

**BUFFALO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BUFFALO COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 2026**

The Buffalo County Board of Commissioners and the Buffalo County Board of Equalization met on Tuesday, April 28, 2026 at 9:00 A.M. and 9:30 A.M. Chairperson Morrow called the meeting to order and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. The following Board members responded to roll call: Timothy Higgins, Ivan Klein, Myron Kouba, Ronald Loeffelholz, Daniel Lynch, Bill Maendele and Sherry Morrow. A copy of the acknowledgment and receipt of notice and agenda by the Board of Commissioners is attached to these minutes. Public notice of this meeting was published/posted in the Kearney Hub, on the Buffalo County website, and the bulletin boards located outside the County Clerk's office and County Board Room on April 23, 2026. Chairperson Morrow announced that in accordance with Section 84-1412 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes, a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is available for review and posted at the back of the Board Room. County Clerk Heather Christensen took all proceedings hereinafter shown; while the convened meeting was open to the public. County Attorney Shawn Eatherton, Deputy County Attorney Andrew Hoffmeister and Deputy County Attorney Josiah Davis were present.

REGULAR AGENDA

Moved by Lynch and seconded by Higgins to approve the April 14, 2026 Board meeting minutes. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Lynch, Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Maendele and Morrow. Motion declared carried.

Doug Kramer, Representative of Kearney Elk's Lodge #984 and Becky Wallwey, Exalted Ruler of Kearney Elk's Lodge #984 were present for the Proclamation of Youth Week. Commissioner Maendele read into record the Proclamation of Youth Week. Moved by Maendele and seconded by Higgins to proclaim the week of May 1, 2026 through May 7, 2026 as "Youth Week" in Buffalo County with the following Resolution 2026-13. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Maendele, Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Lynch and Morrow. Motion declared carried.

RESOLUTION 2026-13

PROCLAMATION

Name the Week of May 1, 2026 through May 7, 2026 as "Youth Week" in Buffalo County

WHEREAS, The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has Designated May 1-7, 2026 as Youth Week to honor America's Junior Citizens for their accomplishments, and to give fitting recognition of their services to Community, State And Nation; and

WHEREAS, Kearney Elks Lodge #984 will sponsor an observance during that week in tribute to the Junior Citizens of this Community; and

WHEREAS, no event could be more deserving of our support and Participation than one dedicated to these young people Who represent the nation's greatest resource, and who in the years ahead will assume the responsibility for the Advancement of our free society; and,

WHEREAS, our Youth need the guidance, inspiration and encouragement which we can give in order to help develop those qualities of character essential for future leadership; and go forth to serve America; and,

WHEREAS, to achieve this worthy objective we should demonstrate our partnership with Youth, our understanding of their hopes and aspirations and a sincere willingness to help prepare them in every way for the responsibilities and opportunities of citizenship.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Sherry Morrow, Chair of the Buffalo County Commissioners and on behalf of the citizens of Buffalo County, and the Buffalo County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim May 1 through May 7, 2026, as "Youth Week."

Commissioner Morrow read into the record the Kellie John Memorial Resolution. Moved by Loeffelholz and seconded by Klein to approve the Kellie John Memorial with the following Resolution 2026-14. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Loeffelholz, Klein, Higgins, Kouba, Lynch, Maendele and Morrow. Motion declared carried.

RESOLUTION 2026-14

WHEREAS, for more than fifty-two years, Kellie John faithfully served the citizens of Buffalo County with integrity, kindness, and unwavering commitment; and

WHEREAS, her work was not merely a position, but a calling—one carried out with patience, professionalism, and a genuine care for the people she encountered each day; and

WHEREAS, generations of employees, elected officials, and community members benefited from her steady presence, institutional knowledge, and generous spirit; and

WHEREAS, she found particular joy each spring when the trees on the east side of the Buffalo County Courthouse burst into bloom—a reminder that faithful tending brings beauty in time; and

WHEREAS, her life and service reflected those same qualities: deep roots, quiet strength, and blossoms of kindness that enriched this community for over five decades;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Buffalo County Board of Commissioners hereby honors the life and legacy of Kellie John, expresses its heartfelt gratitude for her extraordinary 52 years of service, and establishes a memorial on the east side of the Courthouse—where the trees bloom each spring—as a living tribute to her dedication and love for this place.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that her legacy will continue to inspire all who serve Buffalo County in the years to come.

Commissioner Maendele read into the record Employee Recognition for the following County Employee: Riley Rose for 1 year of service.

Sheriff Neil Miller, Chief Deputy Daniel Schleusener, Lieutenant Chad Hunt, Sergeant Scott Gates, Sergeant Adrienne Springer, Sheriff Deputy Christopher Jarmin, Corrections Officer Clayton Edwards and Corrections Officer Amanda Olson were present. Commissioner Lynch read into the record the Proclamation of National Corrections Officers and Employees Week and thanked those who serve Buffalo County. Moved by Lynch and seconded by Kouba to proclaim the week of May 3, 2026 through May 9, 2026 as “National Corrections Officers and Employees Week” in Buffalo County with the following Resolution 2026-15. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Lynch, Kouba, Higgins, Klein, Loeffelholz, Maendele and Morrow. Motion declared carried.

