

Village of Wauneta, Nebraska

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Wauneta, Nebraska, was convened in open and public session at 6:30 p.m. on **October 14, 2025**, at the Wauneta Village Office.

Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Chairman Johnston publicly stated to all in attendance that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review and indicated the location of such copy posted in the room where the meeting was held.

Present: Kathy Kerchal, Rick Einspahr and Page Johnston. Beau Kramer arrived at 6:45. Absent: Crystal Walgren.

Guests: Greg Wolford (W Design Associates), Bob & Bonnie McBride, Tanner Bardsley (WVFD)

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in three locations within the Village of Wauneta, a copy of the proof of publication being attached to these Minutes. Notice of this meeting was simultaneously given to the Chairman and all the Trustees and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of such notice is attached to these Minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice to the Chairman and all the Trustees. All proceedings shown hereafter were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The Public Hearing opened at 6:30 pm, the purpose being to review the 2026 Plan of Street Improvements for the Village of Wauneta. Greg Wolford with W-Designs presented the 2026 Plan of Street Improvements. No comments from the public were made. The Public Hearing was closed at 6:35 pm.

Motion made by Einspahr, seconded by Kerchal, to approve Resolution 2025-02, authorizing the signing of the Municipal Annual Certification of Program Compliance Form to the Nebraska Boards of Public Roads Classification and Standards 2025. Voting Aye: Kerchal, Einspahr and Johnston. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Kramer and Walgren. Motion Approved.

Greg Wolford discussed the Engineering Evaluation that he prepared to determine the best alternative for bringing Wauneta's Wastewater Treatment Facility into compliance (ammonia discharge limits) with their NPDES Permit. Wolford will request an extension from the State and present his recommendations to the Board at the next regular Board meeting.

Discussion was held with Bob McBride regarding his concerns of how water flows across his property. Greg Wolford has assessed the property with Lawless and presented several options to address McBride's concerns.

Motion made by Einspahr, seconded by Kramer, to approve minutes of the regular meeting of the Village Board of Trustees held on September 9, 2025. Voting Aye: Kramer, Kerchal, Einspahr and Johnston. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Walgren. Motion Approved.

Motion made by Kerchal, seconded by Kramer, to approve minutes of the Budget Hearing and special meeting of the Village Board of Trustees held on September 23, 2025. Voting Aye: Kramer, Kerchal, Einspahr and Johnston. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Walgren. Motion Approved.

Motion made by Kerchal, seconded by Einspahr, to approve Treasurer's Report (September 2025) and approve bills (October 2025) as presented. Voting Aye: Kramer, Kerchal, Einspahr and Johnston. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Walgren. Motion Approved.

Water/Sewer

NE Dept of Revenue	Sales tax – Aug 2025	344.52
SWPPD	Utilities – well 3	163.02
SW Nebr Comm Betterment	Meter deposit refund	50.00

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AMGL	Budget Report 2025-26	1084.00
ASAP Express	Delivery fee – water sample	15.55
American Agri Lab	Water test fees	87.56
BW Telcom	Internet/phone – SCADA system	149.12
Justin Haskins	Water conference expenses	300.65
HOA Solutions	Service call – MOV	2163.85
Johnson Services	Clean, vac & video sewer	7564.50
Monument Inn	Water conference	660.00
Nebraska Public Health	Water test fees	651.00
Petty Cash	Chemicals	71.09
PowerTech	Well 1 – service call	776.99
SWPPD	Utilities – new wells	1168.42
Unitech	Enzyme treatment	875.00
Water USDA Loan Reserve	Transfer	400.00
Water/Sewer Building Fund	Transfer	1340.00
Water/Sewer Insurance Fund	Transfer	1370.00
Wauneta Municipal Utilities	Utilities	148.14
USDA	Loan payment – water project	47,417.00
Electric		
Village of Wauneta	Payroll p/e 9/11	9146.58
Village of Wauneta	Payroll p/e 9/25	8651.69
SW Nebr Comm Betterment	Meter deposit refund	11.86
NE Dept of Revenue	Sales tax – Aug 2025	2962.68
Merchant Bank	Credit card processing fee	457.62
Intuit	Quickbook fees	126.74
Village of Wauneta	Payroll – stipend/HSA	1998.80
Village of Wauneta	Payroll p/e 10/9	8714.21
AMGL	Budget report – 2025-26	1084.00
American Heritage Life Insur	Accident insurance	75.00
Bud's Tire Repair	Tire repair	146.00
Dutton-Lainson Company	Operating supplies	2951.03
Electric Insurance Fund	Transfer	1570.00
Healthiest You	Supplemental Insurance – Teladoc	37.80
Ideal Linen	Shop towels	45.21
Lincoln National Life	Life, A&D insurance	146.12
Nebraska Public Power District	Power – Sept 2025	15697.61
One Call Concepts	Diggers hotline locates	4.92
SWPPD	Subtransmission charge	1485.60
Wauneta Crossroads	Fuel, supplies	379.50
Wauneta Municipal Utilities	Utilities	250.29
Reese West	Energy incentive	1200.00
US Dept of Energy	WAPA power – Sept 2025	9209.00
Village Bills		
Village of Wauneta	Payroll p/e 9/11	3056.32
Wauneta Crossroads	Prepaid propane contracts	6354.72
Village of Wauneta	Payroll p/e 9/25	2773.48

