

BUTLER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

A meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Butler County, Nebraska was held on the 17th day of August 2026 at the Butler County Courthouse in David City, Nebraska at 9:00 a.m.

Present were the following: Scott Steager, Tony Krafka, Scot Bauer, Scott Griess, Jan Sypal, Bob Coufal, Brad Vandenberg.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication, a designated method for giving notice, as shown by the Proof of Publication attached to the minutes. Notice of this meeting and the agenda was communicated to all members of the Board and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to the minutes. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present. Chairman Steager called the meeting to order and announced that a complete copy of the Open Meetings Act is available for viewing in the meeting room. Chairman Steager declared the minutes from the previous meeting shall stand approved as presented.

Discussion/Possible Action – Purchase EagleView Software

County Assessor Vickie Donoghue appeared before the Board to request approval to purchase the EagleView Pictometry Software as discussed in previous meetings. She has enough set aside in the equipment sinking fund to cover the cost for Year 1. Griess questioned the need for the software/imagery given the cost. County Assessor Donoghue acknowledged the cost and explained that her office is required by the state to review properties every year, but due to the Attorney General's opinion last year she is no longer able to go on properties and can only take photos from the road. This imagery would help a great deal. Bauer noted that the software would also be helpful for other county offices, including County Surveyor, County Sheriff, 911 Dispatch, and Roads. County Assessor Donoghue noted that it will likely also be used a great deal by the Planning Commission if/when zoning is adopted. Moved by Vandenberg, seconded by Coufal, to approve the purchase of EagleView Software at a cost of \$46,505.50 per year for six years. Upon roll call vote the following voted Aye: Vandenberg, Coufal, Sypal, Bauer, Krafka, Steager. Nay: Griess. Motion carried.

Open/Accept bids for paint striping County highways

No bids received. Interim Highway Superintendent Greg Brecka will make some calls and put it out for rebid.

Discussion/Possible action – Utility permit application for Black Hills Energy (BHE) to install a 2" HDPE gas line under M Road north of 34 Road

BHE sought approval of their utility permit application to install a 2" HDPE gas line under M Road north of 34 Road. There are currently two above ground structures; after the project is completed the above ground structures will be removed. Bauer asked BHE what properties were served by this application. BHE responded that the line would be connecting to HKO Farms, a grain bin on the NW corner, and residential taps on the south side of the road. Brecka noted that the permit was approved by Franklin Township but denied by Olive Townships because BHE does not yet have easements from 100% of the landowners. There will be no disturbance to the county ROW and if the road is damaged, it will be put back to as good or better condition. Moved by Bauer, seconded by Coufal, to deny the utility permit until BHE obtains easements from all landowners. All aye; motion carried.

Discussion/Possible action – Utility permit application for Black Hills Energy (BHE) to install 4" and 6" HDPE lines across 34, 35, 36, L, K, J, I, H, G, F, E, and D Roads

BHE sought approval of their utility permit application to install 4" and 6" HDPE lines across 34, 35, 36, L, K, J, I, H, G, F, E, and D Roads. Summit Township denied the application on 8/5; Olive Township denied the application

on 8/12. BHE reported that 17 landowners have signed easement agreements; 14 have not yet signed. When asked why they are working on the permits before they have all of the easements, BHE representatives stated they typically work on both at the same time because some permits (e.g. railroad permits) take longer to obtain. Moved by Bauer, seconded by Sypal, to deny the utility permit application until easements are obtained from all landowners. All aye; motion carried.

BHE representatives asked for assurance from the Board that once they acquire the required permits and easements their utility permit applications will be approved, and that such assurance be included in the meeting minutes. Chairman Steager replied that the Board is unable to provide such an assurance and that the easements must be obtained before submitting the utility permit applications again.

Update on Roads

Brecka reported that work at the gravel pit is progressing but has been slowed by the recent rains. One of the trucks is going out and needs a new motor. To rebuild the existing motor will cost just under \$40,000; to replace the motor will cost just over \$40,000. Brecka found a used truck with a warranty on the motor; the asking price is \$123,900 without a trade, plus \$10,000-\$12,000 to add a pusher. County Attorney Julie Reiter noted that they will need to obtain three bids. It was unknown if Truck Centers is a Sourcewell dealer, but Brecka will find out and add the truck to a future agenda.

