

Bridgeport, Nebraska
Friday, December 5, 2025

The Morrill County Board of Commissioners met in an open and public regular meeting at 7:30 A.M., Friday, December 5, 2025 in the Commissioners' room at the Courthouse. Chairperson Metz announced that the new Open Meetings Law was posted on the wall of the Commissioners' room. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Notice of such meeting having been published in the Bayard Transcript and the Bridgeport News-Blade on November 26, 2025. Copies of the Agenda, kept continuously current were available from the County Clerk's office and were e-mailed to each of the Commissioners on December 1, 2025. On roll call Commissioners Jeff Metz, Chairman, Susanna Batterman and Josh Schmidt were present. Absent: None. Some of the elected and appointed officials were present. Kathleen L. Brandt, County Clerk, recorded the proceedings of the meeting.

Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to approve the Agenda with the deletion of Board of Equalization and approve the minutes of the November 21, 2025 meeting. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Correspondence was received and read.

The Commissioners reviewed the following claims:

GENERAL FUND

Allo Communications, Service, \$1,385.76; Brennan Andrew, Phone, \$40.00; Coy Armstrong, Witness Fees, \$50.80; Bayard Transcript, Publishing & Subscription, \$262.96; Kathy Brandt, Mileage & Phone, \$150.60; Bridgeport New-Blade, Publishing, \$271.04; Capital Business Systems Inc, Equip Lease, \$137.25; Ismael Cardenas, Phone & Fuel, \$84.85; Century Business Products, Supplies, \$179.13; Brandon Collins-Flamig, Phone, \$40.00; Colonial Life, Insurance, \$179.63; Timothy Conrad, Phone, \$40.00; Culligan of Scottsbluff, Service, \$138.50; Custom Cage, Law Enforcement Costs, \$1,450.00; Dept of Rev-Property Assmt Div, Contract Labor, \$1,184.56; Nolan Dueker, Witness Fees, \$41.00; Eakes Office Solutions, Supplies & Lease, \$907.77; Shauna Faessler, Phone, Repairs & Fuel, \$70.00; Daniel Flores, Phone, \$40.00; Galls LLC, Uniforms, \$94.69; Grand Slam Solutions LLC, Contract Labor, \$1,500.00; Charles Hirsch, Witness Fees, \$52.20; Hometown Leasing, Equip Lease, \$86.68; Ideal Linen, Jail Laundry, \$231.26; Karl Emergency Vehicles & Apparel, Vehicle, \$2,117.69; Susan Kelly, Supplies & Repairs, \$148.48; John Kreman, Witness Fees, \$20.00; Kacey Kreman, Witness Fees, \$41.00; Andrew Lawson, Phone, \$40.00; Lighthouse Electrical Contractors, Repairs, \$655.39; Audrey M. Long, Public Defender, \$5,877.45; Los Tres Gallos, Employee Appreciation, \$2250.00; Hayden Marks, Witness Fees, \$416.20; Tim Marquez, Phone, \$40.00; Seth McLaughlin, Phone, \$40.00; Jeff Metz, Phone, \$40.00; Microfilm Imaging Systems, Equip Rental, \$161.00; MIPS Inc, Data Processing Costs, \$2925.44; Morrill County Community Hospital, Board of Prisoners & Medical-Prisoners, \$3,283.50; Morrill County Court, Court Costs, \$306.00; Nossaman, Pettitt Law Firm PC LLO, Court Appointed Counsel, \$661.14; Zeth Patterson, Phone, \$40.00; Patty Wax General Service, Mngr, \$1,000.00; PEAC Solutions, Equip Lease, \$606.43; Jason Perkins, Phone, \$40.00; Cammie Rader, Witness Fees, \$20.00; Retchless Technologies LLC, Contract Labor, \$3,000.00; Travis Rodak, Rent, \$675.00; Sandhills Repairs, Repairs, \$971.28; Scotts Bluff Co Sheriff's Dept, Law Enforcement Costs, \$42.82; Sonny's Super Foods, Supplies & Board of Prisoners, \$123.59; State of NE-Dept of Admin Service, Service, \$537.60; Sterling T. Huff, Atty, Court Appointed Counsel, \$655.00; Vision Care Direct, Vision Ins., \$77.28; Wex Bank, Fuel, \$256.41.

