

**BUFFALO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
KEARNEY CITY COUNCIL  
NEW LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER JOINT MEETING  
TUESDAY, JUNE 24, 2025**

The Buffalo County Board of Commissioners and the Kearney City Council met on Tuesday, June 24, 2025 at 3:30 P.M. Chairperson Morrow called the meeting to order and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. The following Board of Commissioners responded to roll call: Timothy Higgins, Myron Kouba, Ronald Loeffelholz, Bill Maendele and Sherry Morrow. Absent: Ivan Klein and Daniel Lynch. The following City Council members responded to roll call: Randy Buschkoetter, Tami James Moore, Kurt Schmidt, Alex Straatmann and Jonathon Nikkila. 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 June 19, 2025. 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 Room. County Clerk Heather Christensen took all proceedings hereinafter shown; while the convened meeting was open to the public.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

Opening remarks were provided by Buffalo County Chairperson Sherry Morrow and Kearney City Council Mayor Jonathon Nikkila. Buffalo County Sheriff Chief Deputy Dan Schleusener, Kearney Police Captain Kevin Thompson and Kearney Police Lieutenant Gabe Kowalek presented the history and value of a co-location Law Enforcement Center.

Further presentations were provided by Jacob Sertich of Wilkins Architecture, Gary Peters of Meyers-Carlisle Construction (MCL) and Brad Slaughter of Northland Securities.

Chairperson Morrow read into record the Joint Proclamation of the New Law Enforcement Center Project. Moved by Maendele seconded by Nikkila to approve the Joint Proclamation of the New Law Enforcement Center project with the following Resolution 2025-41. Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners and Council members voted “Aye”: Maendele, Nikkila, Higgins, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Morrow, Buschkoetter, Moore, Schmidt and Straatmann. Absent: Klein and Lynch. Motion declared carried

**RESOLUTION 2025-41**

**Joint Proclamation**

**In Support of the Co-Location of Law Enforcement Services  
Between Buffalo County and the City of Kearney**

WHEREAS, Buffalo County and the City of Kearney have a long-standing history of cooperation, mutual respect, and shared commitment to public safety and effective government service; and

WHEREAS, both Buffalo County and the City of Kearney are experiencing significant growth, leading to increasing demands on law enforcement agencies and public safety resources; and

WHEREAS, the continued efficient delivery of law enforcement services is essential to the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Buffalo County and the City of Kearney; and

WHEREAS, Buffalo County Commissioners and Kearney City Council support the continuation of co-location of law enforcement services into the future knowing it will enhance coordination, foster closer operational relationships, and improve response capabilities between agencies; and

WHEREAS, such continued collaboration will perpetuate the fiscally responsible steps already in place resulting in long-term savings and increased value for taxpayers through the sharing of infrastructure, resources, and operational efficiencies; and

WHEREAS, the Buffalo County Commissioners appreciate the City of Kearney originally purchasing and renovating the current Law Enforcement Center to serve as the hub for co-location as outlined in 1993; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kearney sincerely appreciates Buffalo County’s leadership in bringing forward a thoughtful and forward-looking solution aimed at strengthening law enforcement services and co-location for our growing community; and

WHEREAS, both governing bodies recognize the importance of maintaining strong, positive intergovernmental relationships to support shared goals and ensure the well-being of all constituents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Buffalo County and the City of Kearney jointly proclaim their full support for the co-location of law enforcement services and reaffirm their mutual commitment to cooperation, transparency, and service to the public.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this initiative represents not only a practical and strategic solution for today, but a vision for a safer, more unified, and better-prepared future for the citizens of Buffalo County and the City of Kearney.

Chairperson Morrow called for Citizen’s forum. Buffalo County Sheriff Neil Miller appeared via Zoom to express his gratitude to the Commissioners and Council for their continued support to the law enforcement community. Buffalo County resident Steve Gaasch spoke about his understanding for the need of growth. Buffalo County resident Pete Kotsiopulus spoke about his history as Kearney Mayor and experiencing the positive effect of a co-location law enforcement center. No one else addressed the Board and Council.

At 4:39 P.M., Chairperson Morrow asked if there was anything else to come before the Board and Council before she declared the meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:

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Sherry L. Morrow, Chairperson  
Buffalo County Board of Commissioners

(SEAL)

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Heather A. Christensen  
Buffalo County Clerk