

OFFICE OF THE BURT COUNTY CLERK
Minutes of the Burt County Board of Supervisors
December 26, 2025
TEKAMAH NE 68061

The Burt County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Friday, December 26, 2025, in the Boardroom of the Burt County Courthouse in Tekamah, Nebraska, pursuant to adjournment of their last meeting. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by Publication in the Burt County Independent (12-18-2025), upon a 1st floor bulletin board within the courthouse and on the County’s Website. A copy of the proof of publication is on file in the office of the County Clerk. The following members were present: Gary ‘Bird’ Swanson, Jeff Kutchera, Sam Titus, Carl Pearson, Jay W. Johnson, Paul Richards and Ted Connealy.

The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance at 9:00 A.M. Chairman Connealy informed the public that the Open Meeting Act was posted.

The agenda was approved; upon motion by Titus, seconded by Johnson. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Swanson, Kutchera, Titus, Pearson, Johnson, Richards and Connealy. Nays- none.

The minutes of the 12/10/2025 Board of Supervisors meeting were approved; upon motion by Swanson, seconded by Kutchera. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Swanson, Kutchera, Titus, Pearson, Johnson, Richards and Connealy. Nays- none.

The claims for December in the amount of \$ 509,469.04, including \$168,326.15 for payroll, were read, audited, warrant drawn, and, checks generated on the respective funds on motion by Pearson, seconded by Titus. Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Swanson, Kutchera, Titus, Pearson, Johnson, Richards and Connealy. Nays- none. The following claims were approved:

ANDY'S QUICK SHOP	BC SHERIFF	311.99
APPLIED CONNECTIVE TECHNOLOGIES LLC	IT.CYBER.SOFTWARE	4,350.90
BENCHMARK GOVERNMENT SOLUTIONS	SUPPLIES	477.85
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	UTILITIES	526.60
BLUE360 MEDIA	SOFTWARE	107.95
BOMGAARS -COURTHOUSE	SUPPLIES	128.89
BRANIFF SERVICE INC	FUEL	1,307.83
BRUMMOND DISPOSAL	GARBAGE	225.00
BURT COUNTY COURT	COURT FEES	104.00
BURT COUNTY DISTRICT COURT	COURT FEES	145.90
BURT COUNTY INDEPENDENT	PUBLISHING	478.27
BURT COUNTY PUBLIC POWER DIST	UTILITIES	196.99
BURT COUNTY SHERIFF	COURT.SERVICE FEES	650.36
CANON FINANCIAL SERVICES	OFFICE EQUIP	21.49
CENTURY LINK	911	322.96
CITY OF TEKAMAH	UTILITIES	177.50
CLASSIC CLEAN CARWASH	MISC FLEET	131.19
CLEARFLY	PHONES	1,448.37
CONSTELLATION NEW ENERGY GAS DIV	UTILITIES	586.56
CONTRYMAN ASSOCIATES P.C.	AUDIT FY24-25	19,000.00
CUBBY'S	FUEL	1,378.03
DAS STATE ACCOUNTING-CENTRAL FIN.	SOFTWARE	411.60
DAS STATE ACCTG -CENTRAL FINANCE	SOFTWARE	242.00
DECATUR EXPRESS - KB'S MINI MART	FUEL	1,112.97
DORNAN LAW TEAM	ATTY FEES	6,498.25

DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF	SERVICE FEES	13.11
EAKES OFFICE PLUS	SUPPLIES	876.27
EDMOND TALBOT	DUES	280.00
EMILY HEDLUND	MILEAGE	160.30
FIRST CONCORD BENEFITS GROUP LLC	ADMIN FEE	805.00
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OMAHA	SUPLIES	2,925.03
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OMAHA ROADS	SUPPLIES	274.98
GARY SWANSON	CHECKING ROADS	79.80
GENE STEFFY	SHERIFF FLEET	4,474.47
GREAT AMERICA FINANCIAL SVCS	OFFICE EQUIP	177.63
GREAT PLAINS UNIFORMS	EQUIPMENT	454.19
HIDDEN ORCHIDS LLC	EM TRAINING	300.00
HOMETOWN LEASING	OFFICE EQUIP	191.13
JACK'S UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT	EQUIPMENT	593.63
JAY W JOHNSON	CHECKING ROADS	50.40
JEANNETTE BLANC	MILEAGE	114.66
JEFF KUTCHERA	CHECKING ROADS	47.60
JENNIFER HANSEN	MILEAGE	38.50
JOHNSON & MOCK, PC, LLO	ATTY FEES	954.00
JOHNSON & PEKNY, L.L.C.	ATTY FEES	6,009.90
JURY DUTY	JURY DUTY	5,816.30
KANE WARREN	MILEAGE PLANNING	6.30
KASSIE JENSEN	MILEAGE PLANNING	225.40
KATHY RAY	OFFICE SUPPORT	297.00
KRAVIEC MAURSTAD LAW, P.C., L.L.O.	CHILD SUPPORT ATTY	2,003.65
LAZY DAY'S DETAILING	SHERIFF FLEET	650.00
LENA BECKNER	MILEAGE PLANNING	201.60
LOFFLER	OFFICE EQUIP	308.99
LUDVIGSEN MORTUARY INC	AUTOPSY COST	195.00
MARY LOFTIS	MEDICARE CONTRACT	3,100.00
MICHELE QUICK	MILEAGE/MEALS	324.00
MID-AMERICAN BENEFITS INC	INSURANCE	255.75
MIDWEST SERVICE CO	FUEL	8,241.36
MIPS INC	SOFTWARE	2,512.89
MIPS INC - COUNTY COURT	SOFTWARE	70.00
NATIONAL EMERGENCY NUMBER ASSOC	911 TRAINING	440.00
NE CLERKS OF DIST COURT ASSN	2026 ASSC DUES	50.00
NEBR DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	SALES TAX	12.88
NEBR HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES SYSTEM	SERVICES.LODGING	60.00
NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	UTILITIES	724.14
ONE OFFICE SOLUTION	SUPPLIES	264.45
OPTK NETWORKS	INTERNET	642.99
PAUL RICHARDS	CHECKING ROADS	67.20
PELAN FUNERAL SERVICES INC	AUTOPSY COST	485.00
PENNY A. WARREN	NACVSO DUES	331.40
PHYSICIANS LABORATORY PC	AUTOPSY.TESTING	300.00
PICTOMETRY INTERNATIONAL CORP.	SOFTWARE.APPRAISAL	20,000.00
QUADIENT LEASING USA, INC	POSTAGE MACHINE	752.52
RADIOLOGY CONSULTANTS	JAIL MEDICAL	511.00
REGION 4 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYS	QUARTERLY	5,335.75
SAMUEL TITUS	CHECKING ROADS	98.00
SAVE MORE MARKET	SUPPLIES	476.72
STACEY KEYS	MILEAGE/FUEL	267.15
THEODORE CONNEALY	CHECKING ROADS	46.90
THURSTON COUNTY SHERIFF	JAIL	2,880.00
TK ELEVATOR CORPORATION	MAINTENANCE	365.16
TRI-STATE COMMUNICATIONS INC	RADIOS.EQUIP	4,055.50

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN	PROGRAM SUPPLIES	325.00
US TREASURY	JULY TAX DEPOSIT	975.07
VANGUARD APPRAISALS INC	SOFTWARE	2,380.00
VERIZON WIRELESS	CELL PHONES	839.30
WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF	JAIL	3,965.00
A A WHEEL & TRUCK SUPPLY INC	PARTS	63.85
ANDREW BRANIFF	PARTS	19.98
ANN CHYTKA	MILEAGE	311.50
BLUFF AGGREGATE LLC	MATERIALS	564.72
BOMGAARS SUPPLY INC - ROAD	SUPPLIES	1,416.25
BRUMMOND COUNTRY DISPOSAL	GARBAGE	90.00
CITY OF LYONS	UTILITIES	328.07
CITY OF OAKLAND	UTILITIES	22.29
CNA AUTO SERVICES, LLC	PARTS	28.42
CUMING COUNTY INDUSTRIES	SUPPLIES	225.12
FARMERS PRIDE	FUEL	4,830.88
GLUP PIPE SALES	SUPPLIES	134.60
MARTIN MARIETTA	MATERIALS	14,032.64
MHC KENWORTH -OMAHA	PARTS	985.70
MID-AMERICAN RESEARCH CHEM CO	FUEL	1,418.75
MIDWEST ENGINEERING INC	ENGINEERING	18,658.75
NATIONAL SIGN COMPANY LLC	SIGNS	1,883.34
NMC	PARTS.LABOR	9,658.53
RAKA RENTALS	RENTAL ROADS	177.63
RDO TRUCK CENTERS, LLC	PARTS	1,377.86
SAPP BROS PETROLEUM INC	FUEL	471.22
SCOTT'S HARDWARE	SUPPLIES	176.59
SHAMBURG AUTO SUPPLY	SUPPLY	223.03
SIGN DEPOT	SUPPLIES	319.65
STALP GRAVEL CO	MATERIALS	3,290.63
TRU BY HILTON KEARNEY	CONFERENCE	374.85
VERIZON CONNECT FLEET USA LLC	FLEET TRACKING	454.97
VILLAGE OF DECATUR	UTILITIES	194.37
WELDON PARTS OMAHA	PARTS.REPAIR	202.94
WESTPOINT IMPLEMENT INC	PARTS.REPAIR	908.11
KAMO, INC	PROMO GRANT	1,000.00
JUSTICE DATE SOLUTIONS INC	911	4,000.00
CENTURYLINK (HARDWARE WARRANTY)	911	707.20
LANGUAGE LINE SERVICES	911	4.72
NORTHEAST NEBR TELEPHONE CO	911	130.97
AFLAC	EMPE PD ADDL	306.01
ALLSTATE	EMPE PD ADDL	43.70
BLUE CROSS & BLUE SHIELD	INSURANCE	59,050.37
CREDIT MANAGEMENT SERVICES	GARNISHMENT	383.32
FIRST NAT'L BANK-NORTHEAST-EFPTS	FEDERAL TAXES	47,188.01
GLOBE LIFE LIBERTY NATIONAL DIV	EMPE PD ADDL	669.20
MADISON NATIONAL LIFE INS. CO, INC	EMPE PD ADDL	14.68
MUTUAL OF OMAHA	EMPE PD ADDL	367.14
NATIONWIDE RETIREMENT SOLUTIONS	EMPE PD ADDL	150.00
RETIREMENT PLANS DIV. OF AMERITAS	RETIREMENT	25,412.27
STATE TAX COMMISSIONER	STATE TAXES	7,291.96
TRUSTMARK VOLUNTARY BENEFITS	EMPE PD ADDL	222.62
VISION SERVICE PLAN (CT)	EMPE PD ADDL	794.27
COLONIAL LIFE AND ACCIDENT INS CO	EMPE PD ADDL	57.79
NEBR CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT CTR	GARNISHMENT	480.00

