

Chase County Commissioners
July 28, 2026

The regular meeting of the Chase County Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Kurt Bernhardt at 8:00am on Tuesday, July 28, 2026, in the meeting room of the Chase County Courthouse. The meeting had been advertised in the Imperial Republican and on the county website. The agenda and open meetings act were posted.

Justin Davis was present on behalf of his employer Darty Shilke, for Open Forum to discuss the proposed Prairie Dog Management plan and offer input concerning what he has seen and experienced regarding the current nuisance prairie dog population.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2026, meeting as written. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Assessor Mueller joined the meeting during open forum concerning Allo IT services. She noted that all current issues have been resolved but she has concerns moving forward as several upcoming tasks such as budget, levies, CTL, postcards and data transfer to the Treasurer have technical aspects that she wants to make sure run smoothly with good IT support available to help with the necessary processes. Commissioner Brown noted that she understands the concerns but thinks we need to give Allo a chance to work through these processes.

Representatives from Chase County Community Hospital, Imperial EMS and Wauneta EMS joined the meeting to discuss the proposed interlocal transport agreement. The agreement would offer advanced life support personnel (CCCH staff) to assist in providing emergency medical services to local residents and surrounding areas, as needed. All parties agree that this would be a beneficial interlocal agreement, however, representatives from each entity will meet to revise and finalize the drafted language of the proposed agreement.

Deb Hayes and Leanne Klein notified the Board that the new ambulances are now expected to arrive sometime in September. Regarding disposition of current ambulances, Board directed Leanne and Deb work together to determine which units should be kept and which should be made surplus. They may then come back to the Board and notify them of how best to proceed.

At 8:45 Chairman Bernhardt requested that bids submitted for the Champion Mill Groundskeeper position be opened. Four bids were received, as follows:
Jim Pump - \$8,000/year; Bill White - \$9,000/year; Dallas Baney - \$12,000/year; Ben Beard - \$7,500/year. After discussion, Commissioner Brown moved to accept the low bid of \$7,500 from Ben Beard. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried. Contract will commence on September 1, 2026.

Caitlin Whitehead from Prairie Plains CASA joined the meeting and provided handouts to the Board to highlight CASA's impact in Chase County during the 2025-2026 fiscal year and request their continued support. Board noted that they will allocate funds to continue supporting CASA in the coming year.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to approve claims as submitted. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. 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	1002.72
ALLO Business	SE	3789.10
AMERITAS	PE	10946.52
AMERITAS	PE	77.20
APPLIED CONNECTIVE TECH	SE	100.00
ASHLEY K. SPAHN	AP	1125.00
BILLY WHITE	SE	1350.00
BLACK HILLS GAS	UT	139.18
BCBS OF NE	PE	27386.11
BOULDER CO SHERIFF	CC	21.20
BRIAN E. FOSTER	SE	40.00
CHASE CO TREAS/CAFETERIA REIMB.	PE	316.65
CHASE CO COURT	CC	68.00
CHASE CO TREASURER	SU	973.69
COLONIAL LIFE	PE	367.61
CREDIT MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.	PE	246.98
EAKES, INC	SU	1449.88
EFTPS	PE	17658.83
FIVE POINTS BANK	EQ	231.65
HEA	UT	400.22
MCI	UT	88.06
MIPS	SU	26.69
NE CHILD SUPP PMT CTR	PE	320.00
NE WEED CONTROL ASSOC	TE	150.00
PHILIP PANKONIN	SE	900.00
PHILLIPS 66 COMPANY	SU	100.00
REBECCA M. BERNARD	SE	1870.00
SWPPD	UT	246.82
STATE OF NE/STATE INCOME TAX	PE	2808.53
STATE OF NEBRASKA/DAS COMMUNICATION	SE	186.00
US BANK CORP PMT	SU	1765.22
	Net Payroll	42198.57
	General Fund Total	118350.43
BLACK HILLS GAS	UT	157.34
BOMGAARS SUPPLY INC.	SU	216.62
COLONIAL LIFE	PE	13.62
EFTPS	PE	2094.13
HEA	UT	134.83
MITTEN INC.	SU	29014.84
SAPP BRO PETROLEUM INC	SU	6954.27
WAUNETA MUNICIPAL UTILITIES	UT	125.00
	Net Payroll	27656.90
	Road Fund Total	66367.55
Good Life Fabrics, LLC	SE	1155.00
NORMA J. HICKMAN	SE	350.00
	Tourism Fund Total	1505.00
CENTURY LINK	UT	1995.31
GREAT PLAINS COMM	UT	386.52
	E-911 Fund Total	2381.83
AIRGAS USA, LLC	SU	1505.38

