

MINUTES OF THE CUSTER CO. BOARD OF SUPERVISOR
December 9, 2025

The Custer County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, in the boardroom of the Custer County Courthouse. Chairperson Blowers called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and reported the Open Meeting Laws are posted on the north wall and publication of the meeting notice was on December 4, 2025. The following board members were present – Blowers, Longmore, Parliament, Markham, Kleeb, Gibbons and Kelly Jacobsen, Custer County Clerk.

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion by Markham 2nd by Longmore to approve the minutes of November 25, 2025, Roll call vote.
Ayes-All

Committee reports were given by Markham, Parliament, Gibbons, Kleeb

GENERAL FUND CLAIMS: Salary-\$156,020.99, SS- \$11,633.93, Ret- \$8,529.46, Exp- \$1,065.29

APPLIED CONNECTIVE TECHNOLOGIES	IT	7,039.49
ARMOR EQUIPMENT	Repairs	2,391.24
ARNOLD SENTINEL	Publ	136.48
BC/BS OF NEBRASKA	Prem	973.59
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	Serv	479.20
BROKEN BOW MUNICIPAL UTILITIES	Serv	4,344.09
CINTAS CORPORATION	Supply	136.14
CUSTER COUNTY CHIEF	Publ	12.87
CUSTER COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	Fuel	352.67
CUSTER COUNTY IMPREST ACCOUNT	ACH	10.00
CUSTER TRANSFER STATION INC	Fees	12.00
EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	Supply	1,844.42
ELAN FINANCIAL SERVICES	Supply	66.59
ERICKSON LAW LLC	Fees	(2,537.50)
GARRETT TIRES, TREADS & APPLIANCES	Supply	121.00
GATEWAY MOTORS INC.	Repairs	1,203.89
GROCERY KART	Grocery	536.22
HEALING HEARTS & FAMILIES	Juv Grant	38,880.02
KCNI-AM RADIO	Ads	125.00
KIM STEFKA	Serv	97.85
KIRKPATRICK CLEANING SOLUTIONS, INC	Supply	527.99
LANCASTER COUNTY SHERIFF	Serv	4.92
LOUP VALLEY LIGHTING INC	Supply	307.53
MID-NEBRASKA INDIVIDUAL SERVICES BB	Labor	168.00
MIPS INC	Prog	4,242.98
NE ASS'N OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	Dues	225.00
O'BRIEN'S HARDWARE	Supply	33.98
PETERSON LEGAL SERVICES PC LLO	Fees	1,381.08
PRESTO-X	Serv	77.25
QUILL CORPORATION	Supply	84.73
RT ACE HARDWARE	Supply	68.89
SENNETT DUNCAN JENKINS & WICKHAM	Fees	5,679.01

SEVEN SPRINGS INC	Supply	41.00
SIKYTA LAW OFFICE LLC	Fees	772.50
STAMM ROMERO & ASSOCIATES PC LLO	Fees	1,325.00
STATE OF NEBRASKA	Maint	120.00
TAYLOR HEATING & COOLING INC	Repairs	264.50
TOBEY LAW	Fees	1,287.50
TRANSIT WORKS	Repairs	303.17
TROTTER SERVICE	Repairs	588.25
US POSTAL SERVICE	Postage	2,000.00
VERIZON WIRELESS	Serv	260.12
VILLAGE UNIFORM	Serv	40.00
ZELLE HUMAN RESOURCE SOLUTIONS	HR	5,000.00

Motion by Longmore 2nd by KleeB to approve the General Fund Claims, Roll call vote.
Ayes-Markham, Parliament, KleeB, Longmore, Gibbons

ROAD FUND CLAIMS: Salary-\$95,856.45, SS-\$7,192.21, Ret-\$4,318.74, Exp-\$335.30

