

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

October 28, 2025

The Cherry County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session on October 28, 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 1:00 p.m. by Chairman McConaughy. Roll call was taken. Present for the meeting were Commissioners Mike McConaughy and Nina Nelson, and County Clerk Samantha Leonard. Commissioners Martin DeNaeyer had an excused absence for the beginning of the meeting. The Open Meetings Act Poster was acknowledged by Chairman McConaughy and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

At 1:10 p.m. Commissioner DeNaeyer was present for the remainder of the meeting.

The Board of Commissioners' regular meeting minutes from October 14, 2025 were read. McConaughy moved and Nelson seconded to approve minutes with noted corrections. Roll call vote: Aye – McConaughy, Nelson. Abstain – DeNaeyer. The motion carried.

The Board of Equalization meeting minutes from October 14, 2025 were read. Nelson moved and DeNaeyer seconded to approve minutes as read. Roll call vote: Aye – Nelson, McConaughy, DeNaeyer. The motion carried.

The Board of Corrections meeting minutes from October 14, 2025 were read. McConaughy moved and Nelson seconded to approve minutes as read. Roll call vote: Aye – McConaughy, DeNaeyer, Nelson. The motion carried.

Comments from the public were received during the allotted time.

The board discussed abandoning part of 908th Road with Road Foreman JD Osburn. Mr. Osburn stated to start the process of abandonment, the board must authorize him to do a commission report, present the report to the board, and hold a public hearing. If the road is abandoned, the property line will move to the center of the road, and the land will go back to the adjacent landowners. The county will no longer be responsible to maintain the road after abandonment. If abandoned, the bridge will be sold to the highest bidder, and the county removes the weight restriction signs from the bridge. Nelson moved and McConaughy seconded to authorize JD Osburn to produce a commission report to abandon a portion of 908th Road. Roll call vote: Aye – DeNaeyer, Nelson, McConaughy. The motion carried.

The board recessed to convene as a Board of Corrections from 1:30 p.m. to 1:37 p.m.

At 1:37 p.m. the board met with Agricultural Society members Duane Witte and Jon Kime to discuss documentation submitted with a grant claim. Mr. Witte stated there was only one signature on the deposit & withdrawal form because of the lack of room on the electronic pad at the bank for two signatures, but the withdrawal was a transfer from one account to another. It was a consensus of the board to include Claim #25107199 to be paid with November 12, 2025 claims.

Grounds Superintendent Pat Greenough met with the board and presented bids for the Courthouse door from Lower Construction with labor included in the written bid. Mr. Greenough also presented bids from Stec Electric LLC and Anderson Electric to replace the outdoor lights of the Courthouse. The parts from the old lights will be kept as replacements for the remaining lights on the courthouse property. McConaughy moved and DeNaeyer seconded to accept Anderson Electric bid for \$3,542.00 to remove and dispose of 11 outdoor lights and replace existing fixtures with new adjustable LED wall packs, to be paid for by the Special Building Fund. Roll call vote: Aye – Nelson, McConaughy, DeNaeyer. The motion carried. DeNaeyer moved and Nelson seconded to accept Lower Construction's bid for \$3,432.75 to replace the south door on the Cherry County South building to be paid for by the Special Building Fund. Roll call vote: Aye – McConaughy, DeNaeyer, Nelson. The motion carried.

The board discussed surplus equipment and vehicles with the road foremen. McConaughy moved and DeNaeyer seconded to surplus the list of equipment and vehicles as presented to be listed on Purple Wave. Roll call vote: Aye – DeNaeyer, Nelson, McConaughy. The motion carried.

At 2:00 p.m. NIRMA Attorney Jeff Kirkpatrick met with the board via phone for a legal update re: BSH Kilgore LLC vs. Cherry County, et al Case #CI25-42. Mr. Kirkpatrick informed the board he filed a motion to dismiss based on the unclear answer if the Board of Adjustments has jurisdiction to hear the appeal filed by BSH Kilgore. The motion to dismiss will be heard in Cherry County District Court on December 19, 2025 at 11:30 a.m. via zoom. A brief of the bearing will be sent to the board in December.