Brecka stated that core samples were taken for the Prague highway and results should be in later this week. The guardrail on Q Road is finished and looks great. Brecka went to Seward County to observe the application of substrata on one of their county roads. Substrata is a liquid that can be applied to gravel road to harden it. Cost is roughly \$9,000 per mile. Lancaster County is doing 17 miles this year; Seward County is doing 3 miles. It is supposed to last for 10 years. He is also researching ProSeal, a slurry that is used to lengthen the life of asphalt for an additional 5 years. He will reach out to ProSeal for more information and pricing. Brecka plans to attend the next Linwood Township meeting to seek an interlocal agreement to house equipment and a gas barrel. With the recent rains, they are working on the roads as fast as they can.

Discussion/Possible action – Road gravel issues

Jim Rerucha appeared before the Board to speak about the gravel pit and gravel requests by Skull Creek Township. He reminded the Board that he and others expressed their displeasure about the gravel pit at previous meetings. Skull Creek Township's road was torn up by feed trucks earlier in the summer. He requested gravel from the County, but timely delivery did not occur. He said he called the Highway Department and was told that no one was available to deliver gravel because everyone was at the gravel pit. After the recent rain he submitted an emergency request for gravel and was told that one of the two big trucks was out of commission, and all four small trucks were at the pit. The material needed for the road was not delivered and that created a problem for the Township. He reiterated his feelings that the County should not be involved in operating a gravel pit, and that funds should be prioritized and spent on trucks and employees to put down gravel. The County's first priority needs to be to serve the public and keep the roads in good shape; it should be the delivery of gravel, not operating a gravel pit.

Discussion/Possible action – Minimum maintenance road located north of E and 38 Roads

Todd Topil appeared before the Board regarding the minimum maintenance road north of E and 38 Roads. He stated in early spring of 2025, adjacent landowners to the east installed a fence and gate across the road. Topil contacted Summit Township and was told it was a county issue. He then contacted Highway Superintendent Randy Isham, who he said told him it was indeed a County road and that the gate and fence would be removed. Topil stated that the fence has been removed, but the gate has not been removed and blocks access to their property. Isham confirmed that the road is county owned and maintained by the township. He said he sent a letter to the adjacent property owners giving them 10 days to remove the fence and gate. Isham explained that all landowners must agree in order to gate off a road. Adjacent landowner Kenny Meister stated that if the gate

is removed cattle will get out. Chairman Steager stated, and County Attorney Reiter confirmed, that a private gate cannot be placed on a county road. Meister and Topil debated about the fence and County Attorney Reiter noted that there is a chapter in state statute regarding fence law, but that is a private matter and not for the Board to determine. Chairman Steager stated that all the Board is concerned about is getting the privately owned gate off of the public road.

Discussion/Possible action – Approve Emergency Medical Dispatch APCO-IntelliComm Agreement

911 Coordinator Sharon Codr appeared before the board to request approval of the Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) agreement with APCO-IntelliComm. She provided information about emergency medical dispatch protocol and explained that the ability to provide medical pre-arrival instructions (e.g. childbirth, CPR, etc.) while EMS is enroute is critical, especially in rural areas. Online training would be provided to all dispatchers at an initial cost of \$525 per student. Inhouse training for new hires can be provided at a cost of \$129 per student. Communities are required to have a medical director and if approved, Butler County would join the EMD committee with York, Seward, and Saline Counties and share a medical director. Chairman Steager stated that EMD would provide a great benefit to the County as Dispatch is the first “first responder” in the case of an emergency. Codr noted that 2914 funds can be used for the entire cost and those funds must be used by June 2028 or they will be forfeited by the County. Moved by Griess, seconded by Bauer, to approve the EMD APCO-IntelliComm Agreement. All aye; motion carried.

Discussion/Possible action – Approve Butler County Communications Medical Director Agreement

Moved by Vandenberg, seconded by Griess, to approve the Butler County Communications Medical Director Agreement. All aye; motion carried.

Discussion/Possible action – Approve participation in DCHS JAG Program – Butler County Career Exploration Day

HR Director Aida Hickman appeared before the Board to request that the County participate in David City High School’s (DCHS) JAG Program by hosting a Butler County Career Exploration Day. DCHS recently started the program and Hickman explained that it is a great opportunity for the County to get involved and show participants what each of the County offices/departments do. Participating students would tour the courthouse, senior center, and roads department. The date has not yet been set but would likely be later this year or early next year. Hickman noted that Louise Neimann agreed to help as well. Vandenberg asked if the program could be opened up to Aquinas and East Butler; Hickman replied yes if they are interested. It would be similar to County Government Day and would be a one-day thing. Moved by Vandenberg, seconded by Griess, to approve participation in the program. All aye; motion carried.

