

February 10, 2026

Seward County Board of Equalization

State of Nebraska)
County of Seward) ss.

A regular meeting of the Seward County Board of Equalization was convened in open and public session at 8:30 on February 10, 2026 in the Commissioner's room at the Seward County Courthouse. Notice of the meeting was posted on the Courthouse bulletin board, on the Commissioner's Room door, on the Seward County website: sewardcountyne.gov and published in the Seward County Independent and the Milford Times. The agenda for all meetings is kept continually current and is available for public inspection at the County Clerk's Office during normal business hours. The agenda is held open until one business day prior to the meeting for appearance before the Board. The Board of Commissioners has the right to modify the agenda to include items of an emergency nature only at such public meeting.

The Seward County Board of Equalization convened on February 10, 2026 at 8:30 a.m.

Present: Chairperson: Misty Ahmic
 Members: Raegan Hain, Darrell Zabrocki, Ken Schmieding,
 Scott Pekarek
 County Clerk: Brandy Johnson
 County Assessor: Marilyn Hladky
 County Treasurer: Jake Zlatkovsky

The Chairperson noted that the public meeting information is posted as required by law and available for public distribution if requested.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to approve the minutes of January 27, 2026.
Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Hain, Pekarek, Schmieding, Ahmic Motion Carried

Hladky updated the Commissioners on activities of her department.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Pekarek to approve tax list correction 461-25R for Arlen Meyer.
Affirmative Vote: Hain, Pekarek, Schmieding, Zabrocki, Ahmic Motion Carried

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Schmieding to approve tax refunds due to an error of levy in the Exeter-Milligan-Friend 90 School District for:

- a. Roger Lindner - \$40.06, \$6.84, \$330.40 & \$428.36
- b. Kenneth L. Krasser - \$107.56
- c. Glen Harre - \$177.60
- d. Thomas John Koenig - \$11.14
- e. Cordova Customs - \$86.58

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Schmieding, Hain, Pekarek, Ahmic Motion Carried

Moved by Hain and seconded by Zabrocki to open the Public Hearing at 8:36 a.m. for a motor vehicle exemption application for Concordia University for a 2025 Ford Van.
Affirmative Vote: Hain, Zabrocki, Schmieding, Pekarek, Ahmic Motion Carried

Zlatkovsky gave information on the exemption.

No one spoke in favor or in opposition at said hearing.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Schmieding to close the Public Hearing at 8:37 a.m. for a motor vehicle exemption application for Concordia University for a 2025 Ford Van.
Affirmative Vote: Hain, Schmieding, Pekarek, Zabrocki, Ahmic Motion Carried

Moved by Hain and seconded by Zabrocki to approve the motor vehicle exemption for Concordia University for a 2025 Ford Van.

Affirmative Vote: Hain, Zabrocki, Schmieding, Pekarek, Ahmic Motion Carried

Known items on the agenda for Board of Equalization on February 24, 2026 are as follows:

8:30 a.m.

1. Convene and announce Open Meetings Law
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Discuss/Action - Approve minutes of February 10, 2026
4. Discuss/Action – Assessor Information Update

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Pekarek to adjourn at 8:38 a.m.

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Pekarek, Hain, Schmieding, Ahmic Motion Carried

State of Nebraska)

County of Seward) ss.

I, Brandy Johnson, the undersigned County Clerk of Seward County, Nebraska do hereby certify the foregoing minutes are true and are part of the official records of this office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this 24th Day of February 2026.

County Clerk

Chairperson

February 10, 2026 Seward County Board of Commissioners

State of Nebraska)

County of Seward) ss.

A regular meeting of the Seward County Board of Commissioners was convened in open and public session at 9:00 a.m. on February 10, 2026 in the Commissioner's room at the Seward County Courthouse. Notice of the meeting was posted on the Courthouse bulletin board, on the Commissioner's Room door, on the Seward County website: sewardcountyne.gov and published in the Seward County Independent and the Milford Times. The agenda for all meetings is kept continually current and is available for public inspection at the County Clerk's Office during normal business hours. The agenda is held open until one business day prior to the meeting for appearance before the Board. The Board of Commissioners has the right to modify the agenda to include items of an emergency nature only at such public meeting.