The board discussed the Zoning Administrator payroll reimbursement for September 2025. Commissioner McConaughy stated he discussed this matter with Contryman Associates Auditor Jada Thompson, and she had no concern for her auditing duties. McConaughy moved and Nelson seconded to reimburse the current Zoning Administrator Jane Stolzenburg \$837.50 for September 2025 payroll. Roll call vote: Aye – Nelson, McConaughy, DeNaeyer. The motion carried.

Zoning Administrator Jane Stolzenburg submitted a letter of resignation to the board. DeNaeyer moved and McConaughey seconded to accept Ms. Stolzenburg’s resignation. Roll call vote: Aye – McConaughey, DeNaeyer, Nelson. The motion carried.

McConaughey moved and Nelson seconded to advertise for the Cherry County Zoning Administrator position. Roll call vote: Aye – DeNaeyer, Nelson, McConaughey. The motion carried.

The board reviewed the MOU to renew for an additional two years for “VetraSpec” benefits for the Veterans Service Office. DeNaeyer moved and Nelson seconded to enter the MOU for “VetraSpec” as presented and authorize the chairman to sign. Roll call vote: Aye – Nelson, McConaughey, DeNaeyer. The motion carried.

The board discussed the Merriman Siren invoice from Federal Signal Corporation. Emergency Management Director Jessica Coyle informed the board the siren is scheduled to be installed next week, and it was a consensus of the board to submit the invoice to be paid with November 12, 2025 claims. No board action taken.

The board discussed Aflac Dental Options as presented. Nelson moved and McConaughey seconded to accept the Brochure Option 4 Aflac Dental Plan as presented by Dan Riha, effective January 1, 2026. Roll call vote: Aye – McConaughey, DeNaeyer, Nelson. The motion carried.

The board reviewed the Certification of Distress Warrants issued to the Sheriff as presented by Treasurer Kathy Hammond.

Elected Officials and Department Supervisors met with the board to discuss the current handbook. Discussion was had re: PTO/Sick leave benefits, use of county owned vehicles, introductory period, documentation of employees’ hours worked, moonlighting, health insurance, and meal breaks. Clerk Leonard will continue to work with elected officials to update the handbook to present to the board. No board action taken.

At 4:07 p.m. DeNaeyer moved and McConaughey seconded to enter executive session by the request of an employee to discuss personal matters with the board, employee, and Clerk to be present. Roll call vote: Aye – DeNaeyer, Nelson, McConaughey. The motion carried.

At 4:44 p.m. the meeting room doors were opened, and the public was allowed to reenter. DeNaeyer moved and McConaughey seconded to exit executive session. Roll call vote: Aye – Nelson, McConaughey, DeNaeyer. The motion carried. Commissioner McConaughey restated the reason for executive session.

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

October 31, 2025
CHERRY COUNTY CLAIMS LISTING

Claims were presented in the amount of	\$	266,145.75	.
and disallowed in the amount of	\$	-	.
A warrant was ordered drawn on the General Fund in the amount of	\$	266,145.75	
GENERAL FUND			
AFLAC	Withholdings/Insurance	\$2,942.42	
Ameritas Life Insurance/Retirement	Withholdings/Retirement	\$19,160.94	
Credit Management Services	Garnishment	\$480.45	
Delta Dental of Nebraska	Withholdings/Insurance	\$2,356.15	
EFTPS	Withholdings/Taxes	\$32,976.69	
Lincoln Financial Group	Withholding/Insurance	\$376.32	
Medica Health Insurance	Withholdings/Insurance	\$65,985.53	
AUL Health Benefit Trust	Health Reimbursement Arrangement Funding	\$5,000.00	
NE Department of Revenue	Withholdings/Taxes	\$4,734.15	
Nebraska Unclaimed Property	Unclaimed Property	\$610.60	
Journal Entry	Unclaimed property claims	(\$610.60)	
Eric Scott Law	Clerical Salary/Rent/Telephone/Equipment	\$6,458.83	
Security 1st Health Savings Account	Withholdings/Insurance	\$4,091.66	
Vision Service Plan	Withholdings/Insurance	\$552.72	
Andre, Andrea	Gross Wages	\$3,640.89	
Bancroft, Melissa	Gross Salary	\$4,929.21	
Blume, Ashley	Gross Wages	\$3,923.30	
Brockley, Billie	Gross Wages	\$4,000.00	
Bruning, Jerri	Gross Wages	\$3,010.01	
Buechle, Shelbie	Gross Wages	\$4,563.56	
Coates, Sonia	Gross Wages	\$3,414.69	
DeNaeyer, Martin	Gross Salary	\$2,012.50	
Dobbins, Cynthia	Gross Wages	\$2,912.84	
Duffield, Janette	Gross Wages	\$4,156.99	
Froning, Ellen	Gross Wages	\$1,261.12	
Goodrich, Dustina	Gross Wages	\$2,943.78	
Goodrich, Weston	Gross Wages	\$3,874.08	