RESOLUTION 2026-15

PROCLAMATION

Name the Week of May 3, 2026 through May 9, 2026 as "National Corrections Officers and Employees Week" in Buffalo County

WHEREAS, National Corrections Officers and Employees Week was first proclaimed on May 5, 1984, by President Ronald Reagan when he signed Proclamation 5187 creating "National Correctional Officers' Week", to recognize the men and women who work in jails, prison, and community corrections across the county; and

WHEREAS, National Correction Officers and Employees Week recognizes and honors that the duties of these officers have become increasingly complex and demanding; and

WHEREAS, National Correctional Officers and Employees Week recognizes the professionalism, dedication and courage exhibited by these officers throughout the performance of these demanding and often conflicting roles deserve our utmost respect; and

WHEREAS, National Correctional Officers and Employees Week in Buffalo County recognizes employees of the Buffalo County Sheriff s Office Corrections Division for their role in putting themselves in harm's way to advance a mission of protecting the public, staff, and inmates of Buffalo County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Buffalo County Board of Commissioners herby proclaim the week of May 3, 2026 through May 9, 2026 as "National Correctional Officers and Employees Week". All Buffalo County citizens are encouraged to pay tribute to the many Correctional Workers of the Buffalo County Jail for the vital public service they provide.

Moved by Lynch and seconded by Maendele to ratify the following April 17, 2026 payroll claims processed by the County Clerk. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Lynch, Maendele, Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Loeffelholz and Morrow. Motion declared carried.

APRIL 17, 2026 PAYROLL

GENERAL FUND			
NET PAYROLL			380,664.79
AMERICAN FAMILY LIFE	I	PREMIUMS	1,185.56
RETIREMENT PLANS AMERITAS	R	EMPE RET	66,640.72
BUFFALO CO TREASURER	I	PREMIUMS	182,659.00
DAWSON CO COURT	E	GARNISHMENT	301.54
EMPOWER ANNUITY INS	R	DEFERRED COMP	1,075.00
FIRST CONCORD	E	FLEX FUNDS	7,493.54

FIRST NATIONAL BANK	T	FEDERAL TAXES	124,154.90
KEARNEY UNITED WAY	E	DONATIONS	40.00
MADISON NATIONAL	I	PREMIUMS	1,196.07
MADISON NATIONAL	I	LT DISABILITY	340.42
METLIFE	E	DENTAL	4,540.78
NATIONWIDE RETIREMENT	R	DEFERRED COMP	2,382.00
NE CHILD SUPPORT	E	CHILD SUPPORT	876.50
STATE OF NE	T	STATE TAXES	17,500.34
VISION SERVICE PLAN	E	EMPE VSP EYE	1,258.08
ROAD FUND			
NET PAYROLL			69,133.82
AMERICAN FAMILY LIFE	I	PREMIUMS	873.38
RETIREMENT PLANS AMERITAS	R	EMPE RET	11,057.14
BUFFALO CO TREASURER	I	PREMIUMS	5,266.00
FAMILY SUPPORT REGISTRY	E	GARNISHMENT	75.00
FIRST CONCORD	E	FLEX FUNDS	1,087.46
FIRST NATIONAL BANK	T	FEDERAL TAXES	19,666.03
MADISON NATIONAL	I	PREMIUMS	221.65
MADISON NATIONAL	I	LT DISABILITY	101.10
METLIFE	E	DENTAL	1,029.14
NATIONWIDE RETIREMENT	R	DEFERRED COMP	272.50
STATE OF NE	T	STATE TAXES	2,685.74
VISION SERVICE PLAN	E	EMPE VSP EYE	324.66
WEED FUND			
NET PAYROLL			6,048.95
RETIREMENT PLANS AMERITAS	R	EMPE RET	952.19
BUFFALO CO TREASURER	I	PREMIUMS	423.00
FIRST CONCORD	E	FLEX FUNDS	33.33
FIRST NATIONAL BANK	T	FEDERAL TAXES	1,861.61
MADISON NATIONAL	I	LT DISABILITY	4.18
METLIFE	E	DENTAL	66.92
STATE OF NE	T	STATE TAXES	252.48

Moved by Higgins and seconded by Klein to approve the transfer of County funds per budget as listed below. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Lynch, Maendele and Morrow. Motion declared carried.

FROM	0100	GENERAL FUND	TO	0200	ROAD FUND	\$1,500,000.00
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Moved by Lynch and seconded by Loeffelholz to approve the following April 2026 vendor claims submitted by the County Clerk. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Lynch, Loeffelholz, Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Maendele and Morrow. Motion declared carried.

GENERAL FUND			
ACCURATE CONTROLS	S	MAINT	55,480.79
ADAMS CO SHERIFF	E	FEES	6.50
ADORAMA	EQ	EQUIP	781.99
ADVANCED CORRECTIONAL HEALTHCARE	MC	MEDICAL	20,717.42
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	E	EXPENSES	5,776.15
AMERICAN ELECTRIC COMPANY	SU	SUPPLIES	374.12
MANDI J AMY	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
ANDERSON FORD LINCOLN MERCURY MAZDA	EQ	EQUIP	49,447.00
APPLE MARKET	SU	SUPPLIES	163.87
APPLIED CONCEPTS	EQ	EQUIP	3,986.00
NATHAN AREHART	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
AT&T MOBILITY	U	PHONE SVC	2,962.66
ATS	S	SVC	726.24
AUTO VALUE PARTS STORE	SU	PARTS	180.90
B & M SUPPLIERS	SU	SUPPLIES	786.00
BANNER SOLUTIONS	EQ	EQUIP	582.93
BATTERIES PLUS	EQ	EQUIP	125.00
MEGAN L BELLAMY	S	SVC	493.75
BENCHMARK GOVERNMENT SOLUTIONS	S	FOOD SVC	685.15
DREW BOHL	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00

