

Chase County Commissioners  
March 24, 2026

The regular meeting of the Chase County Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Kurt Bernhardt at 8:00am on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, in the meeting room of the Chase County Courthouse. Also present were Commissioners Billie Muehlenkamp and Jacci Brown and County Clerk Wendy Moe. The meeting had been advertised in the Imperial Republican and on the County website. The agenda and open meetings act were posted. With nobody present for Open Forum, agenda items were addressed.

Rex Felker joined the meeting to inquire about the possibility of parking a Chase County Schools bus at the Lamar Shop in the evenings for the remainder of the school year. One of the drivers has relocated to Brandon and the school is looking for a place to park the bus for that route. Commissioners had no problem with the bus being parked at the shop, Kurt will identify a suitable location and let Rex know where it is to be parked.

Commissioner Brown moved to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2026, meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

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

ABC INC	SE	50
AFLAC	PE	983.76
ALLO Business	SE	3839.1
AMERITAS LIFE INS	PE	10687.12
AMERITAS LIFE INS	PE	92.15
AT&T MOBILITY II LLC	UT	249.71
BLACK HILLS GAS	UT	276.01
BCBS OF NE	PE	24048.22
BOMGAARS SUPPLY INC.	SU	10.25
BRIAN E. FOSTER	SE	40
CHASE CO TREAS/CAFETERIA	PE	316.65
CHASE CO TREAS	SU	184.9
CITY OF IMPERIAL-TOTER STICKERS	SU	80
COLONIAL LIFE	PE	363.38
CREDIT MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.	PE	255.43
DAN'S R US SANITATION	UT	186.03
DEVENY MOTORS LLC	SE	73.72
DIAMOND A LLC/ALEX SCHMAILZL	SU/RP	575.12
EAKES, INC	SU	80.66
EFTPS	PE	16445.12
FIVE POINTS BANK	SE	187.38
FVFC INC	SU	842.23
GREAT PLAINS COMM INC	UT	1525.02
HARCHELROAD MOTORS INC	RP	1000
HIGH PLAINS NEWS NORTH LLC	SE	308.16
IDEAL LINEN SUPPLY, INC	SE	177.46
LIED IMPERIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY	SE	4000

LORENA ALMANZA	SE	900
MCI	UT	82.68
MID-PLAINS HOSPITALITY GROUP INC.	TE	220
MID-STATES ORGANIZED CRIME INFO	SE	100
MOUSEL,BROOKS,SCHNEIDER,MUSTION	AP	271.5
NE CHILD SUPP PMT CTR	PE	320
Nebraska State Patrol	SE	145
NEBRASKA WEED CONTROL ASSO	TE	150
OFFICE SERVICE INC	SU	414.62
PICTOMETRY INTERNATIONAL CORP	SE	28678.35
ROBERT S HARVOY	AP	1431.4
SWPPD	UT	172.02
HILLS FAMILY FOODS	SU	81.26
STATE OF NE/STATE INCOME TAX	PE	2640.92
STATE OF NEBRASKA/DAS COMMUNICATION	SE	186
US BANK CORP PMT SYSTEMS	SU	272.84
WAUNETA CROSSROADS, LLC	SU	124.5
WAUNETA PUBLIC LIBRARY	SE	1000
	Net Payroll	40625.27
	General Fund Total	144693.9
BLACK HILLS GAS	UT	1183.75
BCBS OF NE	PE	8880.41
BOMGAARS SUPPLY INC.	SU	7.99
COLONIAL LIFE	PE	13.62
DAN'S R US SANITATION	SE	105.1
EFTPS	PE	2048.23
GREAT PLAINS COMM INC	UT	223.54
HIGH PLAINS NEWS NORTH LLC	SE	51
MURPHY TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT CO INC	PT/L	31336.38
NEBRASKA DOT	SU	3429.3
SAPP BRO PETROLEUM INC	SU	931.4
WAUNETA CROSSROADS, LLC	SU	294.55
	Net Payroll	27057.42
	Road Fund Total	75562.69
S & S LOCK AND KEY	SE/SU	310
	Fair Fund Total	310
Southwest Title Company	RE	240617.3
	Inheritance Fund Total	240617.3
GREAT PLAINS COMM INC	UT	386.52
	E-911 Fund Total	386.52
AIRGAS USA, LLC	SU	1418.74
BOUND TREE MEDICAL LLC	SU	57.98
EFTPS	PE	17.42
GREAT PLAINS COMM INC	UT	322.29
ONE BILLING SOLUTIONS LLC	SE	1306.78
US BANK CORP PMT SYSTEMS	TE	570
WAUNETA CROSSROADS, LLC	SU	181.26
	Net Payroll	250
	Ambulance Fund Total	4124.47
	<b>Grand Total All Claims</b>	<b>465694.9</b>

Jan Elliott, Rick Elliott and Brian Bell from Prairie States Communications, Emergency Manager Duane Dreiling, Dispatcher Chuck Bartholomew and Deputy Sheriff Justin Mueller joined the meeting for the agenda item of Emergency Radios. Rick explained that he needs more details as to the problems with the radios, other than just being told "they don't

work”, in order to know how and where to start addressing the problem. Information was shared from dispatch, deputy and emergency manager perspectives. With other agenda items to be addressed, the discussion was paused.

