

Deuel County Commissioner Meeting
January 6, 2026

The Deuel County Commissioners met on the above date with the following present: Chairperson Jim Reichman, Commissioner William Klingman, County Treasurer Alicia Adams, County Assessor Michele Bartlett, Sheriff's office administrator Leslie Snell, Sheriff Scott DeCoste, Sheriff Deputy Jim McCormick, Roads Superintendent Kelly Kopetsky, Assistant Hwy Superintendent Kristian Fusilier, Hwy Superintendent Anthony Krajewski, and County Clerk Tammy Sherman. A motion was made by Commissioner Klingman, seconded by Commissioner Reichman for an excused absence for Commissioner Timm. Reichman, aye, Klingman, aye, Timm, absent. The meeting, notice of which was published in the Chappell Register according to law, was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silence. Reference was made to open meeting laws, posted at the entrance of the room. A motion was made by Commissioner Reichman, seconded by Commissioner Klingman to approve the consent agenda; approve agenda for January 6, 2026, minutes for December 16, 2025, meeting and minutes for the December 30, 2025, meeting. Timm, absent, Klingman, aye, Reichman, aye.

Public comment, none.

Re-organizational Meeting for January 6, 2026

The Deuel County Commissioners met on the above date for the business of re-organizing for 2026 with the following present: Chairperson Jim Reichman, Commissioner William Klingman, County Treasurer Alicia Adams, County Assessor Michele Bartlett, Sheriff's office administrator Leslie Snell, Sheriff Scott DeCoste, Sheriff Deputy Jim McCormick, Roads Superintendent Kelly Kopetsky, Assistant Hwy Superintendent Kristian Fusilier, Hwy Superintendent Anthony Krajewski and County Clerk Tammy Sherman. The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m.

The first order of business was the election of a chairperson. The County Clerk was instructed to accept a motion for the 2026 Chairperson. It was moved by Commissioner Klingman, second of Commissioner Reichman, that Jim Reichman be elected to serve as the 2026 Chairperson of the Board. Timm, absent, Klingman, aye, Reichman, aye.

Upon motion of Commissioner Reichman, second of Commissioner Klingman, the mileage rate to be reimbursed to Deuel County Employees will be set at \$.725 cents a mile. *(Per Commissioner Minutes March 5, 2001, the rate will be the same as the one recommended by NE Department of Administrative Services; the rate has been set by DAS to .725 cents, effective 01/01/26.) Reichman, aye, Klingman, aye, Timm, absent.

Motion by Commissioner Klingman, seconded by Commissioner Reichman to set the 2026 per diem rate for Nebraska reimbursement rates for meals and incidentals, per US General Services Administration at \$16 for breakfast, \$19 for lunch, \$28 for dinner and \$5 for incidentals. Reichman, aye, Timm, absent, Klingman, aye.

Upon motion of Commissioner Klingman, second of Commissioner Reichman, that the Chappell Register and the Sidney Sun be designated as the Official Papers in and for Deuel County, and the Deuel County website www.deuelcountyne.gov, shall also be used for notifying the public of upcoming events and the minutes of record in and for Deuel County, Nebraska for the year 2026. Timm, absent, Reichman, aye, Klingman, aye.

Anthony Krajewski will be appointed as Deuel County Highway Supt. for calendar year 2026, upon motion of Commissioner Klingman, second of Commissioner Reichman. Reichman, aye, Klingman, aye, Timm, absent.

The motion was made by Commissioner Klingman, second of Commissioner Reichman, to approve contracted building and grounds maintenance with Jim Reichman in the amount of \$850.00 per month. Klingman, aye, Timm, absent, Reichman, aye.

Motion was made by Commissioner Reichman, second of Commissioner Klingman, to approve contracted janitorial services with Anna Collins with a base rate of \$625.00 per month. Klingman, aye, Timm, absent, Reichman, aye.

It was moved by Commissioner Klingman, second of Commissioner Reichman, that the following persons be reappointed to the Deuel County Fair Board for 2026 Zada Sauers, Ben Hansen, and Teri Doty. All persons are Deuel County residents and will be appointed members of the board for three years. Other members are Paul Payton, Cori Koehler, and Kegan Brott for 2027, Lesile Snell and Haley McGee for 2028; Jeff Ortgies and Clint Koenen, Amanda Mathis, Amanda Alexander 2029, filling the 12-member board. Klingman, aye, Reichman, aye, Timm, absent.

