

The Hooker County Board of Commissioners held a regular monthly meeting at 3:30 p.m. in the courthouse on December 4, 2025. Present were commissioners Bryan Crisp, Thad Emerson and Julie Kraye. Also present during the meeting were Jessica Hampton, Crystal Hardy, Todd Yost, Mike Baum, TL Myer and Audry Worthing.

Chairman Bryan Crisp announced the Public Meetings Law posted in the boardroom and copies of it and the agenda are available for the public. Minutes from the November 5th, 2025 regular meeting were reviewed. Bryan Crisp made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Thad Emerson seconded. Roll call vote, three ayes, motion carried.

The claims on file were audited by the board. Bryan Crisp moved and Julie Kraye seconded the motion that the audited claims be allowed and warrants from the various county funds be issued for their payment. Roll call vote, three ayes, motion carried. Approved claims are listed below. Roads were discussed and monthly expenses reviewed. John Copland signed and returned the Highway Superintendent Agreement effective January 1, 2026.

Mike Baum reported that the scraper repair will cost an estimated \$16,000, it was agreed that the repair should be completed.

Jessica Hampton reported that she is working on the grant for the final costs of the maintenance building. The grant is due December 15th. Hampton notified the board that the 1993 International that was sold on Big Iron brought \$3318 and has been deposited in the Road Fund. The new dump truck is being completed in North Platte and should be done by January.

Thad Emerson made a motion and Julie Kraye seconded the motion to purchase a plaque for Don Pettigrew to thank him for his years of service. Roll call vote, three ayes, motion carried.

Audry Worthing with Congressman Adrian Smith’s office provided an update on Congressional matters. Smith has three offices in the state of Nebraska and covers 80 of the 93 counties. Worthing encourages youth to participate in the youth advisory council and to apply for the available internships. The offices are available to assist constituents with Federal Agency appeals and questions.

The final audit was distributed to the commissioners.

Salary’s for elected officials for the years 2027-2030 were presented to the board. The clerk, treasurer and sheriff provided salary information with documentation from NACO and area counties. The counties reviewed had similar valuations and populations. The elected officials requested to keep employee/spouse health care coverage and a 3% cost of living increase for 2027-2030. The presented salaries were comparable to the area counties and lower than the suggested salaries provided by NACO. The commissioners discussed the presented salaries. Emerson thought the suggested salaries were too high and that a 3% increase should be earned on merit not on cost of living or inflation. Crisp deemed the presented salaries as adequate based on the information provided by NACO and what area businesses are paying for employees. Kraye felt the salaries presented reflected the value of the elected officials. Julie Kraye made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-15 setting salaries of elected Hooker County Officials for years 2027-2030. Bryan Crisp seconded the motion. Roll call vote, two ayes, one nay, motion carried.

Letter to the Mullen Hospital District was tabled until January.

Vacation Plat for Dismal River Club was tabled until January.

Clerk Jessica Hampton notified the board that she and Hardy will be attending the NACO Conference in December. Holiday hours were presented, the board agreed to be closed December 24-26th to allow employees to spend time with family. Hampton is preparing a Cybersecurity Grant and will submit prior to December 7th, the deadline.

Bryan Crisp made a motion to accept the SDL for Highway 2 Depot on January 3, 2026. Julie Kraye seconded the motion. Roll call vote, three ayes, motion carried.

Crystal Hardy presented the treasurer’s report, provided an update on 2025 tax billing. Julie Kraye made a motion to approve the treasurer’s report and Bryan Crisp seconded the motion. Roll call vote, three ayes, motion carried. Hardy addressed the low cash flow in the General Fund and that Inheritance Funds may be needed to cover December payroll. Bryan Crisp made a motion to approve a \$25,000 transfer from the Inheritance Tax Fund to the General Fund if needed for December 2025 payroll with repayment to be made in January 2026. Julie Kraye seconded the motion. Roll call vote, three ayes, motion carried.

Sheriff Todd Yost did not have anything new to report for the Sheriff’s Office.