BOMGAARS SUPPLY	SU	SUPPLIES	67.98
BOYS TOWN	S	JUV SVC	5,118.75
SCOTT BRADY	RE	REIMBURSE	26.10
NATHAN BRECHT	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
D. BRANDON BRINEGAR	RE	REIMBURSE	711.60
STANLEY BRODINE	RE	REIMBURSE	15.81
BRUNER FRANK SCHUMACHER	S	LEGAL	26,953.39
BUFFALO CO COMMUNITY PARTNERS	S	JUV SVC	579.01
BUFFALO CO ATTORNEY	E	EXPENSES	48.00
BUFFALO CO ATTORNEY'S OFFICE	E	EXPENSES	1,528.98
BUFFALO CO CLERK	E	EXPENSES	2,184.00
BUFFALO CO COURT	E	EXPENSES	3,192.57
BUFFALO CO FACILITIES	RE	REIMBURSE	342.31
BUFFALO CO PUBLIC DEFENDER	D	DUES	360.00
BUFFALO CO SHERIFF	E	EXPENSES	173.28
BUFFALO CO SHERIFF	E	EXPENSES	5,224.73
BUILDERS WAREHOUSE	SU	SUPPLIES	62.94
CANON U.S.A.	EQ	MAINT	230.97
CAPITAL CITY TRANSFER SERVICE	E	TRANSPORT	2,511.40
MICHAEL D CARPER	S	LEGAL	2,295.00
CELLEBRITE	E	SUBSCRIPTION	19,250.00
CENTRAL MEDIATION CENTER	S	JUV SVC	299.00
CENTURY LUMBER CENTER	SU	SUPPLIES	104.87
JOSHUA CHANEY	RE	REIMBURSE	37.70
CHARM-TEX	SU	SUPPLIES	207.00
CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS	S	SVC	1,386.71
CHEROKEE BUILDING MATERIALS	SU	SUPPLIES	15.70
HEATHER CHRISTENSEN	RE	REIMBURSE	187.78
JENNIFER CHURCH	RE	REIMBURSE	100.83
CITY OF KEARNEY	U	UTILITIES	4,218.20
CITY OF KEARNEY	E	EXPENSES	62,511.88
CLARITY ESSENTIAL SERVICES	S	SVC	420.00
CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT	E	EXPENSES	2,402.00
CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT	E	FEES	532.49
CMI	EQ	EQUIP	159.17
CNA SURETY	S	SVC	40.00
COCHRAN LAW	S	LEGAL	5,622.46
KATHARINE COLLINS	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
COLUMN SOFTWARE	A	PUBLICATION	739.70
COMFY BOWL	RT	RENTAL	110.00
COMPASS FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES	S	FAMILY SVC	768.75
CONSTRUCTION RENTAL	RT	RENTAL	288.10
COPYCAT PRINTING CENTER	SU	SUPPLIES	685.15
COUNTRY PARTNERS COOPERATIVE	U	UTILITIES	380.25
DR. ANTHONY TATMAN	S	SVC	25.00
CULLIGAN OF KEARNEY	S	SVC	469.50
CUSTER CO SHERIFF	E	FEES	19.50
CUSTOM CAGE OF MISSOURI	EQ	EQUIP	1,145.00
WENDY C CUTTING	S	SVC	239.60
BAILEY DAHLGREN	E	FEES	20.00
DAN'S SANITATION	S	SVC	23.25
DENNISE DANIELS	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
DAS ST ACCOUNTING	S	SVC	150.00
DAS STATE ACCTNG-CENTRAL FINANCE	S	SVC	1,536.00
DASH MEDICAL GLOVES	SU	SUPPLIES	1,907.40
DATASHIELD CORPORATION	S	SVC	125.04
JOSIAH DAVIS	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
LYDIA DAVIS	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
DAWSON CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE	E	FEES	25.95
DAWSON PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	U	UTILITES	3,877.90
DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY	SU	SUPPLIES	2,396.33
DEPT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES	MC	MEDICAL	2,880.31
DETECTACHEM	SU	SUPPLIES	316.02
DIAMOND DRUGS	MC	MEDICAL	15,303.36

