



## 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
<b>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</b>							
<b>Commissioner Dist. 1</b>		<b>1 Position</b>					
	Ivan H. Klein			Republican			Y
<b>Commissioner Dist. 3</b>							
	Timothy John Higgins	5103 Parklane Dr	Kearney NE	68847	Republican	308-627-5207	<a href="mailto:timh7207@gmail.com">timh7207@gmail.com</a>
<b>Commissioner Dist. 5</b>							
	Sherry Morrow				Republican		Y
<b>Commissioner Dist. 7</b>							
	Myron Kouba				Republican		Y
<b>Assessor</b>							
	Roy Meusch				Republican		Y
<b>Attorney</b>							
	Shawn R. Eatherton	Po Box 185	Kearney NE	68848	Republican		<a href="mailto:eatherton@charter.net">eatherton@charter.net</a>
<b>Clerk</b>							
	Heather A. Christensen				Republican		Y
<b>Clerk of District Court</b>							
	Cheryl S. Stabenow				Republican		Y
<b>Public Defender</b>							
	D. Brandon Brinegar	Po Box 703	Kearney NE	68848	Republican	308-233-7007	<a href="mailto:dbbrinegar@yahoo.com">dbbrinegar@yahoo.com</a>
	Jeff Wirth				Republican		Y
<b>Register of Deeds</b>							
	Jen Schleusener	1114 12th Ave	Kearney NE	68845	Republican		<a href="mailto:jen.4.buffalocountyrod@gmail.com">jen.4.buffalocountyrod@gmail.com</a>
<b>Sheriff</b>							
	Daniel J. Schleusener				Republican		Y
<b>Surveyor</b>							
	Trenton D. Snow	2290 Highway 40	Kearney, NE	68845	Republican		<a href="mailto:trentonsnow@hotmail.com">trentonsnow@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>							
	Brenda R. Rohrich				Republican		Y
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS	BALLOT	4 Year Term	Non-Partisan Race		Contact #	Email	Incumbent
<b>Amherst, District 119-</b>							
	3 Positions		<b>7 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General</b>				
	Karen K. Harmoney	PO Box 82	Amherst, NE	68812			Y
<b>Ansley, District 44</b>							
	3 Positions		<b>7 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General</b>				
	Files in Custer Co.						
	Files in Custer Co.						
	Files in Custer Co.						
<b>Centura, District 100</b>							
	3 Positions		<b>7 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General</b>				
	Files in Howard Co.						
	Files in Howard Co.						
	Files in Howard Co.						
<b>Elm Creek, District 9</b>							
	3 Positions		<b>7 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General</b>				
	Hannah J. Hild						Y
	Cole Brodine	PO Box 496	Elm Creek, NE	68836		<a href="mailto:cole@brodine.com">cole@brodine.com</a>	Y
	Marvion Reichert Jr.					<a href="mailto:rykrt@myctlnet.com">rykrt@myctlnet.com</a>	Y
<b>Gibbon, District 2</b>							
	3 Positions		<b>7 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General</b>				
	Jodi Bendfeldt				308-236-3493		Y

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS		4 Year Term	Non-Partisan Race	Contact #	Email	Incumbent
Kearney, District 7	Paul Hazard	3 Positions	7 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General		<a href="mailto:hazardfinancial@hotmail.com">hazardfinancial@hotmail.com</a>	Y
Pleasanton, District 105	Justin Epley Doug Geisler Nathan Phillips	3 Positions	7 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General			Y Y Y
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			Y
Shelton, District 19	Dana D. Tompkin Abby Carman	3 Positions	7 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General			Y N
SEM, District 101		3 Positions  Files in Dawson Co. Files in Dawson Co. Files in Dawson Co.	7 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General			
CITY OFFICIALS	BALLOT	4 Year Term	Non-Partisan Race	Contact #	Email	Incumbent
Gibbon City Council Member	Ward I Armando Hernandez Perez	1 Position	3 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General			Y
	Ward II Kevin Kraenow	1 Position	3 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General			Y
Kearney City Council Member	Bryce Nelson Randy Buschkoetter	2 Positions	5 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General	308-627-1088	<a href="mailto:rbuschkoetter@gmail.com">rbuschkoetter@gmail.com</a>	N Y
Ravenna City Council Member	Mayor Fred A. Matejka	1 Position	3 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General			Y
	City Council Tonya Dale	2 Positions	5 people must file for this race to appear on the Primary ballot, otherwise it auto advances to the General			Y
VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES	BALLOT	4 Year Term	Non-Partisan Race	Contact #	Email	Incumbent
Amherst	GENERAL	2 Positions	Filing Deadlines: Incumbent - July 15th, 2026 by 5pm		Non-Incumbents - August 3rd, 2026 by 5pm	
Elm Creek	GENERAL	2 Positions				
Miller	GENERAL	3 Positions				
Pleasanton	GENERAL	2 Positions				
Riverdale	GENERAL	2 Positions				
Shelton	GENERAL	2 Positions				