

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

October 14, 2025

The Cherry County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session on October 14, 2025 in the Commissioners Meeting Room of the Cherry County Courthouse, as per notice in the Valentine Midland News every week, with the agenda being on file in the office of the County Clerk. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman McConaughey. Roll call was taken. Present for the meeting were Commissioners Mike McConaughey, Nina Nelson, Martin DeNaeyer, and County Clerk Samantha Leonard. The Open Meetings Act Poster was acknowledged by Chairman McConaughey and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Board of Commissioners' regular meeting minutes from September 30, 2025 were read. McConaughey moved and DeNaeyer seconded to approve minutes with noted corrections. Roll call vote: Aye – DeNaeyer, Nelson, McConaughey. The motion carried.

The Board of Corrections meeting minutes from September 30, 2025 were read. McConaughey moved and Nelson seconded to approve minutes as read. Roll call vote: Aye – Nelson, McConaughey, DeNaeyer. The motion carried.

The Board of Commissioners' special meeting minutes from October 7, 2025 were read. DeNaeyer moved and Nelson seconded to approve minutes as read. Roll call vote: Aye – McConaughey, DeNaeyer, Nelson. The motion carried.

No comments from the public were received during the allotted time.

Grounds Superintendent Pat Greenough met with the board to discuss the locks & doors on the Courthouse and South building. The board asked Mr. Greenough to present the bids in writing for the doors and to look for another company to discuss changing locks on all Courthouse doors. Mr. Greenough informed the board the outdoor lights need upgrade and can no longer get parts. He presented a quote from Anderson Electric, and it was a consensus of the board for Mr. Greenough to get another bid in writing to present.

At 10:30 a.m. Senator Storer provided a legislative update re: LB383, brand inspection bill, Ag data security & EID tags, property tax relief, inmate medical expenses incurred by the counties, and nursing homes.

At 11:00 a.m. Jill Austin with Valentine Children and Family Coalition provided the board with an update re: the daycare. Licensing has been submitted, issues arose with contractors & construction, working with the fire marshall, and the approximate opening date is dependent on the licensing timeline of three to six months. The daycare will be able to house 12 children with 2 employees.

The road foremen gave updates for their specific districts. Steve Stickha, Road District #2 Foreman, updated re: repairs done on Goose Creek Road, the truck in North Platte is still being worked on, mowing ditches, trimming trees, and routine maintenance of roads & equipment. Road District #3 Foreman Brent Collier updated re: road routine maintenance, repairing roads from harvest, surplus equipment and still working on finding issue with motor grader. Road District #1 JD Osburn updated re: regular maintenance, routine road work, armor coat projects, and finishing up oil work projects.

Highway Superintendent JD Osburn discussed the Amish owned bridge on Anderson Bridge Road. Maneli-Wagner is working on getting a timeline and estimate for the inspection.

At 11:18 a.m. the board met with Dan Riha with Aflac to discuss dental options. Mr. Riha informed the board employees have approached him about dental plans because the County's current provider is out of network for the dental offices in town. Aflac has no networks with their policy and the PPO 2 option presented is very similar to the current Delta policy the county has. There are no waiting periods, the policy has a diminishing deductible, and carryover benefits. No board action taken.

Highway Superintendent JD Osburn presented a Request to Occupy Right of Way Permit for Telecom for Lumen to lay fiber on Berry Bridge Road. Nelson moved and DeNaeyer seconded to approve job #25137496 ROW permit for Telecom Construction and authorize the Chairman and Highway Superintendent to sign. Roll call vote: Aye – DeNaeyer, Nelson, McConaughey. The motion carried.

Visitor Promotion Board Member Sara Ferguson and Tourism Director Regina Osburn provided the board with an update re: the convention center. They now have approximately \$2 million of pledges for the convention center and Mid-Plains agrees to break ground when they have 75% of \$4.5 million in pledges. A raffle was held last weekend, and the event brought more awareness to the public of the convention center.

McConaughey moved and DeNaeyer seconded to change the October 28, 2025 regular meeting to start at 1:00 p.m. CST. Roll call vote: Aye – Nelson, McConaughey, DeNaeyer. The motion carried.

McConaughey moved and DeNaeyer seconded to move the regular meeting on November 11, 2025 to November 12, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. CST due to Veterans Day. Roll call vote: Aye – McConaughey, DeNaeyer, Nelson. The motion carried.