At 8:30 Chairman Bernhardt called for the opening of bids for purchase of a motor grader. Four bids were presented, two from Murphy Tractor & Equipment and two from NMC. JD 770P, list price \$362,000 with a \$55,000 trade allowance for a final price of \$307,000; JD 772P, list price \$395,000 with a \$55,000 trade allowance for a final price of \$340,000; CAT 150, list price \$382,400 with a \$33,400 trade allowance for a final price of \$349,000; CAT 150 AWD, list price \$425,600 with a \$33,400 trade allowance for a final price of \$392,200. CAT Bids were presented with or without trade-in consideration. JD Bids did not present without trade-in consideration.

Chairman Bernhardt recessed the meeting for Board of Equalization at 8:45am. Meeting reconvened at 9:00am with three Commissioners and Clerk present.

Chairman Bernhardt opened the public hearing for the One-and-Six Year Road Plan at 9:00am. No members of the public were present at the hearing. Highway Superintendent Toney Krajewski and Assistant Highway Superintendent Dick DeWester presented the proposed plan, a complete copy of which is available for inspection in the office of the County Clerk.

At 9:13 Chairman Bernhardt recessed the meeting for Board of Equalization. Meeting reconvened at 9:17 with three Commissioners, Clerk, Dick, Toney, Jordan Gardner (Murphy) and Gregg O’Brien (NMC CAT) present. As both bids did not give the option to purchase without consideration of a trade, Commissioner Brown moved to reject all bids. Motion seconded by Commissioner Bernhardt. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried. Board will consider purchasing from State Bid at a later date.

Chairman Bernhardt closed the public hearing for the One- and Six-Year Road Plan at 9:25. Commissioner Bernhardt moved to approve Resolution 2026-5 for the adoption of the One- and Six-Year Road Plan. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Discussion of emergency radios resumed with Rick, Jan and Brian from PSC, dispatcher Chuck Bartholomew, deputy Justin Mueller and Emergency Manager Duane Dreiling present. Discussion included possibility of raising the antenna in Wauneta, separating digital from analog, additional licensing, and reprogramming radios. Jan noted that a chain of command would be helpful, Rick and Duane will communicate directly, any department heads should take their concerns to Duane to be passed on to Rick. Commissioners want to see results and improvements sooner than later. Licensing will take two to four weeks; this will be the first step.

John Copland from Dickinson Land Surveyors joined the meeting to present findings from the topographical survey of the east entrance to the courthouse. He explained that grading and drainage are the primary issue, as water drains toward the building and entry stairway, which has caused ongoing concrete deterioration and accelerated wear on the stair structure. These issues affect the entire entrance area, not just the stairs. The entire east entrance will need to be removed, the site will be regraded for positive drainage away from the building, new drainage system installed, and then new stair/landing system built. Very preliminary construction costs are \$245,000. The County has been notified by NIRMA that

this is a safety hazard and must be corrected. John will work as a project engineer to oversee a main contractor and construction work.

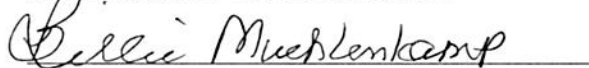
Commissioner Muehlenkamp moved to direct John Copland to go forward with engineering and construction drawing plans to begin the project. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to accept and sign the annual weed report as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Brown. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bernhardt moved to appoint members to the planning and zoning board as follows: Shona Heim and Marci Fanning each for a two-year term to expire in January of 2028 and Tim Varilek and Grant Jones each for a three-year term to expire in January 2029. Motion seconded by Commissioner Muehlenkamp. Muehlenkamp – yes; Brown – yes; Bernhardt – yes. Motion carried.

With no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Bernhardt adjourned the meeting at 10:53am.

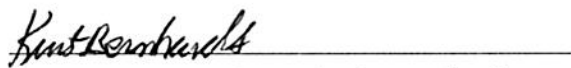
**CHASE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**



Billie Muehlenkamp – Commissioner District #1



Jacci Brown – Commissioner District #2



Kurt Bernhardt – Commissioner District #3

ATTEST 

Wendy Moe, Chase County Clerk