

Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

Trenton, Nebraska
October 19, 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 19th day of October 2026 commencing at 9:00 o'clock a.m. Present were Chair Paul Nichols and Vice Chair Ron Wertz and County Clerk Margaret Pollmann. Member Christopher Baker was absent. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication on October 15th, 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 Bill Roddy, Terry and Mary Ginn, Dawna Vap and Korky Vernon.

Chair Nichols opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Member Nichols moved to approve the consent agenda consisting of approval of the October 19th, 2026 agenda and approval of the October 5th, 2026 meeting minutes. Member Wertz seconded the motion and after consideration a roll call vote was had as follows: Nichols, Yes; Baker, Absent; Wertz, Yes. Motion carried.

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

GENERAL FUND:

General Fund payroll -----	\$50,704.89
Quality Farm & Ranch Center, tools/repair -----	\$ 32.97
AFLAC, suppl. ins. -----	\$ 1,545.90
Applied Connective Technologies, IT services -----	\$ 2,715.52
AT&T mobility, service -----	\$ 298.21
BC&BS, dental ins. -----	\$ 1,549.16
BC&BS, health ins. -----	\$34,113.72
Clerk District Ct., adv. costs -----	\$ 49.00
Colonial Life & Accident Ins. Co., suppl. ins. -----	\$ 486.31
Crowne Plaza, lodging -----	\$ 929.70
Culbertson Public Library, budgeted funds -----	\$ 100.00
Justin M. Daake, ct. appt. counsel -----	\$ 787.50
DAS State Accounting – Central Finance, data process. -----	\$ 150.00
Dollar General, supply -----	\$ 49.50
Domestic Abuse/Sexual Assault Services, budgeted funds -----	\$ 3,400.00
Eakes Office Solutions, supply/lease equipment -----	\$ 1,394.79
Family Resource Center, budgeted funds -----	\$ 5,000.00
Farmers Coop Grain & Supply, fuel -----	\$ 2,431.81
Fresh Foods, supply -----	\$ 762.90
Great Plains Communications, service -----	\$ 1,151.38
Henderson State Bank – Trenton, FICA/OASI/Fed. -----	\$16,380.61
Med. Air Service Assoc. – B2B, suppl. ins. -----	\$ 37.50
Midwest Connect LLC, supply -----	\$ 298.00
Daniel D. Miller CPA, budget assistance -----	\$ 3,650.00
Mousel, Brooks, Schneider, Mustion & Shifflet, ct. appt. counsel -----	\$ 717.48
NE Dept. Rev., state employment tax withholding -----	\$ 2,251.46
New York Life, life ins. -----	\$ 75.00
Office Service Inc., supply -----	\$ 310.84
Palisade Public Library, budgeted funds -----	\$ 100.00
Point C, admin. fees -----	\$ 148.50
Postage -----	\$ 1,000.00
Region II Services, ¼ assessment -----	\$ 1,439.00

Retirement Plans Division Ameritas, retirement -----	\$ 8,568.02
Terra Riggs, meals -----	\$ 23.41
Rippen Oil LLC, repair -----	\$ 198.00
Scoop Media LLC, publications -----	\$ 933.28
SW Public Power, utility -----	\$ 151.46
Trails West Texco, fuel -----	\$ 48.00
Trenton Public Library, budgeted funds -----	\$ 100.00
Corporate Payment Systems, supply/meals -----	\$ 979.47
VSP Insurance, vision ins. -----	\$ 471.34
Ron Wertz, mileage -----	\$ 189.23

ROAD FUND:

