

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

February 10, 2026

The Cherry County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session on February 10, 2026 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 10:02 a.m. by McConaughey. Roll call was taken. Present for the meeting were Commissioners Mike McConaughey, Martin DeNaeyer, Nina Nelson, and Clerk Samantha Leonard. The Open Meetings Act Poster was acknowledged by McConaughey and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Board of Commissioners' meeting minutes from January 27, 2026 were read. DeNaeyer moved and Nelson seconded to approve minutes as read. Roll call vote: Aye – DeNaeyer, Nelson, McConaughey. The motion carried.

The Board of Equalization meeting minutes from January 27, 2026 were read. DeNaeyer moved and Nelson seconded to approve minutes with noted corrections. Roll call vote: Aye – Nelson, McConaughey, DeNaeyer. The motion carried.

The Board of Correction meeting minutes from January 27, 2026 were read. Nelson moved and DeNaeyer 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.

At 10:16 a.m. McConaughey opened the public hearing re: the CDBG Grant with Niobrara Valley Vineyards. Carla Kimball with CNEDD explained the grant process and the purpose of this 2nd public hearing is to inform the public what occurred during the grant process and that the grant is completed. Niobrara Valley Vineyards used the grant funds for ADA compliant walking paths, bathrooms, and parking, and partial funds were used to hire 2 employees. Niobrara Valley Vineyard owner Tim Nollette was present and expressed his gratitude to the board and Carla to be able to make these improvements to the property. Mr. Nollette also stated it has been 3 years since the completion of the event center, and they have received great support from the community and travelers. At 10:23 a.m. McConaughey closed the public hearing.

Ms. Kimball explained the authorization to request funds from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. These funds will reimburse the county for the remaining claims payable to CNEDD for administration of the grant. Any funds that were given for the grant and not spent will be unobligated. The claim for CNEDD today will be the final claim for the CDBG grant. DeNaeyer moved and Nelson seconded to approve the authorization to request funds for CDBG 21-TD-001. Roll call vote: Aye – DeNaeyer, Nelson, McConaughey. The motion carried.

DeNaeyer moved and Nelson seconded to authorize the chairperson to sign the Schneider Geospatial Professional Services Agreement. Roll call vote: Aye – Nelson, McConaughey, DeNaeyer. The motion carried.

Highway Superintendent Jay D Osburn provided an update re: working on the 1-and-6-year plan with Road Foreman Brent Collier and Steve Stichka, and he has not received a response from Mainelli-Wagner on the inspection for the privately owned bridge on Anderson Bridge Road.

Emergency Management Director Jessica Coyle provided an update re: speed dial update in dispatch, school safety meeting, report of propane leak in Kilgore, assist with traffic control for accident, attended retirement party for Sally Conner at Cherry Hills Estates, internet outage, Road Foreman Steve Stichka informed Ms. Coyle the Nenzel tower was down and Ms. Coyle is working with Platte Valley Communications on a quote for monitoring equipment for that tower, PSAP funding application submitted, and a PET Region grant to discuss at the February 24, 2026 meeting.

At 10:45 a.m. Leah Hosseinabad presented the Safe Firearm Storage program which would allow firearm owners to have a place to take their firearms for a temporary hold such as the sheriff's office with a contract that can be changed and structured to meet our needs.

Veterans Service Officer Ashley Blume-Vackiner provided an update re: seeing more Veterans come to the office to utilize resources, many Veteran bills at the Legislature she is watching closing and will update the board as needed, and wanting to do more outreach clinics locally for Veterans.

At 11:04 a.m. McConaughey opened the public hearing for the abandonment of 908th Road. Jay D Osburn stated it is for closure of approximately 1 mile of 908th road that is not used. Both landowners affected were notified by certified mail and are in favor of the closure. At 11:06 a.m. McConaughey closed the public hearing.

The board discussed Resolution #2026-04 Abandonment of 908th Road with County Attorney Eric Scott. Mr. Scott informed the board there is no public opposition and the landowners are in favor; therefore, move forward with the Resolution. Nelson moved and McConaughey seconded to approve Resolution #2026-04 Abandonment of 908th Road. Roll call vote: Aye – McConaughey, DeNaeyer, Nelson. The motion carried.

The board discussed the expected office hours, pay structure & classification with Zoning Administrator Katie Ormesher. Discussion was had about the office hours need to align to the salary agreed upon at hire of current

Zoning Administrator. Clerk Leonard and Billie Brockley expressed concerns about FLSA laws and exemptions of that position currently being salary exempt instead of salary nonexempt. Salary nonexempt requires paying overtime, if accrued, because the current Administrator also works in the Justice Center. County Attorney Eric Scott stated the Zoning Administrator position qualifies for salary exempt under the Administrator Exemption as the administrator operates independently without direct oversight and makes determinations on their own. Mr. Scott also informed the board the Zoning Administrator and Justice Center are separate functions and cannot combine the hours worked, therefore; being two part time positions, he is not concerned about accruing overtime. It was a consensus of the board that the job was presented at \$1,000/month and that is what will be paid monthly regardless of the hours worked. The board asked Zoning Administrator Katie Ormesher to post her office hours of Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and commit to 4 hours/day.