Upon motion of Commissioner Klingman, second of Commissioner Reichman, the Deuel County Lodging tax committee members Shaunna Mashek of Chappell and Kathy Peterson of Big Springs will be reappointed for 2026. Other members of the board are Randy Shaw of Big Springs, Rod Hanson of Chappell and Cindy Williams of Chappell whose terms expire in 2028. Reichman, aye, Timm, absent, Klingman, aye.

Upon motion of Commissioner Klingman, second of Commissioner Reichman, the following holidays were approved. Klingman, aye, Reichman, aye, Timm, absent.

WHEREAS certain holidays are designated by statute as legal holidays and are usually observed by County Officials, and it is deemed advisable that the dates of such holidays be a matter of public record of Deuel County, Nebraska. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the date and description of such legal holidays to be observed by the Deuel County Courthouse employees for 2026 and shall be:

Martin Luther King Day	Monday	January 19, 2026
------------------------	--------	------------------

President’s Day	Monday	February 16, 2026
Arbor Day	Friday	April 24, 2026
Memorial Day	Monday	May 25, 2026
Juneteenth Day	Friday	June 19, 2026
Independence Day	Friday	July 3, 2026 (Federal observance)
Labor Day	Monday	September 7, 2026
Columbus Day	Monday	October 12, 2026
Veteran’s Day	Wednesday	November 11, 2026
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday	November 26, 2026
Day After Thanksgiving Day	Friday	November 27, 2026
Christmas Eve	Thursday	December 24, 2026
Christmas Day	Friday	December 25, 2026
New Year’s Day	Friday	January 1, 2027

*And all days declared by law or proclamation of the Governor to be a holiday According to Neb. Rev. Stat. §84-1001 (3), "For purposes of this Section, paid holidays shall include all of the days enumerated in Section 25-2221 and all days declared by law or proclamation of the President or Governor to be holidays." Exceptions may include law enforcement, security, military, and employees engaged in other essential functions, such as 24-hour facilities. *If such holiday falls on a Saturday, the preceding Friday will be a holiday, and such day will be declared a holiday. If such holiday falls on a Sunday, the following Monday will be a holiday as designated in the Deuel County Personnel Policy.

The Elected Officials will receive the following salaried amounts for the year 2026 as per Resolution 2022-2 approved January 4, 2022, per Nebraska statute. County Commissioner \$21,500.00; Chairperson \$22,000.00; County Assessor \$55,000.00; County Clerk \$55,000.00; County Treasurer \$55,000.00; County Attorney \$55,000; County Sheriff \$62,650.00.

A motion by Commissioner Reichman, seconded by Commissioner Klingman to approve Resolution 2026-2; Additional compensation for the Deuel County Sheriff for serving as the 911 Coordinator (\$9,600 annually) and additional compensation for the Deuel County Assessor for serving as the Planning & Zoning Administrator (\$14,400 annually). Reichman, aye, Klingman aye, Timm, absent.

A motion by Commissioner Klingman, second of Commissioner Reichman, Justin Julius, to be reappointed to the County Planning Committee to serve a 3-year term and to meet as required. All building permits will be approved by the committee and advanced to the County Board for formal approval. Other members of the planning committee are Larry McCroden, and Gary Freeman for 2027, Jason Cheleen for 2028 and Cameron Christensen for 2029. Reichman, aye, Klingman, aye, Timm, absent.

A motion by Commissioner Klingman, second of Commissioner Reichman, William Gray, is appointed to the Advisory Council of Aging Office. Reichman, aye, Klingman, aye, Timm, absent.

A motion by Commissioner Reichman, second of Commissioner Klingman, that the Deuel County Board of Commissioners be appointed to the following boards: aye Reichman, aye, Klingman, Timm, absent.

Region 1 Office of Human Development District – Jean Timm with alternate – William Klingman
Region 1 Behavioral Health Authority – William Klingman
Panhandle Developmental Disability Service – William Klingman (meets annually)
Aging Office of Western Nebraska - -William Klingman
Panhandle Resources Council (RC&D) – Jean Timm
Panhandle Area Development District (P.A.D.D.) – Jean Timm
Panhandle Health Department – Jim Reichman
Region 21 Emergency Management Representative – Jim Reichman
South Platte NRD – Jim Reichman
Lodging Tax Committee – Jim Reichman
Extension Board Representative – William Klingman
Fair Board Liaison- Jean Timm

A motion by Commissioner Reichman, second of Commissioner Klingman, to appoint to the Non-Commissioner Panhandle Public Health District- Alternate Member Judy Soper, as “spirited citizen.” Klingman, aye, Reichman, aye, Timm, absent.

