

# April 21, 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 April 21, 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](http://sewardcountyne.gov) and published in the Seward County Independent. 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 April 21, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

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

Deputy County Attorney Barbara Armstead was present as legal counsel.

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 April 14, 2026.  
Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Hain, Schmieding, Pekarek, Ahmic Motion Carried

Moved by Hain and seconded by Zabrocki to approve claims through April 10, 2026.

### SEWARD COUNTY CLAIMS THROUGH APRIL 10, 2026

|                            |             |                       |             |
|----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| ADVANCED CORR HLTHCR       | \$8,336.92  | DALE JOHNSON ENT      | \$15,896.36 |
| AMAZON CAPITAL SERV        | \$284.52    | ESRI                  | \$1,200.00  |
| AMERITAS LIFE INS          | \$17,346.61 | FARMERS COOP          | \$2,549.07  |
| BENCHMARK GOVT SOLUTIONS   | \$83.70     | HOTSY EQUIPMENT       | \$1,530.53  |
| BLACK HILLS ENERGY         | \$2,104.22  | JOHNSON SAND & GRAVEL | \$33,125.68 |
| BLUE RIVER ELECTRIC        | \$2,010.00  | JONES BANK (FICA)     | \$3,751.50  |
| BLUE VALLEY BEHAV HLTH     | \$480.00    | KEARNEY INVEST CORP   | \$419.85    |
| CENTURY BUSINESS PROD      | \$77.29     | MEDICAL ENTERPRISES   | \$180.00    |
| CHARTER COMMUNIC           | \$86.78     | MEMORIAL CLINIC       | \$355.00    |
| CITY OF SEWARD             | \$5,455.47  | MIDWEST AUTO PARTS    | \$412.92    |
| CLERK OF DIST CRT          | \$300.00    | NEBRASKA TRUCK REPAIR | \$11.50     |
| COAST TO COAST COMPUTER    | \$169.99    | NEXTLINK AIS          | \$71.06     |
| CONTINENTAL FIRE SPRINKLER | \$1,552.50  | NMC, LLC              | \$4,410.14  |
| CROWNE PLAZA KEARNEY       | \$169.95    | NORRIS PUBLIC POWER   | \$1,054.00  |
| CULLIGAN                   | \$247.75    | OREILLY AUTOMOTIVE    | \$330.67    |
| CUMMINS SALES & SERV       | \$1,637.06  | PAC N SAVE            | \$17.97     |
| DIAMOND DRUGS              | \$517.56    | PETTY CASH FUND       | \$15.00     |
| EAKES OFFICE PLUS          | \$947.69    | POWERPLAN             | \$3,427.41  |
| ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWR  | \$4,548.66  | RDO TRUCK CENTERS     | \$151.96    |
| ELIZABETH SAMUELSON        | \$262.50    | SEWARD CO TREASURER   | \$30.00     |
| ESRI                       | \$250.00    | SOUTHWEST GRAVEL      | \$10,617.95 |
| FARMERS COOPERATIVE        | \$8,677.14  | SPORTS EXPRESS        | \$449.60    |
| FGH LAW OFFICE             | \$5,656.35  | VERIZON CONNECT NWF   | \$645.55    |
| FOXSTER OPCO               | \$6,570.00  | VISA                  | \$404.39    |
| GALLS LLC                  | \$467.32    | DELL MARKETING L P    | \$2,343.09  |
| GARCIA CLINICAL LAB        | \$91.00     | AMERITAS LIFE INS     | \$151.38    |
| GREAT PLAINS COMMUNIC      | \$937.89    | JONES BANK (FICA)     | \$145.97    |
| HOMETOWN LEASING           | \$158.38    | AMERITAS LIFE INS     | \$127.49    |

