

The Webster County Board of Commissioners met at 8:30am on Tuesday, December 2, 2025, for their regular Business Meeting at the Courthouse in Red Cloud, Nebraska. The Board stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman, Dan Shipman gave notice of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act Laws. The following Board Members were present for roll call: Dan Shipman (District One), Trevor Karr (District Two), Jeff Mans (District Three), Tim Gilbert (District Four) and Gary Ratzlaff (District Five). Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Karr to approve minutes of the November 18, 2025, meeting. Voting in favor: Shipman, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Mans and Karr. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Mans to pay claims and payroll for the December 2, 2025, meeting. Voting in favor: Shipman, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Mans and Karr. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None.

At 8:35 am, Road Superintendent Paul Stoner met with the board to provide an update on equipment maintenance. He also reported that NCK is currently hauling rock to the feedlot road. The board held discussion regarding a used tractor. Following this discussion, a motion was made by Mans, seconded by Karr, to grant Paul purchasing authority in an amount up to forty thousand dollars. Paul also addressed concerns regarding landowners operating their own equipment on county roads and individuals removing gravel from county roads for personal use. This is illegal, and if it continues, the board will consult with the county attorney.

The board further discussed additional concerns received from the public regarding county road conditions.

At 9:10am, Dan Shipman presented the specifications for the jail cell shelter to the board for review. The specifications will be published in the newspaper to solicit bids and will be available for pickup or via email from the Clerk's office.

Trevor then discussed plans for the parking lot, stating that white rock has been arranged to be delivered for both the new and existing parking lot.

At 9:15am, County Clerk Abbey Harig met with the board to present the lighting quote from Energized Electric. After reviewing and discussing this, a motion was made by Karr, seconded by Ratzlaff to approve this with a completion deadline of March 1st, 2026. Voting in favor: Shipman, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Mans and Karr. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None.

At 9:20am, Treasurer Janet Knehans met with the board to present investment applications from the following institutions: South Central State Bank, Cornerstone Bank, Heritage Bank, and NPAIT. After reviewing, Dan Shipman signed these.

At 9:30am, Abbey presented a proposal from Essink Brothers Drywall, which included three separate quotes: one for repairing the south, east, and west walls from the lower level to the ceiling; a second for the hallways; and a third for the courtroom wall with paneling. After review and discussion, a motion was made by Gilbert, seconded by Ratzlaff to accept the bid for all three projects. Voting in favor: Shipman, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Mans and Karr. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None.

The Board then reviewed a burial assistance application. After discussion, Gilbert made a motion to approve the application, which was seconded by Ratzlaff. Voting in favor: Shipman, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Mans and Karr. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None.

The Board then discussed a burial plot at Pleasant Hill Cemetery. After reviewing the available plots, the Board selected Plot 61 for remains received by the County. Dan reported that he has spoken with someone about creating a sign for the site. This matter will be presented for further discussion at a future meeting.

At 9:45am, Gene Horne with the Red Cloud Ambulance met with the Board to discuss an EMT who had slipped and fallen while on a call. Gene inquired about the process for handling such incidents. Abbey will complete an accident report following the meeting.

At 9:50am, The Board held a conference call with Jerad Reimers from Congressman Adrian Smith's office. Jerad provided the Board with an update on current activities and matters occurring within Congressman Smith's office.

At 10:10am, Ron Brumbaugh met with the Board to provide an update on the ongoing sewer issues at the courthouse. He reported that the company working on the matter will need to return with a different setup, including a longer hose and camera. The issues have not yet been resolved, but work is continuing.

At 10:20am, Nebraska Extension Office Manager, Alexa Pedersen, met with the board to present options for shelving in a spare office downstairs to store overflow materials from their office. The commissioners agreed to purchase two shelving units — one for the Extension Office and one for general courthouse use.

At 10:30am, The board reviewed the District Court report, Imprest Account and the financial report.

Total Wages -\$8,502.69

GENERAL FUND: Alexa Pedersen (Mileage)-\$114.80; Ameritas Life Ins Corp (Health)-\$60.75; AT&T Mobility (Phones)-\$529.04; Business World Products (Supply)-\$445.65; CINTAS (Supply)-\$67.28; City of Red Cloud (Utility)-\$1,430.04; Crown Plaza Kearney (Lodging)-\$129.95; Culligan of Hastings (Water)-\$84.15; EFTPS (SS/FICA)-\$87.26; Eakes Office Solutions (Supply)-\$20.00; First Concord Benefits (Buydown)-\$13.87; First Concord Benefits Group (Fees)-\$850.00; First National Bank Omaha (Supply)-\$196.36; Franklin County Sheriff (Service Fees)-\$18.50; G&P Development Landfill (Jail Demo)-\$5,250.00; Galls, Inc (Uniforms)-\$336.91; Great Plains Communications (Phones)-\$2,317.16; J&A Auto Supply (Supply)-\$35.96; Katie Bolte (Mileage)-\$225.68; Madison National Life Ins (Life)-\$354.93; Midwest Connect (Supply)-\$284.00; South Central Pub Power Dist (Utility)-\$24.80; Standard Appraisal Services Inc (Reviews)-\$6,263.00; Sullivan Shoemaker PC LLO (Counsel)-\$2,256.66; Tyler Technologies (Program)-\$475.94; Web Co Sheriff-Petty Cash Fund (Petty Cash)-\$178.36; Williams Exterminating, Inc (Pest Control)-\$88.00. **ROAD/BRIDGE FUND:** Ben Hobbs (Dirt)-\$750.00; Black Hills Energy (Utility)-\$187.25; City of Blue Hill (Utility)-\$132.19; Darrel Buschkoetter (Misc)-\$100.00; First National Bank Omaha (Supply)-\$27.82; Great Plains Communications (Phones)-\$50.86; Hometown Market (Supply)-\$40.77; John Deer Financial (Supply)-\$438.42; LRNRD Rural Water Project (Utility)-\$26.40; Mid-Nebraska Aggregate, Inc (Supply)-\$8,447.68; Nebraska Machinery Company (Supply)-\$3,320.00; Newman Signs, Inc (Supply)-\$80.22; Olson Enterprises LLC (Fuel)-\$11,533.78; Raynor Garage Doors of Central NE (Repairs)-\$22.00; Vontz Truck & Equipment (Trailer)-\$25,500.00; Werner Aggregates, Inc (Supply)-\$59,133.54; Windstream (Phones)-\$94.25. **SELF-INSURED DENTAL FUND:** Hastings Family Dental, LLC (Dental)-\$66.00; Minden Dental Clinic (Dental)-\$2,574.20; Pediatric Dental Specialists (Dental)-\$70.40; Webster County Dental (Dental)-\$294.80. **911 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:** GeoComm (Mapping)-\$6,615.00. **RC AMBULANCE SERVICE #1 FUND:** EFTPS (SS/FICA)-\$349.80; Great Plains Communications (Phones)-\$49.56; Jared's Auto Expert (Repairs)-\$346.96. **BH AMBULANCE SERVICE #2 FUND:** EFTPS (SS/FICA)-\$213.45.

Being no further business, Chairman, Dan Shipman adjourned the meeting at 10:35am. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, at 8:30am. A current agenda and complete minutes are on file in the County Clerk's Office and at www.co.webster.ne.us.

Dated 2 day of December 2025
Webster County Board of Commissioners

Abbey Harig
Webster County Clerk