

AGENDA
February 10, 2026

1. Please silence all cell phones
2. Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer
3. Roll call
4. Inform public of the posting of the open meeting laws
5. The meeting notice was published in the Columbus Telegram on February 4th, 2026 and the Humphrey Democrat on February 5th, 2026.
6. Approve the agenda as written
7. Approve the minutes for January 27th, 2026 as written
8. **Discussion and possible action on the following:**
9. Marlene Vetick - Clerk of the District Court
 - 9.a. Introduction of K. McKay
10. Rachel Pensick - Joint Communications Center
 - 10.a. Consideration of the Second Addendum to Consolidated Communications Center Interlocal Cooperation Agreement
11. Sheila Hoppe - Platte County Extension Office
 - 11.a. 2025 Annual Report
12. Jenny Reppert - Treasurer
 - 12.a. Consideration of the Platte County Treasurer to put interest received from February 2026 until COVID American Rescue Plan account is closed be received into General Fund 100.
13. Consideration of Qualified Public Defender candidates and request from the Board of Supervisors on next steps for the Public Defender Policy Board with regard to qualified candidates.
14. Highway Department
 - 14.a. 1&6 Year Hearing
 - 14.a.1. Open the Hearing (9:30 a.m.)
 - 14.a.2. Close the Hearing (10:30 a.m.)
 - 14.a.3. Consideration of approval of the 1&6 Year Plan as presented.
 - 14.b. Consideration of Utility Permits
 - 14.b.1. Magnum Electric for Ryan Loseke - water and electrical line MK 1930
 - 14.b.2. Lehr Inc. - Electrical Service MR 3029
 - 14.c. Consideration of Resolution 26-06, Annual Certification of Program Compliance to Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classification and Standards 2025

- 14.d. Road report
15. Ron Reilly - Consideration of ARPA monies
16. Ron Reilly — Consideration of Publication of Board Minutes in the Columbus Telegram and Humphrey Democrat
17. Ron Reilly — Consideration of VFW Payment
18. Consideration of 2026 Rules of Governing
19. Committee Reports
20. Motion to accept, file, and credit the proper accounts on correspondence: Cancel General Fund Check no. 2683 in the amount of \$83.10 to Merrick County Sheriff - Double payment by Attorney's Office, City of Columbus - Notice of Hearing on "Redevelopment Plan for the Keyes Development, LLC, Redevelopment Project" Continuation Certification for Marvion Reichert, Jr, Treasurer Central Platte Naural Resources District, Notice of Appointing Qualified Individual to Fill ESU 7 Board Vacancy - April Emeigh, State of Nebraska, Power Review Board - Certificate of Approval of a Petition filed by the Loup River Public Power District to amend the districts charter, Treasurer Receipts \$60,207.08
21. Motion to approve claims
22. Public Comments
23. Motion to Adjourn to February 24th, 2026 at 9:10 a.m.

The agenda for the meeting subject to change, is kept continuously current and is available for public inspection at the office of the County Clerk in the Platte County Courthouse, Columbus, Nebraska.

Columbus, Nebraska
January 27, 2026
Tuesday, A.M.

Pursuant to adjournment the Platte County Board of Equalization met in session beginning at 9:00 AM Jennifer E. Brown, County Clerk, Kim Kwapnioski, Chairperson.

Roll Call and the following members present: Supervisors Harms, Ott, Micek, Lloyd and Chairperson Kwapnioski
Absent: Supervisors Trouba and Reilly

The Chairperson informed the public of the posting of the open meeting laws.

The meeting notice was published in the Columbus Telegram on January 20, 2026, and the Humphrey Democrat on January 21, 2026.

Approval of agenda as written

Approval of the minutes of December 16, 2025.

County Treasurer:

A hearing was held at 9:00 a.m. to consider a list of organizations seeking motor vehicle exemption.

Motion, Supervisor Micek, seconded Supervisor Harms, to Open the Hearing.

Voting: Harms: Aye, Kwapnioski: Aye, Lloyd: Aye, Micek: Aye, Ott: Aye, Reilly: Absent, Trouba: Absent

Whereupon the Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Motion, Supervisor Micek, seconded Supervisor Harms, to Close the hearing.

Voting: Harms: Aye, Kwapnioski: Aye, Lloyd: Aye, Micek: Aye, Ott: Aye, Reilly: Absent, Trouba: Absent

Whereupon the Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Motion, Supervisor Micek, seconded Supervisor Lloyd, to approve the following Motor Vehicle Exemptions as presented by the County Treasurer: Columbus Housing Authority, Girl Scouts Spirit of Nebraska, VSL Columbus LLC, Goodwill Industries of Greater Nebraska, Columbus Community Hospital.

Approval of agenda as written

Approval of the January 8, 2026 and January 13, 2026 minutes.

Weed Superintendent:

Motion, Supervisor Micek, seconded Supervisor Lloyd, to accept the Annual Department of Ag Report as presented by the Weed Superintendent.

Voting: Harms: Aye, Kwapnioski: Aye, Lloyd: Aye, Micek: Aye, Ott: Aye, Reilly: Absent, Trouba: Absent

Whereupon the Chairperson declared the motion carried.

County Sheriff:

Motion, Supervisor Lloyd, seconded Supervisor Ott, to approve the purchase of a patrol vehicle by the Sheriff's Department in the amount of up to \$48,472.00 to be paid from the Sheriff's budget.

Voting: Harms: Aye, Kwapnioski: Aye, Lloyd: Aye, Micek: Aye, Ott: Aye, Reilly: Absent, Trouba: Absent

Whereupon the Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Motion, Supervisor Harms, seconded Supervisor Ott, to approve the purchase of laptop computers up to the amount of \$17,358.52 to be paid out of the General Misc. Sheriff's Capital budget, which will be reimbursed by grants up to \$15,000.00 for a total cost of \$6,108.52 to the County.

Voting: Harms: Aye, Kwapnioski: Aye, Lloyd: Aye, Micek: Aye, Ott: Aye, Reilly: Absent, Trouba: Absent

Whereupon the Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Motion, Supervisor Micek, seconded Supervisor Lloyd, to approve Platte County Treasurer to transfer fiscal year July 2020 to June 2025 interest \$360,000.00 from Fund 2580 COVID American Rescue Plan to Fund 100 General.

Voting: Harms: Aye, Kwapnioski: Aye, Lloyd: Aye, Micek: Aye, Ott: Aye, Reilly: Absent, Trouba: Absent

Whereupon the Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Highway Department:

The Highway Department Road Report was given by Justin Laudenklos and Jane Cromwell.

Motion, Supervisor Harms, seconded Supervisor Lloyd, to approve Resolution 26-05 to approve the Interlocal Agreement with Platte Center Rural Fire Protection District for the purchase of fuel from the Highway Department.

SUPERVISORS RECORD NO. 50

Voting: Harms: Aye, Kwapnioski: Aye, Lloyd: Aye, Micek: Aye, Ott: Aye, Reilly: Absent, Trouba: Absent

Whereupon the Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Motion, Supervisor Lloyd, seconded Supervisor Ott, to approve Resolution 26-03 to approve the Environmental Agreement between Platte County and Mainelli Wagner & Associates for the Loup Canal Bridges Project.

Voting: Harms: Aye, Kwapnioski: Aye, Lloyd: Aye, Micek: Nay, Ott: Aye, Reilly: Absent, Trouba: Absent

Whereupon the Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Motion, Supervisor Lloyd, seconded Supervisor Ott, to approve Resolution 26-04 to approve the Preliminary Design Agreement between Platte County and Mainelli Wagner & Associates for the Loup Canal Bridges project.

Voting: Harms: Aye, Kwapnioski: Aye, Lloyd: Aye, Micek: Nay, Ott: Aye, Reilly: Absent, Trouba: Absent

Whereupon the Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Safety Committee:

Motion, Supervisor Micek, seconded Supervisor Ott, to approve the CPR/AED training for County employees and to pay up to \$1,000.00 to come from General Misc. Wellness Program.

Voting: Harms: Aye, Kwapnioski: Aye, Lloyd: Aye, Micek: Aye, Ott: Aye, Reilly: Absent, Trouba: Absent

Whereupon the Chairperson declared the motion carried.

2025 Cemetery Mowing:

Motion, Supervisor Micek, seconded Supervisor Harms, to approve paying Craig Baxa in the amount of \$785.80 to be paid from General Misc. Abandoned Neglected Cemetery Costs.

Voting: Harms: Aye, Kwapnioski: Aye, Lloyd: Aye, Micek: Aye, Ott: Aye, Reilly: Absent, Trouba: Absent

Whereupon the Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Motion, Supervisor Micek, seconded Supervisor Harms, to approve paying Craig Schmidt in the amount of \$650.00 to be paid from General Misc. Abandoned Neglected Cemetery Costs.

Voting: Harms: Aye, Kwapnioski: Aye, Lloyd: Aye, Micek: Aye, Ott: Aye, Reilly: Absent, Trouba: Absent

Whereupon the Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Committee Reports: Supervisor Lloyd-no report, Supervisor Micek-no report, Chair Kwapnioski-NACO board meeting last week, received a handout with good information regarding property tax. Region 4 meeting last week, Board meeting-NACO, it was brought to our attention-services to have someone come in and look at where we have our money and get more out of our funds. She will be looking into this with Jenny Reppert. Ott-no report, Supervisor Harms attended Juvenile Detention Center meeting-job opening for facility administrator. Also met with Theresa Grape-CVB, Fair Foundation, Mayor Bulkley and Tara Vasicek, City Administrator regarding study done for future of fair, Stone Group did the study. It will be presented to County Supervisors at February 24th meeting.

Motion, Supervisor Lloyd, seconded Supervisor Ott, accept, file and credit the proper accounts in correspondence: Monthly fee reports, Cancel the following checks: Highway Dept. check no. 12253309 in the amount of \$100.35 - double payment/wrong department, General Fund check no. 12253335 in the amount of \$85,867.00-double payment - paid in July, General Fund check no. 2673 in the amount of \$1.00 - incorrect information/amount, General Fund check no. 2694 in the amount of \$1,195.00 - incorrect vendor and payments need to be made by departments listed on invoice, Charter Communications - upcoming changes & channel change notices, Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources District - accepting applications for Community Forestry Incentive Program, Issued Permit Transfer - Construction and Operating Permit for Wendt Farms - Platte Center Animal Feeding Operation, 2025-2026 Fund Balance 6 Month Accumulated Report, Nebraska Bankers Insurance and Services Company - Bank Compliance Report for 12/31/25, Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice - conducted an annual evaluation of the Platte County Detention Center and Platte County Courthouse Jail - both were found to be in full compliance with the Standards at the time of the inspection, Treasurer Receipts \$176,981.93

Voting: Harms: Aye, Kwapnioski: Aye, Lloyd: Aye, Micek: Aye, Ott: Aye, Reilly: Absent, Trouba: Absent

Whereupon the Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Motion, Supervisor Lloyd, seconded Supervisor Micek, to approve all claims.

Voting: Harms: Aye, Kwapnioski: Aye, Lloyd: Aye, Micek: Aye, Ott: Aye, Reilly: Absent, Trouba: Absent

Whereupon the Chairperson declared the motion carried.