DIER, OSBORN & COX	S	LEGAL	1,425.40
DLT SOLUTIONS	EQ	MAINT	2,599.42
DONKEY TOWING & TRANSFER	S	SVC	290.00
JESSICA DREIER	S	SVC	514.60
BRANDON DUGAN LAW	S	LEGAL	2,440.00
EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	SU	SUPPLIES	4,135.99
SHAWN EATHERTON	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
EGAN SUPPLY COMPANY	SU	SUPPLIES	2,729.48
ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE	E	EXPENSES	3,929.73
ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS	S	SVC	323.20
ENTERPRISE ELECTRIC KEARNEY	EQ	EQUIP	228.72
FAMILY PRACTICE ASSOCIATES	MC	MEDICAL	155.00
FARMERS AND MERCHANTS BANK	E	EXPENSE	65.00
FARMERS COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION	F	FUEL	285.43
PAUL FARRELL	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
FIRST CARE MEDICAL	MC	MEDICAL	122.83
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OMAHA	SU	SUPPLIES	34.80
FRANKLIN CO SHERIFF	E	FEES	67.96
FRITSON PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES	MC	MEDICAL	4,200.00
TAMARA FRIZANE	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
FRONTIER	U	PHONE SVC	5,398.05
FYE LAW OFFICE	S	LEGAL	9,264.46
GALLS	EQ	EQUIP	3,713.38
GARCIA CLINICAL LABORATORY	MC	MEDICAL	61.50
GARY MICHAELS CLOTHIERS	S	REPAIRS	15.00
CYNTHIA GEMBALA HUGG	S	SVC	281.00
GIBBON FIRE DEPT	S	SVC	100.00
GO PHYSICAL THERAPY	MC	MEDICAL	677.36
GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL	MC	MEDICAL	366.48
GOVERNMENTAL LAW	S	CONSULT	74.98
GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS	S	SVC	1,207.25
GREAT PLAINS UNIFORMS	EQ	EQUIP	414.97
HALL CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE	E	FEES	28.28
HIGHTOWER SOLUTIONS	S	MAINT	6,000.00
ANDREW W HOFFMEISTER	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
HOLMES MURPHY & ASSOCIATES	S	CONSULT	4,494.00
HOMETOWN LEASING	EQ	LEASE	5,916.02
HORNER, LIESKE, MCBRIDE & KUHL	SU	SUPPLIES	1,200.00
LISA R HUERTA	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
IHS PHARMACY	MC	MEDICAL	198.37
ERIC INGEBRETSEN	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
INTEGRATED SECURITY SOLUTIONS	SU	SUPPLIES	2,418.00
JACK'S UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT	EQ	EQUIP	1,346.84
JACOBSEN ORR LAW FIRM	S	LEGAL	11,595.93
MIKE JOHANNSEN	E	FEES	20.00
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL	SU	SUPPLIES	115.17
JOHNSON CO SHERIFF	E	FEES	20.80
JOHNSTONE SUPPLY	SU	SUPPLIES	481.89
SHARON JOSEPH	RE	REIMBURSE	10.05
JUSTICE WORKS	E	SUBSCRIPTION	172.00
K & B PARTS	SU	SUPPLIES	46.16
KEARNEY AG & AUTO REPAIR	S	REPAIRS	505.06
KEARNEY CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE	E	FEES	285.75
KEARNEY TOWING & REPAIR CENTER	S	SVC	95.00
KEARNEY WINNELSON CO	SU	SUPPLIES	1,729.11
WILLIE KEEP	RE	REIMBURSE	130.50
KIDWELL	EQ	EQUIP	7,810.72
KIESLER POLICE SUPPLY	SU	SUPPLIES	284.54
SHANE KILLION	E	FEES	20.00
NICK KILLOUGH	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
KLEIN BREWSTER BRANDT & MESSERSMITH	S	LEGAL	27,594.00
JEFFREY C KNAPP	S	LEGAL	1,255.85
DOUG KRAMER	RE	REIMBURSE	255.98
TIM KREUTZER	RE	REIMBURSE	23.20

KRONOS	S	SVC	1,379.03
LANCASTER CO SHERIFF	E	FEES	21.02
DR MICHAEL LAWSON	S	MH BOARD	200.00
LINCOLN JOURNAL STAR	A	PUBLICATION	376.32
LIESKE, LIESKE & ENSZ	S	LEGAL	4,147.17
LINCOLN CO SHERIFF	E	FEES	21.78
LINCOLN REGIONAL CENTER	E	EXPENSES	22.00
LIND EYE CARE	MC	MEDICAL	458.00
STEPHEN G LOWE	S	MH BOARD	1,725.00
BILL MAENDELE	RE	REIMBURSE	188.50
JOHN MARSH	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
LYNN MARTIN	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
MASTERS TRUE VALUE	SU	SUPPLIES	117.00
MATHEW MATTESON	E	FEES	20.00
MATTHEW BENDER & CO	SU	SUPPLIES	2,206.72
SHARON MAULER	S	MH BOARD	200.00
JENNIFER R MCCARTER REPORTING	S	SVC	669.75
MCKESSON MEDICAL SURGICAL	SU	SUPPLIES	131.58
MENARDS	SU	SUPPLIES	5,931.07
MICROFILM IMAGING SYSTEMS	S	SVC	730.00
MIDDLETON ELECTRIC	S	SVC	1,253.74
MIDWAY CHRYSLER DODGE JEEP	EQ	EQUIP	692.09
MIDWEST CARD & ID SOLUTIONS	E	SOFTWARE	19,021.20
MIDWEST CONNECT	S	MAIL SVC	5,537.45
MIDWEST ENCOURAGEMENT & COUNSEL CTR	S	SVC	335.00
MIDWEST SEPTIC	S	SVC	475.00
MIPS INC.	E	SUPPORT	6,128.66
MIRROR IMAGE CAR WASH	S	SVC	458.58
DEREK & RUTH MITCHELL	U	UTILITIES	110.18
MORRIS PRESS	SU	SUPPLIES	201.00
KOLTON MORSE	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS	EQ	EQUIP	20,064.56
NACO	E	REGISTRATION	500.00
NAPA AUTO PARTS	S	REPAIRS	2,044.13
NATIONAL SHERIFF'S ASSOCIATION	E	CONFERENCE	1,050.00
NE DEPT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICE	S	SVC	200.00
NE CENTRAL TELEPHONE CO	S	TELE SVC	213.65
NE CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEY	E	REGISTRATION	250.00
NE GENERATOR SERVICE	S	REPAIRS	828.00
NE GLASS COMPANY	S	REPAIRS	39.95
NE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	MC	PT SVC	2,178.17
NE PUBLIC POWER DIST	E	UTILITIES	958.36
NE PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	U	UTILITIES	12,792.07
NE STATE FIRE MARSHAL	S	SVC	72.00
NE UC FUND	E	FEES	13,494.00
NE INTERACTIVE	E	EXPENSES	63.00
OPTK NETWORKS	E	INTERNET	1,253.24
NEW WEST SPORTS MEDICINE	MC	MEDICAL	342.14
NMC, INC.	E	SUBSCRIPTION	280.00
NORTHEAST NE JUVENILE SER	S	JUV SVC	13,877.50
NORTHWESTERN ENERGY	U	UTILITIES	5,187.82
O'BRIEN STRAATMANN REDINGER FUNERAL	E	CREMATION	1,500.00
OWENS EDUCATIONAL SERVICES	S	YOUTH SVC	200.00
PAPER TIGER SHREDDING	S	SVC	58.00
PARKER GROSSART BAHENSKY BEUCKE	S	LEGAL	526.56
PHELPS CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE	E	FEES	63.68
PHYSICIANS LABORATORY	MC	MEDICAL	5,249.00
PLATINUM AWARDS & GIFTS	SU	SUPPLIES	357.45
PLATTE VALLEY AUTO	EQ	EQUIP	120.64
PLATTE VALLEY COMMUNICATIONS	S	PHONE SVC	5,048.66
PLATTE VALLEY DENTAL CLINIC	MC	MEDICAL	560.00
PLUMBING & HEATING WHOLESALE	SU	SUPPLIES	1,484.15
ANA POST	RE	REIMBURSE	32.92
PIERCE CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE	E	FEES	29.68

