

**MCPHERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND**  
**BOARD OF EQUALIZATION PROCEEDINGS**  
**APRIL 9, 2025**

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners met as per adjournment of March 12, 2025, for their regular monthly meeting. Notice of meeting having been published in the Stapleton Enterprise, issue dated April 3, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Chairman Nason. Members Brett Nason, John Bryant and Jeff Arensdorf were present. Also present were the Deputy Tom Burch, Road Worker Ed Black, Highway Superintendent Tom Werblow, County Attorney Whitney Schroeder, County Treasurer Kerri Kramer and County Clerk Kathy Hoberg. Chairman Nason noted the Open Meetings Act which is posted on the North wall of the courtroom. Arensdorf moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting as presented. Bryant seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf and Bryant. Nason abstained, as he was absent from the last meeting. Voting Nay: None. Bryant made a motion to approve the following claims as presented. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant, Arensdorf and Nason. Voting Nay: None.

| <b>GENERAL</b>           |                          | <b>AMOUNT</b> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Payroll                  | Wages                    | 22,184.23     |
| Ameritas                 | Retirement               | 1233.44       |
| Applied Connective       | IT Consultant            | 806.60        |
| At&T Mobility            | Sheriff Phone            | 131.02        |
| Blue Cross Blue Shield   | Health Insurance         | 8328.66       |
| Brouillette Troshynski   | Court App Atty           | 488.50        |
| Custer Public Power      | Lights/Electricity       | 659.97        |
| DAS ST. Accounting       | Computer Expenses        | 194.00        |
| Eakes Office Plus        | Maintenance Agreement    | 209.31        |
| First Concord Benefits   | Deductible Buy-Down      | 39.81         |
| Great Plains Comm        | Telephone/Internet       | 446.41        |
| Great Plains Comm        | Emergency Mngmt          | 57.96         |
| Katherine Hoberg         | Mileage                  | 80.15         |
| Ideal Linen              | Janitorial Supplies      | 138.16        |
| IRS                      | SS/Medicare              | 1,628.22      |
| Kerri Kramer             | Mileage                  | 115.50        |
| Lincoln County Treasurer | Extension Contract       | 1,901.50      |
| Lindemeier Law Office    | Court App Atty           | 137.50        |
| MIPS                     | Data Processing/Computer | 1,240.22      |
| Brett Nason              | Mileage                  | 85.40         |
| NE Assn County Officials | Board/Clerk Workshop     | 225.00        |
| NE State Patrol          | Computer Expenses        | 112.50        |
| Neal Oil & Auto          | Fuel                     | 184.24        |
| Platte Valley Comm       | Siren                    | 1,084.95      |
| Whitney Schroeder        | Mileage/Child Support    | 234.20        |
| Stapleton Enterprise     | Printing/Publishing      | 143.18        |
| Thomas County Library    | Bookmobile               | 1,200.40      |
| US Bank                  | Supplies/Expenses        | 290.21        |
| Village of Stapleton     | Garbage Disposal         | 3,000.00      |
| <b>ROAD</b>              |                          | <b>AMOUNT</b> |
| Payroll                  | Wages                    | 10,558.48     |
| Ameritas                 | Retirement               | 645.20        |
| Blue Cross Blue Shield   | Health Insurance         | 2766.04       |
| Bomgaars Supply          | Supplies                 | 5.98          |
| Croell Inc.              | Gravel                   | 32,050.87     |
| Croell Inc.              | Asphalt                  | 1,116.50      |
| Fessler Tire Co          | Equipment Repairs        | 754.13        |

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|---|------------------------|----------|
| First Concord Benefits                  | Deductible Buy-Down    | 16.00    |
| Great Plains Comm                       | Phone/Internet         | 107.51   |
| IRS                                     | County Share SS/Med    | 805.36   |
| JM Parts and Equipment<br>McPherson Co. | Equipment Repairs      | 32.96    |
| Inheritance                             | Reimbursement Payments | 2,515.00 |
| Neal Oil & Auto                         | Fuel/Supplies          | 4,284.79 |
| Powerplan                               | Equipment Repairs      | 224.74   |
| TC Engineering                          | Highway Supt           | 750.00   |
| Titan Machinery                         | Equipment Repairs      | 4,066.66 |
| US Bank                                 | Supplies               | 221.73   |
| <b>FAIR</b>                             |                        |          |
| Dry Creek Western Wear                  | Fair Expenses          | 392.00   |
| Ideal Linen                             | Supplies               | 41.29    |