SUPERVISORS RECORD NO. 50

All Funds-Payroll Payment Nos. 12250817-12251032 & Accounts Payable
Check Nos. 2790-2988, Incl.,

GENERAL FUND

| | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------|
| Total Gross Payroll | | \$304,794.49 |
| Ace Hardware | Bldg Supp | 30.56 |
| Affordable Language Serv | Intrprtr Serv | 217.80 |
| Alex Ernst | Qrtrmstr | 780.00 |
| All Makes | Data Prc Sftwr/Mtce/Sprt | 16.36 |
| All Makes | Copier Lease | 126.59 |
| A T & T | Off Eq Rep | 41.53 |
| Black Hills Energy | Fuels | 1,435.30 |
| Black Hills Energy | Lights | 1,599.43 |
| BounceBack | Data Prc Sftwr/Mtce/Sprt | 75.00 |
| Butler Co Sheriff | Dist Crt Csts | 35.67 |
| Butler Co Sheriff | Crt Csts | 55.39 |
| Casey's Mail Serv | Post | 2,895.40 |
| CDW Gov | Off Eq | 34.48 |
| Charm-Tex Inc | Inmate Prov | 6.90 |
| City of Columbus | Water/Sanitation | 1,457.68 |
| City of David City, NE | Reg HSG 2024 | 216.00 |
| Clay Co Sheriff | Dist Crt Csts | 31.39 |
| CNC Repair LLC | Mile | 19.50 |
| CCH | Sheriff Csts | 40.00 |
| Columbus Express Laundry and Car Wash | Vet Trans Prog | 43.20 |
| Control Masters Inc | Bldg Rep | 298.79 |
| Copple Rockey Schlecht & Mason | Misc | 6,967.50 |
| CPPD | Lights/Elect | 79.30 |
| Courtyard by Marriott | Lodging | 787.50 |
| Crowne Plaza Kearney | Lodging | 434.85 |
| Crowne Plaza Kearney | Lodging | 144.95 |
| Crowne Plaza Kearney | Lodging | 434.85 |
| Crowne Plaza Kearney | Lodging | 434.85 |
| Culligan of Columbus | Janit Supp | 151.00 |
| Culligan of Columbus | Janit Supp | 277.50 |
| DAS St Acctg | Reg HSG 2024 | 135.00 |
| DAS St Acctg | Tele | 150.00 |
| Dave Foster | Vet Trans Prog | 100.00 |
| Dean Fuscher | Vet Trans Prog | 100.00 |
| Des Moines Stamp | Off Supp | 143.00 |
| Eakes | Janit Supp | 363.72 |

SUPERVISORS RECORD NO. 50

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Eakes | Off Supp | 15.87 |
| Eakes | Off Supp | 167.50 |
| Eakes | Off Supp | 26.99 |
| Eakes | Off Supp | 13.95 |
| Eakes | Off Supp | 51.54 |
| Eakes | Off Supp | 290.70 |
| Election Systems & Software | Data Proc Sftwr | 575.00 |
| Emilee Higgins | Dues | 98.00 |
| Endpoint Solutions | Reg HSG 2024 | 5,839.75 |
| Endpoint Solution | Reg HSG 2024 | 1,369.75 |
| Eric Mulally | Mile | 133.40 |
| Eryn Roberts | Voting Polls-Rental | 100.00 |
| First Concord Benefits Grp | 125 Flex-Adm Csts | 300.00 |
| Great Plains Communicatns | Tele Serv | 548.60 |
| Greg Drum | Vet Trans Prog | 100.00 |
| HyVee | Fuel | 78.15 |
| HyVee | Fuel | 3,253.29 |
| Indoff | Vet Trans Prog | 130.39 |
| HyVee | Mile | 116.51 |
| Indoff | Off Supp | 234.99 |
| Indoff | Copy Paper | -29.98 |
| Indoff | Off Supp | 139.96 |
| Indoff | Off Supp | 32.96 |
| Jackson Serv | Janit Supp | 109.62 |
| Jackson Serv | Bldg Supp | 57.17 |
| Jackson Serv | Bldg Supp | 40.00 |
| John Kohl Law Firm | Crt Appt Coun | 1,562.50 |
| John F Nichols DBA John's | Off Eq-Dist Crt | 950.00 |
| Typewriter Serv & Sales | | |
| Justice Works | Data Proc Csts | 100.00 |
| Kildare Repair | Veh Rep | 79.40 |
| Sue Krogmann | Reg HSG 2024 | 3,500.00 |
| Lancaster Co Sheriff | Dist Crt Csts | 37.51 |
| Linda Johnson | Elect PT Sal | 146.25 |
| LPD | Lights | 12,408.72 |
| Lower Platte Weed Man Area | Dues | 350.00 |
| Madison Co Sheriff | Dist Crt Csts | 158.62 |
| Mark Dekraai | Reg HSG 2024 | 9,094.40 |
| Mark Wangler | Vet Trans Prog | 200.00 |
| Barbara Masilko | Dep | 12.16 |
| McKown Funeral Home | Co Burial | 3,000.00 |
| MDT LLC | Audit Csts | 28,000.00 |
| Menards | Janit Supp | 163.89 |
| Menards | Shop Supp | 33.00 |

SUPERVISORS RECORD NO. 50

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Menards | Bldg Supp | 148.63 |
| Dry Creek Wireless | Reg HSG 2024 | 7,419.50 |
| Mike Mulligan | Vet Trans Prog | 100.00 |
| Microfilm Imaging Syst | Eq Rental-Office | 224.00 |
| Microfilm Imaging Syst | Data Proc Eq | 140.00 |
| Mid-Sts Orgn Crime Inf Ctr | Dues | 150.00 |
| MIPS | Off Supp | 170.00 |
| Murphy's Law Publ | Misc | 7.43 |
| NACO | Dues | 75.00 |
| NACREC | Dues | 50.00 |
| NACO | Reg | 160.00 |
| NE Weed Control Assoc | Dues | 150.00 |
| New Victorian Inn | Reg HSG 2024 | 112.00 |
| One Call Concepts | Misc Exp | 2.46 |
| Paper Tiger Shredding | Misc | 280.00 |
| Physicians Laboratory PC | Autopsy Csts | 3,245.00 |
| Pinnacle Bank | Misc | 27.99 |
| PC Clerk/OASI | Soc Sec-Match | 21,958.66 |
| PC Court | Crt Csts | 2,064.00 |
| PC Hwy Dept | Fuel | 630.69 |
| Platte Valley Humane Soc | Humane Soc | 600.00 |
| Platte Valley Pest Control | Pest Control | 220.00 |
| Pro Printing & Graphics | Off Supp | 30.00 |
| Raph Hefti | Vet Trans Prog | 100.00 |
| Gass/Haney Funeral Home | Autopsy Csts | 650.00 |
| Gass/Haney Funeral Home | County Burials | 2,410.00 |
| Region 4 | Reg IV Wayne | 8,671.50 |
| Retire Plans Div of Ameritas | Co Retire-Match | 21,658.78 |
| Rhiannon Schroeder | Co Crt Csts | 64.80 |
| Robert Shepherd | Qrtrmstr | 266.98 |
| Rowse Auto Detail | Safety Eq | 200.00 |
| Sandra Hoefer | Elect P/T Salary | 157.50 |
| Sapp Bros Inc | Fuel | 47.36 |
| Shevlin Supply | Bldg Supp | 464.34 |
| Sipple Hansen Law Office | Crt Appt Coun | 468.75 |
| Stanek Fire Protection | Jail Bldg Rep | 1,150.00 |
| Stanton Delay Doele Carlson | Crt Appt Coun | 2,800.00 |
| Stover & Stratton | | |
| Summit Food Service | Food/Bev | 12,174.93 |
| Sunbelt Rentals | Handi-man/Misc Labor Etc | 115.00 |
| T-Bone Truck Stop | Fuel | 156.27 |
| T-Bone Truck Stop | Fuel | 1,217.27 |
| T-Bone Truck Stop | Fuel | 20.91 |
| T-Bone Truck Stop | Fuel | 91.91 |

SUPERVISORS RECORD NO. 50

| | | |
|--|----------------------------|-----------------|
| T-Bone Truck Stop | Fuel | 40.83 |
| Terry Evans | Vert Trans Prog | 50.00 |
| Thomson Reuters – West | Co Law Libr | 937.63 |
| Tru by Hilton Kearney | Lodging | 259.90 |
| US Bank | Jail Bldg Rep/Food/Bev/Off | 839.81 |
| | Supp/Inmate | |
| | Prov/Qrtrmstr | |
| US Bank | Qrtrmstr/Car Rep-Rd Fd | 725.83 |
| Verizon | Tele | 79.88 |
| VVS Inc – Canteen | Food/Bev | 151.24 |
| | Total | \$492,482.82 |
| Previous amount allowed during current budget year | | 10,896,841.03 |
| Total amount allowed to date | | \$11,389,323.85 |

ROAD-BRIDGE FUND

| | | |
|----------------------------|--|-------------|
| Total Gross Payroll | | \$70,563.42 |
| Ace Hardware | Rd Eq Rep | 249.83 |
| Arnold Motor Supply | Rd Eq Rp | 3,407.72 |
| Automotive Systems | Data Proc Csts | 928.56 |
| Brown’s Shoe Fit Co | Safety Eq | 162.00 |
| Central Valley Ag | Eq Grease/Oil | 2,306.15 |
| CPPD | Elect | 1,759.37 |
| Courtesy Ford of Norfolk | Pickups | 123,566.00 |
| Crowne Plaza Kearney | Lodging | 434.85 |
| Danielson Tech Supply | Bldg Rep | 805.00 |
| Des Moines Stamp Mfg | Off Supp | 73.00 |
| Eakes | Off Supp | 71.19 |
| Kathy Forney | Shop Supp | 24.84 |
| Gene Steffy Ford | Comm Eq Rep | 899.33 |
| Jackson Service | Oth Pers Serv | 675.07 |
| LPD | Elect | 406.00 |
| Matheson-Tri-Gas | Shop Supp | 274.82 |
| Menards | Rd Eq Rp/Shp Sp/Flags/ Flares/ Barricades | 244.48 |
| Mickey Smith | Comm Eq Rep | 850.00 |
| Motion Industries | Rd Eq Rep | 527.64 |
| National Sign Co | Flags/Flares/Barricades | 552.00 |
| PC Clerk/OASI | Soc Sec-Match | 5,133.43 |
| Retire Pln Div of Ameritas | Co Retire-Match | 4,699.44 |
| NMC Inc | Rd Eq Rep/Comm Eq Rep | 1,251.39 |
| Platte Co Treasurer | Misc | 32.00 |
| Platte Valley Communicatns | Rd Eq Rep | 380.25 |
| Pomp’s Tire Service | Tires/Tire Rep | 10,298.00 |

