

COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES

The Clay County Board of Supervisors met at the Courthouse, Clay Center, Nebraska on April 14, 2026 at 9:00 A.M., as per public notice given in the Clay County News on April 8, 2026 a copy of the proof of publication being on file in the County Clerk's Office. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice of the meeting. All of the proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Chairman L. Wayne Johnson stated that the open meeting law poster is posted on the west wall in the back of the room and presided with roll call showing the following present: Scott Bitterman, Eric Samuelson, Glen Becker, James Pavelka, Jesse Mohnike and L. Wayne Johnson; absent: Richard Shaw.

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the meeting held March 31, 2026 were provided to the board members prior to the meeting. Motion by Mohnike and seconded by Pavelka to approve the minutes of the meeting held March 31, 2026. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Julie Bergen, County Court Clerk Magistrate and Judge Burns, Clay County Court Judge were present to discuss the Public Defender position and the Bailiff program with the Board.

Michelle Oldham with Sullivan Shoemaker PC was present to discuss the Public Defender position and answer any questions the Board might have.

Thomas Roemmich II, Highway Superintendent provided a report on the roads and the mechanic's report for March.

Tom presented the following easement requests:

Motion by Samuelson and seconded by Bitterman to approve the easement request from Black Hills Nebraska Gas, LLC to bury a natural gas pipeline from the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of 29-8-8 crossing diagonally under Road 321 and Road C to the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of 21-8-8. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Bitterman and seconded by Samuelson to approve the easement request from Black Hills Nebraska Gas, LLC to bury a natural gas pipeline from the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of 16-8-8 crossing Road 322 to the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of 21-8-8. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Mohnike and seconded by Pavelka to approve the easement request from Black Hills Nebraska Gas, LLC to bury a natural gas pipeline from the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of 9-8-8 crossing Road 323 to the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of 16-8-8. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Becker and seconded by Mohnike to approve the easement request from Black Hills Nebraska Gas, LLC to bury a natural gas pipeline from the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of 4-8-8 crossing Road 324 to the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of 9-8-8. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Bitterman and seconded by Mohnike to approve the easement request from Neil Cloet to bury electrical line from the N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of 16-6-5 crossing County Road V to the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of 17-6-5 for irrigation purposes. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Haley Malone, Emergency Manager and Kreighton Baxter, Chief Deputy Sheriff presented an upgrade to the Emergency Services records system from Central Square. This will be added to next week's agenda for further review and discussion.

Chairman Johnson discussed the termination of the Interlocal Agreement with Hamilton County regarding the County Veteran Service Officer. Johnson has been having discussions with other Counties for options for Clay County.

The Fee Reports were presented to the Board. Motion by Becker and seconded by Bitterman to approve the fee reports for the following county officials for the month of March 2026: County Clerk \$12,788.17; County Court \$9,682.84; Clerk of District Court \$5,361.22; Sheriff's fees \$6,208.90; County Health Department \$1,610.00 and County Treasurer receipts numbered 26030001 through 26030100 in the amount of \$806,096.16. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Aksamit presented the Board with rate comparisons for the Choice Gas Program. Motion by Samuelson and second by Pavelka to approve the enrollment with Constellation Energy for all Clay County accounts for the Choice Gas Program for 2 years at \$0.733 per therm. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Pavelka and seconded by Mohnike to adjourn this meeting at 11:04 a.m.; next regular meeting scheduled for April 21, 2026. Upon roll call, the vote was as follows: Aye: Bitterman, Samuelson, Becker, Pavelka, Mohnike and Johnson; Nay: None. Motion carried.

Cassie Aksamit, County Clerk

L. Wayne Johnson, Chairman