

These minutes are unofficial until approved by the Board July 7, 2025

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MEETINGS

June 23, 2025

The Red Willow County Board of Commissioners and the Board of Equalization met in the Commissioners' Room in the courthouse on June 23, 2025. A notice of the meetings was published in the McCook Gazette and posted on the County's website. The combined agenda was e-mailed to each commissioner and the news media, uploaded on the County's website, and kept current and available to the public at the County Clerk's Office.

At 8:30 a.m. Chairman Ted Gans called the Board of Commissioners meeting to order with the following members present: Commissioners Ted Gans, Randy Dean and Charles Fritsche. Gans informed the public about the location of the posted Open Meetings Act.

A motion was made by Fritsche, seconded by Dean, to approve the agendas as revised below. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

A motion was made by Dean, seconded by Fritsche, to add the approval of Resolution No. 1560 to accept the 2025 LEOP procedures to the agenda. Roll Call; Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

The Board reviewed accounts payable and payroll claims.

At 9:00 a.m. Chairman Gans offered the floor for Citizens' Comments. No one was present.

Chairman Gans recessed the Board of Commissioners meeting for the Board of Equalization.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MEETING:

Chairman Randy Dean called the Board of Equalization meeting to order at 9:13 a.m. with the following members present: Commissioners Ted Gans, Randy Dean and Charles Fritsche. Dean informed the public about the location of the posted Open Meetings Act.

Lori Stevens, Assessor, presented one omitted property, a building erected in 2024 on Klinkebiel Cattle Company. The increased value is \$139,464.00.

A motion was made by Gans, seconded by Fritsche, to approve the omitted property and correct the tax records. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

Crystal Dack, Treasurer, joined the Board to present a Motor Vehicle Tax Exemption Application for Community Hospital. They are adding a Toyota Rav4 to their home health fleet.

A motion was made by Gans, seconded by Fritsche, to approve the motor vehicle tax exemption for Community Hospital. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

Chairman Dean adjourned the Board of Equalization meeting at 9:22 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING: (Reconvened)

Chairman Gans reconvened the Board of Commissioners meeting at 9:22 a.m.

The Board was joined by Kaye T. Bieck, Family Resource Center to discuss their annual report and request for future support. Kathy Haas retired recently and is missed. Their current financial concerns are the increase in minimum wage and an increase in their rent. Barb Ostrum spoke in support of the agency, explaining the benefits of the work they do.

A motion was made by Dean, seconded by Fritsche, to approve continued support in the amount of \$7,500.00 for the fiscal year 2025/2026. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

A motion was made by Dean, seconded by Fritsche, to recess the regular meeting and enter into a public hearing at 9:45 a.m. to receive public comments on the Application for Conditional Use Permit submitted for Ruggles Farms, Inc by Settje Agri-Services & Engineering, Inc. for a Conditional Use Permit for a livestock feeding operation expansion on property described as a tract of land being Part of the Northeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 3 North, Range 29 West and also part of the Northwest Quarter and South-Half of Section 12, Township 3 North, Range 29 West of the 6th P.M., Red Willow County, Nebraska.

Dave Kucera with Settje Agri-Services & Engineering Inc. was present to answer any questions from the Board.

Craig Bennett, Zoning Administrator, joined the hearing via phone and confirmed that the Planning & Zoning Committee recommended approval of this conditional use permit. The project follows the County's zoning regulations and the impact easements that are required for Class 1 LFOs.

Kucera explained that even though the footprint of the facility is increasing along with the number of animals, they will remain in the same class. The overflow will be applied through irrigation.

A motion was made by Fritsche, seconded by Dean, to adjourn the public hearing at 9:53 a.m. and reconvene the regular meeting. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

A motion was made by Dean, seconded by Fritsche, to adopt Resolution No. 1559, Book 24, Page 56, to approve the application for Conditional Use Permit submitted by Ruggles Farms, Inc by Settje Agri-Services & Engineering, Inc. for a Conditional Use Permit for a livestock feeding operation expansion on property described as a tract of land being Part of the Northeast Quarter of Section 11, Township 3 North, Range 29 West and also part of the Northwest Quarter and South-Half of Section 12, Township 3 North, Range 29 West of the 6th P.M., Red Willow County, Nebraska. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

The Board opened armor coat bids for the 2025 armor coat project at 10:00 a.m. B & H Paving from Scott City, Kansas, was the only bidder. They proposed two different options:

B&H's bids were \$169,726 using MC3000 oil and \$216,802 using CRS2-P oil.

