

CHADRON, NEBRASKA

August 26, 2025

DAWES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Public convened meeting of the Dawes County Commissioners in regular session commenced at the hour of 9:00 A.M. on the 26th day of August, 2025 pursuant to public notice as required by law. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Vic Rivera. Board Members present were Walter Juhlin and Jake Stewart. Also present was Cheryl Feist, Dawes County Clerk; Wade Yada, Highway Superintendent; Sam Wellnitz, Treasurer; Katie Schenbeck and Adam Edmund, Deputy County Attorney. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present. Per LB 898, Commissioner Rivera announced the location of the Open Meetings Act located on the door by the United States Flag. Copies of the Act are available upon request. Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Juhlin, moved to approve the agenda. Roll call vote, Ayes: Juhlin, Stewart and Rivera. Nays: None. Motion carried. Minutes of the August 12, 2025 Commissioner Meeting were reviewed. Commissioner Juhlin, seconded by Stewart, moved to approve the minutes with the following changes to wit: Federal Government awards, not receives, funding and Robert Jordan, not Jordan Robert as published. Roll call vote, Ayes: Stewart, Rivera and Juhlin. Nays: None. Motion carried. Monthly fee/mileage reports of the various departments were approved by general consent of the Board. Claims were reviewed. Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Juhlin, moved to approve all claims as submitted with the exception of claim #'s 25080194 in the amount of \$162.69 and 25080225 in the amount of \$1520.50. Roll call vote, Ayes: Rivera, Juhlin and Stewart. Nays: None. Motion carried. Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Juhlin, move to approve claim #'s 25080194 in the amount of \$162.69 and 25080225 in the amount of \$1520.50. Roll call vote, Ayes: Juhlin and Stewart with Rivera abstaining from the vote. Nays: None. Motion carried. Sam Wellnitz, Treasurer and Clifford Steihl joined the meeting. Public Comment ensued with Clifford Steihl advised the board Mr. Mai wants to get his gravel off County Road 50. Commissioner Stewart read aloud a resignation letter received from Rosalene Tollman who is resigning from the Zoning Board. She has been involved since the inception of the Dawes County Zoning Board. The Board wants to take this opportunity to thank Ms. Tollman for her years of service to the Dawes County Zoning Board. Deb Cottier, NNDC and chair of the Heartland Expressway Association, which is a part of a larger group called Ports to Plains, met with the Board. The Heartland Expressway Association is advocating for Federal level funding. A larger effort and product will be ensued with the passing and local support of three resolutions. The first resolution adopted will name all of the route as future Interstate I-27. The second resolution will be a feasibility study re: economic impact and the third resolution adopted will dedicate formula funding. A grassroots support is necessary to take to Washington, D.C. Commissioner Rivera asked about effect on private and public lands by loss of tax revenue. This route will require some ROW but will serve the traveling public according to Cottier. Board reports ensued to wit: **Stewart**-Region 23 met and discussed the NRIN interlocal agreement. **Juhlin**-OHD and Area Aging met, everything is going smoothly. He gives credit to the Chadron and Crawford nursing homes due to no cases filed due to elder abuse. **Rivera**-Region 1 met and appointed a new bookkeeper. Her name is Jeanie Keener. The rest of the meeting was business as usual.

At 9:27 A.M. Wade Yade, Highway Superintendent, presented road updates to wit: District 1 is working on McHenry Road, then will move to Beaver Valley Road. District 2 is working on River Road, hauling gravel and fixing holes. District 3 is hauling on North Whitney Lake Road, then will move to Lemmon Road. Pete is working at the Goff pit. The total number of miles bladed since last meeting is 69.3 according to Yada. District 3 needs spraying done on the sunflowers and firebush according to Commissioner Juhlin. Commissioner Rivera reported

Box Butte County scrapes shoulders to the bottom which in turn helps with weed control. Dawes County will consider this. Justin Madsen has informed the Highway Superintendent he wants an auto gate on Hawthorne Road. The Board directed the Highway Superintendent to go inspect the area in question.

