

Chase County Commissioners
January 27, 2026

The regular meeting of the Chase County Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Kurt Bernhardt at 8:00am on Tuesday, January 27, 2026, in the meeting room of the Chase County Courthouse. Commissioners Billie Muehlenkamp and Jacci Brown, and County Clerk Wendy Moe were also present. The agenda and open meetings act were posted. The meeting had been advertised in the Imperial Republican and on the County website.

Dominic Donajkowski was present for open forum to address the Board concerning the address that the Assessor has on file for him. He indicated that he did not receive time sensitive mailings from the county due to this error. After hearing his concerns, the Board verified his address and Assessor Mueller said she would check her records.

Marcia Bauerle joined the meeting on behalf of the Chase County Area Arts Council to request KENO funds in support of their acquisition of the old Wellington School building. Should the Arts Council accept the offer of the building, it would be used to establish an art center that would house the Christensen Art Collection, provide space for art, music, dance and other classes, as well as making an event space for the community and for arts council programming. The Council would like to gather enough funds to cover three years of insurance and utility costs before they accept ownership of the building. Current annual insurance and utilities for the building are \$17,332. They currently have \$33,347 toward the art center.

Commissioner Brown moved to contribute \$5000 annually from the KENO fund to the Chase County Area Arts Council for three years. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Mel McNea joined the meeting on behalf of Chase County Community Hospital to give the Board an update on how the Hospital Funds from the County have been used, upcoming projects and to note that two subcommittees have been established, one for finance and one for quality. Discussion of potential new members for the Board of Trustees was had.

Duane Todd, Veterans Service Officer, joined the meeting to notify the Board of LB1072, proposed legislation that would cut funding for many state agencies, including Veterans aid. County Boards are being encouraged to pass a resolution in opposition to the legislation. Duane will get more information to present at the next meeting.

County Attorney Joel Burke joined the meeting for further clarification on the proposed Prairie Dog Management plan, including enforcement and fines related to the plan.

At 8:30 Chairman Bernhardt recessed the meeting for Board of Equalization. Meeting was reconvened at 8:45 with three Commissioners and County Clerk present.

Emergency Manager Duane Dreiling joined the meeting to inform the Board that it is time to update the Hazard Mitigation Plan between Dundy, Perkins and Chase Counties, and to note that the rate is increasing from \$5,000 annually to \$8,445.90 annually. Board approved Dreiling's signing of the Hazard Mitigation Plan on behalf of Chase County.

Commissioner Brown moved to appoint Dawn Weber to the Southwest Nebraska Public Health Board as a citizen representative for Chase County. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Muehlenkamp moved to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2026, meeting as written. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to approve claims as submitted. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

PE=payroll exp, TE=travel exp, SU=supply,
 SE=service, CC=court cost, RP=repairs,
 PT=parts, L=labor, UT=utility, AP=Appt. Counsel,
 PS=Prior Service EQ=Equipment JD=Juv Div