Greenough, Pat	Gross Wages	\$4,128.49
Hammond, Kathy	Gross Salary	\$4,929.21
Hanson, Jessica	Gross Wages	\$4,929.21
Hanson, Timothy	Gross Salary	\$2,464.60
Hesse, Sharon	Gross Salary	\$5,208.33
Hoefs, Jasmine	Gross Wages	\$3,335.36
Hooper, Patrick	Gross Wages	\$2,846.12
Hunt, Clarissa	Gross Wages	\$3,472.30
Jackson, Gary	Gross Wages	\$4,889.14
Johnson, Andrew	Gross Salary	\$3,608.25
Knox, Calvin	Gross Wages	\$4,246.89
Leonard, Samantha	Gross Wages	\$4,929.21
Lopez, Vincent	Gross Wages	\$1,453.80
Lutter, Tammy	Gross Wages	\$2,917.27
McConaughey, Michael	Gross Salary	\$2,012.50
McSweeney, Ryan	Gross Wages	\$4,726.36
Menze, Caitlyn	Gross Wages	\$2,644.62
Miller, Eve	Gross Wages	\$262.88
Nelson, Nina	Gross Salary	\$2,012.50
Ormesher, Katie	Gross Wages	\$907.76
Osborne, Joanie	Gross Wages	\$654.08
Osburn, Albert	Gross Salary	\$5,087.02
Peterson, Eهران	Gross Wages	\$2,749.89
Pier, Shelley	Gross Wages	\$3,117.14
Price, Cassandra	Gross Wages	\$4,414.73
Red Fish, Cheyenne	Gross Wages	\$4,596.34
Renning, Maxwell	Gross Wages	\$4,704.20
Scott, Eric	Gross Salary	\$5,551.16
Starr, Christopher	Gross Wages	\$4,671.74
Stec, Nicholas	Gross Wages	\$3,930.38
Stoeger, David	Gross Wages	\$4,598.50
Stolzenburg, Jane	Gross Wages	\$3,774.36
Wickman, Erick	Gross Wages	\$4,928.07
	GROSS TOTAL	\$308,461.24
	Adjustment for employees' share of withholdings	(\$42,315.49)
	NET TOTAL	\$266,145.75
Claims were presented in the amount of	\$	123,307.96
and disallowed in the amount of	\$	-
A warrant was ordered drawn on the Road Fund in the amount of	\$	123,307.96
ROAD FUND		
AFLAC	Withholdings/Insurance	\$1,588.76
Ameritas Life Insurance/Retirement	Withholdings/Retirement	8831.25
Delta Dental of Nebraska	Withholdings/Insurance	\$891.09
EFTPS	Taxes/Withholdings	\$16,546.33
Legal Shield	Services	\$33.90
Medica Health Insurance	Withholdings/Insurance	\$30,586.40
AUL Health Benefit Trust	Health Reimbursement Arrangement Funding	\$2,100.00
NE Department of Revenue	Taxes/Withholdings	\$2,407.74
Nebraska Unclaimed Property	Unclaimed Property	\$706.61
Journal Entry	Unclaimed Property Claims	(\$706.61)
Security 1st Health Savings Account	Withholdings/Insurance	\$1,800.00
Vision Service Plan	Withholdings/Insurance	\$215.59
Buechle, Jordan	Gross Wages	\$4,694.05
Bunner, Bradley	Gross Wages	\$3,608.00
Cash, Tyler	Gross Wages	\$4,411.37
Coetzee, Daniel	Gross Wages	\$3,805.52
Collier, David	Gross Salary	\$5,000.00
Egger, Garrett	Gross Wages	\$3,894.26
Fernau, Bradly	Gross Wages	\$4,843.48
Graeff, Randy	Gross Wages	\$5,140.28
Hampton, Donald	Gross Wages	\$923.40
Hart Benjamin	Gross Wages	\$1,105.38
McWhirter, Bentz	Gross Wages	\$5,684.02
Olson, Arnold	Gross Wages	\$1,054.00
Osburn, Jay D	Gross Salary	\$5,750.00
Pearman, Terry	Gross Wages	\$5,008.50
Reese, Kay	Gross Wages	\$1,921.20
Songer, LeRoy	Gross Wages	\$4,029.34
Szakacs, Ryan	Gross Wages	\$3,527.82
Stichka, Steven	Gross Salary	\$5,000.00