At 9:38 A.M. Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Juhlin, move to enter executive session regarding personnel. Roll call vote, Ayes: Stewart, Rivera and Juhlin. Nays: None. Motion carried. At 10:09 A.M. Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Juhlin, moved to reconvene to regular session with no action taken. Roll call vote, Ayes: Rivera, Juhlin and Stewart. Nays: None. Motion carried. The Board recessed at 10:10 A.M. and reconvened to regular session at 10:13 A.M.

At 10:14 A.M. Robert Jordan, VSO, per a previous MOU with Open Plains Transit the Veteran's office has been receiving \$1.00 per mile to transport Veterans to appointments. To date approximately \$10,000.00 has been collected to date. He reported a new MOU will change the rate to \$1.50 per mile. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Juhlin, approving the new MOU with Open Plains Transit at \$1.50 per mile reimbursement and directed the VSO to sign the new MOU. Roll call vote, Ayes: Juhlin, Stewart and Rivera. The next order of business was review and discussion of the Crawford Law Enforcement Agreement. The amount of the contract is \$216,200.00 annually or \$18,016.67 per month payable to Dawes County. The above figures include all benefits for Officers. Commissioner Juhlin, seconded by Stewart, moved to approve the new contract at \$216,200.00 annually. Roll call vote, Ayes: Stewart, Rivera and Juhlin. Nays: None. Motion carried. The following resolutions were read aloud by Commissioner Stewart and adopted by the Board. Resolution No. 2025-20 was introduced by Commissioner Juhlin, seconded by Stewart, dedicating formula funding re: future interstate highways. Roll call vote, Ayes: Juhlin and Stewart, Nays: Rivera. Motion carried. Resolution No. 2025-21 was introduced by Commissioner Juhlin, seconded by Stewart naming all of the route as future interstate development. Roll call vote, Ayes: Stewart and Juhlin, Nays: Rivera. Motion carried. Resolution No. 2025-22 introduced by Commissioner Juhlin, seconded by Stewart, supporting a feasibility study re: economic impact. Roll call vote, Ayes: Rivera, Juhlin and Stewart. Nays: None. Motion carried.

At 10:21 A.M. Nan Gould, Region 23 Emergency Management, visited with the Board about NRIN which is a regional and statewide data communications sharing network that is owned by Nebraska's local governments. The purpose of NRIN is to connect Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP's) and other public safety agencies. Chadron uses NRIN for State radio connection according to Gould. The cost is \$250.00 per month with the original interlocal agreement being done in 2015 with a term date of 2025. Upon review of the new Interlocal Agreement, Resolution No. 2025-17 was read aloud by Commissioner Stewart and introduced by Commissioner Juhlin. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion. Roll call vote, Ayes: Juhlin, Stewart and Rivera. Nays: None. Motion carried. The 2025 Inventories were reviewed and approved by general consent of the Board. A surplus request from the Weed Department to surplus two (2) metal gates and two (2) hog panels was reviewed. Commissioner Juhlin, seconded by Stewart, moved to surplus the above items and instructed the Clerk to contact our website manager and post notice of sealed bids for one (1) week. Roll call vote, Ayes: Juhlin, Stewart and Rivera. Nays: None. Motion carried.

At 10:52 A.M. Sam Nordick presented a petition request to trench a line across Indian Creek Road. Mr. Nordick also informed the Board a previous petition request approved by the Board to bore a line across Norman Road has been hard to find anybody that will bore the line across Norman Road. Discussion ensued. Commissioner Stewart, seconded by Juhlin, to allow Mr. Nordick to dig across Norman and Indian Creek Roads for water access. Roll call vote,

Ayes: Stewart, Rivera and Juhlin. Nays: None. Motion carried. The Board recessed at 10:59 A.M.