SUPERVISORS RECORD NO. 50

| | | |
|--|---------------|----------------|
| Powerplan-Murphy Tractor | Comm Eq Rep | 2,699.47 |
| Reardon Lawn & Garden | Rd Eq Rep | 56.99 |
| Sapp Bros Petroleum | Heating Fuels | 595.00 |
| Nebraska Central Railroad | Signals | 9,165.91 |
| Schieffer Signs | Rd Eq Rep | 192.90 |
| Sioux City Truck Sales Inc | Comm Eq Rep | 10,483.90 |
| Uline | Shop Supp | 196.24 |
| Verizon Connect NWF Inc | Oth Eq Rental | 752.30 |
| | Total | \$254,718.49 |
| Previous amount allowed during current budget year | | 7,341,985.53 |
| Total amount allowed to date | | \$7,596,704.02 |

COMPREHENSIVE JUVENILE SERVICES FUND

| | | |
|--|--------------------------|-------------|
| Total Gross Payroll | | \$4,016.68 |
| COR Therapeutic Serv | Consult/Contracts Grants | 300.00 |
| Culligan of Columbus | Off Supp | 9.50 |
| PC Clerk/OASI | Soc Sec-Match | 286.34 |
| PC Juvenile Diversion | Prog Oprtng Supp-Grant | 201.03 |
| Retire Plns Div Ameritas | Co Retire-Match | 240.72 |
| | Total | \$5,054.27 |
| Previous amount allowed during current budget year | | 86,223.03 |
| Total amount allowed to date | | \$91,277.30 |

CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT FUND

| | | |
|--|------------------|--------------|
| Total Gross Payroll | | \$5,567.20 |
| All Makes | Office Supp | 32.92 |
| Casey's Mail Service | Post | 184.74 |
| Microfilm Imaging Syst | Data Proc Rental | 188.00 |
| PC Clerk/OASI | Soc Sec-Match | 401.29 |
| Retire Plns Div of Ameritas | Co Retire-Match | 375.79 |
| | Total | \$6,749.94 |
| Previous amount allowed during current budget year | | 96,659.75 |
| Total amount allowed to date | | \$103,409.69 |

COUNTY VISITOR PROMOTION FUND

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------|------------|
| Total Gross Payroll | | \$3,722.34 |
| All Makes | Supp & Materials | 34.44 |
| Amplified Digital | Print/Publ | 250.00 |
| Casey's Mail Service | Post | 21.31 |
| Theresa Grape | Mile | 15.00 |
| Eakes | Off Supp | 230.29 |

SUPERVISORS RECORD NO. 50

| | | |
|--|---|--------------|
| Flagship Publishing | Print/Publ | 1,063.00 |
| Chase Gronenthal | Print/Publ | 1,400.00 |
| Nebraska Sports Council | Visit Dev Act | 2,000.00 |
| Nebraska Tourism Comm | Misc/Visit Prom Act | 1,250.00 |
| Pinnacle Bank | Data Proc Csts/Print/Publ/Vist Prom/Subs | 875.71 |
| PC Clerk/OASI | Soc Sec-Match | 273.83 |
| Psyco Billy Cadillac Fan Tour | Visit Dev Act | 300.00 |
| Retire Plns Div of Ameritas | Co Retire-Match | 172.14 |
| | Total | \$11,608.06 |
| Previous amount allowed during current budget year | | 134,214.99 |
| Total amount allowed to date | | \$145,823.05 |

SELF-FUNDING INSURANCE FUND

| | | |
|--|----------|--------------|
| PC Self Funding Ins Acct | Ins Prem | \$8,614.40 |
| Previous amount allowed during current budget year | | 146,559.14 |
| Total amount allowed to date | | \$155,173.54 |

ADULT PRE-TRIAL DIVERSION FUND

| | | |
|--|-----------------|-------------|
| Total Gross Payroll | | \$1,744.00 |
| PC Clerk/OASI | Soc Sec-Match | 118.14 |
| Retire Plns Div of Ameritas | Co Retire-Match | 117.72 |
| | Total | \$1,979.86 |
| Previous amount allowed during current budget year | | 29,315.56 |
| Total amount allowed to date | | \$31,295.42 |

VICTIM ASSISTANCE FUND

| | | |
|--|-----------------|-------------|
| Total Gross Payroll | | \$4,570.40 |
| Casey's Mail Service | Post | 15.96 |
| PC Clerk/OASI | Soc Sec-Match | 347.10 |
| Retire Plns Div of Ameritas | Co Retire-Match | 308.50 |
| | Total | \$5,241.96 |
| Previous amount allowed during current budget year | | 77,268.99 |
| Total amount allowed to date | | \$82,510.95 |

SUPERVISORS RECORD NO. 50

COVID AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUND

| | | |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Village of Monroe | COVID American Rescue Plan | \$150,158.31 |
| Previous amount allowed during current budget year | | <u>294,655.21</u> |
| Total amount allowed to date | | \$444,813.52 |

LAW ENFORCEMENT FUND

| | | |
|--|-----------------|------------------|
| CIDNET | Commissary | \$1,500.00 |
| Crowne Plaza Kearney | Breath Analysis | 434.85 |
| US Bank | Commissary | <u>208.23</u> |
| | | \$2,143.08 |
| Previous amount allowed during current budget year | | <u>34,336.84</u> |
| Total amount allowed to date | | \$36,479.92 |

DISTRICT PROBATION FUND

| | | |
|--|----------------------|------------------|
| Amazon Capital Services | Office Supp | \$585.69 |
| Charter Communications | Tele Serv | 280.00 |
| Clearly | Tele Serv | 265.46 |
| Eakes | Off Eq/Copier Lease | 1,214.12 |
| Hamilton Telecomm | Tele Serv | 134.34 |
| Kopchos | Handi-man/Misc Labor | 10.00 |
| Laura L Coufal dba | Hamdi-man/Misc Labor | 280.00 |
| The Simple Daisy | | |
| PEX Visa Prepaid Card | Drug Tech Post | 86.32 |
| Rachael Leigh Crowdell | Handi-man/Misc Labor | 340.00 |
| Windstream | Tele Serv | <u>38.07</u> |
| | Total | \$3,234.00 |
| Previous amount allowed during current budget year | | <u>42,393.59</u> |
| Total amount allowed to date | | \$45,627.59 |

Motion, Supervisor Micek, seconded Supervisor Lloyd, to adjourn to Feb 10, 2026.

Voting: Harms: Aye, Kwapnioski: Aye, Lloyd: Aye, Micek: Aye, Ott: Aye, Reilly: Absent, Trouba: Absent

Whereupon the Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Public Comments: No Public present

(S E A L)

Attest: _____
Jennifer E. Brown
Deputy Clerk of the County
Board

Kim Kwapnioski
Chairperson, Board of Supervisors

AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FORM

(To be completed by requesting Department)

Forward all requests to jbrown@plattecounty.ne.gov

DEADLINE SUBMITTAL IS 12:00 P.M. TUESDAY 1 WEEK BEFORE THE BOARD MEETING

Agenda Item: INTRODUCTION

(i.e., Consent/Recognition-Proclamation/Presentation/Public Hearing/Committee, etc.)

Date to be on the agenda: FEBRUARY 10, 2026

Exact wording to be used for the agenda:
INTRODUCTION OF K. MCKAY

Action Requested NONE Funding Code _____

IS this item in current fiscal year budget? Yes No

Does this item commit funds for future years? Yes No

If yes, explain: _____

If an agreement or contract*, has the County Attorney reviewed and approved?

*Provide County Clerk with contact info for outside organizations Yes No

Previous action taken on this item if any?

Recommendations and rationale or action: _____

Will anyone speak on behalf of this item, if so who? MARLENE VETICK

If this is a rush agenda item, please explain why: _____

Submitted by (Name & Department) Marlene Vetick, District Court Clerk Ext. 306

Date Submitted: 2-3-2026

List of attachments: LETTER

(Attach resolution and all pertinent documentation, i.e., contract, agreement, memorandums, etc.)

Completed by Receiving office.
Received in Clerk's Office: Date _____ Time _____ Initials _____



PLATTE COUNTY - CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT
MARLENE M. VETICK, Clerk / LORI S. MICEK, Deputy
P.O.BOX 1188
COLUMBUS NE 68602-1188
Telephone: (402) 563-4906 / Fax: (402) 562-6718

February 3, 2026

PLATTE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS


Board Members:

Please accept this as my notification that I will not be seeking re-election to the position of Clerk of District Court of Platte County for a 10th term.

I have had the distinct honor to work with great District Court Judges and staff throughout my 42 years of service. It has been a privilege to serve the citizens of Platte County in this position since 1991, and work for Platte County since 1984. At the conclusion of my term in office, I will be leaving behind a knowledgeable, well-respected, and experienced office staff.

I would be remiss not to recommend a protégé to the position of Clerk. I am asking for your support, and the support of Platte County electors, of Kate McKay, as your next Clerk of District Court. Kate is a resident of Platte County (Humphrey native), worked within the Madison County District Court for 20+ years, and will maintain the integrity that Platte County citizens are accustomed to and deserve. I am happy to assist Kate with the transition to Clerk and/or provide any assistance that may be necessary.

I want to personally thank you, Supervisors, for the respect and support that you have given to me and my office. It is very much appreciated.


Marlene M. Vetick
Clerk of District Court
Platte County, Columbus NE

AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FORM

(To be completed by requesting Department)

Forward all requests to jbrown@plattecounty.ne.gov

DEADLINE SUBMITTAL IS 12:00 P.M. TUESDAY 1 WEEK BEFORE THE BOARD MEETING

Agenda Item: Discussion and Possible Action

(i.e., Consent/Recognition-Proclamation/Presentation/Public Hearing/Committee, etc.)

Date to be on the agenda: 2/24/26

Exact wording to be used for the agenda:

Rachel Pensick - Second Addendum to "Consolidated Communications Center Interlocal Cooperation Agreement"

Action Requested Approve

Funding Code _____

IS this item in current fiscal year budget? Yes No

Does this item commit funds for future years? Yes No

If yes, explain: _____

If an agreement or contract*, has the County Attorney reviewed and approved?

*Provide County Clerk with contact info for outside organizations Yes No

Previous action taken on this item if any?

N/A

Recommendations and rationale or action: See attached memo.

Will anyone speak on behalf of this item, if so who? Rachel Pensick

If this is a rush agenda item, please explain why: _____

Submitted by (Name & Department) Rachel Pensick, Columbus-Platte County JCC Ext. _____

Date Submitted: 2/4/26

List of attachments: Memo, Addendum

(Attach resolution and all pertinent documentation, i.e., contract, agreement, memorandums, etc.)

Completed by Receiving office.
Received in Clerk's Office: Date _____ Time _____ Initials _____



Columbus-Platte County Joint Communications Center
1304 Bill Babka Drive
Columbus, NE 68601
Phone (402)564-3201
Fax (402)564-0660

DATE: February 4, 2026
TO: Platte County Board of Supervisors
FROM: Rachel Pensick, Communications Director
RE: Second Addendum to Interlocal Agreement

RECOMMENDATION:

To approve a Second Addendum to the existing "Consolidated Communications Center Interlocal Cooperation Agreement" between Platte County and the City of Columbus.

