

These minutes are unofficial until approved by the Board March 9, 2026

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, BOARD OF EQUALIZATION, AND NOXIOUS WEED AUTHORITY

February 23, 2026

The Red Willow County Board of Commissioners, Board of Equalization and the Noxious Weed Authority met in the Commissioners' Room in the courthouse on February 23, 2026. 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 and payroll claims.

At 9:00 a.m. Chairman Gans offered the floor for Citizens' Comments. Melanie Knight, a District 38 hopeful, introduced herself to the Board. Knight is from Clay Center and understands funding difficulties.

Gans recessed the meeting at 9:12 a.m. for the Board of Equalization.

Chairman Dean called the Board of Equalization to order at 9:12 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 9:15 a.m. Roll Call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

Lori Stevens, Assessor, presented permissive exemptions.

A motion was made by Gans, seconded by Fritsche to adjourn the public hearing at 9:17 a.m. Roll Call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

A motion was made by Gans, seconded by Fritsche, to approve the exemptions as recommended by the Assessor. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche. Dean adjourned the Board of Equalization at 9:19 a.m.

At 9:26 a.m. Chairman Fritsche called the Noxious Weed Control Authority meeting to order with the following members present: Commissioners Ted Gans, Randy Dean, and Charles Fritsche. Fritsche informed the public about the location of the posted Open Meetings Act.

Ron Soden, Noxious Weed Supervisor, presented his annual reports.

Fritsche adjourned the Noxious Weed Control Authority meeting at 9:36 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING: (Reconvened)

Chairman Gans reconvened the Board of Commissioners meeting at 9:36 a.m. The Board discussed the 2026 Armor Coat Project.

A motion was made by Dean, seconded by Fritsche, to open armor coat bids for portions of Cambridge Lake Road – 5 miles, Ravenswood Road – 1 mile, West 3rd Street – 2 miles, and Road 384 – 2 miles at 9:30 a.m. April 13, 2026. Roll Call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

A motion was made by Fritsche, seconded by Dean, to approve the following 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 \$456,016.41, 3) surplus items for Board room and VSO, 4) McCook Public Power District Road Occupancy Permit, 5) appoint Rhea Hernandez as Interim Director of Red Willow County Health Department, 6) appoint Janelle Carter to Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department Board, 7) accept \$14,000 gift from Kiplinger Foundation for tractor lease. Roll call: Ayes: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

The following reports were reviewed and placed on file: Clerk's and Sheriff's Monthly Revenue reports.

The following claims were allowed:

GENERAL FUND Net salaries 163,938.91 AFLAC 2,166.76 Retirement Plans Division Ameritas 23,969.36 Black Hills Energy 2,220.33 Brighthouse Financial 50.00 City Of McCook 920.00 Colonial Life 225.29 Credit Management Services 942.50 Justin M Daake 4,737.50 Jaclyn N Daake 1,812.50 DAS State Accounting 178.75 Eakes Office Solutions 546.53 Empower Retirement 1,050.00 Goodwin Siegfried LLC 100.00 Great Plains Communications Inc 932.55 Tammie Hilker 60.00 Lancaster County Sheriff 18.76 MASA Global Building 266.00 McCook Gazette 1,082.50 MNB Bank 43,734.99 MNB Bank - HSA 250.00 MNB Bank 48.95 Daniel D Miller CPA 280.00 MIPS Inc 2,270.07 Nebraska Department of Revenue 5,950.49 Principal Voluntary Child Life 6.00 Principal Voluntary Employee Life 166.32 Principal Voluntary Spouse Life 86.48 Quadient Leasing Usa, Inc 242.97 Quadient Finance Usa, Inc 505.00 Quill Corporation 227.38 Red Willow County Self Insurance 4,550.00 Region II Human Services 11,691.89 Red Willow County Clerk Petty Cash 20.50 Red Willow County Clerk 735.00 Ashley K Spahn 1,500.00 Statewide Collection LLC 216.45 The Bank 100.00 Principal Vision Plan 366.00 Emily Wood 100.00 Total 278,266.73 ROAD FUND Net Salaries 33,939.19 AFLAC 114.40 Retirement Plans Division Ameritas 5,230.00 Black Hills Energy 338.35 Brazos Trailers LLC 1,057.04 Decatur Co-Op Association 1,099.16 EIA LLC 11,930.09 Empower Retirement 100.00 Fowlers LLC 332.00 Frenchman Valley Co-Op 491.72 Great Plains Communications Inc 106.37 Lingo Communications 36.20 MASA Global Building 84.00 MNB Bank 10,345.62 Mittens 2,028.11 Nationwide Retirement Solutions 400.00 Nebraska Child Support 433.00 Nebraska Department of Revenue 1,398.25 NMC Exchange LLC 340.79 Principal Voluntary Child Life 5.00 Principal Voluntary Employee Life 258.81 Principal Voluntary Spouse Life 3.99 Red Willow County Self Insurance 1,200.00 Ruggles Truck & Trailer Sales LLC 45.00 Twin Valleys Public Power District 134.63 Unitech Inc 224.50 Principal Vision Plan 100.77 Total 71,776.99 FAIR FUND Net Salaries 7,294.00 AFLAC 179.52 Retirement Plans Division Ameritas 1,178.96 MASA Global Building 14.00 MNB Bank 2,095.65 Nebraska Child Support 410.00 Nebraska Department of Revenue 311.54 Principal Voluntary Child Life 5.00 Principal Voluntary Employee Life 61.60 Principal Voluntary Spouse Life 7.95 Red Willow County Self Insurance 400.00 Principal Vision Plan 52.10 Total 12,010.32 SELF-INSURANCE FUND Lucent Health Solutions LLC 38,494.02 Svoboda Benefit Solutions, Inc 718.00 Total 39,212.02 HORSE ARENA FUND Retirement Plans Division Ameritas 567.03 CNH Industrial Accounts 14,805.81 Kully Pipe & Steel

Supply 1,011.84 MNB Bank 953.95 Nebraska Department of Revenue 118.69 Ravenswood Electric LLC 9,501.70 Raynor Garage Doors of Ce.
Ne. 420.00 Red Willow County Self Insurance 200.00 Red Willow County Road Dept 689.78 Principal Vision Plan 26.05 Net Salaries 3,882.91
Total 32,177.76 HEALTH FUND Net Salaries 13,089.92 AFLAC 260.69 Retirement Plans Division Ameritas 1,768.45 Empower Retirement
150.00 MASA Global Building 14.00 MNB Bank 3,351.36 Nebraska Department of Revenue 410.92 Principal Voluntary Child Life 5.00
Principal Voluntary Employee Life 13.25 Red Willow County Self Insurance 400.00 Red Willow County Clerk 110.00 Principal Vision Plan
39.49 Total 19,613.08 WASTE FUND Net salaries 2,175.06 Retirement Plans Division Ameritas 118.13 C&K Distributors 49.87 Great Plains
Communications Inc 174.42 MNB Bank 428.68 Nebraska Department of Revenue 13.35 Total 2,959.51 Grand Total 456,016.41

A motion was made by Fritsche, seconded by Dean, to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 a.m. to March 9, 2026. Roll Call: Gans, Dean, Fritsche.

Ted Gans
Chairman, Board of Commissioners

Randy Dean
Chairman, Board of Equalization

Charles Fritsche,
Chairman, Noxious Weed Authority

Attest: Penelope Cooper
County Clerk