AKRS EQUIPMENT	Parts	158.19
ARROW SEED COMPANY	Seed	12.30
AT&T MOBILITY	Serv	929.00
BK COMMODITIES INC	Shipping	7,791.94
BROKEN BOW AUTO PARTS	Parts	116.27
BROKEN BOW MUNICIPAL UTILITIES	Serv	860.11
CALLAWAY LIGHT & WATER	Serv	92.12
CINTAS CORPORATION	Supply	52.71
COLONIAL RESEARCH CHEMICAL CO	Supply	275.89
CUSTER COUNTY POSTAGE	Postage	84.30
CUSTER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	Serv	115.07
EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	Supply	57.41
FASTENAL COMPANY	Parts	105.07
GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS	Serv	190.09
H T C INCORPORATED	Parts	685.16
INTERSTATE BATTERY SYSTEMS	Parts	340.46
ISLAND SUPPLY WELDING COMPANY	Parts	535.99
K & R REESE FARMS LLP	Shipping	4,522.50
MARTIN MARIETTA MATERIALS INC	Material	10,006.35
MEDICAL ENTERPRISES INC	Testing	10.00
MELHAM MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER	Testing	103.00
MIPS INC	Serv	384.64
MURPHY TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT	Parts	307.10
MYERS CONSTRUCTION INC	Shipping	4,725.00
NMC EXCHANGE LLC NE MACHINERY CO	Parts	1,654.40
O'REILLY AUTO PART	Parts	351.65
PAULSEN, INC	Material	418.85
ROSS ELECTRIC INC	Serv	113.41
RT ACE HARDWARE	Parts	94.46
SARGENT MUNICIPAL UTILITIES	Serv	103.96

STRAIGHT-LINE STRIPING INC	Painting	35,854.00
VERIZON WIRELESS	Serv	79.88
WENQUIST INC.	Parts	1,127.35

Motion by Parliament 2nd by Markham to approve Road Fund claims. Roll call vote. Ayes-All

COMMUNICATIONS FUND CLAIMS: Salary-\$25,377.64, SS-\$1,897.27, Ret-\$1,416.91

CENTURYLINK	Serv	421.13
CUSTER PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	Serv	588.31
IAMRESPONDING	Serv	4,569.00
PLATTE VALLEY COMMUNICATIONS	Serv	1,120.27

Motion by Parliament 2nd by Markham to approve Communications Fund claims. Roll call vote. Ayes-All

DEEDS PRESERVATION/MODERNIZATION FUND CLAIMS:

MIPS INC	Serv	205.30
----------	------	--------

Motion by Markham 2nd by Parliament to approve Deeds Preservation/Modernization Fund Claims. Roll Call Vote. Ayes-All

VISITORS PROMOTION FUND CLAIMS:

BROKEN BOW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	Promo	10,000.00
CEDC/SJNSB VISITOR CENTER	Adv	2,750.00

Motion by Markham 2nd by Parliament to approve Visitors Promotion Fund Claims. Roll Call Vote. Ayes-All

VISITORS IMPROVEMENT FUND CLAIMS:

ANSLEY AREA ROTARY CLUB	Sign	12,000.00
ANSLEY COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT GROUP	Upgrade	5,000.00
ARNOLD CEMETERY BOARD	Fence	3,000.00
BROKEN BOW AMBULANCE SERVICE	Timer	4,500.00
SEVEN VALLEY'S HISTORICAL SOCIETY	Flooring	5,000.00
VILLAGE OF OCONTO	Library	2,000.00
WILD ROSE GALLERY	Upgrade	1,350.00

Motion by Markham 2nd by Parliament to approve Visitors Improvement Fund Claims. Roll Call Vote. Ayes-All

Nominations for Vice Chair were taken Markham was nominated by Gibbons 2nd by Longmore. Roll Call Vote. Ayes-Kleeb, Parliament, Longmore, Gibbons, Markham abstain

The County Board discussed the Cash in Lieu option offered for Custer County.

Motion by Longmore 2nd by Markham to increase the amount from \$475 to \$600 per month. Roll call vote Kleeb-no, Gibbons-no, Parliament-no, Markham-yes, Longmore-yes. Motion failed.

Motion by Parliament 2nd by Kleeb to increase the amount from \$475 to \$500 per month. Roll call vote Markham-yes, Longmore-no, Parliament-yes, Gibbons-yes, Kleeb-yes. Motion carried.

Resolution #35-2025 stating that in Cash in Lieu will increase to \$500.00 effective January 1, 2026. Motion by Gibbons 2nd Parliament. Roll call vote. Ayes-all

Custer County Emergency Manager Mark Rempe presented a new Computer Aided Dispatching (CAD) system to enhance emergency services provided to the public. Rempe reported he had negotiated savings on the product. A contract to purchase the system for \$95,000, followed by a \$49,000 annual maintenance fee. Rempe noted the system cost would be in the range of \$219,000, and that E/M would be able to make the transition with no change to their budget. Rempe also said if additional emergency management organizations work with Custer County, the annual fee would be split between the groups. The Board tabled the issue by asking Rempe to research other options to ensure due diligence and open communication with all affected organizations.

