

These minutes are unofficial until approved by the Board October 27, 2025

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MEETINGS

October 6, 2025

The Red Willow County Board of Commissioners and the Board of Equalization met in the Commissioners' Room in the courthouse on October 6, 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 presented. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

The Board reviewed accounts payable claims.

At 9:00 a.m. Chairman Gans offered the floor for Citizens' Comments. Deb Lafferty from the Kiplinger Foundation was present to disagree with comments made by Dean at a recent Coffee Talk.

Wes Wilmot, candidate for the Senate, stopped by to introduce himself to the Board. He asked what concerns the Board has and hopes to alleviate some of those.

A motion was made by Dean, seconded by Gans, to approve the minutes from the September 8, 2025, Board of Commissioners and Board of Equalization meetings. Ayes: Gans, Dean. Abstain: Fritsche.

A motion was made by Dean, seconded by Fritsche, to approve the minutes from the September 22, 2025, Board of Commissioners and Board of Equalization meetings. Ayes: Dean, Fritsche. Abstain: Gans.

A motion was made by Fritsche, seconded by Dean, to approve the following items on the consent agenda: 1) accounts payable claims in the amount of \$, 2) WCNDD – Professional Services Agreement for Comprehensive Plan Project, 3) Resolution No. 1579 to Correct Coding Error, 4) Resolution No. 1580 to Issue Tax Certificates, 5) Three County Roadway Occupancy Agreements for Wilcox Well Drilling, 6) Agreement with Family Resources Inc, 7) NACO Voter Registration Form. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

Chairman Gans recessed the Commissioners' meeting at 9:15 a.m. for the Board of Equalization.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MEETING:

Chairman Randy Dean called the Board of Equalization meeting to order at 9:15 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.

A motion was made by Gans, seconded by Fritsche, to recess the regular meeting and enter into a public hearing at 9:16 a.m. to receive public comments on the 2024/2025 final levies. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

Clerk Penny Cooper presented levies for the following political subdivisions for which the Red Willow County Board of Equalization is empowered to levy or certify a tax levy: McCook Public Schools and Southwest Public Schools, ESU No. 15, Cities of McCook and Indianola, Villages of Bartley, Danbury and Lebanon, rural fire districts of Bartley, Beaver Valley, Indianola and Red Willow Western, cemetery districts of Danbury, Hamburg and Lebanon, Middle Republican NRD, High Plains Historical Society, and the County.

A motion was made by Gans, seconded by Fritsche, to adjourn the public hearing at 9:20 a.m. and reconvene the regular meeting. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

A motion was made by Gans, seconded by Fritsche, to levy the necessary taxes for 2025 and certify all levies as presented for said political subdivisions. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

Lori Stevens, Deputy Assessor, presented a renewal contract with Central Plains Valuation for commercial valuations within the County. The price per hour remained at \$130.00.

A motion was made by Gans, seconded by Fritsche, to approve the contract as presented. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

Chairman Dean adjourned the Board of Equalization meeting at 9:28 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING: (Reconvened)

Chairman Gans reconvened the Board of Commissioners meeting at 9:28 a.m.

Tyler Ruf joined the Board to discuss cost share for culvert cleanout at the intersection of Roads 711 and 407. Ruf found a company that hydro bores culverts to clear them out for \$145.00 per hour.

A motion was made by Dean, seconded by Fritsche, to reimburse Tyler Ruf for the cost of the culvert clean out. Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

Ruf also commented on the Board's moratorium on data centers. He sits on the Twin Valleys Public Power District Board. There are several positives to the data centers, along with the negatives. The main negative is the noise, but there are buffers that can be put in place. The biggest benefit would be to the power district, but citizens would also benefit through consistency and steadier rates.

Carol Schelgel, Tourism Director, presented her Quarterly Report. They received \$456,078.62 in grant requests for their \$223,000.00 budget. Most of the grant funds went toward community improvement projects. Schlegel was awarded the Nebraska Game and Parks partner of the year.

