

Hayes County Board of Commissioners
February 27, 2026

A meeting of the Hayes County Board of Commissioners was scheduled for February 27, 2026, at 8:30 A.M. in the Hayes County Courthouse, 505 Troth Street, Hayes Center, Nebraska. Advanced notice of the meeting, time and place was given to each Commissioner, was published in the *McCook Gazette* on February 12, 2026, and posted in accordance with law.

Chairman Christner called the meeting to order at 8:35 A.M. The Open Meetings Act was available for review and Chair indicated location of such copy in the room where the meeting was being held. All proceedings shown hereafter were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Those present were board members Wayne Christner, Kevin Fornoff and Barry Richards; Susan Messersmith, County Clerk; D Eugene Garner, County Attorney; and Lance Harter, Highway Superintendent. Visitor was Connie Brott.

Fornoff moved, second by Richards to approve the agenda. Discussion held. Roll call: Richards, yes; Christner, yes; Fornoff, yes. Motion carried.

Chairman Christner requested comments from the audience. There were none.

Fornoff moved, second by Christner to approve payroll, excluding Road & Bridge employees #35, #93 and #13, for \$82,295.87. Discussion held. Roll call: Christner, yes; Fornoff, yes; Richards, yes. Motion carried.

Richards moved, second by Christner to approve road and bridge employee #93 payroll for \$2,872.81. Discussion held. Roll call: Fornoff, abstain; Richards, yes; Christner, yes. Motion carried.

Fornoff moved, second by Richards to approve road and bridge employee #13 payroll for \$214.39. Discussion held. Roll call: Richards, yes; Christner, abstain; Fornoff, yes. Motion carried.

Fornoff moved, second by Christner to approve road and bridge employee #35 payroll for \$1,852.46. Discussion held. Roll call: Christner, yes; Fornoff, yes; Richards, abstain. Motion carried.

Lance Harter, Highway Superintendent, joined the meeting.

Chairman Christner recessed Regular Meeting at 9:51 A.M. for the One & Six-Year Road Hearing.

Chairman Christner opened the One & Six-Year Road Hearing at 9:51 A.M. Advanced notice of the Hearing, time and place was given to each Commissioner, was published in the *McCook Gazette* on February 12, 2026, and posted in accordance with law. Those present were board members: Wayne Christner, Barry Richards, and Kevin Fornoff; Susan Messersmith, County Clerk; D. Eugene Garner, County Attorney and Lance Harter, Highway Superintendent.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony regarding the proposed One & Six-Year Road Plan. No comments were received. Discussion with the Board included review of completed road projects and the addition of new road projects. Removal of Structure C004304710 has been completed and replacement tubes have been installed. Future bridge projects and available funding were discussed.

Chairman Christner adjourned the hearing and returned to the Regular Meeting at 10:53 A.M.

Fornoff moved, second by Richards to adopt Resolution 2026-09, Resolution of Adoption/Proof of Posting for One and Six-Year Road Improvement Plan. Discussion held. Roll call: Fornoff, yes; Richards, yes; Christner, yes; Motion carried.

Fornoff moved, second by Richards to approve the Lake Mac Assessment, LLC contract for appraisal services for \$1,200.00. Discussion held. Roll call: Richards, yes; Christner, yes; Fornoff, yes. Motion carried.

Christner moved, second by Fornoff to approve Application 2026-01 to Occupy Road Right-of-Way, from Great Plains Communication, for installation of a fiber optic cable at mapped sites in T-5 & 6N in R-33, 34 & 35W. Discussion held. Roll call: Christner, yes; Fornoff, yes; Richards, no. Motion carried.

Connie Brott joined the meeting to discuss the Black Tailed Prairie Dog Management Act. The Commissioners will review the information and discuss at the March 10, 2026 meeting.

Christner moved, second by Fornoff to adjourn the meeting. There being no further discussion. Roll call: Fornoff, yes; Richards, yes; Christner, yes. Motion carried.

Chairman Christner adjourned the meeting at 11:40 A.M.

The next meeting will be March 10, 2026 at 1:00 P.M.

Hayes County Clerk

Board Chairman