

OFFICE OF THE BURT COUNTY CLERK  
**Minutes of the Burt County Board of Supervisors**  
**January 14, 2026**  
TEKAMAH NE 68061

The Burt County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Wednesday, January 14, 2026 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 (1-8-2026), upon a 1<sup>st</sup> 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: Ted Connealy, Gary "Bird" Swanson, Samuel M. Titus, Carl Pearson, Jay W. Johnson, Paul Richards and Jeff Kutchera.

The meeting opened at 9:00 A.M. with the pledge of Allegiance. The Open Meeting Act is posted on the wall.

The first order of business was **reorganization**. County Clerk Freidel asked for nominations for Chairman of the Board. Titus motioned to nominate Jeff Kutchera, and Richards seconded the motion. Swanson moved that the nominations cease, seconded by Titus, and Kutchera was elected Chairman of the Board for 2026. By Roll Call Vote. Ayes – Swanson, Kutchera, Titus, Pearson, Johnson, Richards and Connealy. Nays – none. Motion passed. Jeff Kutchera will be Chairman for 2026.

The next order of business, also part of reorganization, was to appoint a Vice-Chairman. Chairman Kutchera asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman of the Board. Titus moved to nominate Paul Richards, and Johnson seconded the motion. Titus moved that the nominations cease and that Paul Richards be elected Vice-Chairman of the Board for 2026, Pearson seconded. By Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Connealy, Swanson, Titus, Pearson, Johnson, Richards and Kutchera. Nays – none. Motion passed. Paul Richards will be Vice-Chairman for 2026.

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

The minutes of the Dec. 26, 2025 Board of Supervisors and Board of Equalization meetings were approved; upon motion by Connealy, seconded by Pearson. By Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Connealy, Swanson, Titus, Pearson, Johnson Richards and Kutchera. Nays – none.

The Financial Reports of County Clerk Fees, County Court fines, the District Court Fees and the Zoning Report for December; the Sheriff's Quarterly Report and Treasurer's 6 month report; the following Miscellaneous Receipts in the amount of \$192,050.03 and Fund Balances were all approved upon motion by Connealy, seconded by Richards. By Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Connealy, Swanson, Titus, Pearson, Johnson Richards and Kutchera. Nays – none. Motion passed.

TOBACCO LICENSES	(3)	30.00
ZONING PERMITS		600.00
IV-CHILD SUPPORT ENF - DIST CT		6,468.06
IV-CHILD SUPPORT ENF - CO ATTY		2,180.10
MV PRO RATE (COUNTY SHARE)		2,091.99
TAX SALE REDEMPTION (COUNTY ISSUANCE)		22.00
CO CLERK-FILING & RECORDING FEES		3,639.00
CO CLERK-DOC STAMPS (COUNTY SHARE)		2,476.80
CO CLERK-MISC FEES		142.50
DISTRICT COURT-FILING FEES		150.00
DISTRICT COURT - COURT COST REFUND		87.00
DISTRICT COURT - BAIL BOND COSTS 10%		250.00
DISTRICT COURT-PASSPORT FEES		435.00

ELECTION REIMBURSEMENTS	(Logan View SD)	79.31
COUNTY COURT - MISC FEES		267.00
CO SHERIFF-SERVICE FEES		493.00
CO SHERIFF-MILEAGE & COSTS		1,096.13
TITLE INSPECTIONS		250.00
GUN PERMITS		45.00
FINGER PRINT		20.00
MISC - CO ATTY - Dakota Co Sheriff Office		17.00
INTEREST EARNED		2,692.37
HIGHWAY/STREET ALLOCATION		126,057.61
PATRONAGE PYMT FROM NNTC		932.38
TRANSFER GEN-RD		0.00
LODGING TAX - OCT		2,088.00
ROD -PRESERVATION & MODERNIZATION		535.00
STOP		600.00
INHERITANCE TAX- Shirley A. Reil		1,562.99
INHERITANCE TAX & INTEREST- Irene Lofdahl		10,599.85
INHERITANCE TAX - David J. Lofdahl		820.04
COUNTY 911		1,352.28
911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND		4,944.38
BUILDING FUND -PRO RATE		75.42
MV PRO RATE		9,447.57
COUNTY COURT FINES-REGULAR		5,568.00
COUNTY COURT -BOND FORFEITURES		401.00
COUNTY COURT - STATE FINES - SCHOOLS		25.00
LYONS FIRE GENERAL		42.87
LYONS FIRE BOND		9.00
TAX SALE ADMIN FEES		100.00
TAX SALE REDEMPTION		3,331.84
IN LIEU TAXES-1957 PRIOR - OPPD		24.54

**OFFICE UPDATES (2):** (1) Veterans – Penny Warren (2) Assessor – Katie Hart

**2026 Depository Designations:**

Board Members Richards and Connealy moved for adoption of Resolution 2026-01 approving County Depositories for 2026 calendar year. By Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Connealy, Swanson, Titus, Pearson, Johnson Richards and Kutchera. Nays – none. Resolution was adopted.

