

July 13, 2026
North Platte, Nebraska

Meeting of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners. Present were Commissioners Joe Hewgley, Kent Weems, Micaela Wuehler, Chris Bruns, Jerry Woodruff and Deputy County Clerk, Nicole Fisher. Woodruff offered prayer. Weems called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

Chair Weems announced the Open Meeting Act with amendments is posted for public review and the county board will comply with the open meeting requirements.

Motion by Hewgley, seconded by Bruns to approve the minutes regarding the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners meeting held on July 6, 2026. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

Public comments concerning data centers were received from the following: Kirk Olsen, Becky Cudzillo, Gary Pearson, Nancy Nelson, Marvin Nesiba, Suzanne Donnally, Charles Fleece, William Kautz, Judy Pederson, Beth Defrees, David Huebner, Andrew Miller, Paul Orr, Karlene Monheiser, Kent Blackman, Shaylee Scranton, Mary Studley, Faith Colbourn, Jason Bode, Suzanna Klaasmeyer, Cecelia Harshfield, Brice Huebner, Scott Heinzen, Denis Brown, William Wood, Martin Mora, Eric Brown, Dave Fleece, Mark Spurgin, Stacia McConnell, Sarah Keeney, Ruth Orr, Shawna Gardner, Sophia Klein, Tim Behm, Duane McClain, & Diane Huebner.

Motion by Wuehler, seconded by Woodruff to receive and order filed the treasurer's receipts. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

Motion by Bruns, Seconded by Woodruff to receive and order filed the fee reports submitted by Clerk of District Court for \$10,310.27, County Clerk for \$1181.00, County Sheriff For \$5375.25, and Register of Deeds for \$38,714.79. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

Motion by Wuehler, seconded by Hewgley to authorize the Chair to sign the 2026/2027 Region II Human Services match. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

Motion by Bruns, seconded by Hewgley to receive and order filed the Condition of the Treasury from January 1, 2026, to June 30, 2026. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

Motion by Woodruff, seconded by Wuehler to authorize the Chair to sign a special designated liquor permit submitted by DEAM, LLC (Axes & Aces) for a community festival to be held at the Golden Spike Tower on August 7, 2026. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.



Motion by Woodruff, seconded by Bruns to authorize the Chair to sign the right-of-way application submitted by Great Plains Communications. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

The Lincoln County Board of Commissioners recessed at 10:30 A.M. and the Lincoln County Board of Equalization convened.

Chair Weems announced the Open Meeting Act with amendments is posted for public review and the county board will comply with the open meeting requirements.

County Assessor, Julie Stenger appeared.

Motion by Bruns, seconded by Woodruff to approve the minutes regarding the Lincoln County Board of Equalization meeting held on July 6, 2026. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

The letter of explanation for late filing of the homestead exemption application was tabled to mail a ten-day notice.

Motion by Wuehler, seconded by Woodruff to approve the notice of valuation change number 2026-33 as submitted by the County Assessor. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

No Public comments

No certificates of correction or refund submitted by the County Assessor.

The Lincoln County Board of Equalization recessed at 10:34 A.M. and the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners reconvened.

Lincoln County insurance renewal update by Tanner Pettera of Hub International was postponed until next week.

Motion by Woodruff, seconded by Bruns to approve the appointment of Judy Pederson the Lincoln County Board of Adjustment. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

Motion by Wuehler, seconded by Bruns to approve the appointment of Tony Johnson as an Alternate to the Lincoln County Board of Adjustment. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

Motion by Bruns, seconded by Woodruff to authorize the Chair to sign NDOT -NOHS mini grant application for speeding enforcement. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.



Motion by Hewgley, seconded by Bruns to approve the 2026-2028 FOP Lodge #26 labor agreement as presented. Upon roll call vote Hewgley, Weems, Wuehler, Bruns and Woodruff voted "aye". Nays, none.

Extensive discussion was held concerning a moratorium on data center facilities.

Judy Clark appeared. She stated that water, electric, heat & noise are the main concerns. The cooling would generally be a closed loop system. 1.5 million gallons to fill initially in the biggest scenario and then in 5-6 years they would top it off again. Water usage is permitted by NRD. For noise, environmental impact & power, studies could be done and the county can select an engineer at the expense of the landowner. There are no applications yet.

Bruns said zoning hasn't been adopted yet, there are reasonable conditions that could be put into place. asked if a developer wanted to build, who approves, what is the process and the time frame?

Judy Clark said they are required to do studies and get approval through the power districts, natural resource districts and an environmental review. They make sure they have all documentation.

Hewgley wants to be clear, the moratorium on wind and solar was to wait until the plan was finished. It was extended so the planning and zoning could be completed. Community betterment is for Lincoln County.

Woodruff asked if we could stipulate they use carbon capture?

Judy Clark answered that we could add something and that it would be regulated by the EPA.

Hewgley stated that there are new technologies in the works for cooling.

Bruns asked if community betterment was on the application.

Weems said community betterment was too vague. He thinks we need to define up front.

Judy Clark said the community betterment is specific to each project.