At the Board's request, Brandy Bird, Health Director, presented options for the Generator Maintenance Agreement. She received three bids: Ruggles Truck & Trailer, NMC and Cummins.

Bird also explained the need for a strobe light and a protective cover for the generator.

A motion was made by Dean, seconded by Fritsche, to approve the agreement with the lowest bidder: Ruggles Truck & Trailer for \$8,620.00 over five years. He also moved to approve the purchase of the light and protective cover. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

Bird also wished to discuss the purchase of a vehicle for the Health Department. She presented bids for a 2026 Jeep Compass for \$28,714, and a 2026 Toyota Corolla for \$28,662.

A motion was made by Dean, seconded by Gans, to authorize the purchase of the Toyota Corolla from the Inheritance Fund. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean. Nay: Fritsche.

The Board continued the discussion regarding County Roadway Occupancy Agreement fees. Dusty Tirrell and Dalton Miller with McCook Public Power District. They presented statutes that explain the relationship between political subdivisions and public power districts.

A motion was made by Dean, seconded by Fritsche, to table the issue for the County Attorney's review. Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

The following correspondence was reviewed and placed on file: NACO – Operation Green Light.

The Sheriff's and District Court Clerk's Monthly Revenue Reports were reviewed and placed on file.

The following claims were allowed:

Abbreviations for this legal: S Supplies; SF Sheriff Fees; SC Services & Charges; LF Legal Fees; M Mileage, Meals, Meetings; D Dues, Reg. or Subs; DN Donation; R Rent; RF Refund; T Taxes; TR Training; MH Mental Health Hearing; I Insurance; BP Bond Payment; LP Lease/Loan Payment; C Contract Labor; WF Witness Fees

GENERAL FUND American Electric SC 156.25 Applied Connective Technologies SC 2,068.20 Megan Bellamy SC 312.00 Benchmark Government Solutions LLC S 101.60 Luke Bortner M 23.10 Brico Pest Control SC 200.00 Jessica Campos M 98.36 Capital Business Systems Inc S 90.61 Carquest Auto Parts S 51.26 City Of McCook SC 8,947.25 Consolidated Management Company S 7,903.56 Cranmore Fire Protection LLC SC 560.00 D&S Hardware S 361.64 Crystal Dack M 165.00 Tami Darling S 56.19 Dept Of Revenue/Property Assessment D 75.00 Doyle Auto Repair SC 410.61 Eakes Office Solutions S 756.39 Patty Eisenach M 2.80 ESRI Inc SC 460.00 Goodwin Siegfried LLC LF 656.25 Great Plains Communications Inc SC 449.06 Marc Harpham SC 450.00 Hometown Leasing R 1,070.22 Ideal Linen Supply SC 222.74 Donna Kircher M 58.80 Deb Korte D 204.44 Masonic Temple Craft Inc R 495.00 McCook Humane Society Inc DN 450.00 Microfilm Imaging Systems Inc SC 129.00 Miller & Associates Consulting Eng C 650.00 MIPS