At 1:09 P.M. the Board reconvened to regular session. Roll was called and the following were present, Commissioners Rivera, Juhlin and Stewart. Also present was Cheryl Feist, Dawes County Clerk; Casey Keim, Payroll, Claims, Benefits administrator and Caleb Johnson, Budget Coordinator for Dawes County. Mr. Johnson informed the Board that a little over \$800,000.00 dollars needed to be cut. The Board spent the afternoon meeting with Department Heads regarding their budgets. Adjustments were made to proposed salary increases, line items were reduced in budgets across the board. The Board recessed at 3:46 P.M. and reconvened to regular session at 3:56 P.M. The total 2025-2026 tax asking will be \$4,550,031.39. The County will be required to participate in the LB644 postcard hearings scheduled for September 22, 2025 at the Community Center in Crawford, Ne. The Board adopted the following resolutions to wit: Resolution No. 2025-18 was introduced by Commissioner Juhlin, seconded by Stewart, granting tax allocation requests to Miscellaneous Districts such as the Dawes County Agricultural Society, Chadron and Crawford Rural Fire Districts. Roll call vote, Ayes: Juhlin, Stewart and Rivera. Nays: None. Motion carried. Resolution No. 2025-19 was introduced by Commissioner Juhlin, seconded by Stewart, authorizing Petty Cash Funds. Roll call vote, Ayes: Stewart, Rivera and Juhlin. Nays: None. Motion carried

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 P.M. The next meeting of the Dawes County Commissioners will be held on September 09, 2025 beginning at 9:00 A.M. with a Board of Equalization Meeting, followed by the Commissioner Meeting at approximately 9:20 A.M. Both meetings will be held in the Commissioner Room. The agenda will close at noon on September 04, 2025. **All Resolutions adopted by the Dawes County Board of Commissioners are available for public inspection during normal business hours of the County Clerk's Office.**

ATTEST: _____
Cheryl Feist
Dawes County Clerk

DAWES COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Vic Rivera

August 26, 2025 the following claims were audited, allowed and warrant orders drawn on their respective accounts: Key for claims: 100=General Fund; 200=Roads Fund; 650=HwyBridgeBuyback Program Fund; 990=Visitor's Fund; 1100=Reappraisal Fund; 1150=Preservation&Modernization Fund; 1900=Veterans Aid Fund; 2360=Drug Fund; 2500=Grants Fund; 2501=CDGB Fund 2700=Inheritance; 2910-911=Emergency Communications; 2913=Wireless Communications; 4600= Bond Payment Fund

FUND	NAME	TOTCLAIMS
100	AFLAC	\$2,207.97
100	AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP	\$12,418.78
100	AT&T MOBILITY	\$451.72
100	BLACK HILLS ENERGY-WEED	\$48.66
100	BLACK HILLS ENERGY-250 MAIN ST	\$45.35
100	BLACK HILLS ENERGY-342 MAIN ST	\$45.35
100	BLACK HILLS ENERGY-451 MAIN ST	\$49.72