PYE-BARKER FIRE & SAFETY	S	SVC	3,316.24
QUILL CORPORATION	SU	SUPPLIES	409.50
KANE M RAMSEY	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
REGION III BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SVCS	S	SVC	39,760.51
REMEDY ROAD	S	YOUTH SVC	1,288.00
ROBERT RICH	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
REBECCA RILEY	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
JOSE RODRIGUEZ	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
BRENDA ROHRICH	RE	REIMBURSE	260.17
SCOTTS BLUFF CO SHERIFF	E	FEES	22.38
JEREMY SEDLACEK	RE	REIMBURSE	3.63
RICHARD SERR	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
SHERWIN WILLIAMS	SU	SUPPLIES	1,532.94
MARTI SLEISTER	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
TRENTON SNOW, LLC	RT	RENTAL	1,000.00
SOLID WASTE AGENCY LANDFILL	E	LANDFILL	66.75
LISA SPLITTGERBER	S	SVC	403.35
CHRISTOPHER STAAB	RE	REFUND	150.00
CHERYL STABENOW	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
STAMM ROMERO & ASSOC	S	LEGAL	15,362.55
STATE OF NEBR PROBATION DIST 9	E	EXPENSES	4,802.22
THOMAS S STEWART	S	MH BOARD	3,868.87
SCOTT STUBBLEFIELD	RE	REIMBURSE	55.10
SUMMIT FOOD SERVICE	S	FOOD SVC	42,709.24
SUNSET LAW ENFORCEMENT	SU	SUPPLIES	21,044.50
MICHAEL J SYNEK	S	LEGAL	3,210.66
THE EMBLEM AUTHORITY	SU	SUPPLIES	747.00
THE LAWN BUILDERS	S	SVC	14,678.94
THE LOCKMOBILE	S	SVC	8.00
THOMSON REUTERS - WEST	E	SUBSCRIPTION	4,657.84
THOMSON REUTERS - WEST	E	SUBSCRIPTION	654.15
THOMSON REUTERS-WEST	E	SUBSCRIPTION	1,210.35
THOMSON REUTERS - WEST	E	SUBSCRIPTION	930.86
TK ELEVATOR CORPORATION	S	SVC	384.48
TRI COUNTY GLASS	SU	SUPPLIES	377.00
TURNER BODY SHOP OF KEARNEY	S	SVC	79.95
REBECCA TVRDIK ANDERSON	S	LEGAL	2,475.00
TYE & ROWLING	S	LEGAL	100.00
U.S. BANK	E	EXPENSES	27,993.00
U.S. BANK	E	EXPENSES	9,390.40
UNIVERSITY OF NE-LINCOLN	EQ	EQUIP	6,511.00
U.S.D.A.	AP	ALLOCATION	4,223.70
MARC VACEK	RE	REIMBURSE	85.56
REGAN VAN MATRE	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
TIM VANCE	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
VERIZON	E	EXPENSES	1,296.01
VERIZON WIRELESS	S	TELE SVC	639.17
VILLAGE OF MILLER	U	UTILITIES	25.00
VILLAGE UNIFORM	RT	RENTAL	161.63
THE WALDINGER CORPORATION	S	SVC	8,222.87
WASHINGTON CO SHERIFF	E	FEES	18.50
WATKINS	SU	SUPPLIES	66.00
WELLS FARGO BANKS ACCT ANALYSIS	E	FEES	70.03
WELLS FARGO	E	EXPENSES	1,045.95
WELLS FARGO	E	EXPENSES	3,863.00
WELLS FARGO	E	EXPENSES	449.00
WELLS FARGO	SU	SUPPLIES	628.98
AARON WENTZ	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
WILKE'S TRUE VALUE	SU	SUPPLIES	407.89
WILKINS ARCHITECTURE DESIGN	S	SVC	962.37
MELISSA L WILLIS	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
WINZER	SU	SUPPLIES	395.77
LOYE WOLFE	RE	REIMBURSE	189.66
WOODS & AITKEN	E	EXPENSES	420.00