|                            |             |                                       |              |
|----------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| IHS PHARMACY               | \$242.50    | JONES BANK (FICA)                     | \$184.57     |
| JONES BANK (FICA)          | \$17,184.39 | NE JUVENILE JUSTICE ASSN              | \$370.00     |
| LANGUAGE LINE SERV         | \$68.89     | NORRIS PUBLIC POWER                   | \$100.41     |
| MEMORIAL HOSPITAL          | \$26.00     | SEWARD CO INDEPENDENT                 | \$945.00     |
| MIDWEST AUTOMOTIVE         | \$253.28    | SWEET TEA MARKETING                   | \$875.00     |
| MIPS INC                   | \$672.00    | AMERITAS LIFE INS                     | \$81.50      |
| NE ASSN CO EXT BOARD       | \$100.00    | JONES BANK (FICA)                     | \$70.72      |
| NE LAW ENF TRAINING        | \$400.00    | CITY OF SEWARD                        | \$300,000.00 |
| NEBRASKA.GOV               | \$115.00    | VISA                                  | \$1,115.99   |
| NORRIS PUBLIC POWER        | \$721.76    | AMERITAS LIFE INS                     | \$1,585.55   |
| ONESOURCE                  | \$95.50     | APCO INTL                             | \$380.00     |
| OREILLY AUTOMOTIVE         | \$28.68     | BLACK HILLS ENERGY                    | \$48.87      |
| ORKIN LLC                  | \$161.00    | CHARTER COMMUNIC                      | \$51.96      |
| OVERHEAD DOOR CO           | \$651.50    | CITY OF SEWARD                        | \$235.23     |
| PAPER TIGER SHREDDING      | \$167.00    | EAKES OFFICE PLUS                     | \$255.67     |
| PHYSICIANS LAB SERV        | \$410.50    | HOMETOWN LEASING                      | \$74.00      |
| PRAIRIEFIRE CONSULTING     | \$3,538.05  | JONES BANK (FICA)                     | \$1,656.43   |
| RADIOLOGY ASSOC            | \$198.00    | PAPER TIGER SHREDDING                 | \$43.00      |
| SEWARD CO INDEPENDENT      | \$894.94    | PLANET TECHNOLOGIES                   | \$348.60     |
| SEWARD SHERIFF UNCOLL FEES | \$264.00    | SOARIN GROUP                          | \$593.00     |
| SEWARD LUMBER              | \$177.07    | ST OF NE DAS COMMUNIC                 | \$844.80     |
| SEWARD SMILES              | \$1,305.00  | ALLO COMMUNICATIONS                   | \$607.63     |
| SIDNEY FREY                | \$391.60    | CENTURYLINK                           | \$4,597.24   |
| SMITHS DETECTION           | \$5,361.00  | FIBER PLATFORM                        | \$327.00     |
| SOARIN GROUP               | \$81.00     | LANGUAGE LINE SERV                    | \$4.84       |
| ST OF NE DAS ST ACCNTNG    | \$618.50    | CHARTER COMMUNIC                      | \$221.32     |
| STERICYCLE, INC            | \$57.86     | CIDNET                                | \$1,741.75   |
| SVEHLA LAW OFFICES         | \$162.50    | SUMMIT FOOD SERVICE                   | \$1,762.76   |
| TRANSUNION RISK & ALT      | \$1,120.00  | WELLBEING INITIATIVE                  | \$625.00     |
| TRINITY SERVICES GRP       | \$8,566.79  | SALARIES                              | \$326,155.67 |
| VERIZON WIRELESS SERV      | \$40.05     | GROSS SALARIES INCLUDE DEDUCTIONS TO: |              |
| VISA                       | \$5,188.99  | AMERITAS DENTAL                       |              |
| WELLS FARGO FINAN LEAS     | \$230.66    | AMERITAS VISION                       |              |
| AMERITAS LIFE INS          | \$3,632.11  | COLONIAL SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE       |              |
| BEAVER HARDWARE            | \$188.62    | MID AMERICAN CO WISCONSIN             |              |
| BLACK HILLS ENERGY         | \$50.78     | POINT C                               |              |
| CROUCH'S HARDWARE          | \$201.81    | LPL FINANCIAL                         |              |