Arnold Fire Chief Andrew Tickle told the group that we need to continue to be progressive and move forward. He also stated that as agencies purchase new equipment, without a modern dispatch system, those vehicles cannot be used efficiently.

Gibbons asked about response to 911 calls. Rempe stated when he started response to from receiving 911 call to page out was 7 minutes and 42 seconds, totally unacceptable, to now it's 15-30 seconds.

Paul Holland EMS member and City Councilmen questioned if other places had been checked for different systems. Neither the fire chief or the EMS Chief were involved in the meeting about the CAD program. Paul believed that given how much the city pays they should be a part of the decision making process. Paul feels we need to look and see what else is out there. He stated that sooner or later the county will be asking for more money.

Mason Holmes paramedic and Public Information Officer with Broken Bow Ambulance Service very pro CAD. Asked if this was the first time the CAD system has been discussed. Was due diligence completed on an alternative system, was cost comparison done between multiple vendors, how many options were evaluated in price and what were those prices. Neither BB Ambulance Service nor Broken Bow Fire Department were invited to any discussion about a system that impacts both agencies. This continues a pattern of the emergency manager excluding our agencies from communication and dispatch decisions including EMS Chief learned of this CAD system meeting through a third party not emergency management. When he asked about said meeting he was told it was really for law enforcement input only. So he didn't attend, passed that information onto the fire chief who also did not attend nor receive an invite. It was later learned that most if not all the other fire departments were invited but were present and involved that day. Our EMS Chief was told he could not attend the complex fire hot wash because he is not a fire chief. Very important note our EMS chief our ambulance service is a separate entity from our fire department. He does not answer to our fire chief. That is different from almost every other fire department in the area, not uncommon. We asked for dispatch to include physical addresses in page outs rather than business names only. We were told it is our responsibility to take responders around town not dispatches responsibility to provide addresses. We have repeatedly asked emergency management to enable recorded dispatch audio in our I AM RESPONDING system. Nearly two years later that remains unresolved though its active in every other department in the county to our knowledge. We requested dispatch reduce the excessive number of IAR device notifications due to responder notification fatigue. We were told other agencies like it, so we won't be doing that, and has not changed. Broken Bow funds approximately 49% of the budget for communications which exceeds a quarter million dollars annually. Yet two city department chiefs affected by dispatch operations are consistently left out of decision making and potentially the city police chief as well although I don't know that information, I didn't speak to him about it. To my knowledge the city does not receive reporting on how its funds are used or have a clear mechanism to audit spending. There do not appear to be regular communication or coordination meetings between dispatch and the three city emergency agencies that rely on it, meaning police, fire and EMS all being

separate agencies. I fully support implementing the CAD system. It will enhance dispatch capabilities, and will benefit responders, citizens. It is a very good thing, and I do agree with Mark, what they currently have seems antiquated on the dispatch side and is not adequate. I come from a 911 dispatcher background Chase County Nebraska, 8 years. We transitioned from Excel spreadsheets to a cloud based CAD system, Caseware based out of Colorado. I do know value firsthand. Advancing a purchase without including the emergency entities serving the largest population municipality in the county while continuing to disregard reasonable operational requests and also where the city provides a good chunk of the budget is concerning and short sided. Custer County Emergency Management services the entire county including Broken Bow, including Broken Bow ambulance service, Broken Bow fire department and all the citizens within the city limits. Collaboration is essential, not opposed to CAD systems but ensuring due diligence was completed for the best solution is essential the ongoing communication and administration issues must be addressed. I share these concerns as both a taxpayer of Broken Bow and Custer County where tax dollars of both entities support Communications, I believe there is a solution out there that will work well for everyone. This could be that solution, but it requires transparency, involvement of all effected agencies and responsible stewardship of public funds. I hope this board can work in good faith to remedy these issues for all involved. Egos cannot get in the way of emergency preparedness.

Chris Anderson, Chief of Police Broken Bow, I cannot speak to a lot of the EMS dispatch side. I can on the law enforcement side. I've never been in an agency where they have actually used a CAD system. What I heard from a lot of people they like it. It helps out a lot. A lot of streamlining information that we don't get right now but with the system that we do have it works for us. There are some conveniences that I've seen with the new system, but we've also heard a lot like Buffalo County visited with them. Their support is horrendous. They've actually at least once, maybe multiple times, had to withhold payments to get them to fix issues. That is a great concern. Another issue was uploading statues into the system for law enforcement. Had a different company upload the statues, incorrectly. Had to correct 25,000 entries. I believe our current system may not be the greatest thing out there, but it works for us.