DISCUSSION:

The proposed Second Addendum includes the following two updates:

1. Meeting Frequency
 - a. The current agreement requires meetings to be held on a monthly basis. The addendum revises this provision to require meetings to be held no less than every other month, or more frequently as deemed necessary.
2. Address Update
 - a. The addendum updates the address for the City of Columbus to reflect its current and correct mailing address to:
CITY OF COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA
Attn: City Administrator
2500 14th Street, Suite 3
Columbus, NE 68601
402-562-4233

All terms and conditions of the Underlying Agreement and the First Addendum not otherwise amended or altered by the Second Addendum remains in full force and affect.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.

CONCURRENCE:

The Joint Communications Committee proposed and approved the request for the amendment. The Platte County Attorney has reviewed and approved the amendment.

SIGNATURE

By: 
Rachel Pensick – Communications Director

**SECOND ADDENDUM TO “CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS CENTER
INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT”**

WHEREAS, the County of Platte, Nebraska (herein referred to as “PLATTE”), and the City of Columbus, Nebraska (herein referred to as “COLUMBUS”), operate a joint communications and dispatch center for 911 calls and it is referred to as the “Columbus/Platte County Joint Communications Center” (herein referred to as the “JCC”); and

WHEREAS, the arrangement for the JJC is evidenced through an “CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS CENTER INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT” which is evidenced via City of Columbus Resolution No. R18-75 (hereinafter referred to as the “Underlying Agreement”); and

WHEREAS, there has been one previous amendment to Underlying Agreement which is evidenced via City of Columbus Resolution No. R18-172 (herein after referred to as the “First Addendum”); and

WHEREAS, the Parties desire to modify and amend the meeting frequency of the JCC’s committee; and

WHEREAS, the City’s mailing address has also changed and needs to be updated.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, and the mutual benefits provided by the Underlying Agreement and this Second Addendum, the Underlying Agreement is hereby amended as follows:

1. This Second Addendum hereby amends and replaces Paragraph 4 of the Underlying Agreement as follows:
 - The Joint Committee shall meet no less than once every other month, or more frequently if necessary. All meetings of the Joint Committee shall be conducted in accordance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act

(Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 84-1407 through 84-1414). All actions taken by the Joint Committee, along with meeting minutes, shall be published on the City of Columbus website within fourteen (14) days following each meeting.

2. This Second Addendum hereby amends and replaces the City's Address listed in Paragraph 17 of the Underlying Agreement with the following address:

- CITY OF COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA
Attn: City Administrator
2500 14th Street, Suite 3
Columbus, NE 68601
402-562-4233

3. This Second Addendum shall be attached to and shall become a part of the Agreement.
4. The Second Addendum shall be effective as of the signature date of each Party.
5. All terms and conditions of the Underlying Agreement and the First Addendum not otherwise amended or altered by this Second Addendum shall remain in full force and effect.

*****Remainder of Page Left Intentionally Blank*****

Executed and Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2026, by the City of Columbus, Nebraska:

ATTEST:

THE CITY OF COLUMBUS,
NEBRASKA:

City Clerk

Mayor

Executed and Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2026, by the County of Platte, Nebraska:

ATTEST:

THE COUNTY OF PLATTE,
NEBRASKA:

Count Clerk

Chairman

Acknowledged this _____ day of _____, 2026, by the Columbus/Platte County Joint Communications Center:

COLUMBUS/PLATTE COUNTY
JOINT COMMUNICATIONS
CENTER

Director

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Columbus City Attorney (Date)

Platte County Attorney (Date)



January 2026

Kim Kwapnioski, Chairperson
Platte County Board of Commissioners/Supervisors
2610 14th Street
Columbus, NE 68601

Dear Supervisor Kwapnioski:

Nebraska Extension is pleased to continue a strong tradition of making a difference in the lives of individuals, families, businesses and communities in Platte County! Our programs address issues that Nebraskan's have identified as being important to them.

Enclosed you will find local Extension programming and financial summaries for 2025. Specific items include 1) Final of 2024-25 budget expenditures, 2) Current fiscal year 2025-26 budget, 3) County Impact Report, and 4) Yearly program summaries for each local and regional educator and assistants/associates.

Thank you for continuing to invest in Nebraska Extension as a local collaborative partner. We strive to be great stewards of resources and work hard every day to demonstrate a strong return on your investment. As you know, Extension educators and assistants live, work and engage with people in your local and area communities. We look forward to making a difference in the lives of Nebraskans together with you!

Sincerely,

Brad Christensen
2024 President
Platte County Extension Board

Sheila Hoppe
Co-Lead Educator
Nebraska Extension in Platte County

Enclosure

PREPARE IN TRIPLICATE:
 1 COPY TO DISTRICT DIRECTOR
 1 COPY TO IANR FINANCE & PERSONNEL
 1 COPY TO COUNTY FILE

PLATTE COUNTY
 UNL EXTENSION
 FINANCIAL FORM 9

6/1/2025 FINAL

| CODE NO | OBJECT OF EXPENDITURE | BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR | SPENT THIS MONTH | TOTAL SPENT TO DATE | UNSPENT BALANCE | PERCENT SPENT | OBJECT NUMBER | APPROPRIA | JUNE |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|--------------------|
| 1 0305 | CLERICAL, FULL TIME | \$90,227.00 | \$7,024.00 | \$89,711.84 | \$515.16 | 99.43% | | # | \$7,024.00 |
| 1 0326 | EXTEN. ASSIST. SALARIES | \$81,824.00 | \$6,137.60 | \$61,458.19 | \$20,365.81 | 75.11% | | # | \$6,137.60 |
| 1 0101 | BOARD MEMBER BY DISTRICT | \$700.00 | \$0.00 | \$555.00 | \$145.00 | 79.29% | | | |
| 1 0405 | CLERICAL, PART TIME | \$5,080.00 | \$1,564.00 | \$6,875.00 | (\$1,795.00) | 135.33% | | # | \$1,564.00 |
| TOTAL PERSONNEL SERVICE | | \$177,831.00 | \$14,725.60 | \$158,600.03 | \$19,230.97 | 89.19% | | # | \$14,725.60 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 0100 | POSTAL SERVICE | \$2,500.00 | \$1,000.00 | \$4,338.34 | (\$1,838.34) | 173.53% | | # | \$1,000.00 |
| 2-1101 | COMPUTER EXPENSE -- GENERAL | \$3,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$2,561.43 | \$438.57 | 85.38% | | | |
| 2 1200 | OFFICE EQUIP. REPAIR | \$3,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$2,195.21 | \$804.79 | 73.17% | | | |
| 2 1601 | VEHICLE REPAIR | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | #DIV/0! | | | |
| 2 1701 | MEALS | \$250.00 | \$0.00 | \$154.19 | \$95.81 | 61.68% | | # | |
| 2 1702 | LODGING | \$1,500.00 | \$0.00 | \$782.66 | \$717.34 | 52.18% | | # | |
| 2 1704 | MILEAGE ALLOWANCE | \$2,700.00 | \$0.00 | \$2,035.32 | \$664.68 | 75.38% | | # | |
| 2 1708 | BOARD MEMBER EXPENSE | \$400.00 | \$0.00 | \$363.76 | \$36.24 | 90.94% | | | |
| 2 1801 | DUES, SUBS REGS & TRAINING | \$1,600.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,045.93 | \$554.07 | 65.37% | | | |
| 2 9900 | MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE | \$500.00 | \$0.00 | \$129.77 | \$370.23 | 25.95% | | # | |
| TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES | | \$15,450.00 | \$1,000.00 | \$13,606.61 | \$1,843.39 | 88.07% | | # | \$1,000.00 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 0101 | OFFICE SUPPLIES | \$2,500.00 | \$467.73 | \$2,283.79 | \$216.21 | 91.35% | | # | \$467.73 |
| 3 0118 | STATIONERY/ENVELOPES | \$400.00 | \$0.00 | \$205.78 | \$194.22 | 51.45% | | | |
| 3 0124 | PROGRAM SUPPLIES | \$1,000.00 | \$751.72 | \$1,693.24 | (\$693.24) | 169.32% | | # | \$751.72 |
| 3 0209 | FUEL | \$1,000.00 | \$114.66 | \$680.59 | \$319.41 | 68.06% | | # | \$114.66 |
| 3 0210 | GREASE/OIL | \$400.00 | \$0.00 | \$66.46 | \$333.54 | 16.62% | | | |
| 3 0211 | TIRES/REPAIR | \$800.00 | \$0.00 | \$205.55 | \$594.45 | 25.69% | | # | |
| TOTAL SUPPLIES | | \$6,100.00 | \$1,334.11 | \$5,135.41 | \$964.59 | 84.19% | | # | \$1,334.11 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 0500 | BUILDING RENTAL | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | 0.00% | # | # # | \$0.00 |
| TOTAL EQUIPMENT | | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | 0.00% | | # | \$0.00 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 0301 | VEHICLE | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | 0.00% | # | # # | \$0.00 |
| 5 0500 | OFFICE EQUIPMENT | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | 0.00% | | # | \$0.00 |
| TOTAL CAPITAL OUTLAY | | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | 0.00% | | # | \$0.00 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | 5/6 |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | | \$199,381.00 | \$17,059.71 | \$177,342.05 | \$22,038.95 | 88.95% | | # | \$17,059.71 |

Average: 83.33%
 Difference: -5.61%

WE HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THESE ARE EXPENDITURES FOR PLATTE COUNTY EXTENSION FOR YEAR 202 2024-25

