

PAWNEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MAY 27, 2026

The Pawnee County Board of Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m., which was open to the public, on Wednesday, May 27, 2026, in the first-floor meeting room in the Pawnee County Courthouse, Pawnee City, Nebraska. Notice of such meeting was published in the Thursday, April 30, 2026, correction published in the May 7, 2026, issue of the Pawnee Republican and posted in post offices of Burchard, DuBois, Pawnee City, Table Rock, Bank of Steinauer in Steinauer and Lewiston School in Lewiston. Present were Jan Lang, Lavon Heidemann and County Clerk, Lindsay Kostecka. Absent: Ron Seitz. Vice-Chairman Lang opened the meeting and announced the open meeting law poster is posted on the east wall of the meeting room. Heidemann moved and Lang seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2026, Commissioner meeting. Voting: Lang (yes), Heidemann (yes). Heidemann moved and Lang seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Voting: Heidemann (yes), Lang (yes). Heidemann moved and Lang seconded the motion to approve the claims as presented. Voting: Lang (yes), Heidemann (yes).

At 9:10 public comment was held. There was no public comment.

Emily Sisco, County Attorney, and Steve Mercure, Pawnee County public defender met with the board to discuss the Public Defender contract. Motion made by Heidemann and seconded by Lang to go into executive session at 9:16 a.m. for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual to discuss possible conflict of interest with public defender contract. Voting: Heidemann (yes), Lang (yes).

No formal action was taken during executive session. Motion made by Lang, seconded by Heidemann to exit executive session. Voting: Lang (yes), Heidemann (yes). The board returned to open session at 9:43.

Heidemann motioned and Lang seconded to terminate the Public Defender contract between Pawnee County and Steve Mercure due to recommendation from Emily Sisco, County Attorney of conflicts of interest. Voting: Heidemann (yes), Lang (yes).

Braden Lang, Sheriff met with the board to discuss deputy update. After discussion no action taken.

Chris Rauner, Hwy Supt, met with the Board to discuss rock report, project list, personnel, equipment, and materials/supplies. He also discussed having some clean up to do from damage of storms especially to north side of the county. After discussion no action taken.

The following claims were reviewed and signed:

NET PAYROLL 44409.84; FWH 3684.05; SWH 1738.66; FICA 7182.92; MICA 1679.88; NATIONWIDE RETIREMENT 600.00; RETIREMENT 6987.89; DELTA DENTAL 400.68; CHILD SUPPORT 213.56; GARNISHMENT 480.54; AMERITAS 115.95; AMERICAN HERITAGE 61.35; MADISON LIFE 82.53; UNITED HEALTHCARE 18319.95; DIRECT DEPOSIT FEE 10.00.

GENERAL FUND:

Abbie Leitschuck, election worker & mileage 268.28; Barb Freeman, election worker 217.50; Benchmark Gov't Solutions, sheriff meals 357.70; Beverly Stake, election worker 213.75; Black Hills, heat 183.37; Camryn Kaster, election worker 202.50; Capital Business Systems, extension copier payment 190.00; Cynthia Defreese, election worker 86.25; Debbie Habegger, election worker & mileage 218.95; Deborah Aylor, election worker 217.50; Deborah Niss, election worker 15.00; Donahue & Sisco, rent 366.66, postage 23.90; Eakes, election

supplies 147.67; Fankhauser, Nelsen & Werts, court appointed attorney 928.50; Fran Herrick, election worker & mileage 232.00; Georgia Beethe, election worker 225.00; Glenda Blecha, election worker 217.50; HH Auto Parts, sheriff supply 153.26; Greg Kreifel, election worker 37.50; Janet Coudeyras, election worker 213.75; John Kostecka, election worker 52.50; John Ticnor, election worker & mileage 235.15; Joyce Scholl, election worker 225.00; Karen Harlow, election worker 217.50; Karen Richardson, election worker 217.50; Kathrine Turnbull, election worker 15.00; Kathleen Ideus. Election worker 86.25; Katy Kreifel, election worker 217.50; Laura Smith, election worker 217.50; Lindsay Kostecka, mileage 130.94; Laura Wenzl, election worker 217.50; Lois Tegtmeier, election worker 213.75; Lois Beethe, election worker 225.00; Nancy Davis, election worker 217.50; Nancy Tennant, election worker 225.00; NPPD, electric 634.06; Pamela Sunneberg, election worker 86.25; Patricia Koester, election worker 217.50; Pawnee County Clerk, postage 25.80; Pawnee County Treasurer 122143.99; Pawnee Republican, publication 111.38; True Value, supply 42.76; Richardson County Sheriff, inmate housing 2623.07; Sandy Vrtiska, election worker 217.50; Schendel Pest Control, pest control 145.00; Sharon Lambert, election worker 217.50; Soarin Group, Veteran service equipment repair 247.00; Tim Wolsleben, election worker 202.50; Woods Aitken, board attorney 342.00.

ROAD/BRIDGE FUND:

Black Hills Energy, heat 141.38; City of Pawnee City, water 91.31; HH Auto, supply 1005.02; Highway Supt petty cash, CDL reimbursement & postage 47.66; James Portrey, boot reimbursement 193.49; ME Collins Contracting Co., road/bridge improvements 30068.17; Martin Marietta, rock 42588.13; National Sign Company, signs 1233.74; NPPD, electric 147.36; Pawnee True Value, supply 429.26; Sapp Bros., fuel 6035.25; Speers Turck Repair, repairs 5024.28; Windstream, phone 208.51.

Vice-Chairman Lang motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Heidemann at 9:58 a.m. Voting Heidemann (yes), Lang (yes)

S/Jan Lang

S/Lavon Heidemann

Attest: Lindsay Kostecka, Pawnee County Clerk