Boyd's Network claim was discussed as the claim amount was a substantial amount above the estimate presented prior to the project beginning. Mr. Scott informed the board to pay the claim because it was an estimate, not a bid.

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

**February 10, 2026
CHERRY COUNTY CLAIMS LISTING**

Claims were presented in the amount of	\$	105,701.86	.
and disallowed in the amount of	\$	-	.
A warrant was ordered drawn on the General Fund in the amount of			\$ 105,701.86
GENERAL			
Applied Connective Technologies	Services		\$5,775.67
Black Hills Chemical	Services		\$621.74
Ashley Blume	Reimbursement		\$442.26
Bob Barker Company	Supplies		\$102.11
Bomgaars	Supplies		\$192.76
Borders & Furrow Law PC	Services		\$2,424.78
Boyd's Network Solutions	Services		\$9,655.04
CenturyLink	Services		\$2,065.57
Cherry County Court	Services		\$560.75
Cherry County Extension Service	Reimbursement		\$385.32
Cherry County Hospital	Services		\$6,145.35
Cherry County Sheriff	Services		\$8.00
Cherry County Sheriff Fuel Account	Supplies		\$1,607.91
Cherry County Treasurer	Bank Fees/Transfer		\$10.00
Circle K Motor Company	Services		\$97.95
Clearly Communications	Services		\$326.04
DAS State Accounting 6506	Services		\$537.60
DAS State Accounting 6507	Services		\$241.30
Cynthia Dobbins	Reimbursement		\$35.00
Federal Signal Corporation	Services		\$9,975.00
FirstNet/AT&T Mobility	Services		\$492.26
Government Forms & Supplies	Supplies		\$116.41
Pat Greenough	Reimbursement		\$100.00
Timothy Hanson	Equipment		\$2,636.75
Heart City Drug	Supplies		\$38.08
Heart City Plumbing & Heating	Services		\$4,598.17
Henderson's IGA	Supplies		\$145.63
Holiday Inn Express Lexington	Lodging		\$550.00
Patrick Hooper	Reimbursement		\$70.00
Huskerland Hardware and Appliance	Supplies		\$33.48
Justice Center Petty Cash	Reimbursement		\$65.00
Johnson Law Office	Clerical Salary/Rent/Telephone/Equipment		\$4,542.16
KBR Rural Public Power	Services		\$95.50
L&B Johnson PC	Services		\$531.20
Lake Mac Assessment	Services		\$16,438.50
Marco Technologies	Services		\$262.06
Microfilm Imaging Systems	Services		\$186.00
Valentine Midland News	Services		\$132.00
MIPS	Services		\$3,491.31
NACO	Dues/Fees/Training		\$50.00
NE District Court Clerk Assn	Dues/Fees/Training		\$50.00
NE State Library/Publications	Dues/Fees/Training		\$164.15
Nina Nelson	Reimbursement		\$120.60
NK Waste Inc	Services		\$193.00
Office Products	Supplies		\$1,214.14
Outback Screenprinting & Embroidery	Supplies		\$914.00
Prema	Services		\$195.10

Presto X	Services	\$128.10
Quadient Leasing USA	Services	\$1,889.78
Quadient Finance USA	Services	\$1,359.56
Reese Inc	Services	\$115.95
Region IV Inc	Services	\$2,626.00
Sandhill Oil	Supplies	\$776.75
Becky Schrunk	Services	\$200.00
Eric Scott Law	Clerical Salary/Rent/Telephone/Equipment	\$11,500.92
Scotty's Ranchland Foods	Supplies	\$104.48
Cardmember Service	Reimbursement	\$13.50
Sennet Duncan Jenkins & Wickham PC	Services	\$1,772.00
Blaire Speck	Reimbursement	\$195.75
Stanek Fire Protection	Services	\$219.00
Tony's Tire & Auto Repair	Services	\$66.31
Valentine Dental Clinic	Services	\$116.25
City of Valentine	Utilities	\$4,249.37
Viaero Wireless	Services	\$79.66
Ward Plumbing & Heating	Services	\$419.40
Westover Electric	Services	\$657.00
Wrenched Tire & Auto LLC	Services	\$576.43
	TOTAL	\$105,701.86

Claims were presented in the amount of \$ 196,246.07
and disallowed in the amount of
A warrant was ordered drawn on the Road Fund in the amount of \$ 196,246.07