CHASE CO TREAS	SU	26.31
EFTPS	PE	26.41
ONE BILLING SOLUTIONS LLC	SE	1726.86
US BANK CORP PMT	TE	588.00
	Net Payroll	375.00
	Ambulance Fund Total	4247.96
	Grand Total All Claims	192852.77

Assessor Mueller presented a Vanguard Archive Module Service Contract for the Board's consideration.

At 9:00 Chairman Bernhardt requested that bids submitted for the Courthouse and Extension building cleaning position be opened. Four bids were received, as follows: Emily Browning - \$127/day for Extension and Courthouse; Keisha Teeter - \$125/day for extension and courthouse, \$80/day for courthouse and \$50/day for extension; Rebecca Bernard - \$55/day for courthouse; Chris Mulder - \$100/day for extension and courthouse, \$40/day for extension, \$80/day for courthouse. After review of bids and discussion, Commissioner Bernhardt moved to accept Chris Mulder's bid of \$100/day to clean the extension building and courthouse. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried. Contract will commence on September 1, 2026.

Board reviewed proposed Vanguard Archive Module Service Contract; the contract is for 6 years, 2029-2034; the Board chose not to act on it at this time as it extend beyond the terms of all current elected officials and would require payment in full in case of early termination.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve the PowerTech Generator Service contract for a term of three years, 8/1/2026-7/31/2027, at a cost of \$850 annually. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to surplus a nonworking PTAC Unit from the County Attorney's office. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to surplus a wooden square stand that is not being used from the second-floor commons area, item to be sold at the Labor Day Auction. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Brown moved to surplus two broken chairs (2020 Turcotte luxury chair, 2011 Lorrell task chair tag #967) from the County Attorney's office, to be disposed of in the trash. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Brown moved to surplus a piece of an old desk (tag 972), a gray desk (tag 940) and a Turcotte luxura chair from the County Attorney's inventory to the trash. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to transfer Global desks, hutch and table, and several 4-drawer file cabinets (tag 471, 472, 474, 475, 502, 509, 505, 506, 506) from the Assessor's inventory to the County Attorney's inventory. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to transfer three 4-drawer file cabinets (tag 's 511, 504, 508) from the Assessor's office to the County Court office. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Brown moved to surplus three chairs (tag 's 798, 1028, 1091) from the Assessor's office to the trash. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioners reviewed the monthly ambulance report as provided by Ambulance Administrator Julie Sharp. No other correspondence was presented.

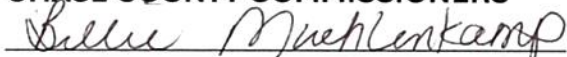
Commissioner Muehlenkamp moved to approve Resolution 2026-10; Nuisance Prairie Dog Management Act. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried. A complete copy of the resolution is on file in the office of the County Clerk.

At 9:30 Chairman Bernhardt opened the Conditional Use Permit Public Hearing for a 449' Verizon guyed telecommunication tower to be located in the NW1/4 of 9-6-37. No members of the public were present. One representative was present on behalf of KGI Wireless, and Verizon Wireless. Zoning Administrator Chris Mulder notified the Board that the planning commission held a public hearing and approved the CUP application on June 10, 2026. Commissioners reviewed and answered questions regarding applications' findings of fact. After discussion and answer of questions, Chairman Bernhardt closed the public hearing at 9:50am.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve the Conditional Use Permit for the Verizon guyed telecommunication tower. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

With nobody present for open forum and no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Bernhardt adjourned the meeting at 10:00am.

CHASE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



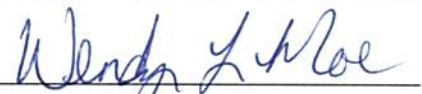
Billie Muehlenkamp – Commissioner District #1



Jacqui Brown – Commissioner District #2



Kurt Bernhardt – Commissioner District #3

ATTEST 

Wendy Moe, Chase County Clerk