

Bridgeport, Nebraska
Tuesday, June 10, 2025

The Morrill County Board of Commissioners met in an open and public regular meeting at 7:30 A.M., Tuesday, June 10, 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 June 5, 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 June 4, 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, and the minutes of the May 27, 2025 meeting. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Correspondence was received and read.

The Commissioners reviewed the following claims:

GENERAL FUND

Accelerated Receivables Solutions, Garnishment, \$223.09; Alarm Security Technicians, Repairs, \$3,307.82; Allo Communications, Service, \$1,381.35; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp, Retirement, \$8,321.72; Brennan Andrew, Phone, \$40.00; Axon Enterprise Inc, Law Enforcement Costs, \$446.00; Bayard Transcript, Publishing, \$192.84; Benzel Pest Control Inc, Service, \$429.83; Bob Barker Co Inc, Board of Prisoners, \$1,163.44; Kathy Brandt, Phone, \$40.00; Bridgeport New-Blade, Subscription, Publishing & Supplies, \$320.12; Ismael Cardenas, Phone, \$40.00; Century Business Products, Supplies, \$164.83; Charter Communications, Service, \$169.99 City of Bridgeport, Service, \$118.83; Clerk of District Court, Court Costs, \$108.00; Brandon Collins-Flamig, Phone, \$40.00; Colonial Life, Insurance, \$179.63; Connecting Point Inc, Service, \$240.00; Culligan of Scottsbluff, Repairs & Service, \$325.50; Dept of Revenue, State Tax, \$6,183.99; Douglas, Kelly, Ostdiek, Snyder Etc, Court Appointed Counsel, \$483.80; Rhett Dye, Phone & Training, \$315.00; Eakes Office Solutions, Supplies & Lease, \$411.75; Ergogenesis Workplace Solutions LLC, Furniture, \$1,935.27; Daniel Flores, Phone, \$40.00; Grand Slam Solutions LLC, Contract Labor, \$1,500.00; Stacie Lynn Harden, Contract Labor, \$676.00; Hometown Leasing, Equip Lease, \$56.20; Steven R. Hutchinson, Contract Labor, \$730.00; Ideal Linen/Bluffs Facility Solutions, Laundry-Prisoners, \$289.95; Jack's Uniforms & Equip, Uniforms, \$789.20; Andrew Lawson, Phone, \$40.00; Audrey M. Long, Public Defender, \$4,692.00; Marlin Leasing Corp, Equip Lease, \$606.43; 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, \$2,810.46; Morrill County Community Hospital, Board of Prisoners, \$1,566.00; Morrill County Court, Court Costs, \$369.00; NACO, Dues, \$1,784.58; NE Child Support, Child Support, \$274.16; \$236.31; NE State Patrol, Radio Equip, \$1,212.50; NE Total Office, Supplies, \$590.81; Rose Nelson, Phone, \$40.00; Candace D. Panas, Meals & Mileage, \$342.92; Zeth Patterson, Phone & Mileage, \$89.00; Patty Wax General Service, Mngr, \$1,000.00; Jason Perkins, Phone, \$40.00; Platte Valley Bank, Federal Withholding, Social Security & Medicare, \$14,772.35; Retchless Technologies LLC, Contract, \$1,500.00; Travis Rodak, Rent, \$675.00; Scotts Bluff County Communication, Training, \$107.91; Susan D. Sparks, Contract Labor, \$1,620.00; State of NE-Dept of Admin, Service, \$537.60; Dr. Gage Stermensky, LLC, Juvenile Costs, \$1,800.00; Stryker Sales LLC, Misc, \$736.00; Ricky Trevino, Phone, \$40.00; US Postal Service, Box Rent, \$308.00; Unmanned Vehicle Technologies LLC, Law Enforcement Costs, \$5,920.32; Wex Bank, Fuel, \$491.36; XESI, Equip Lease, \$74.73; General Employees Salaries, \$66,397.53.

ROAD/BRIDGE FUND

Allo Communications, Service, \$110.77; Ameritas Life Ins Corp, Retirement, \$3,198.60; B & C Steel Corp, Steel Products, \$516.36; Bayard Automotive, Repairs, \$60.85; Black Hills Energy, Service, \$783.76; Capital Business Systems Inc, Equip, \$201.43; Caterpillar Financial Services Corp, Equip Lease, \$5,153.05; City of Bayard, Service, \$200.11; Colonial Life Insurance, Insurance, \$22.16; Dept of Revenue, State Tax, \$2,465.41; Frank Parts Co, Repairs, \$2.69; Harbor Freight Comm Acct, Supplies, \$115.94; Heigel's Field Service, Repairs, \$360.00; Ideal Linen/Bluffs Facility Solutions, Supplies, \$227.80; Inland Truck Parts & Service, Repairs, \$34.86; Koke's Auto Farm Truck, Repairs, \$610.48; Koozer Construction Inc, Gravel, \$36,665.43; Lee's Service Inc, Tires, \$71.00; Menards, Repairs, \$437.75; NMC Exchange LLC, Repairs, \$20.53; Platte Valley Bank, Federal Withholding, Social Security & Medicare, \$6,354.27; Powerplan, Repairs, \$2,393.68; Rocky Mountain Air Solutions, Supplies, \$324.60; Sapp Bros. Inc, Fuel, \$10,699.50; Simon, Gravel, \$5,303.10; Village of Broadwater, Service, \$131.40; Road Employees Salaries, \$28,432.02.