The Seward County Board of Commissioners convened on February 10, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Chairperson: Misty Ahmic
 Members: Raegan Hain, Scott Pekarek, Ken Schmieding,
 Darrell Zabrocki
 County Clerk: Brandy Johnson

The Chairperson noted that the public meeting information is posted as required by law and available for public distribution if requested.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Schmieding to approve the minutes of February 3, 2026.

Affirmative Vote: Hain, Schmieding, Pekarek, Zabrocki, Ahmic Motion Carried

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Pekarek to approve claims for the period through January 30, 2026.

SEWARD COUNTY CLAIMS THROUGH JANUARY 30, 2026			
ACCURATE CONTROLS	\$1,982.61	UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA	\$36.06
ADAMS CO SHERIFF	\$6.00	VERIZON WIRELESS SERV	\$920.84
ADP INC	\$2,973.85	VIRTUAL GURUS	\$36.00
ADVANCED CORR HLTHCR	\$8,306.92	VISA	\$0.99
ALLO COMMUNIC	\$4,903.69	WYTHERS LAW	\$1,425.00
AMERITAS LIFE INS	\$17,587.56	YORK CO SHERIFF	\$18.50
ASSN ST FLOODPLAIN MGRS	\$180.00	ZABKA PERDUE FUNERAL	\$775.00
BECKY BAKER	\$50.00	AMERITAS LIFE INS	\$3,393.73
BECKY REISINGER	\$50.00	BEATRICE CONCRETE CO	\$22,301.75
BLUE360 MEDIA	\$105.95	BLACK HILLS ENERGY	\$2,007.23
BRENNAN, NIELSEN LAW	\$9,022.50	CHEMSEARCH	\$2,566.95
BUTLER CO SHERIFF	\$102.63	CROUCH'S FARM	\$82.53
CAPITAL BUSINESS SYS	\$52.53	DALE JOHNSON ENT	\$16,180.53
CAPITOL HEATING & A/C	\$175.00	FARMERS COOP	\$3,069.38
CASA	\$35,000.00	FASTENAL COMPANY	\$22.92
CENTURY BUSINESS PROD	\$27.17	JONES BANK (FICA)	\$3,475.25
CLERK OF DIST COURT	\$483.00	MATHESON TRI-GAS	\$855.55
CORI J STAVA	\$83.85	MEDICAL ENTERPRISES	\$396.00
CROUCH'S FARM	\$409.00	MIDWEST AUTO PARTS	\$867.02
CULLIGAN	\$128.00	NATIONAL SIGN CO	\$5,134.35
DIAMOND DRUGS	\$691.44	NE EQUIPMENT	\$226.10
DICKSON LAW GRP	\$762.50	NE PUBLIC POWER DIST	\$214.89
DODGE CO SHERIFF	\$38.92	NEXTLINK AIS	\$51.07
E 911	\$45,440.17	POWERPLAN	\$1,000.00
EAKES OFFICE PLUS	\$231.49	SAPP BROS PETROLEUM	\$19,337.11
ELECTION SYS & SOFTWARE	\$1,221.38	SCHNEIDER GEOSPATIAL	\$1,584.18
ELIZABETH SAMUELSON	\$1,825.00	SOUTHWEST GRAVEL PROD	\$904.20
ENGINEERED CONTROLS	\$1,800.00	VILLAGE OF UTICA	\$55.64
FARMERS COOP	\$19.31	NE TOURISM COMMISSION	\$1,350.00
FGH LAW OFFICE	\$4,807.70	PAC N SAVE	\$1,130.47