Tyler Volkmer said the county sets the terms of the community betterment agreement.

Judy Pederson appeared.

Wuehler asked Judy Pederson if she felt a moratorium would benefit.

Judy Pederson replied that for a 30/40 year project, would it be worth another 6 months. She said you could always lift the moratorium if you are ready. She said it is all really new and the residents haven't had time to absorb the information.

Wuehler stated that a moratorium would be a pause to show we are serious about our due diligence. She thinks it will help calm down the rhetoric.

Bruns asked how we make sure they are following the regulations?

Judy Clark said they do have a reporting process.

Motion by Wuehler, seconded by Weems to approve a 6-month moratorium on Data Centers.

Woodruff stated this motion is not for or against, it will be based on evaluating positive outcomes & negative factors.

Upon roll call vote, Weems & Wuehler voted "aye". Hewgley, Bruns & Woodruff voted "nay" Motion failed.

Hear concerns from Elected Officials, Department Heads, or their representative.

Lincoln County Commissioners Committee Reports.

Approved the following claims as presented for payment. Motion carried.

GENERAL		TOTAL
AMZN	EX	97
BB BRKR	SU	1122
CPTL CTY CNCPT	SE	1800
CLK DIST CRT	SE	1524
COMM.CNCT	SE	5687.38
CRSTL SCHLP	SE	327.7
EAKS	SU	19.58
FAIR LW	SU	6318.75
FSSLR	SU	496.01
FUTRTY	SE	2000
GALLS	EX	88.45
HNRY VGT	SU	24.95
HI LIN	SU	590.5
HMTWN LSG	SE	70.05
ICS	SU	862.37
JSTIC	SU	200
LNCN CO PTCSH	SE	0.95
LNDMEIR LAW	SE	6638.05

MCQN	SE	880
MLCM NLSN	SE	13799.38
MLLRY SFTY	EQ	5187.78
MGN BLMY	SE	279.3
MNRDS	SU	666.24
MNTZR	SU	2423.32
MCRFLM	RT	140
NWGG BUS	SE	151.99
NP ACE	SU	49.96
NP BLTN	SE	250
NPPD	SE	27368
NP TEL	SE	74.35
OFFC SVC	SE	249.5
PRDG SOL	SU	13667.77
REG 1	FEE	150
SCHBN	SE	1948.13
SHRWN WLMS	SU	158.84
SNLL SVC	SE	1337.5
STPLS	SU	380.9
STRCYCL	SE	785.69
TNA FX	SE	439.5
TNSUNN RSK	SU	125
TRNTY SVC	SE	6569.82
TWN PLT NRD	EQ	13500
US BNK	EXP	5492.72
VRZN	SE	250.82
VGLNT AMRCA	SU	690
WLMRT BUS	SU	136.69
WTRS HRDWR	SE	85.11
WSTFLD PHRM	SE	4704.74
WEX	SE	5416.2
WLKNSN DEV	SU	1297.03
ROADS		
AKRS	SE	5276.69
ALLO	SU	216.2
BLK HLS EN	SU	99.89
BMGRS	SU	51.98
BRDY GTNGO	SU	479.91
CPTL BUS	SE	241.96
CR QUST	SE	668.61
CNTRY PRTNR	SU	50
CRLL	SU	31894.96
DWSN PWR	SE	218.64

FLYDS	SE	335.87
GWRKS	EQ	850
HRSHY TEL CO	SE	79.91
HME LMBR SUP	SU	0.72
IDEAL	SE	166.64
INLND	SE	93.55
KELLY SUP	SU	255.74
MCCOOK PWR	SE	84.63
MDWST ELCT CO	SE	127.01
MLLR TIRE	SU	2208
NEAL	SU	9976.06
NE DEPT REV	SU	3947
NMC	SU	891.95
NRTHWSTRN	SE	32.43
PLSNS	SU	4434.5
PRNTO	SU	1022.16
RNCHLND	SU	889.95
RDO	SE	34.02
STHRLND FRM	SE	41.87
US BNK	SE	148.95
VIL HRSHY	SE	144.87
VIL MXWL	SE	70
VIL WLCE	SE	27
SELF FUNDED INSURANCE		
FRST CNCRD	INS	343.52

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 P.M.

Advance notice and the agenda for the July 13, 2026, board meetings were sent to the county board and all others requesting the same. Advance public notice (includes agenda) of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners meeting and the Lincoln County Board of Equalization meeting was posted at the Lincoln County Courthouse, City Hall, and the Lincoln County website on July 10, 2026; and was also emailed to the media on July 10, 2026.

The agenda for the meetings to be held on Monday, July 20, 2026, will be kept continually current and open for inspection at the office of the Lincoln County Clerk. The regular meeting of the Lincoln County Board of Commissioners will be at the Lincoln County Courthouse in the Commissioners Room at 9:00 A.M. The regular meeting of the Lincoln County Board of Equalization will be at the Lincoln County Courthouse in the Commissioners Room at 9:15 A.M.

Nicole J. Fisher



Lincoln County Deputy Clerk