STOP FUND

Stalker Radar Applied Concepts, Equip, \$3,193.00.

LATF FUND

Best Plumbing Heating & Cooling LLC, Repairs, \$3,473.05.

W911 FUND

Frontier, Supplies, \$34.19.

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

Board of Equalization

See separate minutes for Board of Equalization.

Del Kraupie, met with the Board to request a Special Designated Liquor License for July 4 & 5, 2025. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Batterman, to approve the Liquor License. Yeas: Schmidt, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Milo Cardenas, President of the Veterans' Board, said that Gary Tyree has resigned from the Veterans' Board. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to accept the resignation of Gary Tyree, with regret and with appreciation for his service. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Joanie Dudden, Deputy County Treasurer, presented a resolution to transfer \$25,000 into the Road Fund. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to approve the transfer and to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #2025 – 13
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 \$25,000.00 into the Road Fund

PASSED AND APPROVED this 10th day of June, 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: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Brian & Mark Hillier and Steve Jobman met with the board regarding the insurance renewal. Robin Stuart, Hospital Administrator, was also present. Brian presented the year end reports. He also presented the cost of what this year could be, depending on which company we go with. Some of the companies had lasers on some individuals. The problems with RCI handling our payments were discussed. RCI Board reports to Regional West Board. With Regional West being the ones that were sending out the checks to the providers, there seems to be a delay in getting the payments out. This was a concern for the County and Hospital. The Board asked about finding another company to handle this. Brian said they had checked into Blue Cross, but the self-funded would not allow the county to keep all of

the funds, only a percentage. He said you would also have to go with TLO (Total Liability Option) to cover the costs, it could be \$1-5Million because of the lasers. Brian also had the costs of the Hospital and the County being separate, which would be more expensive. Brian also presented other companies including Meritain/Aetna and UMR/UnitedHealthCare, that could handle what RCI does now. The Board discussed the various options. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Batterman to renew with Symetra at \$40k deductible, at 36/12 with TLO only pay if executed 90 days in advance. Yeas: Schmidt, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried. The Board looked at Meritain/Aetna and UMR/UnitedHealthCare. Brian said both were good, but Meritain was lower at \$89,366.40 for admin fees. Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to replace RCI with Meritain/Aetna as our TPA as of August 1, 2025, and to authorize Kathy Brandt, County Clerk, to sign the necessary documentation. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried. Hillier said there would still be some fees from RCI for the next two months.

The Board reported on meetings they had attended. Schmidt had no meetings. Batterman had an advisory meeting with Behavioral Health. Metz had acCommunity Action meeting and has a Fair Board meeting tomorrow.

There being no further discussion, Chairman Metz adjourned the meeting at 10:16 A.M. Next meeting will be Tuesday, June 24, 2025.

/s/Jeff Metz, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt, County Clerk

Board of Equalization
Tuesday, June 10, 2025

The Morrill County Board of Equalization met in an open and public regular meeting at 7:42 A.M., Tuesday, June 10, 2025 in the Commissioners room at the Courthouse. Chairperson Metz announced that the Open Meetings Law was posted on the wall of the Commissioners' room. Notice of such meeting having been published in the Bayard Transcript and the Bridgeport News-Blade on June 5, 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 June 5, 2025. On roll call Commissioners Jeff Metz, Chairman, Susanna Batterman and Josh Schmidt were present. Absent: None. Rose Nelson, County Assessor and Joanie Dudden, Deputy County Treasurer, were present. Kathleen L. Brandt, County Clerk, recorded the proceedings of the meeting.

Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Batterman, to enter into Board of Equalization, according to Ne Statute #77-1233.04(6) at 7:42 A.M. Yeas: Schmidt, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Chairman Metz opened the Public Hearing for Vehicle Tax Exemptions at 7:44 A.M. for a Tax Exemption for Bayard Church of Christ.

There being no one present, Chairman Metz closed the Public Hearing at 7:46 A.M.

Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to approve the Tax Exemption for Bayard Church of Christ. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the valuation increases with Rose Nelson, County Assessor. Metz said with these increases, you're going to put everyone out of business.

Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to return to regular session at 7:56 A.M. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

/s/Jeff Metz, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/Kathleen L. Brandt, County Clerk

Board of Equalization
Tuesday, April 8, 2025

The Morrill County Board of Equalization met in an open and public regular meeting at 7:45 A.M., Tuesday, May 13, 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 have been published in the Bayard Transcript and the Bridgeport News-Blade on May 8, 2025. Copies of the Agenda kept continuously current were available from the County Clerk's Office and were emailed to each of the Commissioners on May 8, 2025. On roll call Commissioners Jeff Metz, Chairman, Susanna Batterman and Josh Schmidt were present. Absent: None. Rose Nelson, County Assessor, was present. Candace Panas, Office Clerk, recorded the proceedings of the meeting.

Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to enter into Board of Equalization, according to Ne. Statue #77-1233.04(06) at 7:45 A.M. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Rose Nelson, County Assessor, presented Tax List Corrections #2025 – 13 & 14. Motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Batterman, to approve and sign the above corrections. Yeas: Schmidt, Batterman and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Batterman, seconded by Schmidt, to return to regular session at 7:58 A.M. Yeas: Batterman, Schmidt and Metz. Nays: None. Motion carried.

/s/Jeff Metz, Chairman

Attest:

/s/Candace Panas, Office Clerk