GALLS LLC	\$116.99	PUP'S POPPIN' ENT	\$48.00
GARCIA CLINICAL LAB	\$48.00	OMAHA MAGAZINE	\$1,395.00
GREAT PLAINS COMM	\$629.89	SEWARD CO CHAMBER	\$954.80
GREAT PLAINS UNIFORMS	\$179.98	SWEET TEA MARKETING	\$24.00
GUARDIAN RFID	\$80.50	MIPS INC	\$224.29
HALL CO SHERIFF	\$26.76	AMERITAS LIFE INS	\$154.68
HOMETOWN LEASING	\$158.38	JONES BANK (FICA)	\$149.70
IDEMIA IDENTITY & SECUR	\$3,257.00	MILFORD AGING SERV	\$73.50
JONES BANK (FICA)	\$17,354.62	SEWARD AGING SERV	\$588.00
LANCASTER CO SHERIFF	\$6.73	SEWARD CO INDEPENDENT	\$5.91
LEE'S REFRIGERATION	\$1,026.74	UTICA AGING SERV	\$231.70
MCKESSON MEDICAL	\$22.59	VISA	\$13.99
MEMORIAL CLINIC	\$108.00	INTOXIMETERS	\$308.00
MIPS INC	\$2,052.70	AMERITAS LIFE INS	\$116.95
NE ASSN CO OFFICIALS	\$120.00	JONES BANK (FICA)	\$186.91
NE FSMA	\$35.00	MOTIVATE 2 COMMUNICATE	\$150.00
NE HLTH & HUMAN SERV	\$455.93	SUNFLOWER GRANT WRITER	\$11,875.00
NE STATE FIRE MARSHAL	\$480.00	FELSBURG HOLT & ULLEVIG	\$751.25
OREILLY AUTOMOTIVE	\$40.81	AMERITAS LIFE INS CORP	\$1,820.28
PAPER TIGER SHREDDING	\$120.00	BLACK HILLS ENERGY	\$49.31
PAT OHLMANN	\$50.00	EAKES OFFICE PLUS	\$131.10
PETTY CASH FUND	\$1,667.50	HOMETOWN LEASING	\$74.00
POINT C HEALTH	\$355.00	JONES BANK (FICA)	\$1,909.15
POLK CO SHERIFF	\$18.00	PAPER TIGER SHREDDING	\$40.00
POLLACK AND BALL	\$885.60	SOARIN GROUP	\$288.00
QUADIENT LEASING USA	\$231.00	ST OF NE DAS COMMUNIC	\$844.80
QUADIENT	\$175.75	ST OF NE DAS ST ACCNTG	\$115.00
QUILL CORP	\$460.01	GOVWORX	\$6,200.00
REDWOOD TOXICOLOGY LAB	\$16.80	ALLO COMMUNIC	\$607.63
SARPY CO SHERIFF	\$23.71	CENTURYLINK	\$4,597.27
SCHNEIDER GEOSPATIAL	\$10,601.82	CIDNET	\$1,816.42
SEWARD CO INDEPENDENT	\$71.63	RX SERVICES	\$46.08
SIOUX SALES CO	\$820.00	SUMMIT FOOD SERV	\$984.61

SOARIN GROUP	\$6,109.25	SALARIES	\$327,536.53
SPORTS EXPRESS	\$423.00	GROSS SALARIES INCLUDE DEDUCTIONS TO:	
ST OF NE DAS COMMUNIC	\$537.60	AMERITAS DENTAL	
SUE IMIG	\$482.45	AMERITAS VISION	
SUE SYLWESTER	\$125.00	COLONIAL SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE	
SVEHLA LAW	\$300.00	MID AMERICAN CO WISCONSIN	
THYSSENKRUPP ELEVATOR	\$8,050.83	POINT C HEALTH	
TRANSUNION RISK & ALT	\$1,120.00	LPL FINANCIAL	
TRINITY SERVICES GRP	\$8,919.40		

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Pekarek, Schmieding, Ahmic
Voting No: Hain
Motion Carried

