

MCPHERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS and
BOARD OF EQUALIZATION ANNUAL REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
PROCEEDINGS
JANUARY 14, 2026

The McPherson County Board of Commissioners and Board of Equalization met as per adjournment of December 10, 2025, for the annual Reorganizational Meeting and regular monthly meeting. Notice of meeting having been published in the Stapleton Enterprise, issue dated January 8, 2026, and at www.mcphersoncounty.ne.gov. Chairman Nason called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Board members Jeffrey Arensdorf, Brett Nason and John Bryant were present. Also present were the County Attorney Whitney Schroeder, Road Superintendent Tom Werblow, County Sheriff Lawrence Stump, and County Clerk Kathy Hoberg. Road employee Ed Black was also present. The Chairman noted the Public Meetings Law which is posted on the North wall of the meeting room. Arensdorf made a motion to appoint John Bryant as McPherson County Board Chairman and Brett Nason as Vice-Chairman for 2026. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. Nason moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting as presented. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf, and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. Arensdorf made a motion to approve the following claims as presented. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

GENERAL		AMOUNT
Payroll	Salary and Wages	29034.44
Ameritas	Retirement	1695.92
Applied Connective	IT Consultant	682.20
AT&T Mobility	Sheriff Phone	172.88
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	8375.43
John Bryant	Mileage	175.00
Central Plains Valuation	Appraisal Fees	274.00
Colonial Life	Insurance	18.00
Custer Public Power	Lights/Electricity	745.21
Judy M. Dailey	Retirement	48.00
Das ST. Accounting	Computer Expense	388.00
Eakes Office Plus	Equipment/Supplies	526.20
First Concord Benefits	Deductible Buy-Down	195.00
Glass Doctor	ADA Doors- Grant	4223.48
Great Plains Comm	Telephone/Internet	446.87
Great Plains Comm	Emergency Mngmt	57.96
Katherine Hoberg	Mileage	175.00
Holiday Inn Kearney	Convention	749.70
Ideal Linen	Janitorial Supplies	138.16
IRS	SS/Medicare	2,148.45
Level LLC	Concrete - Grant	2,500.00
Mid States Crime	Dues	100.00
MIPS	Data Processing/Computer	1,226.43
NACO Planning Zoning	Dues	40.00
NE Assn Co. Assessors	Dues	100.00
NACO Treasurers	Dues	75.00
NE Clerk District Court	Dues	50.00
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel/Supplies	579.19
Whitney Schroeder	Mileage/Child Suppt	234.20
Stapleton Enterprise	Printing/Publishing	175.12
Thomas Co Library	Bookmobile	2,683.93
US Bank	Supplies/Expenses	427.69
Village of Stapleton	Garbage Disposal	3,000.00

ROAD		AMOUNT
Payroll	Salary and Wages	13990.00
Ace Hardware	Supplies	15.98
Ameritas	Retirement	876.84
Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health Insurance	2781.58
Colonial Life	Insurance	4.00
Croell Inc.	Gravel	2,537.85
First Concord Benefits	Deductible Buy-Down	130.00
Great Plains Comm	Phone/Internet	107.87
IRS	County Share SS/Med	1,067.89
JM Parts and Equipment	Supplies	368.02
McPherson Co.		
Inheritance	Reimburse Funds	2,791.40
Neal Oil & Auto	Fuel/Supplies	5,173.62
TC Engineering	Highway Supt	750.00
Titan Machinery	Equipment Repairs	2,006.67
Troyer Enterprises	Supplies	24.80
US Bank	Supplies	17.46
FAIR		
Ideal Linen	Supplies	44.17

Nason made a motion to appoint Rich Cook as **McPherson County Weed Superintendent** for 2026, with a wage of \$15.00 per hour. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.
 Rich Cook was present and presented the board with an annual weed report, which was signed by Chairman Bryant.

Ed Black was present and reported that the road crew has completed work on Miller Drive for the Winter. The remainder of the project may be completed in the Spring.