Upon motion of Commissioner Klingman, second of Commissioner Reichman, Phil Pierce is appointed to serve as deputy county attorney. Reichman, aye, Timm, absent, Klingman, aye.

Upon motion of Commissioner Reichman, second Commissioner Klingman, Larry McCroden and Jim Peterman are re-appointed to the Veterans’ Service Board. Other members of the Veterans’ Service Board are Terry Livengood and Ron Bayne 2028, Jerod Elms 2029. Timm, absent, Reichman, aye, Klingman, aye.

Commissioner Reichman made motion, second of Commissioner Klingman, to table the appointment of Patricia Nelson as the Veteran’s Service Officer for Deuel County, 2026 until the next meeting. Timm, absent, Klingman, aye, Reichman, aye.

It was moved by Commissioner Klingman, second of Commissioner Reichman, that the following individuals are appointed to the Deuel County Safety Committee for 2026, which meets every quarter, Reichman, aye, Timm, absent, Klingman, aye.

Alicia Adams - Chair

Scott DeCoste

Jean Timm

Kelly Kopetzky

Leslie Snell

Jonathon Stellar

A motion by Commissioner Reichman, second of Commissioner Klingman, that the Deuel County Treasurer be given authority to invest surplus County funds and the following Resolution 2026 - 1 be adopted: Klingman aye, Reichman aye, Timm absent.

- Resolution 2026-1: Deuel County Treasurer be given authority to invest surplus County funds: WHEREAS the application for designation as County Depository by Points West Community Bank be approved and the following securities be approved.

POINTS WEST COMMUNITY BANK
PLEDGES—12/31/2025

CUSIP	ORIGINAL FACE VALUE	MARKET VALUE 12/31/2025	SAFEKEEPING LOCATION
3128MDEX7	\$1,450,000.00	\$2,135.31	Bankers Bank of the West
3138E2L94	\$2,450,000.00	\$16,648.12	Bankers Bank of the West
487571HH7	\$290,000.00	\$267,048.10	Bankers Bank of the West
486800DV4	\$200,000.00	\$199,998.00	Bankers Bank of the West
486800DW2	\$330,000.00	\$329,455.50	Bankers Bank of the West
487571JA0	\$200,000.00	\$179,992.00	Bankers Bank of the West
3128MMTA1	\$1,100,000.00	\$77,320.73	Bankers Bank of the West
3138EQPF3	\$1,275,000.00	\$104,094.57	Bankers Bank of the West
96254LLH5	\$190,000.00	\$165,871.90	Bankers Bank of the West
3140J8GD9	\$425,000.00	\$50,184.79	Bankers Bank of the West
3140LGX98	\$1,040,000.00	\$979,343.37	Bankers Bank of the West
3140J9DN8	\$1,250,000.00	\$143,728.87	Bankers Bank of the West
38379WXJ6	\$1,000,000.00	\$58,409.64	Bankers Bank of the West
36225EZA3	\$600,000.00	\$16,610.50	Bankers Bank of the West
3137FQMZ3	\$1,000,000.00	\$346,521.24	Bankers Bank of the West
3140FXPS	\$1,925,000.00	\$764,090.96	Bankers Bank of the West
Totals	\$14,175,000.00	\$3,710,453.60	

AND ALSO, WHEREAS the application for designation as County Depository by Henderson State Bank Db a Community First Bank be approved. AND ALSO, WHEREAS the application for designation as County Depository by Nebraska First Investment Trust, Union Bank of Lincoln, be approved. NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Deuel County will continue the Inter-Local Agreement with the Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust as per contract of September 3, 1996.

There being no further business, the 2026 Re-organizational meeting of Deuel County ended at 8:52 a.m.

No business for the Board of Equalization.

The Deuel County Court fee report for December was presented for review and filing. The fee totals \$14,150.70. The Deuel County Clerk’s office monthly report for December was presented for review and filing. The fee totals \$2,177.47. The Deuel County Tourism report for December was also presented for review and filing.

A motion by Commissioner Klingman, seconded by Commissioner Reichman to approve the signing of the contract with Marvin Planning Consultants for the update of the Deuel County Comprehensive Plan & Zoning Regulations. Reichman, aye, Timm, absent, Klingman, aye.