There was a discussion concerning the use of the dumpsters in Ringgold. Nason made a motion to instruct the clerk to publish a Public Notice reminding the public of the items which are prohibited from being placed in the county dumpsters. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. This list includes dumpsters in Tryon and Ringgold. There are no current rules or regulations concerning the frequency of dumping items, but the public is asked to be mindful of the way items are placed in the dumpsters. Items extending out of the dumpsters may cause damage to the truck or the dumpster when being dumped. Items placed beside the dumpsters will not be picked up.

**At 9:15 AM** Greg Mooney from Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO), visited with the board about *Medicare Guidance for County Employees and Communities*. NACO has partnered with licensed insurance agents at Pro Insurance Resources to offer Medicare guidance and resources to county employees and community members. There will be open meetings held quarterly in Ogallala. The district representative from NACO would also be willing to come to the county or receive calls if needed. If you are nearing retirement, or considering Medicare options, contact the county clerk for more information.

**At 9:30 AM** Audrey Worthing from Congressman Adrian Smith's office visited with the Commissioners. She gave information about their website including information about the Youth Advisory Council for High School Students, Military Academy applications and opportunities for Internships. For more information, visit their website at [adriansmith.house.gov](http://adriansmith.house.gov). She was available in the courthouse for anyone who wanted to visit with her until 10:45 AM.

The board discussed roads with Ed Black. The road crew has been hauling rock and crushed concrete and maintaining roads throughout the county. They have prepared the Prairie Trace Road for the pulverization project to be completed by Level LLC.

Bryant made a motion to accept the April Road Plan presented by Nason. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant, Arensdorf and Nason. Voting Nay: None.

The commissioners acknowledged receipt of a \$100,000.00 check from Adams Bank & Trust, Robert F. Hanich Charitable Trust Grant. This is the final payment for the McPherson County Soddy Road Safety Improvement Project. The commissioners voiced their appreciation and gratitude to Adams Bank & Trust for the grant. The Soddy Road Project is much needed, and the grant greatly benefits McPherson County.

There was a Safety Committee Meeting Held. Those present were, Brett Nason, Jeff Arensdorf, John Bryant, Whitney Schroeder, Kathy Hoberg and Ed Black. Werblow gave a flyer and information about *Protecting the Public and Safer Work Zones*.

Arensdorf moved to accept the formal resignation letter from K.C. Bang which was received after the March 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Bryant seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Bryant and Nason. Voting Nay: None.

**At 10:00 AM** Nason made a motion to recess the regular meeting and go into closed session for the purpose of conducting interviews for the position of McPherson County Sheriff, in accordance with §84-1410(d) when necessary to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person and if such person has not requested a public meeting. As part of the motion, Nason requested that the County Attorney, County Clerk and Chief Deputy be retained in the room.

Arensdorf seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. The closed session concluded at 11:00 AM and the board resumed the regular meeting. Bryant made a motion to offer the position of McPherson County Sheriff to Lawrence Stump from Broken Bow, Nebraska. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant, Arensdorf and Nason. Voting Nay: None.

The Commissioners were informed that the Board of Equalization Workshop and the Board of Commissioners Workshop will be held in Kearney on June 4-5, 2025. John Bryant and Jeff Arensdorf will attend both workshops.

There was discussion about hiring a new auditor for the county, as Don Wilson will not continue in that capacity following the 2025 Spring audit. Due to Don's retirement and the State Auditor's office ceasing to conduct county audits, there is high demand for those willing to do our audits. McPherson County received a Proposal of Services from Contryman Associates, P.C., with a fee range of \$14,000.00 to \$18,000.00. Bryant made a motion to accept the proposal. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Bryant, Arensdorf and Nason. Voting Nay: None.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 11:25 AM. They will meet again at 9:00 AM, on May 14, 2025, for their next regular monthly meeting. This meeting will be held at the McPherson County Courthouse and is open to the public.

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Katherine E. Hoberg  
McPherson County Clerk

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Brett W. Nason  
McPherson County Board Chairman