The 2026 schedule for Road Overseer was set as follows:
Jan-Feb-March – Brett Nason **April- May- June** – Jeff Arensdorf **July-Aug-Sept** – John Bryant
Oct- Nov- Dec – Brett Nason. Motion made by Arensdorf, seconded by Nason. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason moved to schedule the One-and- Six Year Road Plan Hearing for 10:00 AM on Wednesday, February 11, 2026. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

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

Nason moved to appoint Tom Werblow, Ed Black and John Bryant to the Safety Committee for 2026, with John Bryant as Chairman. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.
 There was a Safety Committee Meeting held. Those present were Tom Werblow, John Bryant, Brett Nason, Jeff Arensdorf, Kerri Kramer, Kathy Hoberg, Whitney Schroeder, Lawrence Stump and Ed Black. Werblow gave information and flyers on *Water Pumps and Using and Storing Acetylene Gas*.

Arensdorf moved to approve and adopt **RESOLUTION # 2026-1** Appointing Dickinson Land Surveyors of Ogallala, NE, to the position of **McPherson County Surveyor** for 2026. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason made a motion to adopt and approve **RESOLUTION #2026-2**, McPherson County Road and Labor Prices for the year 2026, with a wage increase of \$1.00 per hour for new hires and employees with two or more years’ experience. Prices Set to Charge to be increased by \$10.00 each. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

RESOLUTION #2026-2

MCPHERSON COUNTY ROAD AND LABOR PRICES FOR THE YEAR 2026

PRICES SET TO PAY...WITH BOARD APPROVAL

COUNTY EMPLOYEE

PERSON, SINGLE HANDED..... \$19.00 PER HOUR

TRACTOR OR BLADE OPERATOR \$19.00 PER HOUR

PERSON, SINGLE HANDED

(TWO YEARS' COUNTY EMPLOYMENT) \$22.65 PER HOUR

TRACTOR OR BLADE OPERATOR

(TWO YEARS' COUNTY EMPLOYMENT)\$22.65 PER HOUR

FARM TRACTOR AND IMPLEMENT WITH

OPERATOR.....\$100.00 PER HOUR

FARM TRACTOR WITH OPERATOR

(100 H.P. OR MORE FOR SNOW REMOVAL \$120.00 PER HOUR

PRICES SET TO CHARGE.... WITH PRIOR BOARD APPROVAL...MINIMUM OF ONE HOUR

PATROL WITH OPERATOR.....\$210.00 PER HOUR

WHEEL LOADER WITH OPERATOR..... \$210.00 PER HOUR

JOHN DEERE TRACTOR WITH OPERATOR..... \$130.00 PER HOUR

(WITH THE EXCEPTION THAT IF HIRED FOR ANY GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIZED PROJECT, THE PRICE WOULD HAVE TO BE NEGOTIATED BEFORE STARTED.)

Motion made by Arensdorf and seconded by Bryant to adopt and approve **Resolution #2026-3** appointing Tom Werblow as **McPherson County Highway Superintendent**, with a total salary of \$9000.00, for the year 2026. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Bryant and Nason. Voting Nay: None.

Motion made by Nason seconded by Arensdorf to adopt and approve **Resolution #2026-4** designating the following **Depositories for McPherson County** in 2026. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. Adams Bank & Trust, First National Bank, Nebraskaland National Bank, Western Nebraska Bank of North Platte, Henderson State Bank, Stapleton, Nebraska, The Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust of Lincoln, Nebraska, Union Bank & Trust, Lincoln, Nebraska, Pinnacle Bank, Kearney, Nebraska, Hershey State Bank, North Platte, Nebraska and Premier Bank, Omaha, Nebraska.

Arensdorf moved to approve and adopt **Resolution #2026-5** giving the McPherson County Treasurer the **Authority to Invest Funds** for the year 2026. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Arensdorf moved to adopt and approve **Resolution #2026-6** appointing Whitney Schroeder as the **McPherson County Attorney** for the year 2026. The hourly wage being increased to \$15.00 per hour for 100 hours per pay period, plus expenses, with the same insurance benefits which are offered to all full-time McPherson County Employees. Seconded by Nason. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason made a motion to approve and adopt **Resolution # 2026-7** Setting the Official's Salaries for the 2027-2030 Term. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. The salary for the County Clerk Ex- Officio was established at \$61,189 for the calendar year 2027. The salary for the County Sheriff and County Treasurer was established at \$58,275 for the calendar year 2027.

The salary for the County Commissioners was established at \$9175 for the calendar year 2027.

For the years 2028, 2029, and 2030, a cost-of-living increase with a minimum of 2% or CPI-U plus 1% not to exceed 10% shall be added.

In addition to the salary, The County Clerk/Ex-Officio, County Sheriff, County Treasurer, and County Commissioners shall receive the same medical coverage as is offered to all full time (32 hours per week) county employees which is a full single, employee/ spouse **or** employee/children medical coverage **or** a monetary payment of \$1,000, at county expense, during his or her term of office.