A motion by Commissioner Klingman, seconded by Commissioner Reichman to approve the request by the Deuel County Fair Board to apply for grants with the Thomas Buckly Trust and the Virginia Smith Trust for 2026 fair expenses. Timm, absent, Reichman, aye, Klingman, aye.

Krajewski, Fusilier and Kopetsky reported on the operations of the highway department. The mowing is almost complete.

Sheriff DeCoste reported for his office.

The following was read in open session; DEUEL COUNTY RESOLUTION 2026-3: WHEREAS, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 23-1114 Reissue 2012, the salaries of the County elected officials are to be established by the County Board prior to January 15th of the year in which a general election is to be held for the respective offices; and, WHEREAS a general election will be held in 2026 for the offices of Assessor, Attorney, Clerk, Commissioner, Sheriff, Surveyor, and Treasurer; and, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Board of Deuel County, Nebraska, the annual salary for the office of County Clerk, County Assessor and County Treasurer for the next elected term, shall be established at \$64,000 for calendar year 2027. That for each year thereafter, a \$2,000.00 cost-of-living increase shall be added to the previous year’s salary so the total amount paid for calendar year 2028 shall be \$66,000.00, for calendar year 2029 shall be \$68,000.00, and for calendar year 2030 shall be \$70,000.00. Further, in addition to the above salary, the County Clerk, County Treasurer and County Assessor shall receive during his or her term of office the health insurance coverage offered to all County employees at County expense. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the County Board of Deuel County, Nebraska, the annual salary for the office of County Commissioner for the next elected term shall be established at \$24,160.00 for calendar year 2027. That for each year thereafter, a \$1,000.00 cost-of-living increase shall be added to the previous year’s salary so the total amount paid for calendar year 2028 shall be \$25,160.00 for calendar year 2029 shall be \$26,160.00, and for calendar year 2030 shall be 27,160.00. Further, in addition to the above salary, the County Commissioner shall receive during his or her term of office the health insurance coverage offered to all County employees at County expense. The Chairperson will also receive an additional \$500.00 annually during the year serving as chairperson. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the County Board of Deuel County, Nebraska, the annual salary for the office of County Sheriff for the next elected term shall be established at \$83,200.00 for calendar year 2027. That for each year thereafter, a \$2,000.00 cost-of-living increase shall be added to the previous year’s salary so the total amount paid for calendar year 2028 shall be \$85,200.00, for calendar year 2029 shall be \$87,200.00, and for calendar year 2030 shall be \$89,200.00. Further, in addition to the above salary, the County Sheriff shall receive during his or her term of office the health insurance coverage offered to all County employees at County expense. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the County Board of Deuel County, Nebraska, the annual salary for the office of County Attorney for the next elected term shall be established at \$75,000.00 for calendar year 2027. That for each year thereafter, a \$2,000.00 cost-of-living increase shall be added to the previous year’s salary so the total amount paid for calendar year 2028 shall be \$77,000.00, for calendar year 2029 shall be \$79,000.00, and for calendar year 2030 shall be \$81,000.00. Further, in addition to the above salary, the County Attorney shall receive during his or her term of office the health insurance coverage offered to all County employees at County expense. A motion was made by Commissioner Klingman, seconded by Commissioner Reichman to approve Resolution 2026-3 as read. Reichman, aye, Timm, absent, Klingman, aye.

Warrants in the amount of \$147,746.24 were read and approved upon motion of Commissioner Klingman, second of Commissioner Reichman, (Payroll \$50,075.14 Claims \$97,671.10); Reichman, aye, Timm, absent, Klingman, aye.

GENERAL		
PAYROLL		36119.65
AMERICAN FAMILY ASSUR	PAYROLL DEDUCT	200.98
ALICIA ADAMS	MILEAGE	243.60
ALL STAR AUTO GLASS	WINDSHIELD	475.00
ANNA COLLINS	SERVICES	625.00
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	UTILITIES	685.13
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	HEALTH INS	16829.02
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	PAYROLL DEDUCT	624.94
BLUE360 MEDIA	SERVICES	105.95
BOONDOCK DESIGNS	UNIFORMS	75.00
C-WEED MANAGEMENT	SERVICES	3283.35
CENTURY LINK	TELEPHONE	63.21
CENTURY LINK COMM	TELEPHONE	22.69
CHAPPELL MUNICIPAL	UTILITIES	657.27
CHAPPELL REGISTER	PRINTING	428.31
COMFORT INN	LODGING/CONV	249.90
CRANMORE PEST CONTROL	SERVICES	50.00
CROSSROADS COOPERATIVE	SERVICES	398.00
DANA WEBER, CPA	AUDIT	8973.45
DAS MATERIAL	SERVICES	250.00
DATASHIELD CORP	SERVICES	66.22
EAKES	OFFICE SUPPLIES	1375.81
FIRST CONCORD	PAYROLL DEDUCT	100.00
GARDEN CO HOSPITAL	INMATE/MEDICAL	975.44

