

Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

Trenton, Nebraska
September 22, 2026

A meeting of the County Board of Commissioners of Hitchcock County, Nebraska was held at the Hitchcock County Courthouse Community Room, 229 East D Street, Trenton, Nebraska on Monday the 22nd day of September 2026 commencing at 7:10 o'clock p.m. Present were Chair Paul Nichols, Vice Chair Ron Wertz, Member Christopher Baker and County Clerk Margaret Pollmann. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication on September 17th, 2026 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. Also present, County Attorney D. Eugene Garner and approximately 15 patrons who attended the Joint Public Hearing held at 6:00 p.m. this date.

Chair Nichols opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Member Nichols moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of approval of the September 22nd 2026 agenda and approval of the September 21st, 2026 meeting minutes. Member Baker seconded the motion and after consideration a roll call vote was had as follows: Nichols, Yes; Baker, Yes; Wertz, Yes. Motion carried.

Chair Nichols opened the 2026/2027 Budget Hearing on the Hitchcock County budget as published in *Scoop Media News* on September 17th, 2026 at 7:11 p.m. Budget preparation assistant Daniel D. Miller CPA was present and made a presentation outlining the key provisions of the proposed budget statements, including but not limited to, a comparison with prior year's budget. Summary copies of said budget were made available.

The floor was then opened for public comment on the proposed budget statement. Tom Baker inquired as to unused budget authority. Budget preparation assistant Miller indicated that amount was \$169,045. Chair asked for comments against the proposed budget three times. There were none. Chair asked for comments from those in favor of the proposed budget three times. There were none. Chair asked for comments from those representing a neutral position three times. There were none. Chair inquired as to any further comments, there were none. Chair closed the public hearing on the 2026/2027 proposed budget at 7:15 p.m. this date.

Chair opened the public hearing to set the final tax request for the 2026/2027 County budget at 7:16 p.m. The floor was then opened for public comment on the proposed property tax request. Budget preparation assistant Daniel D. Miller, CPA gave a brief synopsis of the final tax request. Chair asked for comments against the proposed property tax request three times. There were none. Chair asked for comments from those in favor of the proposed property tax request three times. There were none. Chair asked for comments from those representing a neutral position three times. There were none. Chair inquired as to any further comments, there were none. Chair closed the public hearing on the 2026/2027 proposed budget at 7:22 p.m. this date.

The Board noted that the use of Inheritance Tax funds is crucial to the implementation of the budget and allows for the reduction of property taxes, purchase of capital items, and the payment of unforeseen expenses.

Member Wertz offered Resolution #26-18 and moved for its' adoption. Member Nichols seconded the motion and after consideration the roll was called thereon as follows: Wertz, Yes; Nichols, Yes; Baker, Yes. Motion carried. 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 #26-18
Hitchcock County
Resolution of Adoption and Appropriations

WHEREAS, a proposed County Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027, prepared by the Budget Making Authority, was transmitted to the County Board on the 22nd day of September, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Hitchcock County, Nebraska as follows:

SECTION 1. That the budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027, as categorically evidenced by the Budget Document be, and the same hereby is, adopted as the Budget for Hitchcock County for said fiscal year.

SECTION 2. That the offices, departments, activities and institutions herein named are hereby authorized to expend the amounts herein appropriated to them during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 3. That the income necessary to finance the appropriations made and expenditures authorized shall be provided out of the unencumbered cash balance in each fund, revenues other than taxation to be collected during the fiscal year in each fund, and tax levy requirements for each fund.

PASSED AND APPROVED on this 22nd day of September 2026.

VOTING FOR THE MOTION: Ron Wertz, Paul Nichols, and Christopher Baker

VOTING AGAINST THE MOTION: None

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

The Resolution is hereby adopted.

Paul Nichols, Chair

ATTEST:

SEAL

Margaret M. Pollmann, County Clerk

Member Baker offered Resolution #26-19 and moved for its' adoption. Member Nichols seconded the motion and after consideration the roll was called thereon as follows: Wertz, Yes; Nichols, Yes; Baker, Yes. Motion carried. 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 SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST
RESOLUTION NO. 26-19

WHEREAS, NEBRASKA REVISED STATUTE §77-1632 and 77-1633 provide that the Governing Body of the HITCHCOCK County passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request; and

WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Governing Body of HTICHOCK County resolves that:

1. The 2026-2027 property tax request be set at:
General Fund \$2,417,352.00
2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year's total assessed value by 9.38%

3. The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property would be 0.20496 per \$100 of assessed value.

4. HITCHCOCK County proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be 0.232768 per \$100 of assessed value.

4. Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of HITCHCOCK County will increase (or decrease) last year's budget by -7.31 percent.

6. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 15, 2026.

Motion by Baker, seconded by Nichols to adopt Resolution #26-19.

VOTING FOR THE MOTION: Paul Nichols, Ron Wertz, and Chrisopher Baker.

VOTING AGAINST THE MOTION: None.

ABSTAINING: None

ABSENT: None

Dated this 22nd day of September 2026.

The Resolution is hereby adopted.

Paul Nichols, Chair

ATTEST:

Margaret M. Pollmann

Member Wertz moved to direct Chair to sign the Hitchcock County Budget Message. Member Baker seconded the motion and after consideration a roll call vote was has as follows: Wertz, Yes; Baker, Yes; Nichols, Yes. Motion carried.

Member Nichols moved to adjourn at 7:26 p.m. and to meet for the next regular meeting on Monday, October 5th, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. Member Baker seconded the motion and a roll vote was had as follows: Nichols, Yes; Baker, Yes; Wertz, Yes. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Paul Nichols, Chair
Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

Margaret M. Pollmann, County Clerk