Road Fund payroll -----	\$19,160.96
AKRS Equipment, repair -----	\$ 102.76
AFLAC, suppl. ins. -----	\$ 239.68
BC&BS, dental ins. -----	\$ 204.61
BC&BS, health ins. -----	\$ 5,232.86
Bosselman Energy Inc., repair -----	\$ 82.06
C&K Distributors, sign posts -----	\$ 117.00
Colonial Life & Accident Ins. Co., suppl. ins. -----	\$ 38.22
Dan's R Us Sanitation, service -----	\$ 29.17
Mike Erickson, reimb. supply -----	\$ 60.00
Farmers Coop Grain & Supply, fuel -----	\$13,023.88
Great Plains Communications, service -----	\$ 396.66
Ramsey Harders, repair -----	\$ 217.97
Henderson State Bank – Trenton, FICA/OASI/Fed. -----	\$ 5,019.44
JA Automotive & Repair LLC, repair -----	\$ 902.42
Lakeside Sand & Gravel LLC, gravel -----	\$ 4,481.92
NE Dept. Rev., state employment tax withholding -----	\$ 678.81
NE Machinery Co., repair -----	\$ 9,062.46
Oak Creek Engineering, bridge inspections -----	\$ 2,250.12
Point C, admin. fees -----	\$ 24.75
Quality Urgent Care, DOT testing -----	\$ 100.00
Retirement Plans Division Ameritas, retirement -----	\$ 2,433.38
Nikolas Scarpino, reimb. CDL licensing -----	\$ 62.00
Schaben Services, CDL testing -----	\$ 1,450.00
SW Farm & Auto Supply, shop supply -----	\$ 230.74
Stratton Auto Parts, repair/supply -----	\$ 256.90
Village of Culbertson, utility -----	\$ 52.31
VSP Insurance Co., vision ins. -----	\$ 48.24

K-9 FUND:

Hwy 61 Feed && Seed Co., K-9 costs -----	\$ 171.00
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E 911 FUND:

Great Plains Communications, service -----	\$ 15.42
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E911 PSC FUND:

Great Plains Communications, service -----	\$ 48.84
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NIRMA Contact Mike Erickson offered an update on the claim of Perf-Tech Wireline Services, Inc. for towing services and as Zoning Administrator, an update on town hall meetings regarding updates to the County's comprehensive plan and zoning regulations. Discussion held on Bureau of Reclamation land transfers.

Jason Frederick with Scoop Media News offered assistance with advertisement/circulation of the public survey regarding updates to the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Regulations.

Attorney D. Eugene Garner joined the meeting and advised as to the Agreement and Grant of Permanent Easement and Right of Way for Ingress and Egress on a road located in the SW Corner of Section 25, Township 3 North, Rand 33West of the 6th P.M. in Hitchcock County.

Attorney Garner advised as to the United State Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation regarding transmittal of inspection reports for Swanson cabins and concession and required board pre-transfer resolution. David Brewster with Bureau of Reclamation met with the Board via phone conference and discussion held on the proposed resolution.

Member Wertz offered Resolution #26-21 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, Absent. 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 filed in the office of the County Clerk and on the County's website www.hitchcockcounty.ne.gov.



HITCHCOCK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
229 EAST D STREET - P.O. BOX 248
TRENTON NE 69044

Phone: 308/334-5646

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District #1

District #2

District #3

Paul Nichols

Ronald Wertz

Christopher Baker

**OFFICIAL RESOLUTION OF THE HITCHCOCK COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS
RESOLUTION NO. 26-21**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Public Law 118-185, the Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners (COUNTY) is eligible to pursue transfer of legal title of certain lands and facilities within the District; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Reclamation ("RECLAMATION") and the COUNTY have taken initial steps to proceed with title transfer; and

WHEREAS, RECLAMATION has established a categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to facilitate certain transfers of projects and facilities from the United States to qualifying non-federal entities; and

WHEREAS, RECLAMATION is requesting that the COUNTY verify and affirm the COUNTY's eligibility as a qualifying non-federal entity with various Categorical Exclusion Qualification Factor Statements; and

WHEREAS, RECLAMATION has provided the COUNTY with a copy of the completed Low Intensity Real Property Questionnaire completed during the property inspection, most recent concession reviews, and all other relevant inspections and reports related to the transferred lands; and

WHEREAS, Public Law 118-185 requires the COUNTY to confirm its ability to meet all terms, conditions, and obligations necessary to receive conveyance of Federal lands, including demonstrating technical capability, financial capacity, and long-term management responsibility for the requested Federal land, as well as complying with State fire, safety, and health codes within the required timeframes.