Zoning Administrator Jane Stolzenburg provided an update re: cell tower permits and receiving emails for updates to be done for cell towers. The fee schedule was discussed. It was a consensus of the board to wait to set fees for solar permits until zoning regulations are finished. McConaughey moved and DeNaeyer seconded to approve the zoning fee schedule as discussed at the October 7, 2025 special meeting with solar excluded. Roll call vote: Aye – DeNaeyer, Nelson, McConaughey. The motion carried. Payroll reimbursement for September was discussed as changes made in the clerk’s office to be hourly and clock out of the clerk’s office while doing Zoning Administrator job duties deducted the pay of how the job was presented to her. It was a consensus of the board to receive legal advice. No board action taken.

The board discussed the NACO Prisoner Housing survey. Justice Administrator Sharon Hesse emailed answers to the survey to Commissioner McConaughey along with questions she has for NACO. It was a consensus of the board to have Clerk Leonard respond to the NACO survey and they are in favor of receiving more information.

The board recessed from 12:30 p.m. to 1:02 p.m.

The board recessed from 1:02 p.m. to 1:05 p.m. to convene as a Board of Equalization.

The board recessed from 1:06 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The board recessed from 1:30 p.m. to 1:59 p.m. to convene as a Board of Corrections.

At 2:01 p.m. the board met with Tom Monroe, Monroe HVAC, to discuss the venting system for the boilers in the Courthouse. Mr. Monroe informed the board that the venting system that was in place is not large enough and needs to be upgraded to be able to run the new boiler. This venting issue is a component to why the previous boiler failed. Mr. Monroe presented a bid for \$4,450 to re-vent the new boiler. Nelson moved and DeNaeyer seconded to accept the proposal for the new venting system not to exceed \$4,450 presented by Monroe HVAC. Roll call vote: Aye – DeNaeyer, Nelson, McConaughey. The motion carried.

The board met with County Attorney Eric Scott to discuss the Zoning Administrator September payroll reimbursement. Zoning Administrator Jane Stolzenburg explained to Mr. Scott the agreement when the job was accepted was the Clerk’s Office hourly rate in addition to \$800/month for the Zoning Administrator position. The Clerk’s Office has changed to hourly rate and staff are required to clock in and out when they are not doing job duties in the Clerk’s office. This change deducted approximately \$834 of the Zoning Administrator payroll for September. Mr. Scott voiced his concern, and it was a consensus of the board to have Chairman McConaughey discuss the situation with the auditors.

The board discussed claim #25107199 with County Attorney Eric Scott due to documentation received to support the claim. Due to questions arising from bank statements produced by the Cherry County Agricultural Society to support the claim for a \$20,000 grant, Mr. Scott advised the board to deny the claim, and he would draft a letter asking for explanation and give the Ag Society 30 days to respond.

DeNaeyer moved and McConaughey seconded to approve claims as presented excluding claim #25107199. Roll call vote: Aye – Nelson, McConaughey, DeNaeyer. The motion carried.

October 14, 2025
CHERRY COUNTY CLAIMS LISTING

Claims were presented in the amount of	\$	79,879.38	.
and disallowed in the amount of	\$	-	.
A warrant was ordered drawn on the General Fund in the amount of		\$	79,879.38
GENERAL			
Applied Connective	Services		\$5,760.41
Benchmark Government	Services		\$312.70
Black Hills Chemical	Services		\$795.83
Ashley Blume	Reimbursement		\$642.74
Bob Barker Company	Services		\$2,631.12
Bomgaars	Supplies		\$205.96
Boyd's Network Solutions	Services		\$5,690.00
Buckles Fuel Service	Services		\$238.19
CenturyLink	Services		\$2,070.78
Cherry County Court	Services		\$288.00
Cherry County District Court	Services		\$144.00
Cherry County Hospital	Services		\$6,531.00
Cherry County Sheriff	Services		\$6.00
Cherry County Sheriff Fuel Account	Supplies		\$2,333.36
Cherry County Treasurer	Bank Fees/Transfer		\$10.00
Cidnet	Supplies		\$600.00
Circle K Motor Company	Services		\$206.31
Clearly Communications	Telephone Service		\$325.77
DAS State Accounting 6506	Services		\$537.60
DAS State Accounting 6507	Services		\$203.80

