

Hamilton County Board of Commissioners met for their Regular Meeting on Monday January 5, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. with Commissioners Nelson, McDonald, Salmon, SaBell, Merkel, County Clerk Jill M. DeMers, Business Administrator Pat Shaw & County Attorney Doug D Dexter were present. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Nelson. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The Open Meetings Act is posted on the east wall in the Board Room first level of the Courthouse with Open Meeting Act brochures available to the public during the meeting. Notice of this meeting was published in the Aurora News Register the week of December 23, 2025. A current agenda is on file and available for inspection in the office of the County Clerk, posted outside the County Clerk's office and posted on the County website. Agenda item #4 Central Nebraska Youth Services Diversion Truancy Services Interlocal will be rescheduled until a later date. Motion by Salmon Second by SaBell to approve the agenda with change. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes.

Minutes of the December 22, 2025 Regular meeting was approved as presented

County Board of Commissioners meetings are recorded.

No one was in attendance for Public Participation.

Hamilton County Reorganizational Meeting of 2026

Motion by Salmon Second by Merkel to appoint Commissioner Rich Nelson as Chairman. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes. Motion by Salmon Second by Merkel to appoint Commissioner Nicole SaBell as Vice Chairman. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes. Motion by Salmon Second by Merkel to appoint Doug Dexter as ADA Coordinator. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes. Motion by SaBell Second by McDonald to recognize Elected Officials and Appointed Department Heads. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes. Official Paper, Official Website, County Physician, County Depositories, Joint Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Adjustment, County Visitors Committee, Joint Airport Zoning Board, Extension Board, Veterans Board, Central District Health Department, Holidays, Handbook Committee, Safety Committee, Interlocal & Agreements, Payroll & Vendor Dates, Salary Benefit Committee and Board Committees were discussed & updated.

Resolution #1205 Elected Official Salary was read into record by Pat Shaw Business Administrator. Discussion was had with Elected Officials and Sheriff McCoy that was a member of the NACO Salary Committee. Motion by Salmon Second by SaBell to approve #1205 with CPI rate. Motion was rescinded. Motion by Salmon Second by SaBell to approve updated Resolution #1205 with salary set and 4% raise for a four-year term commencing on January 1, 2027. Roll Call Vote: Salmon-yes, SaBell-yes, Merkel-no, McDonald-no & Nelson-yes.

Motion by Salmon Second by SaBell to approve a Liquor License for the Memorial Foundation Inc. at the Farr Building April 17, 2026 5:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes.

Motion by SaBell Second by McDonald to approve Surplus Property Disposal Request for the Sheriff surplus body armor to Clay County Sheriff. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes.

Wage Increase for Sheriff completion of training was signed.

Board Reports were given.

Payroll was signed from the December 29th meeting.

With no further business, Motion by Salmon Second by SaBell to adjourn at 10:08 a.m. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes. The next meeting will be held on Monday January 12, 2026 at 8:30 a.m. in the Board Room first floor of the Courthouse.

Hamilton County Board of Commissioners

Attest Jill M. DeMers
Jill M. DeMers
Hamilton County Clerk



Nicole SaBell
Nicole SaBell-Vice Chairman 1st District

Rich Nelson
Rich Nelson-Chairman-2nd District

Jessie Merkel
Jessie Merkel-3rd District

Nancy J. Salmon
Nancy J. Salmon-4th District

Francis McDonald
Francis McDonald-5th District