**RESOLUTION #2026-01**

*County Depositories*

BE IT RESOLVED that the County Treasurer be authorized to deposit funds in excess of the capital and surplus in any depository designated for county funds, provided such depository furnish the proper securities as provided by law, and that the Treasurer be and she hereby is, authorized to invest surplus funds, if there be any, in United States Treasury bills or certificates of deposit in the following financial institutions: First Nebraska Bank, Decatur; First Northeast Bank of Nebraska, Tekamah, Lyons, Oakland; and Washington County Bank, Tekamah.

DATED this 14<sup>th</sup> day of January 2026, at Tekamah, Nebraska.

Sarah J. Freidel  
Burt County Clerk

Jeff Kutchera, Chairman  
Burt County Board of Supervisors

**Burt County Extension Office:** *Marina De Val-Hilden*

Extension Board member: appointed for 2026 –(Dist. 5) Devin Hegge to replace Kassie Jensen. Appointment approved upon motion by Connealy, seconded by Titus, By Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Connealy, Swanson, Titus, Pearson, Johnson, Richards and Kutchera. Nays- none.

## **Board Committee Appointments for 2026:**

As part of reorganization, the Board reviewed and agreed upon their respective board committee appointments for calendar year 2026.

Samuel M. Titus	Region IV & North Star Services Burt County Grievance Board-Supervisor Representative F.O.P. Negotiations (2026)
Jeff Kutchera	Region 4 Burt County Road Committee F.O.P. Negotiations (2026)
Ted Connealy	Northeast Nebraska Community Action Partnership (NENCAP) Burt County Economic Development Board Burt County (IMT) Incident Management Team (w/ Burt County Emergency Mgr)
Carl Pearson	Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Services NE Nebr. Economic Development District – Council of Officials 'elected rep' Burt County Extension Liaison
Paul Richards	Elkhorn- Logan Valley Public Health Dept Burt County (IMT) Incident Management Team (w/ Burt County Emergency Mgr) Northeast Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition – <i>alternate</i> Burt County Road Committee
Bird Swanson	Nebraska Loess Hills RC & D Council Burt County Economic Development Board Northeast Nebraska Juvenile Services – <i>alternate</i> Burt County Road Committee
Jay W. Johnson	N.E. Nebraska Area Agency on Aging –Governing Board N.E. Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition - Advisory & Governing Board F.O.P. Negotiations (2026)

All of the Burt County Supervisors are on the Burt County Weed Board.

Board Committee Appointment: Solid Waste Coalition requires a Resolution for their records. **Resolution 2026-02** was adopted upon motions by Richards and Connealy.

Roll Call Vote: all Ayes. **Northeast Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition Board Appointments**

WHEREAS, the County of Burt, Nebraska is a member of the Northeast Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition; and WHEREAS, as a member of the Northeast Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition the County of Burt, Nebraska is authorized to name a representative to the Board of Directors of the Northeast Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition; NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing recitals, the County Board of Supervisors of the County of Burt, Nebraska hereby adopts the following Resolution: BE IT RESOLVED by the County Board of Supervisors of the County of Burt, Nebraska that:

(1) Jay W. Johnson is hereby appointed as the representative of the County of Burt, Nebraska to The Northeast Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition Board of Directors, and in the event of the absence of Jay W. Johnson, then Paul Richards be declared as the alternate representative to the Board and shall act and vote on behalf of the County of Burt, Nebraska.

(2) That Jay W. Johnson shall serve as the County of Burt's representative to the Northeast Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition Board of Directors until his resignation from the Board of Directors or until his successor is appointed by Resolution of the County Board of Supervisors, whichever shall occur first.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 14<sup>th</sup> day of January 2026.

## **County Website & Newspaper Designation:**

As part of reorganization for 2026, the Board declares designation of the Burt County Website ([burtcountyne.gov](http://burtcountyne.gov)) as an official method of providing meeting dates, holiday closing dates, notice of meetings and other publications for Burt County business. The *Burt County Independent* is the newspaper used for Legal publications.

**Communications (3):** (1) 2026 annual seal report -completed (2) IRS compliance reminders for employees meals, travel guidelines, etc; (3) 2026 mileage rates: \$0.725 and \$0.755 for civil process

**Verizon . Cell Phones . Fleet Tracking:**

The Verizon bill was reviewed for cell phones and fleet tracking charges.