Dept Correctional Services	Services	\$3,648.99
James Edwards	Services	\$100.00
Firstnet/AT&T Mobility	Services	\$392.26
Jerry Fullerton	Reimbursement	\$58.80
Galls Parent Holdings	Supplies	\$974.48
Pat Greenough	Reimbursement	\$100.00
GRP & Associates	Supplies	\$58.00
Timothy Hanson	Equipment	\$2,636.75
Heart City Drug	Supplies	\$8.69
Henderson's IGA	Supplies	\$267.39
Patrick Hooper	Reimbursement	\$70.00
Johnson Law Office	Clerical Salary/Rent/Telephone/Equipment	\$3,249.21
Justice Center Petty Cash	Reimbursement	\$29.00
JW Klawn	Services	\$192.00
KBR Rural Public Power	Services	\$97.53
Lifeguard MD	Services	\$1,906.00
Marco Technologies	Services	\$18.25
William Marshall	Services	\$150.00
Microfilm Imaging Systems	Services	\$282.00
Midland News	Services	\$949.22
Midland Printing	Supplies	\$29.75
MIPS	Services	\$3,268.00
NACO	Dues/Fees/Trainings	\$348.00
North American Invasive Species	Services	\$100.00
Secretary of State	Dues/Fees/Trainings	\$25.00
Nebraska Health & Human Services	Services	\$193.56
Nebraska Law Enforcement Training	Services	\$500.00
Nebraska Weed Control Association	Dues/Fees/Trainings	\$125.00
Nextoner	Supplies	\$277.30
Niobrara Valley Consultants	Services	\$2,371.50
NK Waste Management	Services	\$193.00
Norfolk Lodge & Suites	Lodging	\$375.00
NSBA Bar Directory	Dues/Fees/Trainings	\$60.00
Office Products	Supplies	\$2,707.22
Platte Valley Communications	Services	\$774.50
Prema	Services	\$222.32
Presto X	Services	\$124.37
Pye Barker	Services	\$310.00
Quadient Leasing	Services	\$308.21
Quadient Finance	Services	\$1,711.38
Quill Corporation	Services	\$182.98
Region IV	Services	\$2,626.00
Region 4 Behavioral Health Systems	Services	\$5,495.00
Sandhill Oil	Supplies	\$52.62
Scotty's Ranchland Foods	Supplies	\$357.51
Cardmember Service	Services	\$719.04
Sennet Duncan Jenkins & Wickhad	Services	\$3,968.25
Blaire Speck	Reimbursement	\$92.40
Tony's Tire & Auto Repair	Services	\$88.45
True Value	Supplies	\$47.21
UNL/NE Extension/Cherry County	Reimbursement	\$424.99
City of Valentine	Utilities	\$5,403.12
Viaero Wireless	Services	\$79.35
Bill Wachob	Reimbursement	\$131.60
Ward Plumbing & Heating	Services	\$58.00
Benjamin Wegner	Services	\$75.85
Western Oil/Conoco	Services	\$40.84
Willoughby Industries	Services	\$171.92
Woods & Aitken LLP	Services	\$1,118.00
	TOTAL	\$79,879.38
Claims were presented in the amount of	\$	127,975.80
and disallowed in the amount of		
A warrant was ordered drawn on the Road Fund in the amount of	\$	127,975.80
ROAD		
Barco Municipal Products Inc	Services	\$594.71
Big State Industrial Supply	Services	\$997.50
Bomgaars	Supplies	\$83.30
Buckles Fuel Service	Services	\$5,220.03
Central Valley Ag Cooperative	Services	\$2,048.48
Cherry County Implement	Supplies	\$446.97
Circle K Motor Company	Services	\$1,532.93

