by the Treasurer's Office. Treasurer Peggy Brott reported on balances, distributions, and accounts. Baker left the meeting at 9:24am. Further discussion.

Motion by Magiera to enter board of equalization at 9:32am, second Ference. Carried. Yes: DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Magiera, Petska. No: none. Absent: Baker. Review of TERC Notice, Case No 25C 0435 – Green America Biofuels Ord LLC. Motion by Ference to enter executive session for strategy session for pending litigation to protect public interest at 9:33am, second Magiera. Carried. Yes: DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Magiera, Petska. No: none. Absent: Baker. The board exited executive session at 9:41am with no decisions made. Assessor Aurora Griebel gave 2026 Assessment Plan. Discussion followed. Ference was absent from the board meeting at 9:48am and returned at 9:49am. Motion by Petska to exit board of equalization at 9:53am, second Ference. Carried. Yes: Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Magiera. No: none. Absent: Baker.

Assessor Aurora Griebel discussed certifying taxable valuations and growth values by August 20, 2026.

County Attorney Brandon Hanson gave report to include next jury term in September, and case load up a little.

Caleb Pollard gave quarterly report for Valley County Economic Development to include property development, submitting request for county-wide housing rehab grants, childcare expansion rebate, and automotive tech certification program with CCC. Pollard also gave update on Mortensen Site, outside attorney confirmed Hanson's plan. Stunkel was absent at 10:10am.

Ashley Woodward and Chelsea Ortmeier with VCHS appeared. Ortmeier gave June financial report. Stunkel returned to the board meeting at 10:15am. Woodward gave July board report to include new chief of staff and discussion on daycare needs. Discussion on USDA grant for ambulance, will be denied, will set signing of paperwork for next board meeting. Discussion on second grant from Nebraska DHHS with ARPA funds. Grant was received by county, will need copy of grant paperwork.

The board took a short break at 10:38am and reconvened at 10:49am with Baker and Ference absent.

Motion by Stunkel to enter budget hearing at 10:49am, second Magiera. Carried. Yes: Stunkel, VanSlyke, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso. No: none. Absent: Ference, Baker. Road Superintendent Jay Meyer presented proposed budget with discussion. Ference arrived at the board meeting at 10:51am. Proposed budgets were presented with discussions by County Attorney Brandon Hanson for attorney and child support enforcement budgets; Assessor Aurora Griebel; Clerk KeShara Poland for clerk, election, and register of deeds budgets; Treasurer Peggy Brott; noxious weed was reviewed; Sheriff Dave Scheideler for sheriff and jail. Ference was absent from the board meeting at 11:38am and returned at 11:41am. Proposed budgets were reviewed and discussed for economic development, building and grounds, veterans services, planning and zoning, court services, extension office, and emergency management. Motion by Ference to exit the budget hearing at 12:15pm, second Magiera. Carried. Yes: VanSlyke, Ference, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel. No: none. Absent: Baker. Review and discussion of Elyria Township budget.

Motion by Petska to approve letter of agreement with Region 3, second DeRiso. Carried. Yes: Ference, Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke. No: none. Absent: Baker.

Motion by Stunkel to approve finalized plat for Mortensen Site that includes out lots, second Ference. Carried. Yes: Magiera, Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference. No: none. Absent: Baker. Motion by Magiera to set hearing for review and modification of current leases and new leases at the Mortensen Site for September 8, 2026, at 11:00am, second Stunkel. Carried. Yes: Petska, DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Magiera. No: none. Absent: Baker.

Motion by Stunkel to approve the fund request of \$487,153.56, second Ference. Carried. Yes: DeRiso, Stunkel, VanSlyke, Ference, Magiera, Petska. No: none. Absent: Baker.

Sheriff Secretary Ashley Spanel presented the quarterly report for sheriff and jail.

Committee report, Stunkel for building and grounds, will have additional bids for exterior repairs for review and discussion at the August 11 board meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12:44pm, to reconvene on August 4, 2026, at 7:00pm for a regular meeting, and 7:00pm as board of equalization. Complete minutes of the July 14, 2026, and July 16, 2026, meetings and agenda for the July 28, 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