



## 2026 Primary Election Candidates

Filing deadline for **incumbents** is February 17th, 2026 by 5pm      Filing deadline for **non incumbents** is March 2nd, 2026 by 5pm.

Some races will not appear on the primary election as the number of candidates filing for office did not exceed twice the number of vacancies.

The Election Commissioner shall place the names of such automatically nominated candidates on the general election ballot as provided.

*The following is a list of all candidates and races for Buffalo County. Please note that **NOT** all candidates or races will appear on your specific ballot.*

**PRIMARY ELECTION DATE: MAY 12th, 2026**

COUNTY OFFICES	BALLOT	4 Year Term	Partisan/Affiliation	Contact #	Email	Incumbent	
Each County Office must have 2 candidates of the same party affiliation file for the race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General							
Commissioner Dist. 1		1 Position					
Ivan H. Klein			Republican			Y	
Commissioner Dist. 3							
Timothy John Higgins		5103 Parklane Dr	Kearney NE 68847	Republican	308-627-5207	<a href="mailto:timh7207@gmail.com">timh7207@gmail.com</a>	Y
Commissioner Dist. 5							
Sherry Morrow			Republican			Y	
Commissioner Dist. 7							
Myron Kouba			Republican			Y	
Assessor							
Roy Meusch			Republican			Y	
Attorney							
Shawn R. Eatherton		Po Box 185	Kearney NE 68848	Republican		<a href="mailto:eatherton@charter.net">eatherton@charter.net</a>	Y
Clerk							
Heather A. Christensen			Republican			Y	
Clerk of District Court							
Cheryl S. Stabenow			Republican	308-233-4405		Y	
Public Defender							
D. Brandon Brinegar		Po Box 703	Kearney NE 68848	Republican	308-233-7007	<a href="mailto:dbbrinegar@yahoo.com">dbbrinegar@yahoo.com</a>	N
Register of Deeds							
Jen Schleusener		1114 12th Ave	Kearney NE 68845	Republican		<a href="mailto:jen.4.buffalocountyrod@gmail.com">jen.4.buffalocountyrod@gmail.com</a>	N
Sheriff							
Daniel J. Schleusener			Republican			N	
Surveyor							
Treasurer							
Brenda R. Rohrich			Republican			Y	
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS	BALLOT	4 Year Term	Non-Partisan Race	Contact #	Email	Incumbent	
Amherst, District 119-		3 Positions	7 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General				
Ansley, District 44		3 Positions	7 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General				
		Files in Custer Co.					
		Files in Custer Co.					
		Files in Custer Co.					
Centura, District 100		3 Positions	7 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General				
		Files in Howard Co.					
		Files in Howard Co.					
		Files in Howard Co.					
Elm Creek, District 9		3 Positions	7 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General				
Gibbon, District 2		3 Positions	7 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General				
Jodi Bendfeldt						Y	

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS	4 Year Term	Non-Partisan Race	Contact #	Email	Incumbent
Kearney, District 7	3 Positions	7 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General			

Pleasanton, District 105 Justin Epley	3 Positions	7 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General			
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Ravenna, District 69 Ryan Osten	3 Positions	7 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General			
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Shelton, District 19	3 Positions	7 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General			
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SEM, District 101	3 Positions	7 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General			
	Files in Dawson Co.				
	Files in Dawson Co.				
	Files in Dawson Co.				

CITY OFFICIALS	BALLOT	4 Year Term	Non-Partisan Race	Contact #	Email	Incumbent
Gibbon City Council Member						
Ward I		1 Position	3 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General			
Ward II		1 Position	3 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General			
Kevin Kraenow						Y
Kearney City Council Member		2 Positions	5 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General			
Bryce Nelson				308-627-1088		N

Ravenna City Council Member						
Mayor		1 Position	3 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General			
Fred A. Matejka						Y
City Council		2 Positions	5 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General			

VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES	BALLOT	4 Year Term	Non-Partisan Race	Contact #	Email	Incumbent
	Filing Deadlines: Incumbent - July 15th, 2026 by 5pm		Non-Incumbents - August 3rd, 2026 by 5pm			

Amherst	GENERAL	2 Positions				
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Elm Creek	GENERAL	2 Positions				
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Miller	GENERAL	3 Positions				
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Pleasanton	GENERAL	2 Positions				
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Riverdale	GENERAL	2 Positions				
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Shelton	GENERAL	2 Positions				
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