HR Update

Hickman explained that Highway Superintendent Randy Isham will retire effective September 30th. She thanked him for his 23 years of service to the County. She would like to post the position immediately. Moved by Sypal, seconded by Coufal to accept Isham’s retirement letter and advertise for the Highway Superintendent position. Upon roll call vote the following voted Aye: Sypal, Coufal, Griess, Bauer, Krafka, Vandenberg. Nay: Steager. Motion carried.

Hickman provided an update for the public defender committee. She said they have five applicants and hope to make a recommendation to the Board soon. Discussion was held about whether to interview applicants as a Board during an open meeting or to have a committee conduct interviews and provide a recommendation to the Board. The consensus was to have a committee conduct interviews rather than the full Board.

Hickman recognized Deputy County Treasurer Kristy Pohl for her work coordinating the Safety Committee. They have been working on an emergency plan for the County. She expressed her appreciation for the work that Pohl does with the committee.

County Clerk Monthly Fee Report

The County Clerk fee report for the month of July 2026 was accepted and placed on file.

Clerk of the District Court Monthly Fee Report

The Clerk of the District Court fee report for the month of July 2026 was accepted and placed on file.

Monthly Sheriff Report

The Monthly Sheriff Report for the month of July 2026 was accepted and placed on file.

Discussion/Possible action – Wage increase and evaluations for appointed employees

Discussion was held regarding whether to conduct evaluations as a full Board or by committee. It was decided to conduct evaluations by committee, but all Board members need to complete evaluation forms for appointed employees. County Clerk Lori Aschoff suggested it would be beneficial to have the other elected officials complete evaluation forms; County Attorney Reiter agreed since they often work more closely with the appointed employees. Hickman suggested that employees be given the option to complete self-evaluations; the Board concurred. Appointed employee evaluations will be completed by the seven Board members, as well as County Clerk, County Treasurer, County Assessor, County Attorney, Clerk of the District Court, and County Sheriff. Hickman will review the current evaluation forms and revise as need. The HR Committee will conduct evaluations.

Approval/Adoption of Resolution 2026-33: 911 Wireless (2913) to 911 Holding Fund (2914)

Moved by Sypal, seconded by Coufal, to approve Resolution 2026-33 as presented. All aye; motion carried. A copy of Resolution 2026-33 is available for review at the County Clerk's office.

Approval/Adoption of Resolution 2026-34: General (0100) to Road (0300)

Moved by Griess, seconded by Bauer, to approve Resolution 2026-34 as presented. All aye; motion carried. A copy of Resolution is available for review at the County Clerk's office.

Approval/Adoption of Visitors Committee Bylaws

County Clerk Aschoff explained that she has been unable to find any bylaws for the Visitors Committee. She developed a new set of bylaws and County Attorney Reiter reviewed and edited the bylaws. Members of the Visitors Committee also reviewed the bylaws and had no comments/recommendations. Moved by Sypal, seconded by Coufal, to approve the Visitors Committee Bylaws as presented. All aye; motion carried. County Clerk Aschoff will notify previous applicants of the move to a quarterly deadline for applications and publish the information in the newspaper and on the County website. A copy of the Visitors Committee Bylaws is available for review at the County Clerk's office.

Annual inventories of County Personal Property

County Clerk Aschoff distributed inventory lists to Board members to review with the offices for which they serve as liaisons. The inventory lists will be approved at the next meeting.

2026-2027 County Budget Update/Discussion

The budget committee has been working on the budget but are waiting for the valuation from the County Assessor's office. Once County Clerk Aschoff receives the valuation, the committee will meet with department heads as needed to look at areas to potentially cut.

Discussion/Possible action – Set Date/Time for Special Meeting and Date/Time for Budget Hearing

Moved by Bauer, seconded by Griess, to hold the special meeting and budget hearing on September 14th at 6:00 p.m. All aye; motion carried.

Discussion/Possible action – Set Date/Time for Special Hearing to Set Final Tax Request

Chairman Steager noted that the Joint Public Hearing is scheduled for September 21st at 6:15 p.m. Moved by Vandenberg, seconded by Coufal, to hold the special hearing to set the final tax request on September 23rd at 9:00 a.m. All aye; motion carried.

Claims

Moved by Coufal, seconded by Griess, to approve the claims as presented, except for the claim from Steager Irrigation LLC. All aye; motion carried.

