

Hayes County Commissioners
June 9, 2026

A meeting of the Hayes County Board of Commissioners was scheduled for June 9, 2026, at 1:00 P.M. in the Hayes County Courthouse, 505 Troth Street, Hayes Center, Nebraska. Advanced notice of the meeting, including the time and place was given to each Commissioner, published in the *McCook Gazette* on June 4, 2026, and posted in accordance with law.

Chairman Christner called the meeting to order at 1:03 P.M. A current copy of the Open Meetings Act was available for review and was posted 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; and D. Eugene Garner, County Attorney. Visitors were Val Jansante and Kaye T. Bieck.

Fornoff moved, seconded 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, seconded by Richards to approve the consent agenda consisting of the financial reports of the Clerk, Clerk of the District Court, Imprest Account and the minutes of May 12 & 29, 2026 meetings. Discussion held. Roll call: Christner, yes; Fornoff, yes; Richards, yes. Motion carried.

Val Jansante, Community Liaison for Representative Adrian Smith, highlighted Mr. Smith's current efforts in Washington D.C. and took comments, questions and concerns regarding current political happenings.

Kaye T. Bieck, Family Resource Center, provided the agency's annual update summarizing the services provided by FRC, and reviewing the Income/Expenses of FRC for the 2025-26 budget year.

Fornoff moved, seconded by Richards to approve the Treasurer's Report. Discussion held. Roll call: Fornoff, yes; Richards, yes; Christner, yes. Motion carried.

Fornoff moved, seconded by Christner to retain the existing NIRMA insurance coverage for the county with no changes, including maintaining the current deductible levels. Discussion held. Roll call: Richards, yes; Christner, yes; Fornoff, yes. Motion carried.

Alec McKillip, Deputy Sheriff, joined the meeting via telephone to inform the commissioners that a speed study will be conducted on Highway 25 at the west side of Hayes Center.

Christner moved, seconded by Fornoff to approve claims, excluding claims 2606046 and 2606059, for \$73,649.20. Discussion held. Roll call: Christner, yes; Fornoff, yes; Richards, yes. Motion carried.

Fornoff moved, seconded by Christner to approve claim 2606059 for \$10,306.30. Discussion held. Roll call: Fornoff, yes; Richards, abstain; Christner, yes. Motion carried.

Christner moved, seconded by Richards to approve claim 2606046 for \$100.05. Discussion held. Roll call: Richards, yes; Christner, yes; Fornoff, abstain. Motion carried.

Richards moved, seconded by Fornoff, to approve application 2026-03 to occupy the Hayes County Road Right-of-Way submitted by Great Plains Communications, conditioned upon receipt of \$3,000.00 for the fee to occupy county road right-of-way pursuant to the fee structure adopted May 29, 2026. Upon receipt of said fee, the Chairman is authorized to sign the application. Discussion held. Roll call: Christner, yes; Fornoff, yes; Richards, yes. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the bridge closure recommendations received from the highway superintendent regarding Structure No.(s) C004300305P and C004302515P.

Fornoff moved, seconded by Richards 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 4:45 P.M.

The next meeting will be on June 30, 2026, at 8:30 AM.

Hayes County Clerk

Board Chairman