

Bartlett, Nebraska

February 25, 2026

The Wheeler County Commissioners met to conduct a regular meeting at 8:00 a.m. Legal Notice of the meeting was published in the February 18, 2026, print edition of the Burwell Tribune and Official Agenda posted according to law. Chairman Heinz called the meeting to order and identified the location of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act poster on the West wall of the courtroom. Answering to roll call were Commissioners Heinz, Plugge, and Pokorny. Clerk Snider, Treasurer Seamann, County Attorney Joe McNally, Sheriff King and Road Foreman Reed were also present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Plugge made a motion to approve January 28, 2026, regular board meeting minutes, seconded by Pokorny. Voting aye: Plugge, Pokorny, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Public comment period was held with Jerry Koinzan inquiring about a grader not grading between auto gates out west. He also asked why we had placed gravel on road in late October and early November.

Road Foreman Reed reported that he had received bids for the truck tractor. He has been working with Highway Superintendent Jay Meyer on reposting the bridges and replacing signs that had been knocked down or ruined. He stated that he is waiting for bids to get the fuel tank replaced.

Sheriff King had nothing to report.

Treasurer Seamann reported that the Road and General Funds looked good this month and no transfers were needed. She also presented the delinquent tax listing that has been advertised in February for the Tax Sales that will be held on March 2, 2026.

There were 2 bids presented for the spring and fall spraying of the weeds. Kick-it Spraying submitted a bid for \$21,500, and Kelley Spraying LLC submitted a bid for \$85 per hour per spray rig plus the chemicals used. Pokorny made a motion to hire Kelley Spraying LLC to do the spraying of the road ditches for the 2026 year, seconded by Heinz. Voting aye: Pokorny, Heinz, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

There were no security updates on the courthouse to report.

The county is encouraging the residents of Wheeler County and surrounding counties to help celebrate 250<sup>th</sup> birthday of the United States of America.

Pokorny made a motion to accept the bid from XTrimlight for \$4,992 to place permanent lighting to the outside of the North, West, and South sides of the courthouse, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny and Plugge. Voting nay: Heinz.

Heinz presented a bid from TC Ceiling for \$11,750 and \$14,250 to replace the tiles throughout the courthouse. The board requested a more detailed bid by having the bid specifying the individual room cost to replace the tiles for the bathrooms, old Commissioner room, lobby area, Treasurers office, and the Clerk's office. Heinz will report back with a more detailed bid. Snider has requested a bid from Bartak Glass on replacing the entrance doors on both the north and south doors, and to have a keyless entrance option added.

Pokorny made a motion to approve Resolution 20260201, to reduce the number of Planning Commission members from 9 board members to 7, with 2 alternates, seconded by Heinz. Voting aye: Pokorny, Heinz, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

Heinz made a motion to appoint Adam Miller and Jerry Koinzan to fill the vacancies on the Planning Commission for the term of 2025, 2026, 2027, and Tom Asche and Curtis Lemberg for the term of 2026, 2027, 2028, seconded by Pokorny. Voting aye: Heinz, Pokorny, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

Heinz motioned to open the Board of Equalization meeting at 8:36 AM to review and discuss Permissive Exemptions, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Heinz, Plugge, and Pokorny. Voting nay: none.

The board reviewed the Permissive Exemption forms. Pokorny made a motion to approve the following Permissive Exemptions, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none

<u>Organization Name</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Use</u>
Bartlett Cemetery Association	Religious	Cemetery
Pibel Pleasant Hill Cemetery	Religious	Cemetery
Bartlett Church of Faith	Religious	Place of Worship
Ericson United Methodist Church	Religious	Place of Worship
St. Theresa Parish	Religious	Place of Worship
Sandhill's Baptist Fellowship	Religious	Place of Worship
Pibel Bible Camp	Religious	Religious Instruction workshop
Ericson Lake, Inc,	Educational	Recreation/educational activities
Wheeler County Ag Society	Agricultural Society	Conduct County Fair

Pokorny motioned to adjourn the Board of Equalization meeting and reconvene with the regular board meeting at 8:39 A.M., seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Pokorny made a motion to enter into executive session for personnel matters at 8:44 A.M., seconded by Heinz. Voting aye: Pokorny, Heinz, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