Library budget worksheet was reviewed.

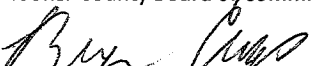
CLAIMS

GENERAL FUND		ROAD FUND	
Applied Connective Technologies	\$ 941.70	Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska	\$ 1,312.30
Artis Hicks	\$ 25.00	Consolidated Telephone Company	\$ 119.23
AT&T Mobility	\$ 276.06	Custer Public Power District	\$ 77.33
Bloom Pest Control	\$ 165.00	DAS State Acctg-Central Finance OCIO	\$ 44.00
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska	\$ 12,554.12	Dooley Oil Inc-Nebraska	\$ 211.55
Consolidated Telephone Company	\$ 347.75	Grant County Treasurer	\$ 691.57
Contryman Associates, PC	\$ 14,900.00	Hampton Well Drilling Inc	\$ 95.40
DAS State Acctg-Central Finance OCIO	\$ 66.00	Kwik Stop	\$ 438.88
Douglas Boyer	\$ 250.98	Neal Oil	\$ 2,868.06
First Concord Benefits Group	\$ 597.34	NMC, Inc	\$ 1,749.18
Grant County Treasurer	\$ 691.57	O'Reilly Auto Parts	\$ 37.98
Jessica Hampton	\$ 14.19	Outpost Feed Store LLC	\$ 55.75
Kwik Stop	\$ 612.15	Village of Mullen	\$ 207.91
Macke's Grocery, Inc.	\$ 9.99	Ameritas Life Insurance	\$ 656.69
Mary Lou Harding	\$ 20.00	Internal Revenue Service	\$ 1,015.54
Microfilm Imaging Systems, Inc	\$ 20.00	Payroll	\$ 13,374.97
MIPS, Inc	\$ 1,483.82	LIBRARY FUND	
Mullen Auto & Diesel LLC	\$ 78.99	Bloom Pest Control	\$ 130.00
Nebraska Association of County Officials	\$ 160.00	Brodart Co	\$ 261.75
NKC Tire/McWhorter's Tire	\$ 668.00	Consolidated Telephone Company	\$ 114.53
Quill Corporation	\$ 182.48	Neal Oil	\$ 111.00
Region II Human Services	\$ 2.46	Village of Mullen	\$ 307.40
Robbin Bullington	\$ 20.00	Ameritas Life Insurance	\$ 80.17
Village of Mullen	\$ 424.15	Internal Revenue Service	\$ 117.18
Vision Service Plan	\$ 71.97	Payroll	\$ 1,531.85
Windstream of the Midwest Inc	\$ 24.59	911 SURCHARGE FUND	
Windstream of the Midwest, LLC (2)	\$ 32.08	Consolidated Telephone Company	\$ 343.16
Wolfcom Enterprises	\$ 45.00	LODGING TAX PROMO FUND	
Ameritas Life Insurance	\$ 4,096.27	Commercial Club	\$ 21,817.46
George Vinton	\$ 2,250.00	Hooker County Tribune	\$ 7.11
Internal Revenue Service	\$ 11,994.81	NE Cattleman-Sandhills Affiliate	\$ 8,000.00
Medical Air Services Association-B2B	\$ 75.00	ROAD EQUIPMENT FUND	
NE Department of Revenue	\$ 1,921.99	Floyd's Truck Center	\$ 24,670.43
Payroll	\$ 27,504.45	INSTITUTIONS FUND	
INHERITANCE TAX FUND		Region II Human Services	\$ 776.77
Floyd's Truck Center	\$ 133,499.57		

Meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m. Notice is hereby given that the next regular meeting of the Hooker County Board of Commissioners will be held Thursday, January 8th at 3:30 p.m. Meetings are held in the Commissioners Room and agendas for these meetings are kept continually current and available for public inspection at the office of the county clerk during normal business hours.

Attest:

Jessica Hampton, Hooker County Clerk

Hooker County Board of Commissioners

Bryan Crisp, Chairman