

Thomas County Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting
July 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, road personnel Doug Heavican and Keith Hartman, Rahn Bek, TL Meyer, County Attorney Kurt Arganbright, and County Sheriff Joseph Smith.

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 June 25, 2026.

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

Motion made by Herbaugh and second by Daly to approve June 15, 2026, regular meeting minutes as published in the Thomas County Herald on June 25, 2026. Roll call vote: Ayes – Herbaugh, Moody. Nays – none. Abstain – Daly. Motion carried.

Road discussion:

Grading work to fix washed out roads and water holes has been the top projects. The 772G Grader was in the shop at Murphy Tractor for some warranty work.

The Purdum Rd and W. North Loup Rd project details were discussed. Location to stockpile gravel was obtained by using the Halsey School parking lot. Sta-Bilt was notified of the time limit for stockpiling and getting the road project completed before the SORC race.

Patching projects discussed. The road department will need to get some cold mix on hand to do the patching.

Future road projects for 2027 were discussed.

Correspondence presented. No action taken.

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

GENERAL FUND-

AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	1662.68
ANDREA THOMAS	LODGING	270.98
BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD	HEALTH INSURANCE	9625.97
BROUILLETTE,TROSHYNSKI,KINGSTON PC	ATTORNEY FEES	12.50
COMFORT INN	LODGING	279.90
CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES INC	TELEPHONE	431.07
CREATIVE PRINTERS, INC.	PRINTING	575.01
CUSTER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	UTILITIES	452.36
EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	SUPPLIES	271.29
EWOLDTS GROCERY INC	SUPPLIES	21.12
GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES LLC	SUPPLIES	146.85

LORISSA HARTMAN	MILEAGE	195.75
MARSHALL & SWIFT/BOECKH, LLC	OFFICE SUPPLIES	565.66
MARVIN PLANNING CONSULTANTS, INC	CONSULTANT	2000.00
MIPS INC	DATA PROCESSING	1719.74
NIRMA	INSURANCE	14531.00
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL	995.33
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	2736.36
THOMAS CO CLERK PETTY CASH	POSTAGE	5.30
U S BANK	FOREST CONTRACT SUPPLIES	1269.30
UNITED STATES POSTMASTER	BOX RENT	480.00
VILLAGE OF THEDFORD	UTILITIES	466.68
VISION CARE DIRECT	INSURANCE	4.66
SALARIES		28566.43
ROAD FUND-		
AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	581.86
BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD	HEALTH INSURANCE	1525.21
CUSTER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	UTILITIES	102.67
DICKINSON LAND SURVEYORS, INC	HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT	750.00
NATIONAL SIGN COMPANY, LLC	SIGNS	169.21
NIRMA	INSURANCE	11536.00
NKC TIRE GROUP	TIRE TAX	4.00
NPERS	RETIREMENT	2593.84
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL	4007.42
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	1007.59
THEDFORD LUMBER & SUPPLY	SUPPLIES	57.20
VILLAGE OF THEDFORD	UTILITIES	186.72
WENQUIST, INC	BATTERY	126.99
SALARIES		10161.99
PRE-TRIAL FUND-		
VIAERO WIRELESS	PHONE	82.38
VISITORS FUND-		
NIRMA	INSURANCE	83.00
EXTENSION FUND-		
AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	184.26
CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES INC	PHONE	221.72
EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	SUPPLIES	47.54
HOMETOWN LEASING	COPIER LEASE	177.98
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL	250.45
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	443.05
UNITED STATES POSTMASTER	BOX RENT	162.00
SALARIES		4719.90
PRESERVATION & MODERNIZATION FUND-		
MIPS INC	DATA PROCESSING	119.40
LIBRARY FUND-		
AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	176.60
CONSOLIDATED COMPANIES INC	PHONE	110.04
CUSTER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	UTILITIES	165.59
EWOLDTS GROCERY INC	SUPPLIES	15.83
NIRMA	INSURANCE	2995.00
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	189.81
VILLAGE OF THEDFORD	UTILITIES	186.72
SALARIES		2167.14
BOOKMOBILE FUND-		
AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	10.88
SANDHILL OIL COMPANY INC	FUEL	85.83
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	33.28
SALARIES		197.60

EMPLOYEE WITHHOLDINGS

AFLAC	INSURANCE	376.30
AFLAC INC	INSURANCE	94.02
AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	1776.63
BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD	HEALTH INSURANCE	84.65
COLONIAL LIFE & ACCIDENT INS CO	INSURANCE	257.56
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	STATE TAXES	1906.63
SECURITY FIRST BANK	FEDERAL TAXES	8067.06
VISION SERVICE PLAN (IC)	INSURANCE	48.24

Office reports:

Clerk presented the June 2026 fee report for the office.

Deb Fischer will be hosting a mobile office on July 28th from 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. at the courthouse.

Keith Marvin has been contacted about Airport Zoning Regulations, updating the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Regulations. He is planning to get some pricings put together for updating the plan and regulations.

A constituent presented concerns to the Clerk’s office about material being dumped into the river and blocking an access road. The Clerk will notify the individual about reaching out to the NRCS/FSA office about the material being dumped into the river.

Treasurer presented the semi-annual statement to the board and will be running the report in the paper.

Sheriff presented the quarterly fee report for his office and also gave an activity report.

Library statistic report for May presented to the board.

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

TL Meyer presented the Thomas County share of the extension budget for 2026-2027. The request had an increase of \$836.05 from the previous fiscal year’s request.

Motion made by Moody and second by Herbaugh to approve the Central Sandhills Area Extension office budget request for Thomas County in the amount of \$26,469.39 for fiscal year 2026-2027. Roll call vote: Ayes – Daly, Moody, Herbaugh. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Moody and second by Daly to approve the SDL application from Sandhills Corral LLC on August 8, 2026, at the Sandhills Corral Parking lot for the Jr. High Rodeo. Roll call vote: Ayes – Daly, Moody. Nays – Herbaugh. Motion carried.

Motion made Daly and second by Herbaugh to approve the SDL application from Sandhills Corral LLC on August 14, 2026, at the Thomas County Fairgrounds for a birthday party. Roll call vote: Ayes – Moody, Daly, Herbaugh. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Moody and second by Daly to sign the Audit Engagement Letter with Gabriel Burger Else CPA PC for FY26. Roll call vote: Ayes – Herbaugh, Daly, Moody. Nays – none. Motion carried.

Chair Moody recessed the meeting at 10:30 a.m. to enter into the Thomas County Board of Equalization meeting.

Chair Moody reconvened the regular meeting at 10:37 a.m.

Discussion was held on a moratorium for data centers. After consulting with the County Attorney, the board asked to have a Resolution drawn up for the next meeting to cover moratoriums on the following: data centers, battery energy storage systems, cryptocurrency-mining operations, artificial-intelligence facilities, carbon dioxide capture, transport, and sequestrian facilities until the Comprehensive Plan and Regulations could be updated.

2026-2027 budget documents were handed out to elected officials to begin work on the next budget.

No public comment.

The next regular meeting of the Thomas County Board of Commissioners will be held on Tuesday, July 21, 2026, at 8:30 a.m., in the Commissioners meeting room of the Thomas County Courthouse, Thedford, NE. An agenda will be kept continuously 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 prior to the meeting.

Thomas County Board of Commissioners	Attest:
Pamela S. Moody, Chair	Lorissa Hartman, Thomas County Clerk