Motion by Plugge was made at 9:08 A.M. and seconded by Pokorny, to exit executive session. Voting aye: Plugge, Pokorny, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Pokorny made a motion at 9:08 A.M. to enter into executive session to discuss a contract, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Pokorny made a motion to exit the executive session at 10:10 A.M. seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Pokorny made a motion to authorize County Attorney Joe McNally to draft a letter to be sent to Region 26, with potential terms of a renewal agreement to be executed by the board, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

#### GENERAL FUND

Payroll	\$25,840.69
Aflac, insurance	189.21
Ameritas Retirement Plans Division, retirement	3,873.81
Appeara, services	83.28
Applied Connective Technologies, camera upgrade	1,586.35
Bartak Glass, sheriff patrol rock chip repair	49.00
Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance, dental/health insurance	18,037.16
Burwell Tribune, publication	662.05
Cenex Fleet Fueling, sheriff fuel	812.09
Central District Assessors Association, dues	25.00
Colonial Life Insurance, insurance	355.81

DAS Sate Accounting AS 400 fees	309.75
Eakes Office Solutions, court supplies	448.14
Elan Financial Services, sheriff expense	729.65
Electronic Systems, Inc-2, fire alarm testing	907.16
Farmers and Merchants Bank, payroll w/h	6,621.61
First Conrad Benefits Group, fees	222.00
Galls, LLC, supplies	74.97
Garfield County Treasurer, G-L-W Extension support	2,146.08
Holt County Treasurer, veterans contract	616.67
Hometown Leasing, services	60.41
Loup Valleys Rural Public Power District, services	558.10
Marvin Planning Consultants, Inc, zoning comp plan	7,100.00
McNally Law Office, clerical/rent	2,358.34
Microfilm Imaging Systems, INC, equipment rental	60.00
MIPS Inc, services	1,378.27
Morris Press, treasurer supplies	345.35
Nebraska Assoc. of County Officials, Central District Meeting	50.00
Nebraska Department of Revenue, state w/h	826.32
Northeast Nebraska Telephone Co, services	582.10
Presto-X, services	76.16
Quill Corporation, supplies	305.44
Snider, Cara, postage, supplies	106.42
Statement of Analysis LLC, class registration	199.00
Transunion Risk & Alt Data Solution, subscription	347.00
Verizon Wireless, sheriff cell	276.15
Village of Bartlett, services	764.40
VSP Insurance Co. vision insurance	156.29
Wheeler County Court, court costs	51.00
ROAD FUND	
Payroll	22,226.14
AFLAC, insurance	66.10
Ameritas Retirement Plans Division, retirement	3,132.84
Appearia, services	44.00
Beaver Bearing Company, bearings	253.20
Blue Cross Blue Shield, dental/health insurance	9,802.40
Bomgaars Supply, Inc, supplies	1,243.80
Capital I Industries, cooler	2,952.77
Colonial Life Insurance, insurance	739.07
Emme Sand & Gravel, oil spill & gravel	13,247.71
Farmers and Merchants Bank, payroll w/h	5,873.78
First Conrad Benefits Group, fees	37.98
John Deere Financial, grader payment	25,592.60
Loup Valleys Rural Public Power District, shop services	279.77
Madison Nation Life, insurance	14.53
National Sign Company, LLC, signs	813.78
Nebraska Department of Revenue, payroll w/h	794.86
Northeast Nebraska Telephone Co, services	102.45
Raka, telehandler rent	7,862.83
Sandhills Weed Management Area, dues	200.00
Sapp Bros Petroleum, INC., diesel	6,892.09
Straka, Jeremy, weed mileage	116.00
The Parts Bin, Inc, supplies	839.27
Verizon Wireless, services	39.94
VSP Insurance Co, vision insurance	63.68

We Mart, road fuel

632.82

The road employees met with the board in regard to their wages. The employees felt an increase was necessary due to inflation costs. Plugge made a motion to increase the wages of all road employees by \$2.11 an hour effective March 1, 2026, seconded by Pokorny. Voting aye: Plugge, Pokorny, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Pokorny made a motion to approve the claims, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Pokorny made a motion at 10:33 A.M. to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 25, 2026, at 8:00 am.

Cara Snider, County Clerk  
Travis Heinz, Board Chairman