Moved by Bauer, seconded by Sypal, to approve the claim for Steager Irrigation LLC. Upon roll call vote the following voted Aye: Bauer, Griess, Sypal, Coufal, Vandenberg, Krafka. Nay: None. Abstain: Steager. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Chairman Steager explained that they are still trying to find a gravel pit operator. Jim Mally is retiring at the end of September. The gravel pit will likely not be operational for gravel this fall. Hickman will reach out to staffing agencies to determine average wage information and the cost of advertising the position. For now, she will continue advertising the position on Indeed and the County website. Previously Mally was the only employee working at the gravel pit; going forward they will have two employees at the gravel pit. Both employees will report to the Highway Superintendent.

Correspondence

- Aging Partners August 2026 Meeting Agenda etc.
- BVCA August 2026 Meeting Agenda etc.
- NDOT Bridge Responsibility Letter

There is a Planning Commission meeting this coming Wednesday, August 19th, at 6:00 p.m. at the Highway Department.

No public comment was received.

There being no further business to come before the board, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 11:39 a.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be September 8, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

Lori L. Aschoff, County Clerk

Scott Steager, Chairman

AUGUST 2026 CLAIMS LIST

Vendor Name	Amount
A.F.L.A.C.	\$1,478.27
Accu Steel, Inc.	\$27,550.00
ADVANCED AUTO GLASS	\$1,245.00
ADVANCED CORRECTIONAL HEALTHCARE	\$2,605.40
AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION	\$201.00
AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION	\$44,386.42
APPLIED CONNECTIVE TECHNOLOGIES	\$7,498.55

BANK OF THE VALLEY	\$2,315.00
BARCO MUNICIPAL PRODUCTS, INC.	\$446.35
BAUER BUILT, INC.	\$1,242.40
BENES HEATING AND AIR COND, INC.	\$957.50
Bessey All Purpose Floor Installation	\$400.00
BILL'S TIRE OUTLET, INC.	\$1,392.00
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	\$765.53
BOMGAARS	\$249.99
BRIAN KLUCK	\$375.00
BROMM LINDAHL FREEMAN-CADDY & LAUST	\$337.50
BURESH MEATS	\$989.65
BUTLER COUNTY ATTORNEY	\$115.00
BUTLER COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	\$1,000.00
BUTLER COUNTY CLINIC, P.C.	\$135.00
BUTLER COUNTY DETENTION	\$162.64
BUTLER COUNTY DISTRICT COURT	\$173.00
BUTLER COUNTY HEALTH	\$3,783.33
BUTLER COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS	\$116.00
BUTLER COUNTY RURAL TRANSIT	\$31.50
BUTLER COUNTY SENIOR SERVICES	\$130.44
BUTLER COUNTY TREASURER	\$3,048.72
BUTLER COUNTY WELDING, INC.	\$99.69
BUTLER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	\$159.99
CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS	\$260.93
CAPITAL CITY TRANSFER SERVICE INC.	\$280.70
CASH-WA DISTRIBUTING	\$3,431.25
CAVALRY SPV I LLC	\$540.35
CHS, INC.	\$2,235.68
CIRCULATION PAYMENT CENTER	\$121.79
CITY OF DAVID CITY	\$216.50
CLEARFLY	\$1,290.64
COLFAX COUNTY SHERIFF	\$18.50
COLUMN SOFTWARE PBC	\$138.93
CONNOISSEUR MEDIA	\$1,000.00
CREDIT MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.	\$1,538.63
CULLIGAN OF COLUMBUS	\$643.31
DALE'S FOOD PRIDE	\$36.29
DAS STATE ACCOUNTING-CENTRAL FINANC	\$380.00
DAVID CITY ACE HARDWARE	\$593.10
DAVID CITY BANNER PRESS	\$26.00
DAVID CITY UTILITIES	\$7,982.75
DC RX INC.	\$722.53
DEBBIE L. SLADKY	\$375.00
E.F.T.P.S.	\$84,017.83
EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	\$17,836.52