Inc SC 4,144.24 Mousel Brooks Schneider & Mustion LF 162.50 NACO S 35.00 Ne Law Enforcement Training Center SC 450.00 Nebraska Public Power District SC 2,288.26 Nicks Distributing Inc S 378.29 Pathology Services PC SC 270.00 Quality Urgent Care PC SC 8,000.00 Joseph Rothmeyer S 42.98 Red Willow County Court LF 332.00 Red Willow County District Court LF 297.00 Clerk Of District Court Petty Cash S 86.05 Red Willow County Sheriff SF 264.42 Red Willow Co Treasurer Petty Cash S 16.10 Shred-It USA SC 189.94 Michael T Simmonds M 260.40 Ashley K Spahn LF 75.00 Tk Elevator Corporation SC 530.10 Tim Bradley Electric LLC SC 139.88 Toxic Graphics SC 1,028.60 20/20 Technologies LLC SC 3,012.50 University Of Nebraska M 28.42 US Bank S 1,625.37 Verizon Wireless SC 25.83 Volz Inc SC 148.12 Walmart S 123.90 Ryan R Wilcox LF 8,100.00 Window Artisans SC 300.00 Total 59,990.23 ROAD FUND Ag Valley Co-Op SC 4,922.58 AKRS Equipment SC 327.90 BW Telcom SC 99.35 D&S Hardware S 17.99 Floyds Truck Center SC 323.83 Lakeside Sand & Gravel LLC S 321.38 Mid-American Research Chemical Corp S 447.93 Mittens S 1,819.13 Modern Farm Equipment Corp SC 611.76 NMC Exchange L L C SC 8,065.91 Nebraska Public Power District SC 41.21 NKC Tire S 67.12 Paulsen Inc S 14,455.78 Powerplan SC 609.16 Ruggles Truck & Trailer Sales LLC SC 90.00 Southwest Farm & Auto Supply S 858.84 Colton Springer S 350.00 Viaero Wireless SC 320.79 Winzer S 281.95 Total 34,032.61 VISITORS PROMOTION FUND Cutting Horse Assoc Of Neb DN 1,750.00 Flagship Publishing Inc D 651.00 Honorbound IT SC 25.00 Miles Partnership SC 500.00 McCook Gazette SC 10.03 MPCC Rodeo Team DN 1,750.00 US Bank S 162.36 Total 4,848.39 VISITORS IMPROVEMENT FUND Carol E Schlegel C 4,296.25 6th Floor Project DN 7,518.75 Total 11,815.00 FAIR FUND Ace-Yuma SC 42.96 Arnold Motor Supply S 18.08 Brico Pest Control SC 400.00 D&S Hardware S 123.15 Diamond Vogel Paint Center S 99.48 Great Plains Communications Inc SC 171.32 Hometown Leasing R 113.45 John Deere Financial SC 341.69 McCook Gazette SC 4.04 McCook Concrete, Inc S 398.00 McCooknet Internet Service SC 44.00 McCook Utilities SC 528.92 Mead Lumber S 154.26 Mega Music SC 4,250.00 Nebraska Public Power District SC 1,407.12 Nicks Distributing Inc S 1,913.15 Paulsen Inc S 18.40 SRK Enterprise LLC S 1,657.50 Red Willow County Fair Petty Cash SC 55.00 Clarice Shields SC 150.85 Total 11,891.37 SELF-INSURANCE FUND Lucent Health Solutions LLC I 20,799.41 Red Willow County Health Dept I 940.00 Total 21,739.41 ARENA FUND Ace-Yuma SC 108.13 AKRS Equipment S 301.24 American Electric SC 70.00 Brico Pest Control SC 400.00 The Buddy Trailer S 22,162.75 Great Plains Communications Inc SC 100.00 Jon Harris SC 300.00 Maris General Construction LLC SC 1,350.00 McCook Utilities SC 554.66 Modern Farm Equipment Corp S 33.85 NMC Exchange LLC S 587.00 Nebraska Public Power District SC 1,224.71 Raynor Garage Doors Of Ce. Ne. S 3,340.00 Paul L Sutton SC 187.00 Total 30,719.34 HEALTH FUND Change Healthcare Solutions LLC S 106.43 Community Hospital SC 53.86 Eakes Office Solutions S 214.99 Great Plains Communications Inc SC 303.81 Rhea Hernandez M 159.74 Hometown Leasing R 86.12 Moderna USA Inc S 7,865.09 Pathology Services PC SC 2,355.01 Pfizer Inc S 3,798.97 Sanofi Pasteur Inc S 248.83 US Bank S 1,984.39 Lindsay Vigneux M 473.90 Jaymie White M 23.45 Total 17,674.59 WASTE FUND Nebraska Public Power District SC 94.65 Total 94.65 Grand Total 192,805.59.

A motion was made by Fritsche, seconded by Dean, to adjourn the meeting at 11:13 a.m. to October 27, 2025.

Ted Gans
Chairman, Board of Commissioners

Randy Dean
Chairman, Board of Equalization

Attest: Penelope Cooper
County Clerk