*Cell Phones:* The following cell phones are being paid for by the County.

(8) Sheriff's Dept (Sheriff +7 Deputies +1 for Dispatch)

(1) Roads Shed, Tekamah – to be used for hotspot for internet at that shed

(1) Highway Supt.

(1) Building & Grounds

(1) Emergency Manager

*Fleet tracking:* Verizon fleet tracking (GPS) is on Roads fleet and the Emergency Manager pick-up. The Highway Superintendent's office monitors these services.

**(Zoning) Conditional Use Permit (CUP) application- Dennis Gill to add a 3<sup>rd</sup> dwelling (single wide mobile home) to 12-acre parcel:** CUP for parcel 431102500, a 12 ac. tract in pt. S $\frac{1}{2}$  NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 25, TWP 23N, Rg.10E of sixth PM, Burt County, NE; there is already a single wide home and another house on this parcel. Zoning Administrator, Ann Chytka reported that the Burt County Planning Commission approved the CUP at their 1/5/2026 meeting with a density waiver and the requirement of a mobile home permit. A Public Hearing was opened at 9:30 a.m. Having no public comment; Chairman Kutchera closed the public hearing at 9:31 a.m. The Burt County Board approved the CUP upon motion by Connealy, seconded by Swanson. Motion Passed by Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Connealy, Swanson, Titus, Pearson, Johnson, Richards and Kutchera. Nays – none.

**(Zoning) Conditional Use Permit (CUP) application- Ryan Kent Bacon property owner & Derek Petersen to build a house:** CUP is needed for a house to be built on a parcel under 20 acres. This property is in pt. SW $\frac{1}{4}$  SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 10, TWP 23N, Rg.8E of sixth PM, Burt County, NE. Chairman Kutchera opened the public hearing at 9:31 a.m. Zoning Administrator, Ann Chytka reported that the Burt County Planning Commission approved the CUP at their 1/5/2026 meeting. PUBLIC COMMENT: Derek Petersen was present and answered questions; Gregg Smith, rural Lyons questioned the County Roads that bordered the property. Chairman Kutchera closed the public hearing at 9:34 a.m. The Burt County Board approved the CUP upon motion by Connealy, seconded by Johnson. Motion Passed by Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Connealy, Swanson, Titus, Pearson, Johnson, Richards and Kutchera. Nays – none.

**BURT COUNTY SOLAR - Sandhills Energy – Project Update:**

Present speaking: Brian Boerner Senior Vice-President, Development with Sandhills Energy and Eric Case Construction Manager -gave an update on the 250-megawatt project. The lay-down yard started at the end of last year and construction will be started in the next couple of months. The project is underway; and he will continue to attend meetings with regular updates. Also, a nameplate capacity tax agreement has been executed by their parties and will be sent over for the Chairman to sign.

**Lot Split signed by Chairman Kutchera:**

AIRE KNOLL – 3.68 ac. in pt. NW $\frac{4}{4}$ NE $\frac{4}{4}$  & pt. NE $\frac{4}{4}$ NW $\frac{4}{4}$  of Sec. 36, TWP 21N, Rge. 8 E of the 6<sup>th</sup> P.M. Burt County, NE.

**Board of Equalization:**

Connealy moved the Board recess at 9:45 AM for *Board of Equalization*, Richards seconded, motion passed All Ayes. The Burt County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 9:50 AM upon motion by Titus, seconded by Swanson, All Ayes. See separate minutes for BOE.

**ROADS:**

Appoint 2026 Highway Superintendent: The Board appointed Ann Chytka as Burt County Highway Superintendent for 2026, upon motion by Pearson, seconded by Richards. Passed By Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Connealy, Swanson, Titus, Pearson, Johnson, Richards and Kutchera. Nays – none.

Fleet: Chytka will have available a fleet report of Roads equipment mileage/hours.

C-11(451) Co.Rd. L: The road continues to deteriorate. Discussions were held regarding the need to withhold pay from both the contractor and engineering due to both parties being at fault. Potholes and cracks will need addressed when weather permits and before final overlay can take place.

*PUBLIC COMMENT(S):* (1) Ted Japp, 13514 CoRd P30, Blair – candidate for Legislature Dist. 16; introduced himself. (2) Gregg Smith, rural Lyons – comments Co.Rd. L.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, the meeting adjourned at 10:28 A.M. upon motions by Titus and Connealy.

Next meeting: January 28, 2026 at 9:00 A.M.

ATTEST: SARAH J. FREIDEL  
BURT COUNTY CLERK

JEFF KUTCHERA, 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.*