DISBURSING OFFICER

EXTENSION EDUCATOR

645-EXTENSION AGENT-PLATTE CO

| | | Fund | Function | 0100 | GENERAL | | |
|----------|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | 645 | 645 | AGENT | AGENT | | |
| Code No. | GENERAL FUND 645-EXTENSION AGENT-PLATTE CO EXPENDITURES | Actual 2023-2024 (1) | Budget 2024-2025 (2) | Actual 2024-2025 (3) | Official's Estim 2025-2026 (4) | Proposed 2025-2026 (5) | Adopted 2025-2026 (6) |
| 1 | PERSONAL SERVICES | | | | | | |
| 2 | 1 0101 Board Member Cost by District | 495.00 | 700.00 | 555.00 | 700.00 | 700.00 | 700.00 |
| 3 | 1 0305 Clerical Salary 2.0 | 86,128.40 | 90,227.00 | 89,712.64 | 92,932.00 | 92,932.00 | 92,932.00 |
| 4 | 1 0326 Programming Staff 2.0 | 75,419.29 | 81,824.00 | 63,731.19 | 81,653.00 | 81,653.00 | 81,653.00 |
| 5 | 1 0405 Clerical Part Time Salary 1.5 | 4,683.39 | 5,080.00 | 6,875.00 | 7,525.00 | 7,525.00 | 7,525.00 |
| 6 | | | | | | | |
| 7 | TOTAL PERSONAL SERVICES | 166,726.08 | 177,831.00 | 160,873.83 | 182,810.00 | 182,810.00 | 182,810.00 |
| 8 | OPERATING EXPENSES | | | | | | |
| 9 | 2 0100 Postal Services | 2,554.92 | 2,500.00 | 4,338.34 | 3,400.00 | 3,400.00 | 3,400.00 |
| 10 | 2 0501 Electricity | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 11 | 2 0502 Water | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 12 | 2 0504 Sewer | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 13 | 2 0505 Garbage | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 14 | 2 1101 Computer Expense - General | 3,143.71 | 3,000.00 | 2,561.43 | 3,000.00 | 2,650.00 | 2,650.00 |
| 15 | 2 1200 Office Equipment Repair | 2,058.98 | 3,000.00 | 2,195.21 | 2,300.00 | 2,150.00 | 2,150.00 |
| 16 | 2 1601 Car Repair Non Road Fund | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 17 | 2 1701 Meals | 108.40 | 250.00 | 154.19 | 400.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| 18 | 2 1702 Lodging | 1,065.33 | 1,500.00 | 782.66 | 1,600.00 | 1,400.00 | 1,400.00 |
| 19 | 2 1704 Mileage Allowance | 2,494.91 | 2,700.00 | 2,035.32 | 2,700.00 | 2,400.00 | 2,400.00 |
| 20 | 2 1708 Board Members Expenses | 326.83 | 400.00 | 363.76 | 400.00 | 400.00 | 400.00 |
| 21 | 2 1801 Dues Subscriptions, Registrations | 1,244.94 | 1,600.00 | 1,045.93 | 1,600.00 | 1,400.00 | 1,400.00 |
| 22 | 2 1808 Cleaning | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 23 | 2 4110 Pest Control | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 24 | 2 9900 Misc Expenses | 1,004.36 | 500.00 | 129.77 | 400.00 | 150.00 | 150.00 |
| 25 | | | | | | | |
| 26 | TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES | 14,002.38 | 15,450.00 | 13,606.61 | 15,800.00 | 14,200.00 | 14,200.00 |
| 27 | SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS | | | | | | |
| 28 | 3 0101 Office Supplies | 2,493.21 | 2,500.00 | 2,283.79 | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 | 2,000.00 |
| 29 | 3 0118 Stationary/Envelopes | 6.99 | 400.00 | 205.78 | 400.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
| 30 | 3 0119 Building Door Mats | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 31 | 3 0124 Program Supplies | 1,096.93 | 1,000.00 | 1,693.24 | 1,250.00 | 1,250.00 | 1,250.00 |
| 32 | 3 0204 Snow Removal | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 33 | 3 0209 Machinery & Equipment Fuel | 757.73 | 1,000.00 | 680.59 | 1,000.00 | 850.00 | 850.00 |
| 34 | 3 0210 Machinery & Equipment Grease, Oil | 187.57 | 400.00 | 66.46 | 400.00 | 250.00 | 250.00 |
| 35 | 3 0211 Machinery & Equipment Tires Repair | 122.95 | 800.00 | 205.55 | 700.00 | 400.00 | 400.00 |
| 36 | | | | | | | |
| 37 | TOTAL SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS | 4,665.38 | 6,100.00 | 5,135.41 | 5,750.00 | 4,850.00 | 4,850.00 |
| 38 | EQUIPMENT RENTAL | | | | | | |
| 39 | | | | | | 0.00 | 0.00 |

Platte County

2025 Impact At-A-Glance



platte.unl.edu



“At the inaugural livestock judging contest, 4-H youth reported stronger critical-thinking and evaluation skills, with several applied what they learned to improve their performance at later events.”

Platte County 4-H reached 6,664 youth in 2025—67% of all county youth—and 10,850 total program contacts through clubs, camps, Clover Kids, school enrichment, and after-school programs. Our inaugural Livestock Judging Contest gave 19 Platte County youth hands-on experience in animal evaluation and oral reasons - building confidence and interest in agricultural careers. This preparation helped 34 local youth feel ready to participate in the UNL State PASE event, strengthening skills essential for Nebraska’s future agricultural leaders.

NEBRASKA EXTENSION is RELENTLESSLY RELEVANT.



EXPLORE ALL 2025 IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

28

Hours of early childhood professional development

88

Early childhood professionals participated in trainings

621

NDE approved early childhood in-service hours awarded

STRENGTHEN NEBRASKA AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS

INSPIRE NEBRASKANS & THEIR COMMUNITIES

ENHANCE THE HEALTH & WELLBEING OF ALL NEBRASKANS



Nebraska Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska– Lincoln cooperating with the Counties and the United States Department of Agriculture. Nebraska Extension educational programs abide with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture. ©2025



Sheila Hoppe **Teen Ambassadors Advancing Pollinator Stewardship and Youth Leadership**

2025 Impact

Extension

Nebraska Extension-Engagement Zone 07

4-H Youth Development

Issue

Pollinator populations are declining due to habitat loss and limited public awareness, threatening ecosystems, food systems, and community green spaces. At the same time, many youth lack opportunities to develop leadership skills through meaningful, community-connected experiences. Addressing both challenges is important for building environmentally resilient communities and preparing youth to be engaged civic leaders.

Public Value

This work strengthens communities by improving pollinator-friendly public spaces while developing youth leadership and civic engagement. Communities benefit from increased environmental awareness, enhanced shared spaces, and youth-led projects that build local pride, collaboration, and long-term capacity for community improvement.

Action

I led the development and implementation of the Teen Ambassadors Pollinator Leadership Program, providing youth with education on pollinators and leadership skills. I coordinated youth-led community projects, facilitated partnerships with local organizations, and supported teens as they planned and completed pollinator-focused installations and educational displays in public spaces.

Results/Outputs

Teen Ambassadors completed multiple youth-led pollinator projects in visible community spaces, including planters and educational displays. Teens applied learned skills to real-world projects, strengthened leadership and teamwork abilities, and engaged community members through hands-on environmental improvements and public education efforts.

Impact

This work created visible, lasting improvements in community spaces while increasing awareness of the importance of pollinators. Youth participants developed confidence, leadership, and a sense of civic responsibility through meaningful, real-world service. Community members benefited from enhanced public spaces, increased environmental knowledge, and positive youth engagement. By connecting youth leadership with community needs, the program strengthened local capacity and demonstrated the value of youth-led Extension programming in addressing environmental and community challenges.

Improve the health and well-being of all Nebraskans.

EXTENSION'S BIG 3

Inspire Nebraskans & Their Communities

IMPACT IN NEBRASKA

1

PLATTE

NEBRASKA COUNTIES IMPACTED



Image Description: Teen Ambassadors planting flowers as part of a community service leadership project.



Statement of Goals/Expected Outcomes and Descriptive Summary of Accomplishments (2025)

1. Role Overview

Platte County 4-H Youth Development Educator & Statewide STEM Focus Team Leade

My role encompasses leading high-quality STEM programming locally and statewide, coordinating youth leadership opportunities, and providing organizational leadership as the Lead Educator for Platte County. My work blends youth development, STEM education, volunteer and community engagement, curriculum development, school enrichment coordination, and strategic leadership to support thriving youth, strong communities, and effective Extension operations. Primary responsibilities include:

- STEM school enrichment, after-school programs, and special events
- Development and leadership of the statewide STEM Foundational Program
- Teen leadership through Jr. Leaders and continuation of relationships with Teen Ambassadors
- Platte County Clover Kids Club leadership
- STEM Field Days coordination and sponsorship development
- Volunteer and Extension collaborator coordination
- Budget oversight, office leadership, and county partnership engagement

Emphasis areas: STEM education, youth leadership, organizational leadership, community partnership development, and operational excellence.

2. Major Goals for 2025 and Progress

Goal 1: Lead and Expand High-Quality STEM Programming

Statewide and local focus on strengthening access, relevance, and consistency of 4-H STEM opportunities.

- Led development, pilot, and launch of the STEM Foundational Program (Egg-Streme Engineering).
- Delivered and supervised 3,567 STEM learning experiences across Platte County through school enrichment, after-school programs, workshops, and special events.
- Directed STEM Field Days, Platte County's largest youth STEM event.
- Designed and taught hands-on experiences using coding robots, engineering tools, and STEM inquiry activities.

Evidence / Indicators:

- Reached 6,714 participants across 162 Extension activities directly delivered by me.
- STEM Field Days reached 1,726 youth, supported by 73 volunteers and \$14,200 in sponsorships from 16 businesses under my leadership.
- Evaluation: 98% of participating youth learned something new; 100% reported enjoying the STEM program they participated in.
- STEM Foundational Program reached 213 youth in its first 3.5 months of statewide delivery.

Goal 2: Strengthen Youth Leadership Pathways

Build leadership opportunities through Teen Ambassadors (grant year), Jr. Leaders, and 4-H Clover Kids.

- Completed delivery of the Teen Ambassadors Pollinator Leadership Program (grant year), continuing to support youth leadership beyond the program period.
- Strengthened the Platte County Jr. Leaders program through collaboration with other 4-H staff, offering leadership, community engagement, and service-learning experiences.
- Led the Platte County 4-H Clover Kids Club, supporting foundational 4-H engagement for K-2 youth.

Evidence / Indicators:



Sheila Hoppe

4-H Extension Educator and Lead Educator - Platte County
2025 Summary of Goals and Accomplishments

- Teen Ambassadors completed community-impact pollinator projects reaching public audiences.
- Jr. Leader teens increased confidence, peer collaboration, and service involvement.
- Clover Kids families reported strong engagement and excitement for ongoing 4-H involvement.

Goal 3: Provide Leadership to the Statewide STEM Focus Team

Develop the STEM Foundational Program, train educators, and support statewide implementation.

- Navigated the transition from seven focus teams to four, supporting structural redesign.
- Led curriculum development, pilot coordination, and early implementation for the STEM Foundational Program.
- Delivered statewide professional development for 50 Extension professionals (train-the-trainer).
- Contributed to foundational program training delivered to 97 statewide Extension faculty/staff across focus teams.

Evidence / Indicators:

- Foundational Programs delivered at 70 sites statewide, reaching 2,485 participants across all focus teams.
- Evaluation across focus teams:
 - 89% demonstrated content understanding
 - 90% were excited about the program
 - 88% wanted to continue learning
- STEM Foundational Program adoption demonstrates early scalability and alignment with statewide STEM priorities.

Goal 4: Support Effective Local Operations & Team Functioning

Provide leadership as Platte County Lead Educator in supervision, communication, fiscal accountability, and compliance.

- Served as Lead Educator, providing supervision, communication, and operational oversight.
- Led office team meetings, one-on-one support, and internal professional development.
- Maintained county budgets, completed financial and IT audits, and ensured Civil Rights/EEO compliance.
- Strengthened relationships with county commissioners, the Extension Board, and local partners.

Evidence / Indicators:

- Delivered 162 programs with strong operational alignment and accountability.
- Engaged 286 volunteers and collaborated with 41 Extension collaborators.
- Indirect reach of 20,080 individuals through communication channels.
- Improved office communication and workflow processes under my leadership.

3. So What? / Why This Work Matters

- STEM learning sparks curiosity and career readiness, filling gaps for local schools that rely on Extension to supplement STEM instruction.
- Youth leadership programs empower teens, strengthening confidence, service, and civic engagement.
- Clover Kids and Jr. Leaders create a pipeline, building belonging and long-term 4-H participation.
- Community partnerships and sponsorships demonstrate trust, with \$14,200 raised for STEM Field Days alone.
- Extension's statewide STEM strategy improves consistency, quality, and measurable youth outcomes across Nebraska.
- Strong office leadership increases program quality, team morale, and community impact.