EGAN SUPPLY CO.	\$75.00
EGR,BIRKEL & WOLLMER, PC	\$3,050.00
ELDEEN M. KABOUREK	\$11.00
FARM BUREAU	\$19.78
FARMERS COOPERATIVE	\$2,728.50
FIRST NAT'L BANK: DAVID CITY BRANCH	\$570.11
FLS LLC	\$275.00
FRONTIER COOPERATIVE COMPANY	\$2,383.81
GARRATT CALLAHAN	\$280.00
GENE STEFFEY FORD - COLUMBUS	\$781.19
GREAT PLAINS UNIFORMS LLC	\$144.00
HOLIDAY INN-KEARNEY	\$279.90
HOMETOWN LEASING	\$1,744.10
IDEAL PURE WATER OF LINCOLN	\$155.50
INDOFF, INC.	\$603.35
INTOXIMETERS	\$380.00
JACKSON SERVICES, INC.	\$2,348.88
JANE M. DOBESH	\$16.00
JOHNSON SAND & GRAVEL CO. INC.	\$24,317.22
JOYCE THORSON	\$10.00
KateLynn Ness	\$173.25
KC LIFE	\$5,550.11
KOBZA MOTORS, INC.	\$2,105.99
KRACL FUNERAL CHAPEL	\$510.00
KROEGER SAND & GRAVEL	\$73,810.00
LANGUAGE LINE SERVICES	\$62.54
LEGAL SHIELD/ID SHIELD	\$390.05
LIBERTY NAT'L LIFE INSURANCE CO.	\$204.93
LINCOLN JOURNAL STAR	\$1,167.32
LUCILLE FUXA-CUBA	\$10.00
MADISON COUNTY SHERIFF	\$19.43
MARCELLA M. HOWE	\$16.00
MCKINNIS ROOFING & SHEET METAL	\$516.50
MEDICA INSURANCE	\$89,396.02
MENARDS	\$251.19
MIDWEST FENCE CO.-GUARDRAIL SYSTEMS	\$54,237.50
MIDWEST SERVICE & SALES COMPANY	\$6,330.80
MIPS, INC.	\$4,300.39
ML SMITH LAW OFFICE	\$525.00
MONSTER MEDIA	\$1,000.00
NACO	\$40.00
NANCY L. PROCHASKA	\$34.62
NE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES SYSTEM	\$90.00
NEBRASKA FURNITURE MART	\$827.46
NEUJAHR HOME CENTER	\$357.72

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	\$21.09
NIPPON SANJO MATHESON, INC.	\$289.83
NIRMA	\$283,617.00
NMC, LLC	\$2,382.56
NORTHSIDE, INC.	\$25,922.82
NSA/POAN CONFERENCE FUND	\$295.00
PAPER TIGER SHREDDING, INC.	\$84.00
PLATTE COUNTY SHERIFF	\$18.79
PLUNKETT'S PEST CONTROL, INC.	\$304.30
POLK COUNTY SHERIFF	\$48.00
PRIME MEDIA	\$210.00
RADIO TIME BILLING	\$223.00
RC PIT STOP	\$235.09
REGION 5 SYSTEMS	\$4,827.00
REHMER AUTO PARTS, INC.	\$1,508.64
RERUCHA AG & AUTO SUPPLY	\$1,556.34
SACK LUMBER #2	\$955.00
SCHMID AND SONS ENTERPRISES, INC.	\$446.87
SHAFFER COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	\$500.00
SPORTS EXPRESS DOING BUSINESS AS-	\$558.50
STATE OF NE/DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	\$11,872.21
STEAGER IRRIGATION LLC	\$110.00
SUMMIT FOOD SERVICE, LLC	\$12,242.19
SUPERSAVER	\$301.31
T-MOBILE	\$601.58
THE COLUMBUS TELEGRAM	\$113.49
THE WALDINGER CORPORATION	\$4,267.80
THOMAS & THOMAS COURT REPORTERS	\$431.40
THOMSON REUTERS-WEST	\$2,669.77
TIMOTHY SOPINSKI	\$6,250.00
TROUBA LAW OFFICES	\$893.75
TRUCK CENTER COMPANIES	\$1,419.61
UNITI / WINDSTREAM COMMUNICATIONS	\$2,306.84
VERIZON WIRELESS	\$30.02
VILLAGE OF BRAINARD	\$54.12
VILLAGE OF ULYSSES	\$52.73
VIRTUAL ACADEMY	\$2,000.00
WASTE CONNECTIONS OF NEBRASKA	\$364.15
WESTERN OIL II, LLC	\$335.12
WOOLSEY ELECTRIC, LLC	\$586.00
WRIGHT-WAY DRAIN & SEWER	\$525.00
WYTHERS LAW	\$4,464.50
TOTAL CLAIMS	\$885,073.68