Sheriff Dan Osmond, when Mark came to me with this it was on the basis that dispatch needs to be a lot better. They need a CAD system that works because they don't have one. Right now, we have one company that is our "CAD" for lack of a better word, and our records management which is me and Chief Anderson and our jail management so one company does all that now. We are looking at changing to a company that would give us a really good CAD system. It is a really neat piece of equipment. What I saw yesterday in buffalo county the CAD systems is pretty awesome. Records management side of this company will be a struggle for law enforcement. It's very work intensive to try and make it work. We are going to have to work at it if we go with it on the law enforcement side. I will not move the jail system over. I am going to keep the jail the way it is. That is one of the reasons the price was reduced. I feel that way because what we have now works well for us. I don't want to make that change. Gave example of Buffalo County using this CAD system.

Central Square has never created its own software. It's always just bought companies and put them together and merged things. They are supposedly 1.2 billion dollars in debt from all their buying and selling. I think that is something that needs to be noted. Buffalo County has had this company and made a lateral move over to Central Square. They stayed with this company again. They like it. It works for them. Theres a lot of headaches. This companies support is the biggest problem. That's what worries Dan the most, going to need that, a lot of growing. Also have the ability to say no to records management. Only pay for a patch. Where do you want to put the risk? We have a really good price right now, may never get that again. Do we risk that price and go with it and live with it, deal with it and make it work, probably be good or maybe it won't. Or do we wait another year, talk to other entities say hey let's get on board, take this \$50,000 and make it cheaper. Risk is do we wait a little bit and risk a good price, maybe get something better or get people on the same page and go that route. Spend time to get together with everyone, a year to make it work. I support Mark 100% in his

decisions. He is trying to do what is best for his dispatch for right now and for the future, trying to get us ahead of the game. One way or another somethings got to be done. Whatever we go with, I will support Mark.

David Schmidt, Broken Bow City Administrator, sat through the presentation, looked like a fine piece of software. If its not going to cost us good with whatever. As for the user side, I rely on those using it to tell me if it's the right thing. Relatively indifferent. Ok with whatever as long as serves the needs of the first responders.

Chairman Blowers asked other vendors be contacted for pricing by March pr April before budget.

Rempe stated this could absolutely be done.

Board of Equalization Motion by Longmore 2nd Markham to adjourn as the County Board and convene as the Board of Equalization at 10:50 a.m. Roll call vote. Ayes-all Assessor Taylor handed out tax corrections.

Clifford & Gaylean Olson LLC – Update in MIPS after Original Correction Approved-School Credit not calculated parcel 00006980 (-)13.26 Motion to approve tax corrections made by Gibbons 2nd by Kleeb. Roll call vote. Ayes- All

Design Homes Inc-Lane Chesley – Parcel 000673255 - Update in MIPS after Original Correction Approved-School Credit not calculated(+)213.32
Design Homes Inc-Lane Chesley – Parcel 000673250 - Update in MIPS after Original Correction Approved-School Credit not calculated(-)213.32
Gene Tullis – Update in MIPS after Original Correction Approved-School Credit not calculated– parcel 000686400 (+)12.08
Bryce Nansel – Update in MIPS after Original Correction Approved-School Credit not calculated000658510 (-)32.84
Bryce Nansel – Update in MIPS after Original Correction Approved-School Credit not calculated000658515 (-).22
Motion to approve all Dist. 5 tax corrections made by Blowers 2nd by Parliament. Roll call vote. Ayes- All

Conroy Land Company – Quiet title filed May 2025 – parcel should have been inactivated, Lomax vacated in 2024 parcel 000131700 (-)68.26
Conroy Land Company – Quiet title filed May 2025 – parcel should have been inactivated, Lomax vacated in 2024 parcel 000132000 (-)5.46
Conroy Land Company – Quiet title filed May 2025 – parcel should have been inactivated, Lomax vacated in 2024 parcel 000132100 (-)68.26
Conroy Land Company – Quiet title filed May 2025 – parcel should have been inactivated, Lomax vacated in 2024 parcel 000132200 (-)34.14
Conroy Land Company – Quiet title filed May 2025 – parcel should have been inactivated, Lomax vacated in 2024 parcel 000132300 (-)34.14
Conroy Land Company – Quiet title filed May 2025 – parcel should have been inactivated, Lomax vacated in 2024 parcel 000132400 (-)34.14
Conroy Land Company – Quiet title filed May 2025 – parcel should have been inactivated, Lomax vacated in 2024 parcel 000131800 (-)68.26
Conroy Land Company – Quiet title filed May 2025 – parcel should have been inactivated, Lomax vacated in 2024 parcel 000131800 (-)34.14