OFFICE UPDATE - Surveyor – Fred Franklin – verbal report, in lieu of Nov. 12th

Dec. 26, 2025 Holiday Designation:

Due to Dec. 26th Federal/State Holiday Designation, the County Court office is closed today due to them being employees of the State; signs are hung for public notice of their closure. The County Board decision is to NOT recognize the Holiday designation for County employees due to the need to hold the board meeting for claims and employee pay day.

Cost of Living for 2026:

The Board approved a cost of living increase of 3.0%, to be applied at the January 2026 payperiod. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Pearson. By Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Swanson, Kutchera, Titus, Pearson, Johnson, Richards and Connealy. Nays- none. Motion passed. The cost of living will not be applied to Union Employees. The cost of living is not applied to part-time or seasonal positions. The cost of living is not applied to the Zoning salary.

Lot Split signed by Chairman Connealy:

CECILIA LIGHT 4.13 ac. in pt. SW⁴NE⁴ of Sec. 22, TWP 21N, Rge. 11 E of the 6th P.M. Burt County, NE.

Veterans Service Office – Cell Phone Request:

Burt County Veterans Service Board submitted a letter requesting that Burt County pay Penny Warren, part time Burt County VSO, a reimbursement for her personal cell phone, they stated that 20% of her job requires her cell phone and the Veterans Board members rely upon her cell phone to communicate with her. The County Board *denied* the request to pay a reimbursement for cell phone use; upon motion by Pearson, seconded by Johnson, By Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Swanson, Kutchera, Titus, Pearson, Johnson, Richards and Connealy. Nays – none. Note: Warren had turned in claims for cell phone reimbursements that got approved (Sept – Nov); the board did not catch the claims at the time, such payments, if approved, should have run through payroll as (taxable) reimbursements. December is when we caught another claim request and advised Warren to go through this process to get approval from the County Board prior to another payment. This is what led up to the letter from the Veterans Service Board.

Board of Equalization:

Kutchera moved the Board recess at 9:45 AM for *Board of Equalization*, Pearson seconded, motion passed All Ayes. The Burt County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 9:48 AM upon motion by Richards, seconded by Pearson, All Ayes. See separate minutes for BOE.

Building & Grounds:

Job duties were updated upon approval of the board; REMOVE ‘transporting mail to post office at 4:00 p.m.’. Officials from offices will transport their own mail in case of sensitive documents that should only be handled by officials or agents appointed by their office.

ROADS: Ann Chytka, Highway Superintendent

C-11(451) Co.Rd. L: - present today for discussions from Oban Construction were Brandon Victor and the onsite project foreman, Mike. Josh Keithley with Midwest Engineering, Inc has been communicating with the Oban to come up

with a resolution but was not present for discussions today. Oban answered the Board’s questions today; further discussion will be held with both sides to determine the best way to proceed on County Road L. Highway Superintendent will be meeting onsite next week with Josh, Oban construction and a couple of Board members. Signed pay requests have not been received from Oban Construction so have not been paid. Once Oban submits pay app #1 it will be submitted for payment.

