

Hayes County Board of Commissioners
April 30, 2026

A meeting of the Hayes County Board of Commissioners was scheduled for April 30, 2026, at 8:45 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 April 23, 2026, and posted in accordance with law.

Chairman Christner called the meeting to order at 8:48 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 Michael Andrew.

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 Richards to approve payroll excluding Road & Bridge employees #35, #93 and #13, for \$86,402.77. Discussion held. Roll call: Christner, yes; Fornoff, yes; Richards, yes. Motion carried.

Fornoff moved, second by Richards to approve road and bridge employee #13 payroll for \$1,158.69. Discussion held. Roll call: Fornoff, yes; Richards, yes; Christner, abstain. Motion carried.

Christner moved, second by Richards to approve road and bridge employee #93 payroll for \$2,843.99. Discussion held. Roll call: Richards, yes; Christner, yes; Fornoff, abstain. Motion carried.

Fornoff moved, second by Christner to approve road and bridge employee #35 payroll for \$2,225.89. Discussion held. Roll call: Christner, yes; Fornoff, yes; Richards, abstain. Motion carried.

The commissioners revisited the installation of Great Plains fiber optics cable on county roads. Topics were impact to county infrastructure and compensation received by adjoining counties for similar use. Further research will be conducted. The commissioners also discussed the Prairie Dog Management Act including potential enforcement costs, oversight responsibility and county liability consideration. No action was taken at this time

Fornoff moved, second by Christner to approve the employee memo concerning county gas/diesel use in personal vehicles. Discussion held. Roll call: Fornoff, yes; Richards, yes; Christner, yes. Motion carried.

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

Chairman Christner adjourned the meeting at 11:06 A.M.

The next meeting will be May 12, 2026 at 1:00 P.M.

Hayes County Clerk

Board Chairman