Sheila Hoppe
4-H Extension Educator and Lead Educator - Platte County
2025 Statement of Other Contributions
Platte County Impact and Reach

Statement of Other Contributions (2025)

1. Collaboration and Team Leadership

As the statewide STEM Focus Team Leader, I contributed significantly to collaborative efforts across Nebraska Extension. I worked closely with fellow Focus Team Leaders, Content Coaches, the 4-H Youth Development Coordinator, and Extension faculty and staff statewide. My key contributions included:

- Coordinating statewide team meetings to maintain alignment and clarity during a year of structural transition.
- Guiding curriculum development and supporting the pilot process for the STEM Foundational Program.
- Leading statewide professional development, including train-the-trainer programming for approximately 50 Extension professionals.
- Contributing to the foundational program training delivered to 97 statewide Extension faculty and staff. These collaborative efforts strengthened statewide consistency, improved program quality, and advanced the reach of high-impact STEM programming.

2. Mentoring and Staff Development

I provided ongoing mentoring, supervision, and support to local support staff, interns, and Extension Assistants. My contributions included:

- Leading onboarding and coaching for new team members.
- Supporting professional development aligned with individual goals and office needs.
- Providing coaching and technical assistance to peer educators delivering STEM programs. My mentoring approach emphasized confidence-building, skill development, and alignment with Nebraska Extension values.

3. Contributions to Shared Governance and the Profession

I played a key role in shared governance and organizational leadership through:

- Active communication and partnership with the Extension Board and county leadership.
- Ensuring accountability in budgeting, compliance, Civil Rights adherence, and operational oversight.
- Supporting transparent reporting processes and aligning county operations with university expectations. Additionally, my leadership within statewide STEM efforts contributed to professional growth and strengthened Extension's statewide programming infrastructure.

4. Broader Impacts

In addition to my formal responsibilities, my work generated broader impacts that support IANR priorities:

- Strengthened community relationships through fundraising, volunteer coordination, and business partnerships (e.g., \$14,200 raised from 16 local businesses for STEM Field Days).
- Increased access to STEM education across diverse youth populations.
- Enhanced office function and team cohesion through communication improvements and leadership practices. These contributions advanced community well-being, supported Nebraska's workforce



Sheila Hoppe
4-H Extension Educator and Lead Educator - Platte County
2025 Statement of Other Contributions

pipeline, and strengthened the visibility and impact of Nebraska Extension in Platte County and statewide.



Taylor Cammack

Managing Mature Trees

Extension
Nebraska Extension-Engagement Zone 07
Horticulture, Landscape, and Environmental Systems
2025 Impact

Issue

Caring for mature trees is vital because they provide economic, environmental, and social benefits to communities. As trees mature, they are also more likely to shed branches and develop conditions that may lead to failure. The information available about caring for mature trees can be vague. This is especially true about what to expect for several years after a mature tree is pruned.

Public Value

Trees are the most valuable and long-lasting parts of a landscape. By providing personalized, science-based guidance on tree care, Extension strengthens the connection between Nebraskans and their landscapes. This guidance empowers homeowners to maintain healthy, long-lived trees which enhances property value, reduces risk, and supports the environmental and aesthetic benefits all trees provide.

Action

To help Nebraskans keep their trees healthy and thriving, Nebraska Extension offers research-based advice, including on-site visits to conduct tree risk assessments. At the request of a homeowner in Platte County, Taylor Cammack conducted a site visit to meet with the homeowner, assess the landscape and the tree, and provide one-on-one professional education on tree risk assessment, including the tree's condition and individualized next steps to ensure continued tree health.

Results/Outputs

Taylor helped the homeowner to understand how their tree naturally seals pruning wounds and provided practical steps for ongoing care. This engagement equipped the homeowner with actionable strategies to monitor tree health, reduce safety risks and preserve a valuable part of the landscape.

Impact

As a result of this site visit, questions were answered, homeowner concerns were assuaged and the homeowner left feeling empowered that they could confidently inspect their tree for changes in its condition. Providing research-based information to Nebraskans in the Platte County area assisted them in enhancing the environmental quality of their landscapes and sustainably managing resources in their landscapes. During the site visit, the homeowner reported a better understanding of proper tree care practices and increased confidence in inspecting and monitoring trees for potential defects.

IANR Pillars

Improve the health and well-being of all Nebraskans.

Extension's Big 3

Enhance The Health & Wellbeing Of All Nebraskans

Impact In Nebraska

1

Nebraska Counties Impacted

PLATTE



Taylor Cammack Goals and Accomplishments

On November 3, 2025, I began my role with Nebraska Extension as the Platte County Horticulture, Landscape, and Environmental Systems Instructor. The following are my accomplishments in the first two months on the job, and my goals for 2026.

Goal #1 - Build relationships and understand local needs

Community Stakeholders: I attended multiple community events in the Columbus area. This included the Chamber Holiday Party, where I met stakeholders from Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD), business owners, and Columbus city officials. I also attended an entrepreneurial event hosted by Columbus In Action, where I connected with Ted Vaughn, an independent arborist based out of Silver Creek, who will be attending educational events in the future.

I introduced myself to Kelly Feehan, Emeritus Extension Educator in Platte County. She will be continuing school enrichment programs as an emeritus in the spring and extended an invitation to shadow her at the programs.

County Extension Boards: I attended meetings with extension boards in Platte, Colfax, Butler, Madison, and Polk counties in November and December. I introduced myself to the board members and highlighted my experience and interests. During each visit, I learned the differences in each board; how they are organized, run, and their priorities. I utilized these events to engage community members in intentional conversations to begin informal needs assessments to understand the needs of each community and their priorities for my role. I am scheduled to attend board meetings in the other eight counties of my Accountability Region in January and February.

Extension Master Gardener Volunteers: The Statewide Coordinator of the Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program, Terri James, and I hosted a Meet & Greet for Master Gardeners. There were two Master Gardeners in attendance, and we were able to have conversations about the volunteer projects they spearhead or contribute. I also attended a monthly meeting of the Northeast Area Master Gardeners, which is co-coordinated by Wayne Ohnesorg and myself. In 2026, I will host a Kick-Off meeting for Master Gardeners and begin planning in-person training. I will also begin onboarding new Master Gardener Interns and support Master Gardeners as they continue outreach into their community. Planned outreach includes library programs, an annual plant fair, and garden management.

Goal #2 Learn and engage in Nebraska Extension Systems

Extension Fall Road Show: At the Fall Extension Road Show in Grand Island, I was able to connect with fellow educators and get an introduction to the leadership team. My tablemates

Taylor Cammack Goals and Accomplishments

and I brainstormed this year's theme, Relentlessly Relevant, and collaborated to plan actions for implementing this topic. For example, fellow educator Thays Silva and I met with a local nonprofit to discuss how a collaboration between program areas and a nonprofit can create an impactful program about herb gardening and creating healthy products with these homegrown plants.

Horticulture, Landscape, and Environmental Systems (HLES) Team: Through various Zoom meetings, I was able to introduce myself to the statewide program area team. In the program area, we have three focus groups: Plant & Landscape Systems, Local Food Systems, and One Health. My interests in landscaping and volunteer work led to me joining the Plant and Landscape Systems group, where I attended multiple planning meetings for upcoming statewide programs like Gro Big Red and ProHort. These programs provide webinars and in-person training for home gardeners and landscape professionals.

Goal #3 Support and Strengthen Local Programming

HLES Team: In addition to taking part in the ProHort planning to finalize the schedule for winter programs, I also began planning for a staple program held in Columbus for many years: the Columbus Tree Care Update. I collaborated with two NE Forest Service Regional Foresters to plan the program, which is a three-hour training that provides CEUs for local arborists. New in 2026 is the Grand Island Tree Care Update, which is a second location for the program to fulfill the education requirements that the City of Grand Island is implementing as part of their new arborist licensing. Elizabeth Exstrom will take the lead on this program, and I will shadow her during the event.

Programming: When visiting extension boards in my Accountability Region, I began mapping previous programs and any interests in those communities. Next year, I am planning the following programs:

- Extension Resources – diving into resources, information and programs available to the public from Nebraska Extension, affiliate organizations, and other cooperative extensions
- Poisonous, Prickly, or a Pain – a program on managing hazardous plants for arborists
- Bee Helpful to Pollinators – focusing on pollinator-friendly plants and native bees
- Lunch & Learn – a one-hour program supported by the Hamilton County Extension Board for community engagement with local Extension Educators



Blake Wert
**Inspiring Youth Achievement:
Fostering Leadership, Decision-
Making, and Public Speaking
Through Livestock Judging**

2025 Impact

Extension

Nebraska Extension—Engagement Zone 07

4-H Youth Development

Issue

Youth were educated in animal science through hands-on learning and mentorship over several months with the goal of developing a clear understanding of livestock evaluation. Judging contests taught them to assess animals, make informed decisions, and consider profitability while fostering critical thinking, confidence, public speaking, and leadership—helping youth grow into capable, well-rounded contributors to agriculture and their communities.

Public Value

By providing youth hands-on livestock evaluation experiences, we are growing the next generation of leaders in animal science. Equipping them with knowledge and skills strengthens the agriculture industry, supports community growth, and allows youth to nurture and grow into well-rounded individuals ready to succeed in careers and contribute to society.

Action

To address this, I provided youth with hands-on lessons and training over several months, allowing them to practice and refine their skills in livestock evaluation. While doing so, youth strengthened critical thinking, observation, and presentation skills while building confidence and improving decision-making abilities. Their dedication, perseverance, and work ethic throughout this process were evident in their growth, skill development, and success, reflecting both technical improvement, personal growth, and a deeper understanding of animal science.

Results/Outputs

The hard work and commitment of youth during weeks of hands-on practice translated into exceptional results at multiple livestock judging contests. Participants became more skilled in evaluating livestock, confident in their abilities, and prepared for future challenges. Their experiences laid a foundation for continued growth and long-term contributions to the animal science field.

Impact

The impact of livestock judging on youth is immense. By being pushed out of their comfort zones, participants experience significant personal growth developing public speaking, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills, while receiving constructive feedback from critique judges, which is not easy in today's society. This feedback helps them reflect on decisions, improve evaluation skills, and build resilience. Youth become stronger evaluators, leaders, and communicators, as seen in increased confidence, better teamwork, and improved poise during competitions. Livestock judging prepares them contribute to the animal science industry, pursue career goals, and become engaged, capable, well-rounded members of their communities.

IANR PILLARS

Grow and strengthen Nebraska agricultural and natural resources ecosystems.
Improve the health and well-being of all Nebraskans.
Promote progress and prosperity for all Nebraskans.

EXTENSION'S BIG 3

Inspire Nebraskans & Their Communities

IMPACT IN NEBRASKA

13

NEBRASKA COUNTIES IMPACTED

PLATTE, KEARNEY, LANCASTER, CASS, SAUNDERS, DODGE, CUMING, GARFIELD, COLFAX,
BUTLER, BUFFALO, DAWSON, HOWARD



Image Description: Youth carefully evaluate a goat class, observing traits and taking notes.



