

Thomas County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
April 7, 2026

The Thomas County Board of Commissioners convened in open and public session at 8:30 a.m., in the Commissioners meeting room of the Thomas County Courthouse, Thedford, NE. Members present were Pam Moody, Charles Daly and Lewis Herbaugh. Also present were board secretary/County Clerk Lorissa Hartman, County Treasurer Andrea Thomas, County Highway Superintendent John Copland, road personnel Doug Heavican and Keith Hartman, TL Meyer-CSA Extension office, Dan Osborne-Midwest Coatings, County Sheriff Joseph Smith, Jeff Wood, Keali Florea-Titan Machinery, Dan Welch, Barb Welch, Stuart Scranton and County Attorney Kurt Arganbright.

Chair Moody stated open meeting guidelines are posted as required by law and copies are available, if requested.

Notice of meeting was given by publication in the Thomas County Herald on March 26, 2026.

Motion made by Herbaugh and second by Daly to adopt the April 7, 2026 regular meeting agenda. Roll call vote: Ayes – Daly, Herbaugh, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Herbaugh and second by Daly to approve the March 17, 2026 regular meeting minutes as published in the Thomas County Herald on March 26, 2026. Roll call vote: Ayes – Herbaugh, Daly, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Road discussion:

Road maintenance report given by road personnel.

Utility permit process discussed. The County Board agreed that County Highway Superintendent John Copland can sign the Utility permit applications after discussion and review for payment with the Thomas County Clerk. The Clerk will then present the permits to the County Board at the next available meeting.

Commissioner Moody reported a hole on W. Purdum that may be close to the Blaine County line to be questionable and will check with Blaine County if they have plans to repair the hole. The Board agreed that if Blaine County has no plans that the Thomas County road department would work on fixing the hole with material and cold mix.

Armor coat bids were opened at 8:40 a.m. and read publicly . Midwest Coatings LLC was the only company to bid for both projects, Purdum Road and West Purdum Ave. After reading the bids it was determined that the county needed clarification on the bids. At this time no action was taken on the armor coat bids. John Copland, Thomas County Highway Superintendent suggested that the action on the bids be placed on the April 21st agenda giving the county time to analyze the bids presented by Midwest Coatings LLC. No action taken.

Correspondence presented. No action taken.

Motion made by Daly and second by Herbaugh to approve payroll and claims as presented. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Daly, Herbaugh. Nays – none. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND-

AFLAC	INSURANCE	205.93
AFLAC INC	INSURANCE	40.88
AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	2799.80
APPLIED CONNECTIVE TECHNOLOGIES	SERVICES	973.80
BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD	INSURANCE	9195.61
BROUILLETTE,TROSHYNSKI,KINGSTON PC	ATTY FEES	337.50
COLONIAL LIFE & ACCIDENT INS CO	INSURANCE	107.42
CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES INC	PHONE	428.70
CREATIVE PRINTERS, INC.	PRINTING	2146.37
CUSTER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	UTILITIES	453.72
EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	SUPPLIES	248.63
ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE	ELECTION COST	1587.72
EWOLDTS GROCERY INC	SUPPLIES	33.34
LORISSA HARTMAN	MILEAGE	174.00
MIPS INC	SERVICES	1532.52
NACO	REGISTRATIONS	325.00
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	1077.18
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL	995.97
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	7637.45
THOMAS CO CLERK PETTY CASH	POSTAGE	11.95
THOMAS CO TREASURER	BOOKMOBLE/POSTAGE	625.20
ANDREA THOMAS	MILEAGE	174.00
U S BANK	LODGING/SUPPLIES	279.67
VILLAGE OF THEDFORD	UTILITIES	448.68
VISION CARE DIRECT	INSURANCE	4.66
VISION SERVICE PLAN (IC)	INSURANCE	48.24
WESTFIELD PHARMACY	INMATE MEDICAL	29.98
SALARIES		28127.94

ROAD FUND-

AFLAC INC	INSURANCE	40.88
AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	925.17
BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD	INSURANCE	1541.67
CUSTER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	UTILITIES	109.83
DICKINSON LAND SURVEYORS, INC	HIGHWAY SUPT	750.00
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	466.51
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL	4832.03

SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	2891.02
TRIPLE G REDIMIX, LLC	MATERIAL	11110.38
VILLAGE OF THEDFORD	UTILITIES	168.72
WENQUIST, INC	REPAIRS	123.45
SALARIES		9725.15
PRETRIAL FUND-		
VIAERO WIRELESS	PHONE	82.47
VISITORS FUND-		
CUSTER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	UTILITIES	949.58
VISITORS IMPROVEMENT FUND-		
FREEDOM & GLORY	FLAGS	437.88
EXTENSION FUND-		
AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	304.25
ARNOLD INSURANCE AGENCY	INSURANCE	2587.00
CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES INC	PHONE	220.14
GATEWAY MOTORS, INC.	26CHEVYEQUINOX	21057.00
HOMETOWN LEASING	COPIER LEASE	177.98
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	203.52
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL	247.93
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	1181.83
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA EXTENSION	DELL LAPTOP	3026.24
PRESERVATION & MODERNIZATION FUND-		
MIPS INC	SERVICES	115.92
LIBRARY FUND-		
AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	268.34
APPLIED CONNECTIVE TECHNOLOGIES	SERVICES	207.50
COLONIAL LIFE & ACCIDENT INS CO	INSURANCE	150.14
CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES INC	PHONE	110.50
CUSTER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	UTILITIES	127.56
ONEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	90.09
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	PROPANE	376.25
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	478.86
VILLAGE OF THEDFORD	UTILITIES	168.72
SALARIES		1729.73
BOOKMOBILE FUND-		
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICE, INC	BOOKS	23.50
AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	23.63
APPLIED CONNECTIVE TECHNOLOGIES	SERVICES	88.00
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	7.51
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL	83.90
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	91.82
SALARIES		537.13

Office reports:

TL Meyer presented the County Board with the 2025 Annual Report from Extension.

Clerk presented the March fee report for the office.

The clerk passed out draft information from Keith Marvin for renewable energy. Once the board reviews the information the Clerk will call a Planning/Zoning meeting to discuss changes to the regulations.

Early Voting by mail, for those with applications on file, were sent out on Monday, April 6, 2026.

In person voting will begin on Monday, April 13, 2026.

Election workers are being found for the Primary Election on May 12th.

The library statistic report was presented to the board.

The Sheriff quarterly fee report was presented to the board.

Treasurer reported receiving a partial payment from the State of Nebraska for the School Tax Credit and Property Tax Credit. This is a first time for only receiving a partial payment from the State.

Local tax payments are starting to come in for taxes due April 30th.

Motion made by Moody and second by Daly to approve all office/fee reports. Roll call vote: Ayes – Herbaugh, Daly, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on repairing the handicap door at the courthouse. One estimate was received ranging in cost from \$9,000 to \$11,000 to replace the existing door. The Clerk reached out to the company that originally installed the door when the courthouse was built and received a second estimate from Seery Door & Construction in the amount of \$4,360.

Motion made by Herbaugh and second by Moody to accept the estimate from Seery Door & Construction in the amount of \$4,360. Roll call vote: Ayes – Daly, Moody, Herbaugh. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Moody and second by Daly to approve the SDL application for Sandhills Corral, LLC for a parking lot party on May 15, 2026. Roll call vote: Ayes – Herbaugh, Daly, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Daly and second by Moody to approve the SDL application for Sandhills Corral, LLC for a wedding at the Thomas County Fairgrounds on May 30, 2026. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Daly, Herbaugh. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Lawn care bids were opened at 10:00 a.m. and read publicly. Three lawn care bids were received.

#1 lawn care bid was from Boone Owen for \$1,850/month.

#2 lawn care bid was from L & J Lawn Care (Jeff Wood) for \$375/mowing.

#3 lawn care bid was from Ross & Aidan Bryant for \$1,600/month.

Motion made by Moody and second by Herbaugh to accept the lawn care bid from Ross & Aidan Bryant in the amount of \$1,600/month. Roll call vote: Ayes – Daly, Herbaugh, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Dan & Barb Welch met with the board to discuss various issues concerning NPPD and eminent domain laws. They also shared information that they have acquired over the years from research on the impact of the 345K transmission line proposed to be built in Thomas County. They also noted that the Preserve the Sandhills will be having a meeting at the Thomas County Fairgrounds on April 16th from 7-9 p.m.

Preserve the Sandhills will discuss the lawsuit with the US Fish & Wildlife.

Motion made by Daly and second by Herbaugh to sign the updated Interlocal Agreement with Region 26. Roll call vote: Ayes – Daly, Herbaugh, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Daly and second by Moody to approve Resolution #2026-8, recommitment to Region 26 for a new five year term. Roll call vote: Ayes – Herbaugh, Daly, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Public comment. Stuart Scranton asked the board to fight the R-Line location going through Thomas County.

Chair Moody adjourned the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

The next regular meeting of the Thomas County Board of Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, April 21, 2026 at 8:30 a.m., in the Commissioners meeting room of the Thomas County Courthouse, Thedford, NE. An agenda will be kept continually current and available for public inspection in the office of the Thomas County Clerk during regular business hours. Additions to the agenda may be made up to 24 hours before the meeting.

Thomas County Board of Commissioners

Attest:

Pamela S. Moody, Chair

Lorissa Hartman, Thomas County Clerk