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

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

- a. Sheriff Fee & Mileage Reports for February 2026 - \$1,316.00 and \$807.20
- b. Utility Permit for Windstream Nebraska to Bore Fiber Optic on Rokeby Road from West side of Cordova to 476<sup>th</sup> Road

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

### **Commissioner Reports:**

Commissioner Hain reported she began reviewing applications for the Aging Services Program Manager position, reviewed the current contract with Accurate Controls for the cameras at the Justice Center, has been working with Soarin Group and the County Clerk regarding video recording the Commissioner meetings, attended a Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Assn. (NIRMA) conference, had a call with the Aging Services Program Manager, had a meeting with the Highway Superintendent & Commissioner Ahmic, participated in a Zoom meeting with Commissioner Ahmic and Mary Dolan of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) regarding abandoned cemeteries, attended the Farewell Reception for Jonathan Jank of the Seward County Chamber & Development Partnership (SCCDP), met with the County Attorney and Deputy County Attorney as the liaison to their office, participated in a PriorityOne Group meeting related to the Comprehensive Youth Plan, and visited with Roger Richters, a local photographer, regarding photos to display at the Justice Center.

Commissioner Zabrocki reported he attended a Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust (NPAIT) board meeting, attended a NIRMA conference, attended the Farewell Reception for Jonathan Jank of SCCDP, and continued working on checking the Sheriff's Department inventory.

Commissioner Ahmic reported she spent time working with the County Clerk on the annual American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) fund report, participated in a Zoom meeting with Commissioner Hain and Mary Dolan of DAR regarding abandoned cemeteries, met with the Highway Superintendent and Commissioner Hain, participated in a call with Accurate Controls regarding the cameras at the Justice Center, had a meeting with an individual from rural radio, attended the Zoning Regulation Open House, attended a Planning Commission meeting, spoke with the Village of Utica regarding the village's remaining allocated ARPA funds, and worked with the Policy board for a new draft of the addendum to the Public Defender contract.

Elaine Menzel, representing Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) was present to give an update on NACO events and happenings. She provided a packet of information with upcoming events, demographics, property taxes, benefit services and legislation.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to open bids for a used motor grader.  
Affirmative Vote: Zabrocki, Hain, Pekarek, Schmieding, Ahmic      Motion Carried

One bid was received from NMC, Inc.

Carrie Sermeno, District Court Bailiff, presented an application for the use of Opioid Funds to attend the Rise26 Treatment Court Conference. Sermeno noted that the cost will be split between Seward and York Counties. Barb Armstead, Deputy County Attorney, asked about the permissible use of the Opioid Funds in relation to the conference. This will be brought back for further discussion at the April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Carol Albrecht was present to request the use of the courthouse lawn to hold the Farmers Market on Wednesdays and Saturdays from May 16, 2026 through October 31, 2026.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Schmieding to approve the request to use the courthouse lawn to hold the Farmers Market on Wednesdays and Saturdays, beginning May 16, 2026 through October 31, 2026.

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

Maria Scamehorn, E911 Director, presented a renewal contract with GeoComm for mapping maintenance services for E911.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Pekarek to authorize the Chair to sign the renewal contract with GeoComm for maintenance services for E911, to be paid using the E911 Wireless Fund.

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

Jon Regnier, Highway Superintendent, presented an equipment rental agreement with Hartman Construction Co., LLC for a smooth drum roller for the Road Department. The roller will be used for asphalt patching. Regnier noted that his department will only need to rent the machine for one to two days.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Schmieding to authorize the Chair to sign the equipment rental agreement with Hartman Construction Co., LLC for a smooth drum roller for the Road Department at the rate of \$100 per hour.