Blake Wert
4-H Livestock Assistant - Platte County
2025 Summary Statement
Goals and Accomplishments

In 4-H, our goal is to prepare youth not to be just ready, but “beyond ready” for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. As I complete my second year in Extension, this has been a meaningful time of reflection on my work and impact. From the beginning, I entered this role with a strong desire to make a positive difference in young people’s lives, and through intentional programming, relationship-building, and youth focused efforts, I believe I am on that path.

As an Extension professional, building and maintaining meaningful connections is an ongoing and essential part of our work. I make an effort to connect with each young person to show them they are valued and to serve as a mentor to them. **As my relationships with 4-H livestock youth have grown, I have worked to strengthen my approach to mentorship and coaching.** I don’t intend to teach youth – I strive to coach them. This intentional approach allows me to support their growth, guide their development and ideally positively impact their confidence, skills, and leadership over time.

I am especially proud of the strong youth engagement and retention with my programming. The dedication and work ethic demonstrated by participants reflect the positive, motivating environment I have intentionally created – one where youth want to show up, put in the work, and continue improving. This commitment is evident as Platte County 4-H has had some of the highest participation rates in the state of Nebraska at the Premier Animal Science Event. Creating a space where youth feel supported, challenged, and excited to learn has been a key factor in their sustained involvement and success.

In addition, I strive to build strong relationships with youth through School Enrichment efforts. In 2025, our Platte County team reached 67% of the county’s K-12 youth through School Enrichment and traditional 4-H programs. I individually taught six programs to 1,382 youth in grades K-4 through school enrichment. I enjoy watching youth grow, learn, and gain confidence through these experiences, and these connections help support continued engagement and positive youth development across the county.

2025 Goals

In working towards my goals, I dedicated a significant portion of my focus on the Ag and Food Systems team, as much of my programming is rooted in this area. I work to help youth understand where their favorite foods come from, while also providing hands-on lessons exploring life cycles such as Embryology, Butterfly and Plant activities. One of the larger events I host, “Ag Literacy Festival: Life on the Farm”, allows youth to explore agriculture in an engaging, interactive way and highlights the critical role agriculture plays in our daily lives while fostering curiosity and appreciation for industry.

One of the most popular programs is Embryology, where youth follow the development of a baby chick from egg to hatch. This hands-on experience allows them to explore concepts like life cycles, growth, and responsibility, while practicing observation and recording skills. Learning is evident as youth eagerly track the progress of the eggs, ask thoughtful questions, and excitedly share their discoveries, showing both curiosity and understanding in real time.

Overall, my work with the Ag and Food Systems focus team, STEM focus team, and College and Career Success team closely aligns with my goal of providing youth with the tools, knowledge,



Blake Wert
4-H Livestock Assistant - Platte County
2025 Summary Statement
Goals and Accomplishments

and experiences they need to achieve their future goals. Through hands-on learning, career exploration, and real-world connections, these efforts support youth in building confidence and critical skills for what comes next. This work reflects the 4-H mission of helping youth be “Beyond Ready” for the future while empowering them to thrive in whatever paths they choose.

4-H Assistant (Livestock) Role Summary

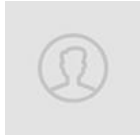
In my role as the 4-H Livestock Assistant in Platte County, I coordinate and oversee all livestock-related events and programming to ensure each activity is well-organized, educational, and successful. I work closely with 4-H families, supporting them throughout the entire process—from selecting and caring for animals to preparing for county fairs and other competitive events. Through this role, I provide guidance and resources that help youth and their families build skills in animal husbandry, responsibility, and teamwork.

Alongside my livestock responsibilities, I also engage with youth through School Enrichment programming, allowing me to reach a broader audience of students and deepen their exposure and hands-on experience in agriculture. Through hands-on activities and classroom presentations, I strive to spark interest in agriculture, foster a deeper appreciation for the agricultural industry, and create positive, engaging learning experiences for all participants.

Looking ahead, my goals related to livestock programming include maintaining and growing Platte County participation in **PASE and the Platte County Showmanship Clinic**, continuing to host a high-caliber livestock judging contest as part of the **Heartland Triple Crown Livestock Judging Series**, and increasing youth participation in livestock exhibits at the county fair. These efforts support my commitment to providing quality opportunities that challenge youth, build skills, and encourage continued involvement in livestock and agriculture programs.

So what?

Ultimately, the result of this work goes beyond simply preparing youth for their next steps. Our goal is to inspire them to pursue their passions, contribute to society, and make well-informed decisions about their futures. This is what making a real difference in the lives of young people looks like. As Dr. Charlie Stoltenow shared, “Extension exists to help people create a better tomorrow... by helping people develop critical thinking skills, leadership skills, and connections.” Through our programming and partnerships, we are doing just that—helping youth build the skills and confidence they need to create a better tomorrow.

**Hailey Held****Hands-On Creativity: Skills for Life**

Extension

Nebraska Extension-Engagement Zone 07

4-H Youth Development

*2025 Impact***Issue**

Platte County 4-H workshops let youth learn by doing, blending practical skills with creativity. From arts and crafts to STEM, woodworking, gardening, and cooking, participants built critical thinking, teamwork, and problem-solving skills. Hands-on projects encouraged innovation, boosted confidence, and sparked passions that extend beyond the workshop.

Public Value

These summer workshops build youth skills, confidence, and leadership through hands-on learning, creative projects, and mentorship. Participants explore STEM and community service based on local needs, fostering innovation, teamwork, and civic engagement while preparing to contribute positively to their communities.

Action

The summer workshops offered hands-on learning, creative projects, and mentorship using lesson plans, pre-made examples, and volunteer support. I used examples to show youth the end goal while allowing full creativity. Youth engaged in STEM and community service, took leadership roles, collaborated with peers, and applied practical skills across 12 workshops, building confidence, teamwork, problem-solving, and civic engagement.

Results/Outputs

Participants submitted many workshop projects to the county fair, with every Chiliuly Lamp workshop participant showcasing a project that drew compliments for how impressive they looked in the exhibit hall. Many of these participants planned to hang these in their rooms to use as soft lighting or even as a night light.

Impact

Platte County 4-H summer workshops let youth learn by doing, blending practical skills with creativity. Across 12 workshops, participants explored STEM, arts, woodworking, gardening, cooking, and community service, using lesson plans, examples, and volunteer support. Youth took leadership roles, collaborated with peers, and applied skills to hands-on projects that built confidence, teamwork, problem-solving, and civic engagement. Many projects were submitted to the county fair, with every Chiliuly Lamp participant showcasing impressive work that will continue to inspire and be used at home.

IANR PILLARS

Grow and strengthen Nebraska agricultural and natural resources ecosystems.
Improve the health and well-being of all Nebraskans.
Promote progress and prosperity for all Nebraskans.

EXTENSION'S BIG 3

Inspire Nebraskans & Their Communities

IMPACT IN NEBRASKA

1

NEBRASKA COUNTIES IMPACTED

PLATTE



Hailey Held
4-H Extension Assistant – Platte County
2025 Summary Statement
Goals and Accomplishments

4-H Youth Coordinator Role Summary

In my role as a 4-H Youth Coordinator Assistant in Platte County, I coordinate all youth development–related activities, including summer workshops, School Enrichment, and static exhibits at the county fair. I work closely with youth and their families to ensure they are set up for success and to answer any questions they may have along the way. My role involves providing information and support to youth and their families, helping foster confidence, independence, and problem-solving skills. In addition to my youth coordinator responsibilities, I also engage with youth through School Enrichment programming. My programming emphasizes making healthy choices that extend beyond nutrition and exercise. My goal is to inspire youth to explore the broader world of health and wellness, helping them understand that while nutrition and physical activity are important, there is much more to overall health.

A major focus for me this year was relationship building. I had many opportunities to strengthen these relationships through summer workshops, the county fair, 4-H Council meetings, Jr. Leader meetings, and other interactions. Building strong relationships is important in any role, but it is especially critical when working with youth and their families. Families place a great deal of trust in those who work with their children and maintaining that trust is both a responsibility and a priority in my work.

When I joined Extension in April 2024, I was excited for the opportunity to positively impact the youth of Platte County 4-H, in the same way that I was impacted during my own time in 4-H. I was eager to bring new energy and opportunities that helped shape my journey to the youth of Platte County, while also learning new approaches to how activities and programs can be delivered.

I knew this position would focus on building strong relationships within the community and with the youth who make up this organization. One of my best early experiences was jumping right in to assist the Teen Ambassadors with planting pots throughout downtown Columbus, as well as helping to develop lesson ideas for 4-H camp. This group had already been established before I started. I assisted them so I could start to get to know some of our youth. I remember how intimidating it felt when I first met the Teen Ambassadors, and now it feels like I have known them for years. I began building connections by overseeing Clover Academy, our summer workshop program. I was very nervous at first to lead them on my own, but everything worked out. The parents and youth were incredibly welcoming and helped to put me at ease. These early experiences helped lay the foundation for many lasting relationships that I am excited to continue strengthening and expanding in the years to come.

Throughout 2025, I focused on building strong, meaningful relationships not only with 4-H youth and families, but also through our School Enrichment programming with principals, teachers, and students. These connections, especially with youth, have played a significant role in expanding our reach across the county. In 2025, the Platte County team successfully reached 67% of the county's youth in grades K–8 through School Enrichment and 4-H programs. I am proud to be part of a county that reaches two out of every three youth, helping to create lasting opportunities for growth, learning, and development. I remain committed to our School Enrichment programming and look forward to reaching even more youth throughout the county.



Hailey Held
4-H Extension Assistant – Platte County
2025 Summary Statement
Goals and Accomplishments

2025 Goals

In working toward my goals, I dedicated a significant amount of time and effort to helping youth understand STEM principles, the importance of healthy choices, and how these concepts connect to the world around them. I had the honor of being involved in several STEM events including helping to host STEM Field Days in Platte County, which welcomed nearly 1,700 youth from across the county. I taught 24 rotations over four days which was 1,282 youth from 17 different schools. Our office invested a tremendous amount of time and planning to ensure the event's success. I had the opportunity to talk with many of the students as they arrived and departed. They were just as excited—if not more so—by the end of the day, which made the experience especially rewarding. Each student was able to take their projects home and many were eager to continue experimenting with them on their own.

A large portion of my focus was dedicated to the Health and Wellness focus team, as most of my programming falls within this area. I worked with youth to help them understand how healthy choices impact their bodies, as well as the importance of proper handwashing and why it matters. These activities allowed youth to see that healthy choices extend beyond just nutrition and exercise. In today's world, it is essential to get ahead of the many influential factors surrounding them and encourage critical thinking about why health is so important. I taught two programs *Fight Bac!*, which stresses the importance of hand washing and *Health Rocks! Take a Deep Breath*, about the importance of what goes in our bodies. Both programs took me to 20 classrooms at 11 schools teaching 286 students about health and impact on our bodies.

In addition to these efforts, I gained valuable experience leading Clover Academy, our summer workshop program. These workshops helped 4-H youth blend practical skills with hands-on learning and reached 144 participants through 13 different workshops, many of whom attended more than one session. There were 16 volunteers who assisted with Clover Academy. Teaching these workshops helped me build confidence and strengthen relationships with youth and families. I also participated in a workshop swap with Wayne County Extension, where I traveled to Wayne County to teach a jewelry workshop while Julie came to Platte County to lead a workshop here. This experience was especially rewarding allowing me to learn from another Extension professional.