AFLAC	PE	972.10
AFLAC (AFTER TAX)	PE	35.36
AMERITAS LIFE INS	PE	10773.12
AMERITAS LIFE INS	PE	98.10
SPAHN, ASHLEY	AP	3275.00
WHITE BILLY	SE	150.00
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	UT	354.95
BCBS OF NE	PE	24071.77
BOMGAARS	SU	29.98
BRICO PEST CONTROL	SE	40.00
BROPHY ELECTRIC	UT	706.34
CHASE CO TREAS/CAFETERIA	PE	316.65
CHASE CO COURT	CC	123.00
CHASE CO TREAS	INT	745.23
NE CO ASSESSORS ASSO	DUES	100.00
COLONIAL LIFE	PE	437.48
DAN'S R US SANITATION	UT	186.03
DAS STATE ACCTG	SE	186.00
EAKES, INC	SU	117.18
EFTPS	PE	18641.19
FVFC	SU	881.64
IMPERIAL REPUBLICAN	SE	222.70
IDEAL LINEN SUPPLY, INC	SE	177.46
MCI (SHRF BILLS)	UT	85.22
MIPS,INC.	SU	68.00
NACREC	DUES	50.00
NE CHILD SUPP PMT CTR	PE	320.00
OFFICE SERVICE INC	SU	348.59
PLATINUM CUSTOMS, LLC	SU	136.56
HARVOY, ROBERT S	AP	200.00
ROUNDTREE LAW	AP	767.50
SWPPD	UT	179.71
NE STATE INCOME TAX	PE	2629.21
WEST CENTRAL DIST ASSESSORS ASSO	DUES	25.00
	Net Payroll	46444.72
	Cash Account - Interest Payment	-745.23
	General Fund Total	113150.56
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	UT	1566.41
BCBS OF NE	PE	8893.95
BOMGAARS	SU	442.41
COLONIAL LIFE	PE	14.62
DAN'S R US SANITATION	UT	105.10
FVFC	SU	1101.01
OFFICE SERVICE INC	SU	119.05
STATEWIDE COLLECTION, LLC	SU	324.00
	Net Payroll	21945.68
	Road Fund Total	34512.23
HICKMAN, NORMA J.	SE	300.00
	Tourism Fund Total	300.00
GREENE, AARON PATRIC	SE	28.92
AIRGAS USA, LLC	SU	1482.39
HATZ, ANDREW	SE	64.80
BOUND TREE MEDICAL LLC	SU	1942.27

MULDER, CHRISTOPHER	SE	433.60
HAYES, DEBRA	SE	28.40
WOLF CHEVROLET BUICK OF IMPERIAL	RP/L	147.97
HIYKEL, FAY D.	SE	60.72
FVFC	SU	225.14
HUNT, GARY K.	SE	64.80
SUEPER, JACOB	SE	28.92
MILLER, JOHN W.	SE	252.20
SKELTON, JOSHUA	SE	9.40
SKELTON, LANA J	SE	9.40
KLEIN, LEANNE L.	SE	64.80
ONE BILLING SOLUTIONS LLC	SE	1834.75
CASTILLO-ARVIZO, RAQUEL	SE	45.32
MILLER, ROXANE K.	SE	60.20
GREENE, TIMMIE D.	SE	654.00
Ambulance Fund Total		7438.00
Grand Total All Claims		155400.79

Deputy County Clerk Chris Mulder was present to review Transit rider data with the Board. He had six months of data compiled, noting the percentages of in-town, in-county, out-of-town and out-of-county rides; and reasons for rides including medical, leisure, preschool/school, and work. Board requested that he continue to compile data regarding Chase County Transit usage, expenditures and revenue. They would like to see a full year of data. This is being done for budgetary informational purposes.

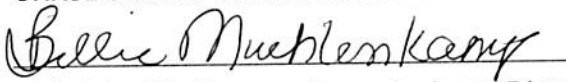
Assessor Tori Mueller joined the meeting, Dominick Donajkowski was still present, Assessor Mueller was able to show the original address supplied to her office, and two updates made to it. His correct address is now on file.

Assessor Mueller presented data for alternative vendors to host our GIS website. The County currently has a contract with GWorks. Tori presented information for Schneider-Beacon and Vanguard websites. Commissioners requested names of counties that currently utilize the proposed vendors, they would like to explore the websites before moving ahead and making any decisions.


Commissioners reviewed the monthly ambulance report as presented by Ambulance Administrator Jordan Beard. Board had several questions regarding the outstanding and uncollected debt. It was determined that information on the report needed revision. Commissioner Brown offered to assist Jordan in helping to rebuild the excel report so it will show the data needed by the Commissioners.


With no further business to come before the Board and nobody present for Open Forum, Chairman Bernhardt adjourned the meeting at 10:45am.

CHASE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Billie Muehlenkamp – Commissioner District #1


Kurt Bernhardt – Commissioner District #3


Jacqui Brown – Commissioner District #2

ATTEST 
Wendy Moe, Chase County Clerk