ROAD/BRIDGE FUND

Allo Communications, Service, \$110.31; Bayard Automotive LLC, Repairs & Tools, \$119.28; Black Hills Energy, Service, \$1,409.50; Dan Carnine, Gravel, \$50,000.00; Caterpillar Financial Services Crop, Equip Lease, \$5,153.05; City of Bayard, Service, \$313.89; City of Bridgeport, Service, \$412.76; Filter Care of NE, LLC, Repairs, \$97.05; Frank Parts Co, Repairs, \$220.80; Garrett Tires & Treads, Tires, \$6,570.00; Harbor Freight, Tools, \$97.98; Ideal Linen, Supplies, \$227.80; Inland Truck Parts & Service, Repairs, \$204.16; Kaiser Tire, Tires, \$571.14; Legacy Cooperative, Supplies, \$51.17; Menards, Tools, \$74.76; NMC Exchange, LLC, Repairs, \$1,319.11; PT Hose & Bearing, Repairs, \$136.99; Quill LLC, Supplies & Equip, \$121.47; Rocky Mountain Air Solutions, Supplies, \$793.82; Sapp Bros. Inc, Fuel, \$14,891.24; Vision Care Direct, Vision Ins., \$41.40; 21st Century Equip LLC, Repairs, \$14.46.

BRIDGE BUYBACK FUND

Gary Wagoner, Road Project, \$7,545.00.

PRESERVATION & MODERNIZATION FUND

Mobile Binders, Supplies, \$1,270.63.

OPIOID RECOVERY FUND

Nein Pharmacy, Misc, \$19.99.

W911 FUND

Century Link, Service, \$488.28; Frontier, Service, \$34.19.

Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Batterman, that the above claims be approved and checks drawn on the various funds, delinquent personal property taxes deducted where owing. Yeas: Schmidt, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Board of Equalization

No Agenda items for Board of Equalization.

Robin Stuart, Hospital Administrator, presented the October Financials to the Commissioners. She reported that Medicare & Medicaid are catching up on the money they owe and the hospital should get around \$800,000. The Board asked Stuart how many employees they have. She said between full & part time, around 220. She said in their budget they have to accrue for sick leave. Metz said he talked to Travis Rodak about the profit and loss.

Josh Schmidt, County Commissioner, said the 911 ambulance service will continue to operate as is. Metz said he met with the Rural Fire District and with Caleb Johnson, who does the county budget, regarding increasing the Fire District’s levy. He said the county could loan the Fire District money for 13 months until the Fire District can increase their levy, to pay it back. The money would come out of the Inheritance Fund and be put back in the fund when the Fire District pays it back.

The Board had an Interlocal Agreement for EMS Services with the Hospital and City of Bridgeport. Motion was made Batterman, seconded by Schmidt to sign the Interlocal Agreement. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Joanie Dudden, Deputy County Treasurer, presented a resolution to transfer funds into the Road Fund for \$100,000.00. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Batterman, to approve the transfer and to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #2025-42
TRANSFER OF FUNDS

WHEREAS, the Road Fund monies were put into the General Fund at levy time, it is necessary to transfer those monies into the proper funds. The Morrill County Board of Commissioners orders the County Treasurer to transfer the funds in the amount of \$100,000.00 into the Road Funds.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 5th day of December, 2025.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

/s/Jeff Metz
Chairman

/s/Susanna Batterman
Board Member

/s/Josh Schmidt
Board Member

(S E A L)

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt
County Clerk

Yeas: Schmidt, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried. Dudden also reported on the Camp Trailer that was purchased out of the Fair Funds for \$3,500.00.

Milo Cardeans, County Sheriff, asked the Board if he could use money out of the Tribal Funds to replace the car cameras. He said he has two that are down. He said the City will pay for \$15,000 of it. The Board said he can use the money out of the Tribal funds for the cameras.

Kathy Brandt, County Clerk, asked the Commissioners to approve Candace Panas to be the Insurance Contact, the NIRMA Contract Person and to authorize her to sign on Platte Valley Bank and Wells Fargo Bank N.A. and on all of the County Clerk's documents when she takes over the Morrill County Clerk's duties as of January 1, 2025. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to authorize and approve Candace Panas for all of the above. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Board reported on meetings they had attended. Schmidt reported on the Hospital Board meeting. Batterman reported on the Panhandle Community Health Meeting and the assessment of the community. She said there were three objections. Metz reported on the CAPWN meeting. He said they had to renew their health plan with Blue Cross and the cost went up 84%. He said he has a Fair Board meeting on Wednesday. He also reported on a conference call with the State Auditor's office.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Metz adjourned the meeting at 8:10 A.M. Next meeting will be Tuesday, December 23, 2025.

/s/Jeff Metz, Chairman

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt, County Clerk