YELLOW ROBE CONSULTING	S	CONSULT	1,800.00
YOUNG ELECTRIC	S	SVC	250.00
MELANIE R YOUNG	RE	REIMBURSE	45.00
ZOUL PROPERTIES	RT	RENT	330.00
<u>ROAD FUND</u>			
ACE HARDWARE & GARDEN CENTER	S	REPAIRS	173.13
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	SU	SUPPLIES	116.24
APPLIED INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGIES	S	REPAIRS	60.72
AUSSIE HYDRAULICS	S	REPAIRS	129.59
ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY/AUTO VALUE PART	S	REPAIRS	4,756.39
BARCO MUNICIPAL PRODUCTS	SU	SUPPLIES	178.94
BOSELMAN ENERGY INC	F	FUEL	635.68
BUILDERS WAREHOUSE	S	REPAIRS	79.96
CFP-C-T	F	FUEL	43.93
COMFY BOWL	RT	RENTAL	105.00
CONSTRUCTION RENTAL	EQ	TOOLS	589.10
CORNHUSKER CLEANING SUPPLY	SU	SUPPLIES	143.88
DAKOTA FLUID POWER	S	LABOR	1,192.90
EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	SU	SUPPLIES	77.09
ENNIS PAINT CO	S	SVC	56,664.58
FARM PLAN	S	REPAIRS	5,153.02
FARMERS CO-OP ASSOCIATION	F	FUEL	163.51
FRIESEN CHEVROLET	S	REPAIRS	818.15
GARRETT TIRES & TREADS	S	REPAIRS	999.70
GRABTEC	S	REPAIRS	113.00
GRAHAM TIRE CO	S	REPAIRS	296.65
HANSEN INTERNATIONAL TRUCK	S	REPAIRS	586.61
INTEGRATED SECURITY SOLUTIONS	SU	SUPPLIES	2,196.00
JIM HAWK TRUCK TRAILERS	S	REPAIRS	1,958.05
KEARNEY TRAILERS	S	REPAIRS	175.80
KELLY SUPPLY COMPANY	S	REPAIRS	190.40
KIMBALL MIDWEST	SU	SUPPLIES	883.20
MENARDS	SU	SUPPLIES	170.33
MID STATE ENGINEERING & TESTING	S	LABOR	120.00
MIDWAY CHEVROLET	S	REPAIRS	82.24
MURPHY TRACTOR AND EQUIPMENT CO	EQ	EQUIP	659,000.00
NACO	E	REGISTRATION	180.00
NAPA AUTO PARTS	S	REPAIRS	514.48
NIPPON SANZO MATHESON	SU	SUPPLIES	450.16
NMC, INC.	S	REPAIRS	9,134.79
OAK CREEK ENGINEERING	S	ENGINEERING	11,216.95
POTTERS INDUSTRIES	S	SVC	18,570.00
POWERPLAN-MURPHY TRACTOR	EQ	EQUIP	1,478.57
SAHLING KENWORTH INC	S	REPAIRS	76.58
SIMON CONTRACTORS	C	CONCRETE	208,301.40
TRUCK CENTER COMPANIES	S	REPAIRS	51.71
U.S. BANK	E	EXPENSES	8,911.09
VONTZ PAVING	C	ASPHALT	743,089.92
WILKE'S TRUE VALUE	S	SUPPLIES	111.22
WINZER	S	SUPPLIES	2,844.96
<u>VISITOR'S PROMOTION</u>			
KEARNEY VISITOR'S BUREAU	E	EXPENSES	64,015.00
<u>VISITOR'S IMPROVEMENT</u>			
KEARNEY VISITOR'S BUREAU	E	EXPENSES	64,016.00
<u>DEEDS PRESERVATION & MODERNIZATION</u>			
MIPS INC.	S	CONVERSION	294.19
<u>HEALTH INSURANCE FUND</u>			
BCBS HEALTH CLAIM EXPENSE	I	HEALTH	359,505.89
HM LIFE MELLON GLOBAL CASH MGNT	I	HEALTH	102,610.40
<u>DRUG FORFEITURES</u>			
BUFFALO CO CLERK	RE	PER DIEM	405.00
<u>KENO LOTTERY</u>			
BUFFALO CO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS	T	TAX	6,208.00
<u>WEED DISTRICT FUND</u>			

INTEGRATED SECURITY SOLUTIONS	S	SUPPLIES	160.00
U.S. BANK	E	EXPENSES	213.54
<u>911 EMERGENCY SERVICE</u>			
CENTURYLINK	S	SVC	1,796.30
FIBER PLATFORM	S	SVC	255.90
FIRST WIRELESS	SU	SUPPLIES	8,244.00
FRONTIER	U	PHONE SVC	1,452.34
GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS	S	ETHERNET SVC	440.00
LANGUAGE LINE SERVICES	S	SVC	112.23
NE CENTRAL TELEPHONE CO	U	PHONE SVC	109.99
PLATTE VALLEY COMMUNICATIONS	S	MAINT	1,417.67

Moved by Klein and seconded by Loeffelholz to acknowledge receipt of the Community Action Partnership of Mid-Nebraska March 2026 RYDE report. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Klein, Loeffelholz, Higgins, Lynch, Maendele and Morrow. Abstain: Kouba. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Maendele and seconded by Higgins to approve Home Federal Bank as a Depository for County Monies. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Maendele, Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Lynch and Morrow. Motion declared carried.

Trevor Lee, President of the Development Council for Buffalo County was present for the discussion of the Chairperson's signature on a Letter of Support for an application by Development Council for Buffalo County to redesignate Buffalo County's two Opportunity Zone census tracts. Following discussion, it was moved by Higgins and seconded by Lynch to approve the Chairpersons signature on Letter of Support for an application by Development Council for Buffalo County to redesignate Buffalo County's two Opportunity Zone census tracts. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Higgins, Lynch, Klein, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Maendele and Morrow. Motion declared carried.

