

The Webster County Board of Commissioners met at 8:30am on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, 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). A motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Karr to approve minutes of the May 19, 2026, meeting. Voting in favor: Shipman, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Mans and Karr. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Motion was made by Mans, seconded by Karr to pay claims and payroll for the June 2, 2026, meeting. Voting in favor: Shipman, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Mans and Karr. Voting nay, absent or abstaining: None. Board reviewed mail and discussed meetings that they had attended.

At 8:45 a.m., Road Foreman Paul Stoner met with the Board and provided updates on current and upcoming projects, as well as equipment matters.

At 9:00 a.m., the Board met with County Attorney Patrick Calkins to discuss the hospital. Patrick stated that he would have an update at the next board meeting.

At 9:15 a.m., County Clerk Abbey Harig met with the Board to provide an update on the courtroom air conditioning. She also presented information from NACO regarding this year's printing and mailing of the Joint Public Hearing postcards. A motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Gilbert, to designate the State Print Shop and Pitney Bowes through NACO for this year's Joint Public Hearing postcards. Voting in favor: Shipman, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Mans, and Karr. Voting nay, absent, or abstaining: None.

The Board also discussed the policy manual and requested a meeting to complete updates to existing policies and review new policies. A policy meeting will be held following the June 16 board meeting.

At 9:30 a.m., Noxious Weed Superintendent Brian Pedersen met with the Board and presented photographs of properties that had received 10-day notices. One property had been brought into compliance by the landowner, while another will be force sprayed. Brian also provided updates on grant activities.

At 9:45 a.m., Midland Area Agency on Aging Executive Director Casey Muzic met with the Board to present the agency's funding request for FY 2027 and review highlights and demographic information from the previous year. Casey also discussed several programs offered by Midlands. A motion was made by Karr, seconded by Ratzlaff, to approve the annual membership, FY 2027 funding request, and billing for Webster County Public Transit. Voting in favor: Shipman, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Mans, and Karr. Voting nay, absent, or abstaining: None.

At 10:30 a.m., the Board discussed Cash in Lieu. A motion was made by Ratzlaff, seconded by Karr, to approve 50% of the new single health insurance premium for employees who elect Cash in Lieu. Voting in favor: Shipman, Ratzlaff, Gilbert, Mans, and Karr. Voting nay, absent, or abstaining: None.

The Board then discussed employee wages. A motion was made by Gilbert to approve a 2.5% wage increase. The motion failed due to a lack of a second. A motion was then made by Karr, seconded by Ratzlaff, to approve a 3% wage increase. Voting in favor: Shipman, Ratzlaff, and Karr. Voting nay: Gilbert and Mans. Voting absent or abstaining: None.

Total Payroll - \$12,436.68

GENERAL FUND: Alexa Pedersen (Expense)-\$728.52; Ameritas Life Ins Corp (Health)-\$363.75; Arlene Wiley (Elections)-\$61.90; Bert's Pharmacy (Supply)-\$45.92; Brian Pedersen (Expense)-\$319.07; Busch Construction (Mow Cemeteries)-\$670.00; Business World Products (Supply)-\$13.24; Cintas (Supply)-\$61.87; City of Red Cloud (Utility)-\$1,231.49; Culligan of Hastings (Water)-\$13.20; EFTPS (SS/FICA)-\$370.59; Eakes Office Solutions (Supply)-\$650.91; Elizabeth Janning (Mileage)-\$29.73; First Light Child Advocacy Center (Funding)-\$1,000.00; First National Bank Omaha (Supply)-\$1,325.51; Freedom and Glory (Flags)-\$170.96; Great Plains Communications (Phones)-\$2,320.86; Jared's Auto Expert (Repairs)-

\$140.77; Katie Bolte (Mileage)-\$565.10; Klein, Brewster, Brandy & Messersmith (Counsel)-\$149.50; Lieske Law Firm (Counsel)-\$813.50; Madison National Life Ins Co, Inc (Life)-\$352.87; MARC (Supply)-\$589.50; Midland Area Agency on Aging (Handibus)-\$1,124.00; NACO (Registration)-\$450.00; NIRMA (Fees)-\$40.00; Pierce Electronics (Repairs)-\$984.77; Superior Fire Extinguisher Co (Inspections)-\$428.00; Web Co Clerk Dist Court (Filing Fees)-\$114.00; Web Co Sheriff-Petty Cash Fund (Petty Cash)-\$138.92; Williams Exterminating, Inc (Pest Control)-\$88.00; Woods|Aitken (Counsel)-\$2,052.00. ROAD/BRIDGE FUND: Black Hills Energy (Utility)-\$85.82; City of Blue Hill (Utility)-\$130.67; Eakes Office Solutions (Supply)-\$92.31; First National Bank Omaha (Supply)-\$27.82; Glenwood Telecommunications (Phones)-\$109.73; Great Plains Communications (Phones)-\$50.80; J&A Auto Supply (Supply)-\$127.53; Jared's Auto Expert (Repairs)-\$1,788.31; John Deere Financial (Supply)-\$1,136.09; LRNRD Rural Water Project (Utility)-\$26.40; NAPA Auto Parts (Supply)-\$112.99; Nebraska Machinery Co (Repairs)-\$1,123.63; Newman Signs, Inc (Signs)-\$1,672.50; Olson Enterprises LLC (Fuel)-\$3,908.36; R&M Disposal LLC (Utility)-\$94.00; Van Diest Supply Co (Supply)-\$4,194.00; Windstream (Phones)-\$96.62. ROAD/BRIDGE CONST FUND: Oak Creed Engineering, LLC (Engineering)-\$19,171.10; Van Kirk Contracting (Supply)-\$190,636.89. SELF-INSURED DENTAL FUND: Fort Theatre Dentistry (Dental)-\$684.50; Minden Dental Clinic (Dental)-\$539.20; Minden Dental Clinic (Dental)-\$539.20; RC Wilson & SA Wilson DDS, PC (Dental)-\$384.00. RC AMBULANCE SERVICE #1 FUND: EFTPS (SS/FICA)-\$312.27; Great Plains Communications (Phones)-\$49.51; Metro-Billing Services (Billing)-\$325.00; Red Cloud EMTs (Supply)-\$1,239.58. BH AMBULANCE SERVICE #2 FUND: EFTPS (SS/FICA)-\$268.59; Metro-Billing Services (Billing)-\$25.00.

Being no further business, Chairman, Dan Shipman adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 16, 2026, 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 3 day of June 2026
Webster County Board of Commissioners

Abbey Harig
Webster County Clerk