A motion was made by Dean, seconded by Fritsche, to accept the bid from B&H using MC3000 oil for the 11.3-mile 2025 armor coat project for \$169,726. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

Beth Farrell with NACO joined the Board with an update. She went through dates for upcoming meetings and training. LB468 did not pass, so inheritance tax is still in place. The issue may resume in the 2026 session. LB647 clarifies a property tax bill. LB373 can vacate roads without a road study by the road superintendent. LB561 addresses overweight permits for hauling dairy milk. LB97 will allow a single license plate on the rear of vehicles in 2029. Counties will not have to provide office space for DHHS beginning in 2028.

Kylie Joyce with Region II Services and Mandy Broussard with SWATTS joined the Board with their annual reports. Joyce explained the programs that they offer and types of the public they serve. Mandy updated the Board on changes happening at Southwest Area Training Center.

Joyce Anderson with the McCook Humane Society joined the Board to discuss continued support. They are requesting an increase from \$400 per month to \$500 per month. Anderson explained the obstacles they must overcome. A motion was made by Dean, seconded by Fritsche, to approve continued support in the amount of \$450.00 per month for the 2025/2026 fiscal year. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

The Board discussed the revised proposal for the City of McCook Dispatch Services. A motion was made by Gans, seconded by Fritsche, to approve the proposal for \$107,367.00 for the 2025/2026 fiscal year. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

The Board reviewed an NDOT map to determine classification of county roads. A motion was made by Dean, seconded by Fritsche, to approve the NDOT County map. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

A motion was made by Dean, seconded by Fritsche, to remove item 3) surplus items for Hazardous Waste from the Consent Agenda. Roll Call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

A motion was made by Fritsche, seconded by Dean, to approve the remaining items on the consent agenda: 1) minutes from the previous Board of Commissioners and Board of Equalization meetings, 2) accounts payable and payroll claims in the amount of \$ 592,661.28. 4) Resolution 1558 to Set Dates for Protest Hearings, 5) Agreement with Daniel Miller CPA regarding Preparation of Budget. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

A motion was made by Dean, seconded by Fritsche, to approve Resolution No. 1560 to update the LEOP procedures. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

The following correspondence was reviewed and placed on file: Nebraska Tax Commission – Notice of Appeal from Ryan Wilcox.

The Clerk's Monthly Revenue Report was reviewed and placed on file.

The following claims were allowed:

GENERAL FUND NET SALARIES 157,527.80 Acme Printing 555.00 AFLAC 1,822.03 Retirement Plans Division Ameritas 23,100.67 AT&T Mobility 406.76 Black Hills Energy 102.78 Brighthouse Financial 50.00 Carquest Auto Parts 59.19 City Of McCook 1,020.00 Colonial Life 233.18 Penelope Cooper 1,042.30 Credit Management Services 161.74 Justin M Daake 3,437.50 Crystal Dack 385.40 Das State Accounting 178.75 Double D Lawn & Landscaping 100.00 Douglas County Sheriff 10.92 Doyle Auto Repair 102.06 Eakes Office Solutions 1,130.90 Empower Retirement 1,200.00 Fairfield Inn & Suites By Marriott 358.00 Frenchman Valley Co-Op 1,028.57 Garys Inc 20.00 Great Plains Communications Inc 1,579.43 Hall County Sheriff 6.50 Tammie Hilker 47.25 Ideal Linen Supply 134.55 Justice Data Solutions Inc 8,100.00 Pip Marketing Signs Print 322.20 Masa Global Building 280.00 McCook Gazette 62.29 MNB Bank 43,320.59 MNB Bank - HSA 250.00 MNB Bank 76.01 Miller & Associates Consulting Eng 1,950.00 Mousel Brooks Schneider & Mustion 525.00 Mph Industries Inc 6,027.92 NACO 1,763.00 Nebraska Department Of Revenue 6,332.56 Lori O'Dea 422.64 On Target Ammunition LLC 4,560.00 Physicians Laboratory PC 486.00 Principal Voluntary Child Life 6.00 Principal Voluntary Employee Life 224.57 Principal Voluntary Spouse Life 86.48 Quill Corporation 1,669.86 Red Willow County Self Insurance 4,750.00 Red Willow County Clerk 821.67 Red Willow County Treasurer 1,937.00 Michael T Simmonds 41.30 Tk Elevator Corporation 512.43 20/20 Technologies LLC 10,034.00 Twin Rivers Transfer 523.55 University Of Nebraska - Lincoln 20.52 U S Bank 79.39 Principal Vision Plan 362.32 Walmart/Capital One 188.00 Walter Heating, Cooling & Const LLC 240.00 Witness Fees - Co Court 106.80 Delton Young 80.00 TOTAL 291,963.38 ROAD FUND NET SALARIES 38,910.95 AFLAC 231.61 Retirement Plans Division Ameritas 5,668.75 Black Hills Energy 162.18 C & K Distributors 62.04 Carquest Auto Parts 150.00 City Of McCook 36.12 Croell Inc 7,951.80 D & S Hardware 17.07 Decatur Co- Op Association 6,765.45 Empower Retirement 100.00 Great Plains Communications Inc 41.37 Lakeside Sand & Gravel LLC 9,047.69 Lingo Communications 36.42 Lords Inc 215.20 Masa Global Building 98.00 MNB Bank 11,742.74 Mead Lumber 4.86 Mittens 435.14 Nationwide Retirement Solutions 400.00 Nebraska Department Of Revenue 1,714.67 NMC Exchange LLC 6,421.22 Odiss Enterprises LLC 2,500.00 Paulsen Inc 4,794.44 Principal Voluntary Child Life 5.00 Principal Voluntary Employee Life 258.81 Principal Voluntary Spouse Life 3.99 Quality Urgent Care 50.00 Red Willow County Self Insurance 1,350.00 Ruggles Truck & Trailer Sales LLC 775.00 Southwest Farm & Auto Supply 168.64 Titan Machinery 49.38 Twin Valleys Public Power District 82.90 Principal Vision Plan 89.22 White's Auto Glass Inc 282.91 TOTAL 100,623.57 FAIR FUND NET SALARIES 8,125.22 Retirement Plans Division Ameritas 1,203.72 Black Hills Energy 217.84 Brico Pest Control 890.00 Chipperfield Ag Erectors LLC 7,991.96 Lakeside Sand & Gravel LLC 2,780.44 Masa Global Building 14.00 MNB Bank 2,450.89 Nebraska Child Support 410.00 Nebraska Department Of Revenue 386.73 Principal Voluntary Child Life 5.00 Principal Voluntary Employee Life 39.50 Principal Voluntary Spouse Life 7.95 Red Willow County Self Insurance 100.00 Richards Gravel Pit, Inc 3,543.46 Principal Vision Plan 26.05 TOTAL 28,192.76 HEALTH FUND Lucent Health Solutions LLC 33,746.31 Lucent Health Solutions LLC 82,011.48 TOTAL 115,757.79 HORSE ARENA FUND NET SALARIES 6,099.91 Retirement Plans Division Ameritas 703.37 Black Hills Energy 202.55 Dr. Drain Rescue 415.00 J.L. Construction 1,500.00 MNB Bank 1,512.30 Nebraska Department Of Revenue 175.95 Red Willow County Self Insurance 200.00 Richards Gravel Pit, Inc 3,543.46 Red Willow County Road Dept 1,331.61 RWRS, LLC 5,265.00 Principal Vision Plan 26.05 V K Electronics 2,315.00 TOTAL 23,290.20 HEALTH DEPARTMENT FUND NET SALARIES 14,854.69 AFLAC 302.43 Retirement Plans Division Ameritas 1,733.02 Eakes Office Solutions 406.51 Empower Retirement 150.00 Hometown Family Radio 200.00 Masa Global Building 14.00 MNB Bank 3,691.34 McKesson Medical Surgical 1,207.67 Nebraska Department Of Revenue 496.38 Pathology Services PC 522.45 Kristen Puckett 84.39 Principal Voluntary Child Life 5.00 Principal Voluntary Employee Life 13.25 Red Willow County Self Insurance 400.00 Red Willow County Clerk 50.00 US Bank 2,132.91 Principal Vision Plan 39.49 Wal-Mart 92.50 TOTAL 26,396.03 WASTE FUND NET SALARIES 2,365.66 Retirement Plans Division Ameritas 3,117.94 Billie Cole 190.29 Great Plains Communications Inc 205.85 MNB Bank 541.54 Nebraska Department Of Revenue 16.27 TOTAL 6,437.55 GRAND TOTAL 592,661.28

A motion was made by Dean, seconded by Fritsche, to adjourn the Board of Commissioners meeting at 12:00 p.m. to July 7, 2025. Roll Call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

Ted Gans
Chairman, Board of Commissioners

Randy Dean
Chairman, Board of Equalization

Attest: Penelope Cooper
County Clerk