ROAD

Applied Connective Technologies	Services	\$1,062.00
Bill's Garage	Services	\$25.00
Bomgaars	Supplies	\$1,614.58
Bordertown Discount Fuel	Services	\$2,522.81
Buckles Fuel Service	Services	\$2,964.83
Central Valley Ag Cooperative	Supplies	\$1,503.50
Cherry County Implement	Services	\$352.90
Circle K Motor Company	Services	\$1,328.69
Brent Collier	Reimbursement	\$208.11
Consolidated Telephone	Services	\$286.21
Custer Public Power District	Services	\$178.75
DAS State Accounting Central Finance	Services	\$27.70
Flat Creek Construction	Services	\$26,250.00
Floyd's Truck Center	Services	\$68.47
General Equipment & Supplies	Supplies	\$111,000.00
Great Plains Communications	Services	\$321.57
Hamilton Sales & Service	Services	\$6,626.70
Huskerland Hardware & Appliance	Supplies	\$359.70
J&J Trailer Sales	Services	\$178.00
KBR Rural Public Power District	Services	\$458.23
Kippes & Son's	Services	\$72.35
Kohler Trailer Sales	Services	\$156.70
Lawson Products	Services	\$497.70
Martin Auto Parts II	Supplies	\$21.67
Mathis Equipment	Supplies	\$312.85
Medical Enterprises	Services	\$6.25
Mips Inc	Services	\$180.00
Modern Farm Equipment Corporation	Services	\$160.42
Mullen Auto & Diesel	Services	\$2,833.13
NE Machinery Company	Services	\$1,898.91
Nebraska Public Power District	Services	\$130.96
Newman Signs Inc	Services	\$1,896.32
NK Waste Inc	Services	\$128.00
The Parts Company	Supplies	\$537.71
Perrett Construction	Services	\$378.56
Powerplan	Services	\$4,625.06
Prema	Services	\$159.98
Sandhill Oil Company	Supplies	\$16,512.53
Sandhills Ranch Supply	Services	\$2,235.38
John Simonson	Services	\$4,000.00
Southwest Farm & Auto Supply	Supplies	\$202.98
Ryan Szakacs	Reimbursement	\$250.00
Truck Center Companies	Services	\$519.40
City of Valentine	Services	\$750.36
Ward Plumbing & Heating	Services	\$71.10
3s Fabrication & Repair	Services	\$370.00

		TOTAL	\$196,246.07
Claims were presented in the amount of	\$	4,275.73	
and disallowed in the amount of	\$	-	
A warrant was ordered drawn on the Visitor Promotion Fund in the amount of			\$ 4,275.73
VISITOR PROMOTION			
Cherry County Ag Society		Services	\$1,250.00
Cherry County Visitors Promo Board		Reimbursement	\$85.00
Great Plains Communication		Services	\$214.71
MCB Productions		Services	\$1,000.00
NK Waste		Services	\$100.00
Office Products		Services	\$35.00
Regina Osburn		Reimbursement	\$779.88
Tech Harbor Holdings		Services	\$360.00
Valentine Rotary Club		Services	\$111.00
City of Valentine		Services	\$340.14
		TOTAL	\$4,275.73
Claims were presented in the amount of	\$	10,301.23	
and disallowed in the amount of	\$	-	
A warrant was ordered drawn on the Bookmobile Fund in the amount of			\$ 10,301.23
BOOKMOBILE			
Valentine Public Library		Bookmobile	\$10,301.23
		TOTAL	\$10,301.23
Claims were presented in the amount of	\$	8,840.00	
and disallowed in the amount of	\$	-	
A warrant was ordered drawn on the Grant Fund in the amount of			\$ 8,840.00
GRANT FUND			
Central Nebraska Economic Dev		Services	\$8,840.00
		TOTAL	\$8,840.00
Claims were presented in the amount of	\$	209.00	
and disallowed in the amount of	\$	-	
A warrant was ordered drawn on the Emergency Management Fund in the amount of			\$ 209.00
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT			
Jessica Coyle		Reimbursement	\$209.00
		TOTAL	\$209.00
Claims were presented in the amount of	\$	300,000.00	
and disallowed in the amount of	\$	-	
A warrant was ordered drawn on the Inheritance Tax Fund in the amount of			\$ 300,000.00
INHERITANCE TAX			
Cherry County Fund Transfer		Fund Transfer	\$300,000.00
		TOTAL	\$300,000.00
Claims were presented in the amount of	\$	1,257.11	
and disallowed in the amount of	\$	-	
A warrant was ordered drawn on the 911 Emergency Services Fund in the amount of			\$ 1,257.11
911 EMERGENCY SERVICES (2910)			
Boyd's Network Solutions		Services	\$925.00
CenturyLink		Services	\$276.23
Great Plains Communications		Services	\$55.88
		TOTAL	\$1,257.11
Claims were presented in the amount of	\$	977.60	
and disallowed in the amount of	\$	-	
A warrant was ordered drawn on the 911 Wireless Service Fund in the amount of			\$ 977.60
911 WIRELESS SERVICE (2913)			
OPTK Networks		Services	\$977.60
		TOTAL	\$977.60

At 11:56 a.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 24th day of February 2026.

 Samantha Leonard
 Cherry County Clerk

 Mike McConaughey, Chairperson
 Cherry County Board of Commissioners