Village of Cody	Supplies		\$185.07
Consolidated Telephone	Services		\$284.70
Croell Inc	Services		\$7,389.72
Custer Public Power District	Services		\$148.78
Daly Enterprises	Services		\$225.00
Danielski Farms	Services		\$8,308.50
DAS State Accounting Central Finance	Services		\$27.70
Diamond Traffic	Services		\$583.00
Division of Motor Carrier Services	Services		\$18.00
Dooley Oil	Supplies		\$945.92
Farritor Auto Parts	Supplies		\$50.00
Flat Creek Construction	Services		\$17,500.00
Floyd's Truck Center	Services		\$7,025.58
Great Plains Communications	Services		\$321.21
Handyman Hardware	Supplies		\$35.70
Henderson's IGA	Supplies		\$75.02
Hometown Lumber & Construction	Services		\$448.91
Interstate Battery System	Supplies		\$347.64
Josh Whipple Trucking	Services		\$17,961.00
KBR Rural Public Power District	Services		\$240.37
Kimball Midwest	Services		\$730.10
Kippes & Son's	Services		\$1,316.73
Kirk Barnes Construction	Services		\$27,484.00
Martin Auto Parts	Supplies		\$2,177.86
Midland News	Services		\$35.00
Mips Inc	Services		\$180.00
Mullen Auto & Diesel	Services		\$76.81
Nebraska Machinery Company	Services		\$6,165.79
Nebraska Motor Fuels Division	Services		\$3,845.00
Nebraska Public Power District	Services		\$68.64
NK Waste Inc	Services		\$256.00
O'Reilly Auto Parts	Supplies		\$44.99
Office Products	Supplies		\$20.69
The Parts Company	Supplies		\$273.07
Perrett Construction	Services		\$445.23
Powerplan	Services		\$487.56
Prema	Services		\$72.28
Quadient Finance	Services		\$300.00
Reese Inc	Supplies		\$318.69
Sahling Kenworth Kearney	Services		\$254.18
Sandhill Oil Company	Supplies		\$8,933.21
Sandhills Ranch Supply	Supplies		\$972.08
Superior Sanitation Services	Services		\$160.00
Truck Center Company	Services		\$116.85
City of Valentine	Services		\$195.30
	TOTAL		\$127,975.80
Claims were presented in the amount of	\$	22,374.53	.
and disallowed in the amount of	\$	-	.
A warrant was ordered drawn on the Visitor Promotion Fund in the amount of		\$	22,374.53
VISITOR PROMOTION			
Abbott, AJ	Airshow Grant		\$1,000.00
Cherry County Ag Society	Grant		\$9,000.00
Cherry County Visitors Promo Board	Reimbursement		\$401.60
Great Plains Communications	Services		\$221.29
Kelo/KCLO	Services		\$2,550.00
Midland Printing	Services		\$15.25
NRG Media	Services		\$4,780.00
Office Products	Supplies		\$138.96
Old West Days	Grant		\$4,000.00
City of Valentine	Utilities		\$267.43
	TOTAL		\$22,374.53
Claims were presented in the amount of	\$	22,765.00	.
and disallowed in the amount of	\$	20,000.00	.
A warrant was ordered drawn on the Visitor Improvement Fund in the amount of		\$	2,765.00
VISITOR IMPROVEMENT (995)			
Bob's Signs	Services		\$2,765.00
Cherry County Ag Society	Grant		\$20,000.00
	TOTAL		\$22,765.00
Claims were presented in the amount of	\$	10,001.19	.
and disallowed in the amount of	\$	-	.
A warrant was ordered drawn on the Bookmobile Fund in the amount of		\$	10,001.19

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION MINUTES
October 14, 2025

The Cherry County Board of Commissioners convened as a Board of Equalization on October 14, 2025 in the Commissioner Meeting Room of the Cherry County Courthouse, as per notice published in the Valentine Midland News. The current agenda being on file in the office of the County Clerk. The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by Chairman McConaughey. Present were Commissioners Nina Nelson, Mike McConaughey, Martin DeNaeyer, and County Clerk Samantha Leonard. The Open Meetings Act Poster was acknowledged by Chairman McConaughey.

No comments from the public were received during the allotted time.

Clerk Leonard presented the 2025 Cherry County Levies as compiled by Clerk Leonard & Treasurer Hammond. McConaughey moved and Nelson seconded to set the 2025 Cherry County levies as presented. Roll call vote: Aye – Nelson, McConaughey, DeNaeyer. The motion carried.

