Bartlett, Nebraska

September 30, 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 September 23, 2026, print edition of the Burwell Tribune and Official Agenda posted according to law. Chairman Heinz called the meeting to order and stated that copies of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act were available to the public. Answering to roll call were Commissioners Heinz, Plugge, and Pokorny. Clerk Snider, Sheriff Larby, Treasurer Seamann, County Attorney Joe McNally, and Road Foreman Reed were also present along with members of the public.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public comment was held. Steven Schrunk asked who oversaw the roads after a rain as on 508th Ave. it pools, and when the water does drain it washes the gravel away. He also inquired about getting gravel on 510th Ave leading to the Sandhills Hideaway and about the Flock cameras.

Pokorny made a motion to recess the regular board meeting and open the Budget hearing on for the Tax Request, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Chuck Abel presented the county's budget and informed the board and county patrons what the budget looked like. There was an increase of $35,000 in the budget due to inflation, fuel and insurance costs. The levy will be a little bit higher this year but not higher than the 2%, to cause a Joint Public Hearing (pink postcard).

Pokorny made a motion at 8:14 am to adjourn the Budget hearing and reconvene with the regular board meeting, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Heinz made a motion to adopt the budget as published, seconded by Pokorny. Voting aye: Heinz, Pokorny, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

Plugge made a motion to approve August 24, 2026, meeting minutes, seconded by Pokorny. Voting aye: Plugge, Pokorny, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Pokorny made a motion to approve the September 9, 2026, special meeting minutes, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Road foreman Reed reported that the silage trucks are heavy again this time of year and that 825th Road and the other roads that Niewohner's farm is using are showing wear so the road department is trying to stay ahead of the graveling in those areas. He has also received calls about patching holes on 832nd Road west of Bartlett that are in the village limits of Bartlett which doesn't have the equipment to repair. Reed was advised to talk to the Villag of Bartlett to see if they would be willing to pay for the gravel if the county hauls it. Regardless, the county would be willing to haul a couple of dump truck loads of gravel to fill in the holes. He also reported the Green Valley road is still on the list to fix this year.

James Burtwistle was present to request help from the County on building a quarter mile of road that will lead to his new house that's on a section line road. The county agreed to form/shape the road if he provides the material.

Sheriff Larby reported that things are going good with Region 26 and there has been no update on the Flock Cameras.

Treasurer Seamann stated that the Road Fund looked good and that no transfer is needed at this time. Seamann presented a list of the current tax sales that the county has taken and the tax sale that could possibly be taken on October 1, 2026 if the County wished to do so, along with presenting the Annual Delinquent Tax Report. Pokorny made a motion to proceed with the new tax sale to be taken on October 1, 2026, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Treasurer Seamann presented Resolution 09012026 to move all CD's as they mature to NPAIT. Pokorny the motion to approve, seconded by Plugge. Voting aye: Pokorny, Plugge, and Heinz. Voting nay: none.

Snider presented a map of the areas that Kelley's Spraying has completed. Snider also presented an Annual Weed Inventory that was missed in August. Pokorny made a motion to approve the Weed Department inventory and in the future to combine the Weed Department and Road Department inventories, seconded by Heinz. Voting aye: Pokorny, Heinz, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

Heinz presented a sealed bid from Bill Root Building Repair for the replacement of the ceiling tiles in the courthouse. The bid was discussed and suggested contacting Bill Root to see if there is a way to get the electrician that he works with the most to come and include the bid for the electoral work along with the replacing of the ceiling tiles. Tabled.

Colonial Representative Steven Melnick was present to report that there have been no changes to the current insurance policies that the county has in place and the open enrollment period was open if anyone wanted changes to their policies.

