

Sioux County Board of Commissioners

Harrison, Nebraska

September 1, 2026

The Sioux County Board of Commissioners met at the Sioux County Courthouse meeting room September 1, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. with the following present: Commissioners J.W. Geiser and Hal Downer. Also present was County Clerk Michelle Zimmerman. Josh Skavdahl entered the meeting at 10:35 a.m. The pledge of allegiance was recited. J.W. Geiser opened the meeting in prayer. Reference was made to the Open Meeting Laws posted in the meeting room. Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2026 meeting. On roll call vote Downer, yes, Geiser, yes. Motion carried. Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to approve the agenda. On roll call vote, Downer yes, Geiser, yes. Motion carried. The board met with elected and appointed officials.

The following claims were submitted and approved for payment:

AMANDA LASHLEY	-29.00
AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP	3,858.41
ANNE HOSTETTER	-82.32
AT&T	106.18
AT&T MOBILITY	495.34
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	14,884.38
BROCK ORTNER	155.04
BYTES COMPUTER SOLUTIONS	4,657.39
CENTURYLINK	644.19
CHAD MCCUMBERS	598.87
CRAWFORD CLIPPER/HARRISON SUN	421.63
CRITES & SHAFFER LAW OFFICE	6,508.96
DAS STATE ACCOUNTING-CENTRAL FINANC	582.00
DONALD ALLEN BRUSH	4,818.75
DOUGLAS, KELLY, OSTDIEK, ET. AL.	90.00
EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	407.32
FIRST CONCORD BENEFITS GROUP, LLC	3,150.93
HERREN BROTHER'S TRUE VALUE	74.99
HULLINGER GLASS & LOCKS, INC	225.00
IRENE RICHEY	19.00
JOHNSON CAMPBELL	-71.94
LACY KLEIN	106.40
LIFE FIRST LEARNING	225.00
LOTTON'S SERVICE & REPAIR	62.50
MADISON NATIONAL LIFE INS CO, INC	16.07
MATTHEW PARKER	350.00

MICHELLE J. ZIMMERMAN	573.80
MIPS INC.	2,705.21
MOBIUS COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY	140.00
NACO	55.00
NE LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER	-200.00
NEBRASKA STATE TREASURER	183.26
NIOBRARA ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION	649.20
PINE RIDGE SERVICE CENTER	1,763.74
QUADIENT FINANCE USA, INC	500.00
QUILL CORPORATION	451.30
REGION I BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AUTHORIT	5,865.00
SANTANDER BANK, N.A.	8,393.00
SCOTTSBLUFF CO DETENTION CENTER	4,070.00
SECURITY FIRST BANK	4,432.69
SECURITY FIRST BANK - CHADRON	254.44
SIOUX COUNTY COURT	17.00
SKAVDAHL, EDMUND & STECHER	752.40
SMITH, KING & SIMMONS, P.C.	70.00
TRANSFER TO ROAD & BRIDGE FUND	55,000.00
TRANSUNION RISK & ALTERNATIVE	120.00
U-SAVE MART	552.70
VILLAGE OF HARRISON	1,584.20
WINDBREAK CABLE	106.83
AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP	2,634.65
BEEF STATE AGENCY	1,288.00
BEGUIN PROPANE	751.58
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	17,348.53
CENTURYLINK	84.79
DEBRA MACK	-600.00
DOOLEY OIL, INC.	510.98
FRANK PARTS CO	47.89
HERREN BROTHER'S TRUE VALUE	445.72
INLAND TRUCK PARTS AND SERVICE	245.81
iWorQ Systems, Inc	5,400.00
MADISON NATIONAL LIFE INS CO, INC	8.35
Menards - Scottsbluff	46.99
MORRILL HARDWARE	2,070.00
NEBRASKA MACHINERY CO.	5,346.01
NEBRASKA STATE TREASURER	600.00
NIOBRARA ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION	92.84
PINE RIDGE SERVICE CENTER	12,453.85
POMP'S TIRE & RETREADING, INC	1,089.79
POWERPLAN	29.40

SANDBERG IMPLEMENT, INC	799.00
SECURITY FIRST BANK	2,767.75
SKEETER'S NAPA	1,361.21
SMS POWERTRAIN & HARDWARE LLC	1,394.65
T.D.S. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES	35.00
U-SAVE MART	256.97
VILLAGE OF HARRISON	111.25
VILLAGE OF MORRILL	103.03
CRAWFORD CLIPPER/HARRISON SUN	19.92
AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP	111.10
BOOKS-A-MILLION	231.78
MCCARTY'S MAGIC CARPET CLEANING	289.00
NIOBRARA ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION	104.24
NT&T	87.55
SECURITY FIRST BANK	125.91
VIAERO WIRELESS	122.27
VILLAGE OF HARRISON	110.25
WINDBREAK CABLE	59.95
AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP	60.65
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	335.55
CENTURYLINK	84.80
HERREN BROTHER'S TRUE VALUE	20.39
SECURITY FIRST BANK	59.37
WEST NEBRASKA SEED & CHEMICAL, LLC	95.00
AFLAC	1,566.46
AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP	4,559.24
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	8,142.09
MADISON NATIONAL LIFE INS CO, INC	118.50
MASA GLOBAL	225.00
NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	2,753.12
SECURITY FIRST BANK	12,648.84
SIOUX COUNTY INSURANCE TRUST FUND	200.00
VISION SERVICE PLAN (IC)	327.65

Jake Stewart met with the board and advised them of a tire amnesty program, and SWANN's Ready to Serve program.

Kevin Grote met with the board with concerns regarding SWANN. Grote asked for equal access to representation on the SWANN board. Larry Wickersham asked for common sense and keeping it as practical as they can.