Motion to approve all Dist. 6 tax corrections made by Longmore 2nd Parliament Roll call vote. Ayes-All

Wayne & Deborah Slingsby Rev Tt – Update in MIPS after Original Correction Approved-School Credit not calculated Parcel 000351810 (-)12.22 Motion to approve all Dist. 7 tax corrections made by Parliament 2nd by Longmore. Roll call vote. Ayes-All

Blakeman Cattle LLC – Update in MIPS after Original Correction Approved-School Credit not calculated Parcel 000449715 (-)37.20

Bindewald Family LTD – Update in MIPS after Original Correction Approved-School Credit not calculated Parcel 000449700 (-)37.22

Motion to approve all Dist. 4 tax corrections made by Markham 2nd by Longmore. Roll call vote. Ayes-All.

Motion by Longmore, 2nd Parliament, to adjourn as the Board of Equalization and reconvene as the County Board at 11:03 a.m., Roll call vote. Ayes-All

Motion by Parliament, 2nd Kleeb, to direct County Treasurer Bryant to mail the 2025 Tax Statements. (SS77-1701). Roll call vote. Ayes-all

Treasurer Bryant presented the Resolutions for transferring funds. Motion by Parliament, 2nd Longmore, to approve Res. 33-2025 to transfer per 2025-26 budgeted funds, from Co. General Fund to Co. Road Fund \$3,261,553.44 or 41.9391%. Roll call vote. Ayes-all

Motion by Markham, 2nd Longmore, to approve Res. 34-2025 to transfer per 2025-26 budgeted funds, from Co. General Fund to Road Hard Surface Sinking Fund or \$716,500 or 9.2132%. Roll call vote. Ayes-all

Highway Superintendent Jacobsen presented Change Order #2 to direct the contractor Saul Ramos Construction to finish grading operations in their contract, deduct the seeding and hotmix asphalt placement from the contract and add to the contract edge-line paint and narrow shoulder signing and delineation of the driving surface. After the contractor has completed CO#2 it is recommended to close out the contract and obligations with Saul Ramos Construction regarding this project. Motion by Blowers 2nd Parliament to approve CO#2 Roll call vote. Ayes-all

One application to cross county r-o-w was presented

Motion by Parliament 2nd Longmore to approve an application to cross county r-o-w with fiber optic cable for Hamilton, Rd 457. Roll call vote. Ayes-all

Healing Hearts & Family – SueEllen Koepke requested the annual grant application MOU signed for the diversion program. Motion by Kleeb 2nd by Parliament to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for 2026 Community-Based Juvenile Services Aid. Roll call vote. Ayes-all

Motion by Kleeb 2nd by Longmore to approve the September monthly fee reports for the Clerk, Register of Deeds, Clerk District Court, Sheriff, and Recycling. Roll call vote. Ayes-all

Custer County Weed Superintendent Tim Conover provided his end-of-year report. Conover stated he had conducted 123 inspections through the year, covering 19,300 acres, and that Custer County is currently in compliance with Nebraska Department of Agriculture requirements. Conover was awarded the 2024 NDA Region 3 Inspector Award for making “a substantial impact on controlling and preventing the spread of noxious weeds, protecting agricultural productivity and safeguarding the environment for future generations.” The Supervisors agreed with this assessment and thanked Conover’s efforts.

Discussion was held on the use of the Custer County Board of Supervisors Proposal/Request/Report

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Advanced notices and the agenda for the meetings held on December 9, 2025, were sent to members of the County Board, County Attorney and all others requesting the same. Notice was posted at the Custer County Courthouse, the County website, and in the Custer County Chief. The agenda for the next regular meeting to be held on **Tuesday, December 30, 2025**, will be kept continually current and open for inspection at the office of the Custer County Clerk.

Kelly Jacobsen, Custer County Clerk