After discussion, it was moved by Klein and seconded by Higgins to approve the Special Designated License for BrixBar at Knobel Barn located at 3070 Odessa Rd, Kearney, NE on May 16, 2026. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Klein, Higgins, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Lynch, Maendele and Morrow. Motion declared carried.

City of Gibbon Administrator Matt Smallcomb and Jess Hurlbert with Olsson Engineering were present for the discussion of the City of Gibbon County right-of-way use for potential water transmission project. Succeeding discussion, it was moved by Maendele and seconded by Lynch to approve the start of the survey process for the City of Gibbon County right-of-way use for potential water transmission project. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Maendele, Lynch, Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Loeffelholz and Morrow. Motion declared carried.

Following discussion, it was moved by Lynch and seconded by Higgins to approve the Two Rivers Public Health Resolution Supporting and Implementation of a Local Retail Food Establishment Inspection Program with the following Resolution 2026-16. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Lynch, Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Maendele, and Morrow. Motion declared carried.

RESOLUTION 2026-16

WHEREAS, the Buffalo County Board of Commissioners recognizes the importance of protecting public health through effective food safety practices and regulatory oversight of retail food establishments; and

WHEREAS, retail food safety inspection and education are foundational environmental health services commonly administered by local public health departments; and

WHEREAS, the Two Rivers Public Health Department (TRPHD) has demonstrated capacity and a strong track record in implementing environmental health programs, including the successful administration of a district-wide swimming pool inspection program; and

WHEREAS, TRPHD maintains a highly trained environmental health workforce with the expertise necessary to administer a retail food inspection and education program in a manner that emphasizes customer service, education, and partnership with local businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Health for the Two Rivers Public Health Department has previously taken action to advance food safety efforts through support of food safety certification for managers and operators; and

WHEREAS, current retail food inspection services administered at the state level may present limitations in local connection, communication, and responsiveness to community needs; and

WHEREAS, a locally administered program provides the opportunity to better align services with community values, strengthen relationships with local food establishments, and enhance both compliance and public health outcomes; and

WHEREAS, Buffalo County is among the fastest-growing counties in Nebraska, creating increased demand for responsive, locally accessible services to support retail food establishments and economic development; and

WHEREAS, TRPHD proposes to initiate a **Buffalo County pilot program** for retail food establishment inspection and education, with the intent to evaluate effectiveness and consider future expansion across the district; and

WHEREAS, the proposed program is intended to be **fee-supported and financially sustainable**, requiring **no county or municipal tax dollars**; and

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Department of Agriculture has been in communication with TRPHD and has expressed its readiness to collaborate in support of coordinated and effective program implementation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Buffalo County Board of Commissioners hereby expresses its **support** for the development and implementation of a local retail food establishment inspection and certification program by the Two Rivers Public Health Department; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board recognizes the value of locally administered environmental health services that are responsive to community needs, supportive of local businesses, and protective of public health; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board acknowledges the proposed Buffalo County pilot approach as a prudent and measured strategy to evaluate program effectiveness prior to any broader expansion; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution does **not** constitute a commitment of county funding, but rather reflects policy-level support for continued development, collaboration, and implementation planning; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board encourages continued coordination between TRPHD, state partners, and local stakeholders to ensure successful implementation of the program.

After discussion, it was moved by Higgins and seconded by Kouba to approve Sonya Petersen to the Planning and Zoning Commission effective August 8, 2026. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Higgins, Kouba, Klein, Loeffelholz, Lynch, Maendele, and Morrow. Motion declared carried.

Chairperson Morrow reviewed the following correspondence. The Legislative Research Office (LRO) sent a flyer regarding Wildfire Recovery Resources for Nebraskans. The Nebraska Department of Transportation sent a letter regarding the Surface Transportation Program and the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan, requesting review and input for our community.

ZONING

Zoning Administrator Dennise Daniels, Deputy County Attorney Hoffmeister, and Deputy County Attorney Davis were present for the following Zoning agenda items.

Chairperson Morrow opened the public hearing at 9:30 A.M. for a Zoning Map Amendment filed by Dave Wilke for property described as a tract of land located in the Northwest Quarter of Section Two (2), Township Nine (9) North, Range Sixteen (16) West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Buffalo County, Nebraska, to rezone approximately 7.28 Acres, more or less, from Agricultural - Residential 2 (AGR - 2) to Commercial (C). Realtor Ryan Ohri and Charlie Isaac were present in support. Dave Wilke and Realtor Adam Marshall were present to answer any questions. No one else addressed the Board and Chairperson Morrow closed the hearing at 9:35 A.M. Moved by Lynch and seconded by Maendele to approve the Zoning Map Amendment with the following Resolution 2026-17. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Lynch, Maendele, Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Loeffelholz, and Morrow. Motion declared carried.

RESOLUTION 2026-17

WHEREAS, on January 20, 2026, Dave Wilke applied for a Zoning Map Amendment with the Buffalo County Zoning Administrator, requesting that the following real estate property, hereinafter referred to as the "subject property", be changed from the Agricultural – Residential 2 (AGR - 2) District to the Commercial (C) District, to wit:

A tract of land in the Northwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter (NW1/4 NW1/4) of Section Two (2), Township Nine (9) North, Range Sixteen (16) West of the 6th P.M., Buffalo County Nebraska, and more particularly described as follows: Beginning at the Northwest corner of said Section 2, and running thence Easterly along the North line of said Section a distance of 760.1 feet; thence with a deflection angle to the Right of 90°42'30", a distance of 417.4 feet; thence Westerly parallel to the North line of said Section a distance of 760.9 feet to a point on the West line of said Northwest Quarter (NW1/4), and thence Northerly on said West line a distance of 417.5 feet to the place of beginning. Containing 7.28 acres more or less.