100	BLACK HILLS WEEKLY GROUP-DIST CT	\$139.99
100	BLUE CROSS & BLUE SHIELD OF NE	\$40,795.04
100	BRANDT COURT REPORTING	\$778.70
100	CASH-WA DISTRIBUTING CO	\$1,915.91
100	CELESTE CATTIN	\$35.94
100	CENTURY BUSINESS PRODUCTS INC	\$608.95
100	CHAMBERLAIN CHAPEL INC	\$2,595.00
100	CRAWFORD CLIPPER/HARRISON SUN	\$55.00
100	CRITES,SHAFFER,CONNEALY,WATSON,HARF	\$1,580.00
100	CULLERS LAW OFFICE	\$520.00
100	DAS STATE ACCOUNTING	\$46.00
100	DAWES CO TREAS/DELINQUENT PP TAXES	\$669.86
100	DAWES CO TREAS/NPERS PAY BACK 624	\$8.43
100	DAWES CO TREAS/NPERS PAY BACK 651	\$56.38
100	DAWES COUNTY COURT	\$484.00
100	DAWES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	\$10.00
100	DAWES COUNTY TREASURER	\$304.50
100	DOUGLAS,KELLY,OSTDIEK,OSSIAN,BRODER	\$2,681.76
100	DOWNS RURAL SERVICE	\$1,456.98
100	AUDREY M LONG	\$1,100.00
100	CHERYL FEIST	\$142.80
100	FIRE & ICE MECHANICAL	\$20,441.07
100	FIRST BANKCARD/CHERYL FEIST	\$30.51
100	FIRST BANKCARD/EXTENSION	\$15.26
100	FIRST BANKCARD/ROBERTA COLEMAN	\$115.15
100	FIRST NATIONAL BANK, NORTH PLATTE	\$21,308.56
100	GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS	\$160.00
100	HARRIS SALES COMPANY INC	\$67.25
100	INTRALINKS,INC	\$115.00
100	JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL-WEED	\$43.94
100	LINCOLN COUNTY DETENTION CENTER	\$960.00
100	LUMEN TECHNOLOGIES GROUP	\$26.24
100	LUMEN TECHNOLOGIES,LLC	\$6.17
100	NE PUBLIC HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL LAB	\$210.00
100	NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	\$2,879.67
100	NEBRASKA SHERIFF'S ASSOCIATION	\$200.00
100	NORTHWEST RURAL PUBLIC POWER DIST	\$224.87
100	NOSSAMAN PETIT LAW FIRM,PC	\$4,206.45
100	PENNINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	\$60.00
100	MARTHA QUAY	\$8.75
100	RIVER A HOLDING LLC	\$162.69
100	TREE DOC	\$1,830.14

100	VIAERO WIRELESS-WEED	\$82.18
100	VSP VISION PLAN	\$271.90
100	SAM WELLNITZ	\$41.94
100	WOODS & AITKEN LLP	\$754.00
100	XEROX CORPORATION/E911	\$341.50
100	XEROX CORPORATION/SHERIFF	\$75.64
100	XEROX CORPORATION/TREASURER	\$14.00
100	XEROX CORPORATION/VETERANS OFFICE	\$121.17
100	YELLOW ROBE CONSULTING INC	\$1,800.00
200	AFLAC	\$449.81
200	AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP	\$1,301.15
200	BLACK HILLS ENERGY-ROADS	\$132.62
200	BLUE CROSS & BLUE SHIELD OF NE	\$1,395.54
200	BRAD'S TRUCK SERVICE	\$2,486.22
200	DONALD EDELMAN	\$60.00
200	FIRST NATIONAL BANK, NORTH PLATTE	\$3,592.39
200	HENCEY PLUMBING & HYDRONICS,INC	\$198.00
200	JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL-ROADS	\$91.29
200	KAISER TIRE MOBILE SERVICE	\$305.50
200	KAISER TIRE,LLC	\$9,134.00
200	LAWSON PRODUCTS INC	\$1,648.40
200	LITTREL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY	\$826.75
200	LUMEN TECHNOLOGIES GROUP	\$6.17
200	MEDICAL ENTERPRISES,INC	\$77.00
200	MONTANA CSED SDU-WAGE WITHOLDING	\$165.00
200	NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	\$774.93
200	NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	\$51.76
200	NORTHWEST RURAL PUBLIC POWER DIST	\$129.26
200	PHILLIPS F & T INC	\$1,734.50
200	RIVER A HOLDING LLC	\$1,520.50
200	STURDEVANT'S AUTO PARTS	\$20.00
200	KURT TREMAIN	\$700.00
200	VSP VISION PLAN	\$100.78
200	WALTER FIELD REPAIR	\$4,522.26
200	WESTCO	\$26,949.91
990	AFLAC	\$33.38
990	AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP	\$84.64
990	BLUE CROSS & BLUE SHIELD OF NE	\$116.98
990	FIRST NATIONAL BANK, NORTH PLATTE	\$161.02
990	NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	\$30.81
990	VSP VISION PLAN	\$10.08
1900	VETERANS SERVICE OFFICE	\$125.00

2910	AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP	\$4.50
2910	FIRST BANKCARD/E-911	\$114.89
2910	FIRST NATIONAL BANK, NORTH PLATTE	\$17.86
2910	NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	\$3.77