Moved by Hain and seconded by Pekarek to approve the consent agenda consisting of:

- a. County Clerk Fee Report for January 2026 - \$37,936.09
- b. District Court Fee Report for January 2026 - \$31,386.16
- c. Surplus Property Disposal Requests for Road Dept.
- d. Utility Permit for Stutzman Digging to put Electrical Across 392nd Road, 1/2 Mile South of Van Dorn Road between the NE 1/4 of Section 1, Township 9 North, Range 1 East of the 6th P.M. and the NW 1/4 of Section 6, Township 9 North, Range 2 East of the 6th P.M.

Affirmative Vote: Hain, Pekarek, Zabrocki, Schmieding, Ahmic
Motion Carried

Ahmic gave information regarding the bid received for an engineering consultant for the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Pekarek to award the bid for an Engineering Consultant for the Safe Streets and Roads For All (SS4A) Grant to JEO Consulting.
Affirmative Vote: Hain, Pekarek, Schmieding, Zabrocki, Ahmic
Motion Carried

The Commissioners Recessed at 9:08 a.m.
The Commissioners Reconvened at 9:10 a.m.

Marissa Pfile, Zoning Administrator, presented a proposal from Marvin Planning and Consultants for Zoning Consultation Services. Previously, the board discussed hiring a consultant to assist with questions pertaining specifically to Zoning regulations. The Zoning Administrator would still utilize the County Attorney’s Office for legal advice. There was discussion about some of the verbiage in the proposal. Pfile is going to have the verbiage on the proposal changed and bring it back next week.

Jon Regnier, Highway Superintendent, and Trever Trebilcock, Assistant Highway Superintendent, were present to discuss options for a water trailer and roller/packer for Permazyme application on county roads. Trebilcock reported that he has called multiple places in search of a water trailer tank to rent or borrow for the application process, and he presented a list of options for either renting or purchasing the necessary equipment. The Permazyme application on county roads will begin as a trial, but Regnier noted that the water trailer could be used outside of the dust control application for other road projects. The trailer they found does not include an appropriate pump mechanism, so Ahmic asked them to find a quote for the appropriate equipment and bring it back to the board with that information.

The Commissioners recessed at 9:28 a.m.
The Commissioners reconvened at 9:30 a.m.

Ahmic added an emergency item to the agenda to clarify Seward County’s contribution amount toward the Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant for the 420th Road Paving Project. The reason for an emergency item being that there is a deadline for the grant and the grant writers cannot continue until they have confirmation of Seward County’s contribution amount.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Zabrocki to add an emergency item to the agenda to discuss the Seward County match amount for the BUILD Grant.
Affirmative Vote: Hain, Zabrocki, Pekarek, Schmieding, Ahmic
Motion Carried

Brandy Hafer, Public Transit Director, was present to give an update on Public Transit Department Funding. Previously, the board had asked her to bring a number of unique individuals who utilize Public Transit's services, as well as how many trips each of those individuals have taken in the last year. Hafer compiled a spreadsheet of different numbers of people and kinds of trips they took in 2025. Jeffrey Baker, former Public Transit Director, was present for the discussion. Baker gave a history of the Public Transit program, answered questions and offered to assist Hafer with any Public Transit needs she may have. Ahmic commented that she would like the number of unique riders and how many rides each of those individuals took, noting that this information would be helpful to see how many people we are utilizing the service. Hafer was asked to compile the requested information and bring it back next week.

The Commissioners recessed 10:07 a.m.

The Commissioners reconvened at 10:09 a.m.

Regnier and Barb Armstead, Deputy County Attorney, updated the Commissioners on activities of their departments.

Commissioner Reports:

Commissioner Hain reported she had a virtual meeting with Commissioner Ahmic, the Road Dept. Administrative Assistant, and the grant writer for the BUILD Grant. She worked gathering information and letters of support for the BUILD Grant, met with the Road Dept. Administrative Assistant to work on grant related tasks, and gave updates on grant deadlines.