Austin Paxson, Project Manager from NextEra Energy met with the board and updated them on the progress of the wind project.

Michelle Zimmerman, Sioux County Clerk, submitted financial reports to the board. Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to approve a contract submitted by Contryman and Associates to perform the county's audit for 2027-2029. On roll call vote, Downer yes; Geiser, yes. Motion carried.

Inventories for the various county offices were presented to the commissioners for their approval. Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to approve the inventories as presented. On roll call vote, Geiser, yes; Downer, yes. Motion carried.

October 1, 2026 was set for protest hearings.

Lacy Klein, County Treasurer, submitted financial reports to the Board.

Sheriff McCumbers provided a fee summary and updated the board on recent activities.

Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to approve Resolution 2026-6, a resolution to put a 12-month moratorium on development of battery energy storage systems, cryptocurrency-mining operations, data centers, artificial-intelligence facilities, carbon dioxide capture, transport and sequestration facilities, and other utility-scale or specialized technology facilities. On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Geiser, yes. Motion carried. The full resolution can be viewed at the Sioux County Clerk's office.

Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to approve a Special Designated Liquor License for Diamond Jacks Corner Bar for September 26, 2006. On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.

Road/Weed Superintendent Eric McCoy requested the hiring of an interim office administrative assistant. Motion made by Downer, seconded by Geiser to approve running an ad for the position. On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to approve the following resolutions:

Resolution of Sympathy #2026-7 was read. The resolution states:

Resolution of Sympathy

WHEREAS, Sioux County lost a valued lifetime member of the County with the passing of Donald Mack;
and,

WHEREAS, the honorable Mr. Mack served the county for over 30 years selflessly; and,

WHEREAS, the honorable Mr. Mack was a man of high character, conviction and principles, let it be known that his contributions to county, community and family are deeply appreciated,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE Sioux County Board of Commissioners honor the passing of the honorable Donald Mack with this heartfelt resolution of sympathy for a dedicated husband, father, grandfather, mentor and friend.

On this 1st day of September, 2026.

May God bless and protect the United States of America and Sioux County, Nebraska.

Sioux County Board of Commissioners: Joshua T. Skavdahl, Allerton H. Downer and John W. Geiser, III.

Motion made by Geiser seconded by Downer to pass resolution #2026-7. On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.

Resolution of Sympathy #2026-8 was read. The resolution states:

Resolution of Sympathy

WHEREAS, Sioux County lost a valued lifetime member of the County with the passing of Nick Sanderson; and,

WHEREAS, the honorable Mr. Sanderson served the county for over 20 years selflessly; and,

WHEREAS, the honorable Mr. Sanderson was a man of high character, conviction and principles, let it be known that his contributions to county, community and family are deeply appreciated,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE Sioux County Board of Commissioners honor the passing of the honorable Nick Sanderson with this heartfelt resolution of sympathy for a dedicated husband, father, grandfather, mentor and friend.

On this 1st day of September, 2026.

May God bless and protect the United States of America and Sioux County, Nebraska.

Sioux County Board of Commissioners: Joshua T. Skavdahl, Allerton H. Downer and John W. Geiser, III.

Motion made by Geiser seconded by Downer to pass resolution #2026-8. On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.

The Sioux County Board of Commissioners met for a public budget and tax request hearing at the Sioux County Courthouse meeting room on September 1, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. with the following present: Commissioners Josh Skavdahl, J. W. Geiser and Hal Downer. County Clerk Michelle Zimmerman was also present.

A "Notice of Budget Hearing and Budget Summary" and "Notice of Special Hearing to Set Final Tax Request" for the 2026-2027 Sioux County Budget was printed in the Crawford Clipper/Harrison Sun on August 26, 2026, and was also posted in the Sioux County Courthouse.

There was no one from the public wishing to speak at the public hearing. The public hearing was closed and the board reconvened into regular session at 1:13 p.m.

RESOLUTION OF ADOPTION AND APPROPRIATIONS

WHEREAS, a proposed County Budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, prepared by the Budget Making Authority, was transmitted to the County Board on the 1st day of September, 2026.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Sioux County, Nebraska, as follows:

SECTION 1: That the budget for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, as categorically evidenced by the Budget Document be, and the same hereby is, adopted as the Budget for Sioux County for said fiscal year.

SECTION 2: That the offices, departments, activities and institutions herein named are hereby authorized to expend the amounts herein appropriated to them during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027.

SECTION 3: That the income necessary to finance the appropriations made and the expenditures authorized shall be provided out of the unencumbered cash balance in each fund, revenues, other than taxation, to be collected during the fiscal year in each fund, and tax levy requirements for each fund.

Motion made by Hal Downer to approve the 2026-2027 budget, seconded by J.W. Geiser. On roll call vote: Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.

Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to approve Resolution 2026-5, a resolution stating the Property Tax Request for the 2026-2027 Sioux County Budget be set at \$1,713,404.89, resulting in a proposed tax rate of .188271. On roll call vote, Geiser, yes; Downer, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried. A copy of the resolution is available to the public at the Sioux County Clerk's Office.

Kerri Remmp, representing the travel board requested Rick Arnold and Brenda Chase to be reappointed to the Travel Board and Dash Rohan to be added to the board. Motion made by Geiser, seconded by Downer to approve the appointments of the three members. On roll call vote, Downer, yes; Geiser, yes; Skavdahl, yes. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m. The Sioux County Board of Commissioners will meet October 1, 2026.

Notice: Recently posted minutes may be subject to final approval and correction by the Board of Equalization and Board of Commissioners.

/s/Josh Skavdahl
Chairman of the Board

/s/Michelle J. Zimmerman
Sioux County Clerk