GARDEN CO SHERIFF	INMATE/MEDICAL	89.99
HAMILTON TELECOMM	TELEPHONE	29.00
HOMETOWN LEASING	COPIER	777.95
INTRALINKS	SERVICES	3744.78
JIM REICHMAN	SERV/TRNING/CELL	1167.40
JOAN HANSEN	REIMB/POSTAGE	10.48
MASA	TRANSPORT INS	500.00
MICHELE BARTLETT	MILEAGE/MEALS	451.55
MIPS	SERVICES	1594.05
NPPD	UTILITIES	47.57
NE LAW ENFORCEMENT	TRAINING	525.00
NE SHERIFF'S ASSOC	DUES	415.00
PRINCIPAL LIFE INS	PAYROLL DEDUCT	559.06
REGION 21 EMERGENCY	SERVICES	5856.00
ROBERT HARVOY	COURT APPT ATTRY	81.25
T.T.L. - STATE	PAYROLL DEDUCT	1641.67
T.T.L. - RETIREMENT	PAYROLL DEDUCT	2323.75
T.T.L. - RETIREMENT	COUNTY SHARE	4528.99
T&K TIRE	REPAIRS	551.89
T.T.L. - SOCIAL SECURITY	PAYROLL DEDUCT	3688.94
T.T.L. - SOCIAL SECURITY	COUNTY SHARE	5096.67
T.T.L. - FEDERAL	PAYROLL DEDUCT	4436.46
TRU BY HILTON	LODGING/CONV	249.90
US BANK	CONV FEE/SUPPLIES	206.26
US BANK	FUEL/UNIFORMS	1446.84
WILLIAM KLINGMAN	MILEAGE	267.40
	<u>ROAD & BRIDGE</u>	
PAYROLL		13955.49
AMERICAN FAMILY	PAYROLL DEDUCT	30.94
BIG SPRINGS EQUIP	REPAIRS	143.61
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	HEALTH INS	6007.31
BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD	PAYROLL DEDUCT	286.48
CHAPPELL MUNICIPAL	UTILITIES	220.45
FIRST CONCORD	PAYROLL DEDUCT	204.16
INTRALINKS	SERVICES	31.99
KRISTIAN FUSILIER	CELL PHONE	50.00
NE MACHINERY	REPAIRS	129.86
PRINCIPAL LIFE	PAYROLL DEDUCT	292.55
RON'S CHAPPELL AUTO	TRANSMISSION	6661.97
S&W AUTO	REPAIRS	96.38
SEDGWICK CO HOSPITAL	SERVICES	60.00
T.T.L. - STATE	PAYROLL DEDUCT	643.29
T.T.L. - RETIREMENT	PAYROLL DEDUCT	794.97
T.T.L. - SOCIAL SECURITY	PAYROLL DEDUCT	1407.73
T.T.L. - FEDERAL	PAYROLL DEDUCT	1600.52
TRU BY HILTON	LODGING/CONV	374.85
US BANK	SUPPLIES	38.41
VILLAGE OF BIG SPRINGS	UTILITIES	35.00
	<u>VISITOR PROMOTION</u>	
NE PRINTWORKS	PRINTING	209.64
	<u>VISITORS IMPROVEMENT</u>	
KONNI SAUDER	DECEMBER	629.40
	<u>FAIR BOARD</u>	
CHAPPELL MUNICIPAL	UTILITIES	199.90
DEUEL CO TREASURER	SALES TAX	405.62
VISTABEAM	SERVICES	<u>69.95</u>
TOTAL		\$ 147,746.24

There being no further business, the board adjourned at 9:29 a.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be Tuesday, January 20, 2026, upon motion of Commissioner Klingman, second of Commissioner Reichman; Reichmann, aye, Timm, absent, Klingman, aye.

Attest: _____
Tammy Sherman, Clerk