

Hayes County Commissioners
July 14, 2026

A meeting of the Hayes County Board of Commissioners was scheduled for July 14, 2026, at 1:45 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 July 7, 2026, and posted in accordance with law.

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.

Chairman Christner called the meeting to order at 1:45 P.M. Those present were board members: Wayne Christner, Kevin Fornoff and Barry Richards; Susan Messersmith, County Clerk; and D. Eugene Garner, County Attorney; Alec McKillip, Deputy Sheriff. Visitors were Matt Bright, and Ed Lawson.

Christner 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 June 9 & 30, 2026 meetings. Discussion held. Roll call: Christner, yes; Fornoff, yes; Richards, yes. Motion carried.

Matt Bright, representing TurnKey and Summit Carbon Solutions, provided information to the Board regarding a proposed carbon sequestration pipeline project. The project is in the preliminary planning stages and would be designed to capture carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions and transport it through a multi-state pipeline system from Iowa to Wyoming. The current proposed route would pass through portions of Hayes County. The Board received the information and discussed the proposed project and its potential impact on the county.

Alec McKillip, Deputy Sheriff, joined the meeting to discuss the county budget timeline.

Richards moved, seconded by Fornoff to purchase two 40-foot tubes from Frontier County at the cost of \$16,270.40. Discussion held. Roll call: Fornoff, yes; Richards, yes; Christner, yes. Motion carried.

Christner moved, seconded by Fornoff to approve claims in the amount of \$34,652.76, excluding claim 2607033. Discussion held. Roll call: Richards, yes; Christner, yes; Fornoff, yes. Motion carried.

Christner moved, seconded by Fornoff to approve claim 2607033 for \$28,200.26. Discussion held. Roll call: Christner, yes; Fornoff, yes; Richards, abstain. Motion carried.

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

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

Christner moved, seconded by Fornoff, to approve the SDL Local recommendation, Liquor License 123114, for Just 1 More Bar & Grill, serving at the Ag building located at 209 Morton Street, Hayes Center, NE on August 8, 2026. Discussion held. Roll call: Christner, yes; Fornoff, yes; Richards, yes. Motion carried.

Richards moved, seconded 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 4:38 P.M.

The next meeting will be on July 29, 2026, at 8:30 AM.

Hayes County Clerk

Board Chairman