

Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

Trenton, Nebraska
September 2nd, 2025

A meeting of the County Board of Commissioners of Hitchcock County, Nebraska was held at the Hitchcock County Courthouse Commissioner's Room, 229 East D Street, Trenton, Nebraska on Tuesday the 2nd day of September 2025 commencing at 9:00 o'clock a.m. Present were Chair Paul Nichols, Commissioners Christopher Baker and Ron Wertz and County Clerk Margaret Pollmann. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication on August 28th, 2025 in *Scoop Media News*, the designated method for giving notice. Board agendas are posted on the County's website www.hitchcockcounty.ne.gov. Notice of the meeting was given to the Chair and all members of the Board. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public. The Open Meetings Act was available for review and Chair indicated the location of such copy in the room where the meeting was being held.

Chair Nichols called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Member Nichols moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of the following items: Approval of the September 2nd, 2025 agenda and approval of the August 18th, 2025 meeting minutes. Member Wertz seconded the motion and after consideration a roll call vote was had as follows: Baker, Yes Nichols, Yes; Wertz, Yes. Motion carried.

Member Wertz moved to approve the following claims. Member Baker seconded the motion and after consideration a roll call vote was had as follows: Baker, Yes; Nichols, Yes; Wertz, Yes. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND:

General Fund Payroll -----	\$17,509.93
Axon Enterprise Inc., sheriff equipment -----	\$ 184.25
Community 1 st Bank, FICA/OASI/Fed. -----	\$ 4,919.66
DAS State Accounting – Central Finance, data process. -----	\$ 150.00
Dollar General, supply -----	\$ 77.00
Eakes Office Solutions, supply -----	\$ 286.64
John Filippi, coroner fees -----	\$ 1,300.00
Great Plains Uniforms, LLC, uniform allowance -----	\$ 514.50
Liewer Funeral Home, coroner transport -----	\$ 482.50
Med. Air Service Assoc. – B2B, suppl. ins. -----	\$ 12.50
IPS, Inc., data process. -----	\$ 2,106.11
NE Law Enforcement Training Center, training fees -----	\$ 142.00
NE Dept. Rev., state employment tax withholding -----	\$ 745.76
Paul Nichols, mileage -----	\$ 337.40
Planning Commission 8-27-25 meeting per diem/mileage -----	\$ 154.80
Retirement Plans Division Ameritas, retirement -----	\$ 2,528.98
SW Public Power District, utility -----	\$ 4.81
Ashley Spahn, ct. appt. counsel -----	\$ 550.00
UNL-Haskell Ag Lab, registration -----	\$ 115.00
Ryan R. Wilcox, public defender contract -----	\$ 4,000.00

ROAD FUND:

Road Fund Payroll -----	\$13,869.89
Carquest Auto Parts Stores, repair/oil -----	\$ 95.60
Community 1 st Bank, FICA/OASI/Fed. -----	\$ 3,400.48
Modern Farm Equipment Corp., repair -----	\$ 989.52
Lakeside Sand & Gravel, gravel -----	\$10,737.33
Levi Lucero, chemical supplies -----	\$15,120.68
NE Dept. Rev., state employment tax withholding -----	\$ 483.56
Oak Creek Engineering, 1&6 Year Plan preparation -----	\$ 550.00
Retirement Plans Division Ameritas, retirement -----	\$ 1,936.33
Van Diest Supply Co., chemical supplies -----	\$ 245.00
Village of Stratton, utility -----	\$ 146.31

REGISTER OF DEEDS P&M FUND:
MIPS, Inc., data process. ----- \$ 264.94

TRIBAL CONSISTENCY FUND:
Vap Construction Inc., 423 East 3rd St. project ----- \$ 8,925.00

911 EMERGENCY SERVICES FUND:
Great Plains Communications, service ----- \$ 15.36

E-911 PSC FUND:
Great Plains Communications, service ----- \$ 48.60

County Attorney D. Eugene Garner joined the meeting and advised as to the ruling in Hitchcock County Court Case CI 25-1 and the County being a necessary party to said action.

Member Nichols moved to enter into closed session to discuss pending litigation for the protection of the public interest at 9:51 a.m. Member Baker seconded the motion and a roll call vote was had as follows: Baker, Yes; Nichols, Yes; Wertz, Yes. Motion carried and the Chair declared going into closed session for the limited purpose of discussing pending litigation. Those present in closed session, Nichols, Baker, Wertz, and Attorney Garner.

Member Wertz moved to come out of closed session at 10:05 a.m. this date. Member Baker seconded the motion and a roll call vote was had as follows: Baker, Yes; Wertz, Yes; Nichols, Yes. Motion carried.