GENERAL FUND

Payroll	$27,0505.46
Aflac, insurance	189.21
Ameritas Retirement Plans Division, retirement	4,060.19
Appeara, services	85.82
Applied Connective Technologies, camera upgrade	1,628.22
Bartlett Post Office, postage	29.00
Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance, dental/health insurance	19,285.59
Burwell Tribune, publication	925.36
Cafaro, Michael Joseph, mileage	145.92
Cenex Fleet Fueling, sheriff fuel	179.94
Colliers Landscaping & Lawn Care, lawn care	315.00
Colonial Life Insurance, insurance	261.24
DAS State Accounting-Central Finance, AS400 Fees	272.00
Eakes Office Solutions, paper	49.87
Election Systems & Software, ballot setup	1,674.13
Farmers and Merchants Bank, payroll w/h	6,792.87
Federal Signal Corp-SSG, Ericson Village siren	16,398.50
First Concord Benefits Group, fees	63.00
Gall's LLC, sheriff uniform	309.55
Good Life Landscapes, August and September mowing	2,250.00
Holiday Inn-Kearney, assessor lodging	419.85
Holt County Treasurer, Veterans contract	875.00
Hometown Leasing, services	60.41
Howard County Clerk, county share quarterly district court expense	535.52
Jack's Uniforms, sheriff badge	301.77
LaQunita Inn-Kearney, meeting lodging	269.00
Loup Valleys Rural Public Power District, services	477.75
McNally Law Office, clerical/rent	2,358.34
Microfilm Imaging Systems, INC, equipment rental	60.00
MIPS Inc, services	1,608.39
MM C Store, sheriff fuel	172.26
Nebraska Association of County Officials, mtg registration	961.20
Nebraska Department of Revenue, state w/h	846.98
Northeast Nebraska Telephone Co, services	567.34
Paper Tiger Shredding, services	58.00
Presto-X, monthly services	102.82
Quill Corporation, supplies	289.71
Safe Life Defense, sheriff shirt	410.10

Seamann, Carol, mtg mileage	349.45
Sears, Donna, supplies	12.84
Snider, Cara, meeting postage	405.89
Valley County Sheriff, prisoner keep	100.00
Verizon Wireless, sheriff cell	276.12
VSP Insurance Co. vision insurance	168.82
We Mart, sheriff fuel	421.73
Wheeler County Treasurer, postage	410.00
Yosten Law, LLC court fees	925.00
ROAD FUND	
Payroll	$34,009.63
AFLAC, insurance	66.10
ARKS, repairs	8.00
Ameritas Retirement Plans Division, retirement	4,998.57
Appeara, services	89.37
Blue Cross Blue Shield, dental/health insurance	15,391.74
Bomgaars Supply, Inc., supplies	111.88
Colonial Life Insurance, insurance	739.07
DirtWorx Excavating & Demolition, crushed concrete	21,277.29
Emme Sand & gravel, gravel	3,021.00
Farmers and Merchants Bank, payroll w/h	10,018.21
First Concord Benefits Group, fees	45.00
Gehring Construction & Ready Mix, crushed concrete	1,431.60
Kelley Spraying LLC, spraying and chemical	10,453.75
Kings Crushing, LLC, crushed rock	4,706.91
Loup Valleys Rural Public Power District, shop services	206.13
Madison Nation Life, insurance	14.53
Nebraska Association of County Officials, conference registration	165.00
Nebraska Department of Revenue, payroll w/h	1,435.03
Nebraska Department of Revenue, quarterly fuel taxes	1,127.00
Nebraska Machinery Co, repairs	727.70
Northeast Nebraska Telephone Co, services	91.11
O'Neill Shopper, help wanted ad	146.52
Overland Ready Mixed, crushed concrete	1,830.00
PowerPlan, repairs	910.59
Prairie Fabrication LLC, repairs	809.00
Road Groom Manufacturing, blades	6,919.07
Sapp Bros Petroleum, INC., diesel	30,880.78
Shotkoski Enterprise, crushed concrete	41,968.11
Straka, Jeremy, mileage	160.36
The Parts Bin, Inc, supplies	526.42
Ulrich Gravel Inc, gravel	20,892.33
Verizon Wireless, services	39.93
VSP Insurance Co, vision insurance	63.68
We Mart, fuel	388.38
ROD Preservation and Modernization Fund	
Eakes Office Solutions, fee book	806.26

A Board of Equalization meeting will be held on October 19, 2026, at 8:00 am to set the levies for the county.

With November monthly meeting falling on the day before Thanksgiving the board has moved the meeting to November 23, 2026, at 8:00 am.

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

Pokorny made a motion at 9:55 A.M. to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Heinz. Voting aye: Pokorny, Heinz, and Plugge. Voting nay: none.

The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 28, 2026.

Cara Snider, County Clerk
Travis Heinz, Board Chairman