The tract, as described above, hereinafter will be referred to as "subject property". The property is in the name of David L. Wilke and Karen J. Wilke.

WHEREAS, this is solely a zoning map amendment request and the subject property would or could have other land use regulations that would apply to it above and beyond the zoning map amendment sought at this meeting, and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2026, the Buffalo County Planning and Zoning Commission, following public hearing with notice as required, recommended approval of such proposed change in zoning on an 5-2 vote with two absences and no abstentions, and

WHEREAS, on April 28, 2026, this Board conducted a public hearing and considered this Zoning Map Amendment, the minutes of the Planning and Zoning Commission considering this amendment, Buffalo County Zoning Regulations, and Comprehensive Plan, and has reviewed and considered the following items:

- a. No letters of opposition against the amendment.
- b. The need and justification for the change.
- c. When pertaining to a change in the district classification of property, the effect of the change, if any, on the property and on surrounding properties.
- d. When pertaining to a change in the district classification of property, the amount of undeveloped land in the general area and in the county having the same district classification as requested.
- e. The relationship of the proposed amendment to the purposes of the general planning program, with appropriate consideration as to whether the proposed change will further the purpose of this Resolution and the Comprehensive Plan.

WHEREAS, no protest (s) against such amendment have been filed with the Buffalo County Clerk within seven days of conclusion of public hearing of such Commission as allowed under Section 11.4, and

WHEREAS, the votes in favor of adoption of this resolution need only be by majority of members to this Board of Commissioners.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BUFFALO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS that application for zoning map amendment to change the subject property from the Agricultural – Residential 2 (AGR - 2) District to Commercial (C) District is approved, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be filed in the Register of Deed's office against subject property and any parcel situated partially or entirely within such legal description, and that the County Clerk shall make amendment to Buffalo County Zoning District Map originally adopted on or about September 10, 2002.

Following discussion, it was moved by Loeffelholz and seconded by Kouba to approve Chairperson Morrow's signature to the Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) in regards to the proposed highway project known as "District 4 RWIS Updates" and inventoried as project number "ITS-NH-STP-D4(111)" for the removal and replacement of RWIS sensor suites in the Shelton and Elm Creek Townships in Buffalo County, Nebraska with a copy filed in the Clerk's office. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Loeffelholz, Kouba, Higgins, Klein, Lynch, Maendele and Morrow. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Loeffelholz and seconded by Lynch to recess the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners at 9:38 A.M. and reconvene as a Board of Equalization. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Loeffelholz, Lynch, Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Maendele and Morrow. Motion declared carried.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

Chairperson Morrow called the Board of Equalization to order in open session. County Treasurer Brenda Rohrich was present.

Moved by Maendele and seconded by Lynch to approve the Motor Vehicle Tax Exemption renewal as indicated on the application by County Treasurer Rohrich for First Baptist Church of Kearney for a 2020 Ford Transit. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Maendele, Lynch, Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Loeffelholz and Morrow. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Loeffelholz and seconded by Klein to approve the Motor Vehicle Tax Exemption renewal as indicated on the application by County Treasurer Rohrich for Good Samaritan Hospital for a 2026 Ford E450 Ambulance. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Loeffelholz, Klein, Higgins, Kouba, Lynch and Morrow. Abstain: Maendele. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Kouba and seconded by Maendele to have the Buffalo County Board of Equalization hear the 2026 Property Valuation Protests and to have Buffalo County Clerk send notice of said hearings. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Kouba, Maendele, Higgins, Klein, Loeffelholz, Lynch and Morrow. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Loeffelholz and seconded by Lynch to adjourn the Board of Equalization and return to the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners at 9:40 A.M. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Loeffelholz, Lynch, Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Maendele and Morrow. Motion declared carried.

REGULAR AGENDA

Facilities Director Stephen Gaasch provided an update on the 610 project to the Board. Commissioner Higgins was designated as the contact person for the 610 project.

After discussion, it was moved by Kouba and seconded by Klein to approve the reconsideration of the Pickleball bid from the April 14, 2026 meeting in the amount of \$201,490.00 from Tarkett Sports for the Ravenna Lake Recreation Area with additional funding on the condition of no additional taxpayer money be used for the project. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Kouba, Klein, Higgins, Loeffelholz, Lynch and Morrow. "Nay": Maendele. Motion declared carried.

Following discussion, it was moved by Klein and seconded by Kouba to approve the new hire as per the employee handbook. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Klein, Kouba, Loeffelholz and Morrow. "Nay": Higgins, Lynch and Maendele. Motion declared carried.

Chairperson Morrow called on each Board member present for committee reports and recommendations.

Chairperson Morrow called for Citizen's forum. Chief Deputy Schleusener formally invited the Board to a Law Enforcement Officer Memorial being held at 5:30 P.M. on Thursday, May 7, 2026 at the Law Enforcement Center (LEC). Sheriff Miller informed the Board of a lightning strike on a communications tower. No one else addressed the Board.

Chairperson Morrow asked if there was anything else to come before the Board at 10:17 A.M. before she declared the meeting adjourned following the quarterly jail inspection until the regular meeting at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, May 12, 2026. Commissioners Klein and Lynch accompanied LT. Hunt to conduct the quarterly inspection of the Buffalo County Jail.

ATTEST:

Sherry L. Morrow, Chairperson
Buffalo County Board of Commissioners

Heather A. Christensen
Buffalo County Clerk

(SEAL)