Member Baker moved to direct Attorney Garner to file a Complaint to Intervene in Hitchcock County District Court Case 25-1. Member Nichols seconded the motion and after discussion a roll call vote was had as follows: Nichols, Yes; Wertz, Yes; Baker, Yes. Motion carried.

Region 51 Emergency Manager Brandon Myers offered the agency's quarterly report. Also present Deputy Emergency Manager Kyle Clapp.

Chair Nichols opened the public hearing relating to the application to the Nebraska Department of Economic Development for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) at 10:31 a.m. as published. The purpose of said grant is for updating the County's Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Regulations. Taylor Provost, Economic Development Specialist with West Central Nebraska Development District advised as to the purpose of said grant. Zoning Administrator Mike Erickson and Planning Commission Chair Dustin Ladenburger were also present.

Chair asked for those in favor of the applying for said grant. Dustin Ladenburger spoke in favor of the grant and advised that the updates are definitely due. Ms. Provost advised as to the grant process.

Chair asked for those against applying for said grant. There were none.

Chair asked for comments from a neutral position. There were none.

Chair Nichols closed the public hearing at 10:36 a.m.

Member Baker moved to retain West Central Nebraska Development District to prepare and submit an application for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) - Planning Grant and to direct chair to execute necessary documents relating to the same. Member Nichols seconded the motion and after discussion a roll call vote was had. Nichols, Yes; Wertz, Yes; Baker, Yes. Motion carried.

Member Wertz offered Resolution #25-15 and moved for its' adoption. Member Nichols seconded the motion and after consideration the roll was called thereupon as follows: Wertz, Yes; Baker, Yes; Nichols, Yes. Said resolution having been consented to by a majority of all members elected to said County Board, was by the Chair declared passed and adopted. A true, correct and complete copy of said resolution is on file in the office of the County Clerk and on the County's website www.hitchcockcounty.ne.gov.

RESOLUTION 25-15
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHIEF ELECTED OFFICIAL
TO SIGN AN APPLICATION FOR CDBG FUNDS

Whereas, the County of Hitchcock, Nebraska, is an eligible unit of a general local government authorized to file an application under the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended for Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program, and,
Whereas, the County of Hitchcock, Nebraska, has obtained its citizens' comments on community development and housing needs; and has conducted public hearing(s) upon the proposed application and received favorable public comment respecting the application which for an amount of 23,000 for Hitchcock County is requesting CDBG funds for a project to update the County's Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Regulations. The need for this project was identified through recognition that the County's current planning documents are outdated and no longer adequately address contemporary land use challenges, economic development opportunities, and regulatory compliance requirements. The proposed planning activities will take place countywide throughout Hitchcock County, with particular focus on unincorporated areas and coordination with incorporated municipalities within the County boundaries.; and,
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY
Board of County Commissioners of Hitchcock County, Nebraska, that the Board Chairman be authorized and directed to proceed with the formulation of any and all contracts, documents or other memoranda between Hitchcock County, Nebraska and the Nebraska Department of Economic Development so as to effect acceptance of the grant application.

Chief Elected Official Signature

Paul Nichols, Chair – Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

Chief Elected Official Printed Name, Title

September 2n, 2025

Date

Zoning Administrator Mike Erickson updated the board on the data center. Discussion held on planning commission form updates.

Member Wertz moved to enter closed session for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual at 11:15 a.m. this date. Member Nichols seconded the motion and a roll call vote was had as follows: Nichols, Yes; Wertz, Yes; Baker, Yes. Chair declared going into closed session for the limited purpose of discussing personnel for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. Those present in closed session, Nichols, Baker, Wertz, Attorney Garner, Sheriff King and Deputy Jones.

Member Nichols moved to come out of closed session at 11:35 a.m. Member Wertz seconded the motion and a roll call vote was had as follows: Nichols, Yes; Baker, Yes; Wertz, Yes. Motion carried.

Sheriff Ryan King and Deputy Tom Jones discussed the Sheriff and Jail budgets with the board.

Budget preparation assistant Daniel D. Miller, CPA joined the meeting for work on the County's 2025/2026 budget.

Commissioner Baker excused himself from the meeting at 12:39 p.m.

Sheriff King and Deputy Jones rejoined the meeting for further budget discussions.

Attorney Garner advised as to Planning Commission membership.

The following inventories were received and acknowledged: Extension, Sheriff and Building and Grounds

Member Nichols moved to adjourn at 1:42 p.m. and to meet for the next regular meeting on Monday, September 15th, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. Member Wertz seconded the motion and after consideration a roll call vote was had as follows: Baker, Absent; Wertz, Yes; Nichols, Yes. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Paul Nichols, Chair
Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

Margaret M. Pollmann, County Clerk