WHEREAS, RECLAMATION is requesting the COUNTY confirm that the duly authorized signatory for all legal instruments required to effectuate the transfer is the Chairman of the Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners as of the date of signing.

WHEREAS, appraisals establishing the fair market value of the requested Federal lands have been completed in accordance with Public Law 118-185 and the appraisal results have been provided to the COUNTY.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners agrees and affirms the following:

1. The COUNTY has the technical and financial capability to operate and maintain the proposed transferred land consistent with current and historical use and plans to continue to do so through its own contracts and assessments.
2. The COUNTY ensures that there are no competing demands for use of the proposed transferred lands, with the exception of those demands accommodated by existing contractual arrangements. Areas that do have competing interests not accommodated by an existing arrangement will not be transferred and will continue to support the project lands and facilities, as well as meet the demands for public use. These areas will be identified and included in the title transfer agreement. Generally, these would be areas that contain high value wildlife habitat or provide for a high level of public use.
3. The COUNTY ensures that the facilities proposed for transfer are not hydrologically integrated with other facilities, thereby impacting other contractors, stakeholders, or activities, with the exception of those impacts accommodated by existing contractual arrangements.
4. The COUNTY ensures that any issues involving existing contracts and agreements, and interstate compacts and agreements, will be resolved, and treaty and international agreement obligations will be fulfilled prior to transferring the proposed lands.
5. The COUNTY agrees to assume responsibility for all commitments and agreements into the future related to the proposed transferred facilities identified in the title transfer agreement.
6. The COUNTY confirms it has reviewed all materials provided by RECLAMATION, including the Low Intensity Real Property Questionnaire, concession reviews, and relevant inspection reports, and affirms that it understands the proposed transferred lands and facilities will be conveyed in their current 'as-is' condition.
7. The COUNTY confirms its understanding that, in accordance with Public Law 118-185, it assumes sole responsibility for ensuring that all applicable portions of the conveyed lands, facilities, and associated improvements are brought into compliance with applicable State fire, safety, and health codes and standards no later than two years after the date of conveyance, as required under Section 3(a)(1)(C)(ii) of Public Law 118-185.
8. The COUNTY confirms it has reviewed the requirements of Public Law 118-185 and possesses the technical, managerial, and financial capability to operate, maintain, and manage the proposed transferred lands consistent with Public Law 118-185 and agrees to fulfill all obligations outlined in the title transfer agreement, including long-term operation, public access, recreation, and resource management responsibilities, subject to and conditioned upon final approval and execution of the land transfer agreement.
9. The COUNTY approves and designates the Chairman of the Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners as the duly authorized signatory for all legal instruments necessary to effectuate the transfer under Public Law 118-185.
10. Subject to and conditioned upon final approval and execution of the land transfer agreement, the COUNTY agrees that, as consideration for the conveyance, it shall pay to the Secretary of the Interior the full appraised fair market value for the lands conveyed as required by Public Law 118-185, Section 3(a)(4)(A)(i).

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 19th day of October, 2026.

HITCHCOCK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Paul Nichols, Chair

ATTEST:

Margaret M. Pollmann, County Clerk

Voting for the Motion: Wertz and Nichols

Voting against the Motion: None

Abstaining: None

Absent: Baker

Highway Superintendent Lance Harter joined the meeting via phone conference regarding FEMA's Eligibility Determination Memorandum on the Valley Drive structure replacement Project #765430. It was the consensus of the Board to proceed with appealing FEMA's denial of this request for funding.

Member Wertz moved to adjourn at 11:33 a.m. and to meet for the next regular meeting on Monday, November 2nd, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. Member Nichols seconded the motion and a roll vote was had as follows: Wertz, Yes; Nichols, Yes; Baker, Absent. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Paul Nichols, Chair

Hitchcock County Board of Commissioners

Margaret M. Pollmann, County Clerk