Commissioner Zabrocki reported he attended a Seward City Council meeting, attended a Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Assn. (NIRMA) roundtable meeting, attended a Region 5 Board meeting, attended an Apace board meeting, and had a liaison meeting with the Sheriff.

Commissioner Ahmic reported she attended a Milford City Council meeting, attended a Dorchester City Council meeting in regard to Seward Saline Solid Waste Management, attended a Garland City Council meeting, had a Community Safety Action Plan (CSAP) meeting with the Road Dept Administrative Assistant and Captain Borges from the Sheriff's Office, attended Emergency Manager interviews, had a meeting with the Highway Superintendent and Commissioner Hain, had an Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting, attended three Seward County Chamber & Development Partnership (SCCDP) meetings – the Personnel and Policies board, Executive Board meeting, and one to discuss the Emergency Preparedness Event, met with a Staplehurst Village Board member regarding solid waste management, attended a grant meeting with the Road Dept Administrative Assistant, Commissioner Hain and the grant writer, got a reply from Senator Storer regarding tax relief and noted that she asked the board to reach back out and schedule a meeting at the beginning of April, and reported that her sister, who is an Air Force Veteran, has a colleague who is looking for recent college graduates looking for a three year opportunity with the Department of the Air Force performing civilian work.

Commissioner Schmieding reported he called on residents from his district and will attend a Visitors Bureau meeting and a Blue Valley Community Action meeting.

Commissioner Pekarek reported he attended interviews for the Emergency Manager, attended a Southeast Nebraska Emergency Management meeting, and emergency preparedness event meeting

Armstead tabled the agenda item to authorize the Chair to sign the amendment to extend the CentralSquare Interlocal Agreement.

The Hiring Committee presented their recommendation for the Emergency Manager/Zoning Assistant to the board. There was discussion on the hiring process, with Ahmic asking for clarification on the process moving forward in order to remain consistent. Armstead advised that the name of the candidate needs to be provided.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Schmieding that the board approve the offering of a position to Ms. Eckles as Emergency Manager and Zoning Assistant, and Human Resources be given the authority to perform background checks necessary to proceed with the appointment.

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Schmieding, Pekarek, Hain, Ahmic Motion Carried

Moved by Hain to enter into Executive Session at 10:44 a.m. to discuss personnel.

Motion died for lack of second.

For the emergency agenda item regarding the BUILD Grant, Ahmic stated that in a previous application, they indicated that the county would contribute \$78,737.00. That is the amount that was originally estimated for engineering.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Pekarek to approve the local match for the 420th Road Paving Project in the amount of \$78,737.00 to be paid out of the Inheritance Fund.

Affirmative Vote: Hain, Pekarek, Schmieding, Zabrocki, Ahmic Motion Carried

Known items on the agenda for Board of Commissioners on February 17, 2026 are as follows:

9:00 a.m.

1. Convene and announce Open Meetings Law
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Discuss/Action - Approve minutes of February 10, 2026

Other Business Matters to Address When Time Allows

4. Discuss/Action – Public/Organizations/Officials
5. Commissioner Reports
6. Discuss/Action – Request to Approve Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grant Application for 420th Road to be submitted to US Dept of Transportation
7. Discuss/Action – Executive Session – Personnel
8. Discuss/Action – Agenda for February 24, 2026.

9:15 a.m. Discuss/Action – Mary Dolan/Daughters of the American Revolution – update on Seward County Abandoned Cemeteries

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Pekarek to adjourn at 10:50 a.m.

Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Pekarek, Schmieding, Hain, Ahmic Motion Carried

State of Nebraska)
County of Seward) ss.

I, Brandy Johnson, the undersigned County Clerk of Seward County, Nebraska do hereby certify the foregoing minutes are true and are part of the official records of this office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this 17th day of February 2026.

County Clerk

Chairman