Thompson, Shawn	Gross Wages	\$5,746.68
Vest, Daniel	Gross Wages	\$3,752.91
	GROSS TOTAL	\$143,901.27
	Adjustment for employees' share of withholdings	(\$20,593.31)
	NET TOTAL	\$123,307.96

Claims were presented in the amount of \$ 5,612.13 .
and disallowed in the amount of \$ - .
A warrant was ordered drawn on the Visitors Promotion Fund in the amount of \$ 5,612.13

VISITORS PROMOTION FUND

AFLAC	Withholdings/Insurance	97.37
Ameritas Life Insurance/Retirement	Withholdings/Retirement	\$553.10
Delta Dental of Nebraska	Withholdings/Insurance	\$62.83
EFTPS	Taxes/Withholdings	\$901.80
NE Department of Revenue	Taxes/Withholdings	\$99.28
Vision Service Plan	Withholdings/Insurance	\$31.84
Braun, Regina	Gross Wages	\$3,483.16
Graeff, Lynn	Gross Wages	\$1,433.27
	GROSS TOTAL	\$6,662.65
	Adjustment for employees' share of withholdings	(\$1,050.52)
	NET TOTAL	\$5,612.13

Claims were presented in the amount of \$ 114.11 .
and disallowed in the amount of \$ - .
A warrant was ordered drawn on the Health Claims Fund in the amount of \$ 114.11

HEALTH CLAIMS FUND

Cherry County Clerk	Health Insurance Claims	\$114.11
	TOTAL	\$114.11

Claims were presented in the amount of \$ 9,283.87 .
and disallowed in the amount of \$ - .
A warrant was ordered drawn on the Emergency Management Fund in the amount of \$ 9,283.87

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND

AFLAC	Withholdings/Insurance	143.39
Ameritas Life Insurance/Retirement	Withholdings/Retirement	\$669.65
Delta Dental of Nebraska	Withholdings/Insurance	\$80.24
EFTPS	Taxes/Withholdings	\$1,309.44
Medica Health Insurance	Withholdings/Insurance	\$2,155.10
NE Department of Revenue	Taxes/Withholdings	\$179.02
Security 1st Health Savings Account	Withholdings/Insurance	\$500.00
Vision Service Plan	Withholdings/Insurance	\$31.84
Coyle, Jessica	Gross Salary	\$4,888.00
Reese, Kay	Gross Wages	\$1,064.47
	GROSS TOTAL	\$11,021.15
	Adjustment for employees' share of withholdings	(\$1,737.28)
	NET TOTAL	\$9,283.87

At 4:50 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 12th day of November 2025.

Samantha Leonard
Cherry County Clerk

Mike McConaughey, Chairperson
Cherry County Board of Commissioners

BOARD OF CORRECTION MINUTES
October 28, 2025

The Cherry County Board of Commissioners convened as a Board of Corrections on October 28, 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, County Clerk Samantha Leonard, and Justice Administrator Sharon Hesse. The Open Meetings Act Poster was acknowledged by Chairman McConaughey.

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

Justice Administrator Sharon Hesse provided a jail and staff census update.

At 1:37 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 12th day of November 2025.

Samantha Leonard
Cherry County Clerk

Mike McConaughey, Chairperson
Cherry County Board of Commissioners