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

Roxanne Knutson, Human Resources Director, was present with Jamie Olsen and Hannah Pares, from Point C regarding the 2026-2027 Year Plan health insurance renewal proposal. Pares and Olsen gave information about the current cost and use of the health insurance and the future premiums of the plan.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to accept the health insurance renewal option as presented, and authorize the Chair to sign the disclosure agreement.

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

The Commissioners recessed at 10:23 a.m.

The Commissioners reconvened at 10:28 a.m.

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to enter into Executive Session at 10:28 a.m. to discuss personnel, not to exceed one hour, it being necessary to protect the reputation of the individual(s).

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

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Hain to come out of Executive Session at 11:31 a.m.

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

The Chair stated that personnel was discussed, and no decisions were made.

Moved by Pekarek and seconded by Hain to enter into Executive Session at 11:31 a.m. to discuss personnel, it being necessary to protect the reputation of the individual(s).

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

Moved by Zabrocki and seconded by Pekarek to come out of Executive Session at 12:23 p.m.

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

The Chair stated that personnel was discussed, and no decisions were made.

**Commissioner Reports, continued:**

Commissioner Schmieding reported the Tree Board meeting was postponed, and rescheduled for a date in May. He attended a 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee meeting, will attend a Visitors Bureau meeting, will attend a Blue Valley Community Action meeting, an Arbor Day celebration at the Wellness Center, and reported the Problem Solving Court graduation will take place in York in May.

Commissioner Pekarek reported that he participated in a Zoom meeting with Commissioner Ahmic, the Detention Center Director & Deputy Director and Accurate Controls regarding the camera system at the Justice Center, attended a Planning Commission meeting, and had a meeting with the Veterans Service Officer.

Hain presented an amendment to the Aging Advisory Board bylaws.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Zabrocki to approve the amendment to the Aging Advisory Board Bylaws.

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

Ahmic led discussion on the update on the Daughters of the American Revolution abandoned cemetery inventory and next steps. Ahmic and Hain recently had a meeting with Mary Dolan, a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution organization. The organization has been working on maintaining abandoned cemetery records, as well as the online abandoned cemetery records within the county. Work has been done in phases, and the Commissioners recently asked Jon Regnier, Highway Superintendent, to visit the cemeteries that the Daughters of the American Revolution organization had reported needed repairs/maintenance. Regnier provided information on the signs and fencing that need to be repaired or replaced, the conditions of some of the cemeteries, and estimates for how much the repairs might cost. He reported that some of the cemeteries are surrounded by trees that will need to be removed to allow for access to the fences. Ahmic noted that the funds for the repairs/maintenance will need to be budgeted for in the upcoming fiscal year budget. There was discussion about where to budget the funds within the county's budget, and how much to potentially budget. Hain suggested members of the Board visit the cemeteries and evaluate the work that needs to be done. During budget preparation, addition funds needed will be added to the Abandoned Cemetery budget.

Known items on the agenda for Board of Equalization on April 28, 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 April 14, 2026
4. Discuss/Action – Assessor Information Update

Known items on the agenda for Board of Commissioners on April 28, 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 April 21, 2026

**Other Business Matters to Address When Time Allows**

1. Discuss/Action - Public/Organizations/Officials
2. Commissioner Reports
3. Discuss/Action – Application for the Use of Opioid Funds for Rise26 Treatment Court Conference Attendees
4. Discuss/Action – Photographs to be Displayed at Justice Center
5. Discuss/Action – Agenda for May 5, 2026

9:15 a.m. Discuss/Action – Veteran of the Month

9:30 a.m. Discuss/Action – Award Bid for Used Motor Grader

9:35 a.m. Discuss/Action – Planning Commission Meeting Procedures and Training

10:00 a.m. Discuss/Action – Executive Session – Personnel

Zabrocki is absent at 1:00 p.m.

Moved by Hain and seconded by Schmieding to adjourn at 1:03 p.m.

Affirmative Vote: Hain, Schmieding, Pekarek, 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 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2026

---

County Clerk

---

Chairperson