LEVIES FOR CHERRY COUNTY 2025

<u>COUNTY</u>		
General Fund		0.071973
Road Fund		0.063643
Emergency Bridge Fund		0.001634
Disaster (Road Bond) Fund		0.017979
Hospital Operating/Maintenance Fund		0.002437
Courthouse (Special Building) Fund		0.001634
	TOTAL COUNTY LEVY	0.159300
Bookmobile		0.001718
	TOTAL COUNTY LEVY INCLUDING BOOKMOBILE	0.161018
Cherry County Agricultural Society	General Fund	0.002774
	Sinking Fund	0.00053
	TOTAL	0.003304
Cherry County Historical Society	General Fund	0.000419

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Valentine Community Schools	General Fund	0.455357
	Special Building Fund	0.008622
	TOTAL	0.463979
Cody-Kilgore Unified Schools	General Fund	0.681488
	Bond Fund	0.095966
	Special Building Fund	0.025175
	TOTAL	0.802629

CITIES AND VILLAGES

Village of Cody	General Fund	0.225591
Village of Crookston	General Fund	0.171222
Village of Kilgore	General Fund	0.247487
Village of Merriman	General Fund	0.450000
Village of Nenzel	General Fund	0.000000
Village of Wood Lake	General Fund	0.419572
City of Valentine	General Fund	0.150698

FIRE DISTRICTS

Barley Rural Fire District	General Fund	0.005558
Cody Rural Fire District	General Fund	0.010708
	Sinking Fund	0.007451
	TOTAL	0.018159
Kilgore Rural Fire District	General Fund	0.017507
Merriman Rural Fire District	General Fund	0.008486
Mid-Cherry Rural Fire District	General Fund	0.006217

Purdum Rural Fire District	General Fund	0.005185
Valentine Rural Fire District	General Fund	0.012610
Wood Lake Rural Fire District	General Fund	0.02121
	Sinking Fund	0.002780
	TOTAL	0.023990

<u>Natural Resources Districts</u>		
Middle Niobrara NRD	General Fund	0.037891
	Sinking Fund	0.001238
	TOTAL	0.039129
Upper Loup NRD	General Fund	0.013337

<u>Educational Service Units</u>		
ESU 17	General Fund	0.015000

At 1:05 p.m. Chairman McConaughey adjourned the meeting.

State of Nebraska,)
) SS.
County of Cherry,)

I, Samantha Leonard, the undersigned County Clerk of Cherry County, Nebraska, do hereby certify the foregoing minutes are true and are part of the official records of this office. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 28th day of October 2025.

Samantha Leonard Cherry County Clerk	Mike McConaughey, Chairperson Cherry County Board of Commissioners
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BOARD OF CORRECTION MINUTES
October 14, 2025

The Cherry County Board of Commissioners convened as a Board of Corrections on October 14, 2025 in the Commissioner Meeting Room of the Cherry County Courthouse, as per notice published in the Valentine Midland News. The current agenda being on file in the office of the County Clerk. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chairman McConaughey. Present were Commissioners Nina Nelson, Mike McConaughey, Martin DeNaeyer, and County Clerk Samantha Leonard. The Open Meetings Act Poster was acknowledged by Chairman McConaughey.

No comments from the public were received during the allotted time.

The board discussed the bids received on September 30, 2025 for the Justice Center Access Control System and the concern of one bid representative informing the current PLC needs replaced, and the other bid representative informing the PLC does not need replaced. The board met with Rick Scheer, Control Masters, via phone to discuss the PLC. Mr. Scheer stated the current PLC is adequate and we are still able to get parts, if needed. There are currently no issues with our PLC, and it is operating as it should be. Mr. Scheer stated he feels 100% comfortable leaving the current PLC in place and can replace it when needed. Once the access control system is upgraded, no new parts will need to be changed when the PLC must be replaced, all parts can interface with the upgraded system included in the bid, and software will be compatible to any PLC. McConaughey moved and DeNaeyer seconded to accept Control Masters bid of \$84,987.00 for the Cherry County Justice Center Access Control System to be paid for with LATCF Funds. Roll call vote: Aye – McConaughey, DeNaeyer, Nelson. The motion carried.

At 1:59 p.m., Chairman McConaughey adjourned the meeting.

State of Nebraska,)
) SS.
County of Cherry,)

I, Samantha Leonard, the undersigned County Clerk of Cherry County, Nebraska, do hereby certify the foregoing minutes are true and are part of the official records of this office. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 28th day of October 2025.

Samantha Leonard	Mike McConaughey, Chairperson
Cherry County Clerk	Cherry County Board of Commissioners