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Village of Wauneta	Payroll – stipend/HSA	666.28
Village of Wauneta	Payroll p/e 10/9	3041.06
AMGL	Budget Report 2025-26	1082.00
American Heritage Life	Accident insurance	25.00
BW Telcom	Phone	630.36
Bomgaars	Oil – shop	195.97
Chase County Treasurer	Police service contract	3131.20
Dan's R Us	Trash serv – Ambul bldg.	27.35
Eakes Office	Office supplies	79.70
Great Plains Communications	Phone	58.31
HomeTown Agency	Bond, insurance	110.00
Imperial Republican	Publishing	402.92
Junior Library Guild	Books	231.00
Lincoln National Life	Life, A&D insurance	38.13
Nebraska Library Commission	Overdrive subscription	500.00
Nebraska Machinery	Repairs	1329.73
Nebr Municipal Clerk Assoc	Membership dues	50.00
Taylor Nordhausen	Mileage – workshop	119.00
Petty Cash	Postage	45.45
Pye-Barker Fire Safety	Service fire extinguishers	197.00
Scotties Potties	Pot cleaning	80.00
Sinners Truck Alignment	Repairs	54.94
Village Insurance Fund	Transfer	3340.00
Wauneta-Palisade School	Remit fees collected	300.00
Wauneta Crossroads	Fuel, supplies	1150.19
Wauneta Municipal Utilities	Utilities	1795.99
Arlan Wine	Retainer	300.00
Highway Fund:		
Nebraska Machinery	2025 CAT Skid loader lease	8250.00
KENO Fund:		
Baxter Concrete	Park sidewalk	7835.00
Lakeside Sand & Gravel	Fill dirt for sidewalk	593.20
Diamond Vogel	Paint – community building	1172.70
Wauneta Crossroads	Paint supplies – comm. bldg.	48.61

Motion made by Einspahr, seconded by Kerchal, to approve a request for a Special Designated Liquor License, received from Good Times Bar & Grill, for “Celebrate Wauneta” fundraiser, to be held at 323 N. Tecumseh (Community Building), on Tuesday, November 11, 2025, from 3:00 to 9:00 pm. Voting Aye: Kramer, Kerchal, Einspahr and Johnston. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Walgren. Motion Approved.

Motion made by Kramer, seconded by Kerchal, to approve a request for a Special Designated Liquor License, received from Good Times Bar & Grill, for an event (Fireman's Ball), to be held at 323 N. Tecumseh (Community Building), on Saturday, November 22, 2025, from 4:00 pm to 12:00 am. Voting Aye: Kramer, Kerchal, Einspahr and Johnston. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Walgren. Motion Approved.

Tanner Bardsley, WVFD, discussed with the Board concerns with the fire dept building and some of the brick deteriorating (holes and cracks). He has visited Baxter Concrete and will present an estimate for repairs at the next meeting.

The Board reviewed the Nursing Home financial reports for August 2025.

Motion made by Kramer, seconded by Einspahr, to approve the propane contract with Wauneta Crossroads for WCTC; 12,500 gallons, prepaid at \$1.55 per gallon. Voting Aye: Kramer, Kerchal, Einspahr and Johnston. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Walgren. Motion Approved.

Motion made by Einspahr, seconded by Kerchal, to approve a wage increase for Donna Hale, Social Services Director at WCTC, as recommended by Administration. Voting Aye: Kramer, Kerchal, Einspahr and Johnston. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Walgren. Motion Approved.

The Board discussed WCTC personnel.

The Board reviewed the Sheriff's Report for September 2025.

Motion made by Kramer, seconded by Einspahr, to approve the purchase of a "snow pusher" from Harchelroad Motors (Legend \$3946). Voting Aye: Kramer, Kerchal, Einspahr and Johnston. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Walgren. Motion Approved.

Motion made by Kramer, seconded by Kerchal, to approve employee wage increases as recommended by the Wage Review Committee, as follows:

S. Lawless	\$30.75 to \$32.00/hour
J. Vapenik	\$20.50 to \$21.50/hour
J. Haskins	\$24.50 to \$25.50/hour
E. Skelton	\$27.25 to \$28.50/hour
T. Dinnel	\$17.50 to \$18.00/hour
T. Nordhausen	\$13.50 to \$15.00/hour
T. Bunker	\$17.00 to \$18.00/hour

Effective date for wage increases is October 1, 2025. Voting Aye: Kramer, Kerchal, Einspahr and Johnston. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Walgren. Motion Approved.

The Board reviewed proposals for roof repairs on the Fire Department building. Damage is due to a hailstorm in June 2024. The proposals were for both the asphalt roof and the metal roof. Motion made by Kramer, seconded by Kerchal, to accept and approve the proposal received from C Squared Roofing, to re-shingle the roof, for a cost of \$8,490.00 (half down payment due prior to start of job). Voting Aye: Kramer, Kerchal, Einspahr and Johnston. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Walgren. Motion Approved.

The Board would like to look into additional options for repairs to the metal roof.

Discussion was held on a particular nuisance property. Skelton did send a follow-up letter after last month's discussion and received a phone call from the property owner saying that they do have plans to address the issues. We will revisit the property next month to access progress.

Ambulance Building Committee – Kramer gave a report on the status of the efforts of the Chase County Commissioners and the Wauneta EMS to identify a location for a new Ambulance building. They have identified a potential property and will do additional research to determine the feasibility of the property.

Wauneta has been identified as 1 of 16 potential sites for a "Small Modular Nuclear Reactor". The Board discussed hosting a meeting/educational session to provide additional information to the community.

Superintendent's report given by Lawless.

Motion made by Kerchal, seconded by Einspahr, to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm. Voting Aye: Kramer, Kerchal, Einspahr and Johnston. Voting Nay: None. Absent: Walgren. Motion Approved.

Meeting Adjourned.

Page Johnston, Chairman

Evelyn Skelton, Clerk