Motor Grader Payments: Two machines were purchased (12/10/2025); Chytka reported that she has money in the FY25-26 budget, but CAT financial has financing available for 4.99% with no penalty early payoff option. Board voted to pay for one via budgeted funds and finance one machine (\$293,000) and if budget looks good at FY end look at paying it off; motion by Swanson, seconded by Johnson. Passed By Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Swanson, Kutchera, Titus, Pearson, Johnson, Richards and Connealy. Nays- none.

Burt County Economic Development (BCEDC) *Cindy Chatt, director:*
GRANT APPLICATION: Chatt reported that the BCEDC board has reviewed and recommended their approval for the Private Foundation Grant: *Fund 0900, Residential Renovation Grant* for Lance and Jeannette Blanc to install new windows in their home at 1008 E. 1st Ave., Oakland; \$4,269.50 (50% low bid). The grant application was approved upon motion by Titus, seconded by Kutchera. Passed By Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Swanson, Kutchera, Titus, Johnson, Richards and Connealy. Nays - Pearson.

Set Election Officials’ Salaries for 2027-2030 Terms prior to 2026 Election Cycle. Board Members Pearson and Titus moved for adoption of:

RESOLUTION #2025-16

WHEREAS, Section 23-1114, R.R.S. Nebraska provides that the County Board shall set the salaries of elected officials prior to January 15 of the year in which a general election will be held for the respective county offices,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Burt County Board of Supervisors hereby establishes the following annual salaries for the offices of the elected county officials as listed below for the calendar year of 2027:

OFFICE	SALARY for term starting 2027
County Board of Supervisors	\$17,600.00
County Assessor	\$73,000.00
County Attorney	\$73,000.00
County Clerk (Register of Deeds & Election Commissioner)	\$73,000.00 + (5,000.00)
Clerk of the District Court	\$73,000.00
County Treasurer	\$73,000.00
County Sheriff	\$81,500.00
County Surveyor	\$12,100.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, the Burt County Board of Supervisors authorize the County Clerk to receive additional annual compensation of \$5,500.00, and the Chief Deputy County Clerk to receive annual compensation of \$2,000.00, for calendar years 2027, 2028, 2029, and 2030 for the additional annual finance and Budget Making Authority duties required of them.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, the Burt County Board of Supervisors authorize the County Sheriff to receive additional annual compensation of \$600.00 for calendar years 2027, 2028, 2029, and 2030 for the additional duties required for Board of Health.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in addition to the salaries set forth above, with the exception of the County Board of Supervisors salaries, the Burt County Board authorizes an annual cost of living increase during the term of office (2028, 2029, 2030) based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) – Midwest Index as established by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor; the increase given may not exceed a 6% increase, and when the CPI is 0% or less than 0%, the salary shall remain the same as the prior year, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in addition to the salaries set forth above for the County Board of Supervisors salaries, the Burt County Board authorizes an annual cost of living increase during the (2029) term of office based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) – Midwest Index as established by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor; the increase given may not exceed a 6% increase, and when the CPI is 0% or less than 0%, the salary shall remain the same as the prior year, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in addition to the above salary and adjustments, the elected officials shall be offered the same health and medical group plan that is offered to all county employees, under the same terms, conditions, and contributions and subject to any modifications of such plans made during the term of office; and, elected officials shall be offered county expense opt-out provisions (aka 'cash in lieu of' health insurance), the same as offered to all county employees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in addition to the above stated salary, adjustments and group plan, all elected officials shall be enrolled in and shall receive the same benefits of the County Employees Retirement System as set forth in Nebr. Rev. Stat. Section 23-2301 et seq.

DATED this 26th day of December 2025 at Tekamah, Nebraska.

SARAH J. FREIDEL	TED CONNEALY, CHAIRMAN
BURT COUNTY CLERK	BURT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Chairman Connealy declared it adopted, with Roll Call Vote as follows: Ayes - Swanson, Kutchera, Titus, Pearson, Johnson, Richards and Connealy. Nays - none.

PUBLIC COMMENT(S): (1) Greg Brummond, rural Craig – (i) concerns of motor grader purchase process during last meeting, he had attorney draft a letter to the County Board, (ii) comments about Co.Rd. L project, (iii) comments regarding wages and budget; (2) Gregg Smith, rural Lyons – budgets and salaries comments; (3) Ann Chytka, Decatur – Salary comments.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting adjourned upon motions by Titus and Pearson at 11:51 A.M.
Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 14, 2026 @ 9:00 A.M. - 2026
Reorganization will be held during this meeting.

NOTE: 2026 Board meeting dates and Holiday closings are available on the County website.

ATTEST: SARAH J. FREIDEL
BURT COUNTY CLERK

TED CONNEALY, CHAIRMAN
BURT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

These minutes are not the official record and may be corrected. A copy of the approved official minutes is available to the public at the Clerk's Office.