Arensdorf moved to adopt and approve **Resolution #2026-8** Setting the salaries for the County Attorney and County Surveyor, should they be elected for the 2027-2030 Term.

The annual salary for the office of County Attorney was established at \$6,000 for the calendar years 2027, 2028, 2029 and 2030.

The annual salary for the office of County Surveyor was established at \$400.00 for the calendar years 2027, 2028, 2029 and 2030.

Nason moved to appoint Chris Burch as **Courthouse Custodian** – increasing the wage to \$15.00 per hour for 100 hours per pay period, with no insurance benefits offered. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason moved to keep the current members on the **Keith County 911 Advisory Board**: John Bryant and Brett Nason, Alternate. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Arensdorf made a motion to appoint Mike Krull, Kelly Ward and Vernon Waits to the **McPherson County Planning Commission** for a 3-Year term to expire in 2029, pending their acceptance. Nason seconded the motion. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason moved to appoint John Haller and Ed Black to the **Board of Adjustments** for a three-year term to expire in 2029, pending their acceptance. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. There is a vacancy for the Alternate position on this board which will be addressed in February.

Arensdorf made a motion to appoint Arlis Blake, Dan Arensdorf and Arlan Paxton to the **Fair Board** for a three-year term to expire in 2029, pending their acceptance. Nason seconded. Voting Aye: Arensdorf, Nason and Bryant. Voting Nay: None. There is a vacancy on this board which will be addressed at the February meeting.

Nason made a motion to appoint Jeff Arensdorf and Sheila Neal to the **Sandhills R C&D Board** for 2026, pending Sheila’s acceptance. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason moved to appoint Jeff Arensdorf to the **West Central District Health Department Board** as representative for 2026, with the alternate position to be addressed in February. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason made a motion to appoint John Bryant to the **Lexington Area Solid Waste Management Board** as representative for 2026, and Jeff Arensdorf as alternate for 2026. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason moved to remain as representative to the **West Central Area Aging Board, Region II Mental Health Board and West Central Board** for 2026. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason moved to appoint Jeff Arensdorf, representative and John Bryant alternate to the **West Central Development District Board** for 2026. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Nason made a motion to appoint Chelsey McNutt as the **Miller Park Caretaker**, increasing the wage to \$1420 per year. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

Motion by Nason, seconded by Bryant to approve the following appointments in one motion. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None:

County Physician – West Central District Health Department in compliance with §71-1626.

Collateral Receipts – Yes

Burial Fees - \$1500.00

Meeting Dates and Times for 2026 – 2nd Wednesday of each month at 9:00 AM

McPherson County Emergency Manager – Lawrence Stump at \$2000.00 per year

McPherson County Zoning Administrator – Kathy Hoberg at \$1800.00 per year

McPherson County Board of Equalization 2026 – Brett Nason, Chairman and Jeff Arensdorf, Vice-Chairman.

The commissioners reviewed and signed the Quarterly Fee Reports from the County Clerk and the County Sheriff.

Sheriff Stump addressed the board about a new program being discussed in the State of Nebraska for Advanced Life Support Services. The Sheriff will continue to update the board with information about this program as it becomes available.

The Sheriff presented the board with an estimate of costs for a Video Surveillance System from Applied Connective, including fees for hardware and managed security services. This would include surveillance cameras for the courthouse, fair building and dump site in Tryon. The estimate was prohibitive, and the county will continue to request estimates for a surveillance camera system. The board deemed it necessary to address the problem of continued dumping of prohibited items in the dumpsters.

Nason made a motion to approve the purchase of four (4) signs outlining prohibited items. Two signs will be placed at the Dumpster site located in Ringgold and two signs will be placed at the Fair Building dumpster site in Tryon. Arensdorf seconded. Voting Aye: Nason, Arensdorf and Bryant. Voting Nay: None.

There was discussion about obtaining a roll-off, giving citizens a place to dump prohibited items. The cost of a roll-off and fees for hauling the items to the landfill will be researched and this will be decided at the February meeting.

Due to the Veteran’s Day Holiday in 2026 (November 11, 2026), the November Commissioner’s meeting was re-scheduled for **Tuesday, November 10th at 1:00 PM.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM. The board will meet again for their next regular monthly meeting on February 11, 2026