Overall, these experiences were both rewarding and educational, while strongly aligning with my goals of building relationships and equipping youth with the knowledge and tools they need to succeed in the future.

So what?

The work I am doing today will have a lasting impact. When youth are engaged in meaningful educational experiences—through STEM, agriculture, or health and wellness—we are not only preparing them for their next steps, but also inspiring them to follow their passions, give back to their communities, and make informed decisions about their futures. Through this work, we are making a real difference in the lives of youth in our communities while continuing to cultivate a stronger tomorrow for years to come.



Thays Silva
**Strengthening Fresh Food
Access Across Nebraska**

2025 Impact

Extension & Service
Nebraska Extension-Engagement Zone 07
Food, Nutrition & Health

Issue

Food insecurity affects both urban and rural communities in Nebraska. The latest Feeding America report estimates 287,240 Nebraskans, including 91,930 children, experience food insecurity. This issue is linked to food deserts, where residents lack access to affordable, nutritious food. Contributing factors include low income, rising living costs, limited access to health care, and social and physical barriers. In rural areas, grocery store closures further limit access to fresh, healthy foods.

Public Value

Promote a healthy, resilient, and equitable society by investing in well-being through access to nutritious food and education. Promote collaboration and equip communities to improve public health, address social disparities, and sustain dignity and equity for all, ensuring everyone has access to resources that support a thriving and united community.

Action

In 2025, the partnership with Butler County Health continued to support the Growing Together Nebraska Donation Garden; they coordinated resources, workforce, space, and program activities. The Double Up Food Bucks program also continued at one grocery store in both Butler and York Counties. These combined initiatives helped expand access to fresh fruits and vegetables, provided nutrition education, strengthened food access, promoted better health habits, and supported overall community well-being.

Results/Outputs

Through the Growing Together Nebraska Garden and DUFB programs, low-income residents increased access to fresh fruits and vegetables. The garden produced and donated around 596 lbs of organic produce to community sites, while DUFB supported over \$260,000 in fruit and vegetable purchases using SNAP and incentives, strengthening food access and local food systems.

Impact

The GTN Garden and DUFB program improved food access for low-income families, strengthened local economies, promoted agricultural sustainability, and built community resilience and equity. In Butler County, the Garden provided 596 lbs. of organic produce to two sites in David City, valued at over \$1,200, benefiting more than 115 individuals. Recipients gained access to nutritious food and nutrition education in topics such as food preparation, safety, gardening, resource

management, and MyPlate. From January–December 2025, DUFB participants in Butler and York counties redeemed \$255,024.22 in SNAP and \$5,018.41 in DUFB incentives, resulting in \$260,042.63 in purchases of fresh fruits and vegetables. Together, the GTN and DUFB programs provided approximately \$261,242.63 in financial aid.

IANR PILLARS

Grow and strengthen Nebraska agricultural and natural resources ecosystems.
Improve the health and well-being of all Nebraskans.
Promote progress and prosperity for all Nebraskans.

EXTENSION'S BIG 3

Strengthen Nebraska Agriculture & Food Systems
Enhance The Health & Wellbeing Of All Nebraskans
Inspire Nebraskans & Their Communities

IMPACT IN NEBRASKA

2

NEBRASKA COUNTIES
IMPACTED

BUTLER, YORK



Thays Silva 2025 Story

Throughout 2025, I worked on advancing current projects, cultivating partnerships, and pursuing professional development to increase the effectiveness and reach of my programming.

Program Reach

In 2025, approximately 500 people participated in direct education delivered through the Health and Well-being programming I taught, and an additional 1,863 participants through programs taught in partnerships with other educators. For Indirect Education, I reached an estimated 19,350 individuals through partnerships and visits at health fairs I coordinated, sharing information on healthier lifestyles, including food and nutrition and health-related topics. A key program featured in the Indirect Education efforts was *Sleepless in Nebraska*. This initiative proved highly informative for Nebraskans and generated significant interest, with many people seeking additional information about it. This strategy also helped build partnerships and promote Nebraska Extension's initiatives. Consequently, many stakeholders became interested in Extension's efforts, leading to new partnerships, expanded contacts, and additional programming opportunities for 2026.

Food Security Initiatives

Continuing efforts begun in 2023 to address food insecurity in Nebraska, the Growing Together Nebraska Donation Garden project was sustained in Butler County. This initiative yielded 596 pounds of produce, which was donated to two sites in David City, benefiting at least 115 individuals. The produce donated from the Growing Together Nebraska garden was valued at more than \$1,200. Between January and December 2025, Butler County shoppers participating in the Double Up Food Bucks (DUFB) program used \$113,648 in SNAP benefits and received \$3,306.93 in DUFB incentives to buy fruits and vegetables. In York County, \$141,376.22 in SNAP benefits and \$1,711.48 in DUFB incentives were redeemed during the same period. Altogether, the DUFB program generated a combined financial impact of \$260,042.63 across both counties.

Food Safety Education

In 2026, 144 individuals gained food safety skills by completing ServSafe training for managers and food handlers across three counties (Madison, Platte, and Seward). I want to emphasize that one class was dedicated to young adults with special education needs who aspired to enter the food industry. By equipping these students with essential knowledge and hands-on training, we empowered them with a significant advantage as they pursue employment. This initiative has already sparked new partnerships for 2026, paving the way for even more students to benefit and strengthen our community's workforce. Post-training survey of this class indicates improved food safety knowledge and confidence. 67% of participants reported learning "a lot" about food safety risks and ways to reduce them. In applying food safety knowledge, 44% reported learning "a lot". In addition, 44% reported learning "a lot" about communicating food safety practices with others. Overall, responses suggest the training effectively reinforced food safety knowledge and practical application skills.

Sleepless in Nebraska

The *Sleepless in Nebraska* curriculum was widely implemented in 2025 through direct education and extended indirectly via community meetings and health fairs, reaching approximately 334

individuals. These sessions emphasized the critical role of sleep in overall health and well-being, increasing participants' awareness of how sleep habits directly influence daily functioning, productivity, and long-term health. The program not only filled a knowledge gap for many participants but also generated strong interest from partner organizations, leading to requests to expand presentations to other audiences in 2026, demonstrating both the program's relevance and its growing community demand. In one of the programs I taught for around 155 high school students at a FCCLA conference the post-program survey results indicate that the participants increased their awareness and plan to improve their sleep habits. 100% of participants reported understanding the recommended hours of sleep for their age and the importance of sleep for overall health. 67% agreed or strongly agreed that they recognize the impact of sleep on learning, mental health, and athletic performance. In addition, 88% reported learning something new from the program, and 86% indicated they plan to make changes to their sleep habits, including reducing screen time before bed and improving bedtime routines.

Partnerships for the good of the community

In partnership with the Seward Kiwanis Club, the *Healthy Food Fast – Using Your Appliances* program was delivered to families enrolled in the Backpack Program. Through a grant secured by a Kiwanis Club member, participants received free kitchen appliances—including slow cookers, electric skillets, and roasters, removing a key barrier to preparing healthy meals at home. The class provided hands-on education on safe appliance operation, proper cleaning, and practical, time-saving recipes, empowering families with both the tools and skills needed to prepare nutritious meals efficiently and sustainably. Survey results for this class showed strong positive outcomes. 100% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that they understand how to use their appliance, operate it safely, and properly clean and care for it. 100% reported confidence in preparing meals using the appliance. In addition, 100% of respondents indicated they plan to cook more meals at home and to use a food thermometer to check final cooking temperatures because of the program.

I am an active member of a regional health coalition (Heart Health Alliance) alongside partners such as DHHS, Polk County Health Department, and Four Corners Health Department. This coalition serves Butler, Polk, York, and Seward counties and works collaboratively to understand the underlying causes of poor heart health outcomes, particularly in Polk County. Together, we are identifying solutions and strategies to improve cardiovascular health across the region. Being part of this coalition allows me to bring Extension's expertise to the table, contribute to community-driven approaches, and strengthen partnerships that can lead to meaningful health improvements for Nebraskans.

Conclusion

In 2025, my work with Nebraska Extension focused on helping people in the region live healthier lives by improving access to nutritious food, building practical life skills, and sharing research-based information that participants could use right away. Through strong partnerships, I was able to reach thousands of Nebraskans while addressing key Extension priorities like health, food security, and workforce readiness. I also contributed to regional initiatives, collaborating with partners to understand challenges and develop practical solutions. All the relationships built this year have positioned these programs for continued growth in 2026 and reinforced my role in supporting Extension's mission as a trusted, community-focused resource.



Erin Kampbell

Supporting Learning and Connection Among Early Childhood Educators

Extension
Nebraska Extension-Engagement Zone 05
Early Childhood
2025 Impact

Issue

Nebraska faces a shortage of skilled early childhood professionals. When communities lack quality childcare, it negatively affects children, families, and communities. Ensuring access to professional development opportunities for early childhood teachers and providers to maintain licensure and improve quality is crucial. Extension has partnered with local organizations to host conferences in Columbus and Norfolk to address this issue and support workforce development.

Public Value

About 75% of Nebraska families with young children need quality childcare. Supporting early care and education through professional development like conferences benefits children, families, and communities by increasing the number of reliable, knowledgeable, and effective caregivers available.

Action

As chair for the Norfolk Early Childhood Conference and committee member for the Columbus Early Childhood Conference, Extension Educator Erin Kampbell collaborated with partners to bring renowned national and regional speakers to rural early childhood professionals. Conferences provide essential professional development and the opportunity to foster meaningful in-person connections among peers. Many home-based providers note that local conferences are their only opportunity to network with others in their profession, making the conferences an invaluable resource for knowledge and connection.

Results/Outputs

Both the Norfolk and Columbus conferences offered six hours of high-quality professional development, assisting providers in meeting the 12-hour annual requirement. A total of 229 professionals attended (154 in Norfolk, 75 in Columbus), representing more than 16 counties across the region. In total, the conferences awarded 1,374 professional development hours (924 in Norfolk, 450 in Columbus).

Impact

Participant responses showed increases in knowledge and confidence on the conference topics. One attendee shared, “The most beneficial part of the program for me was learning about how the nervous system differs between children and adults. I also liked learning different ways to help ease the nervous system for the kids in my practice.” In Norfolk, the percentage of attendees who reported being very or extremely knowledgeable about the content rose from 7% before the conference to 59% after and 88% of participants indicated they intend to use the information presented. One participant commented, “This was a great experience that allowed me to gain knowledge in effectively handling student behavior.” These reflections highlight conference impact on participants’ professional growth.

IANR Pillars

Promote progress and prosperity for all Nebraskans.

Extension's Big 3

Enhance The Health & Wellbeing Of All Nebraskans

Impact In Nebraska

16

Nebraska Counties Impacted

HOLT, KNOX, CEDAR, ANTELOPE, PIERCE, WAYNE, GREELEY, BOONE, NANCE, PLATTE, COLFAX, STANTON, MADISON, CUMING, BURT, DOUGLAS

Individual Annual Report 2025



Erin Kampbell
Associate Extension Educator
Madison, Stanton, Platte, Colfax,
Antelope Counties

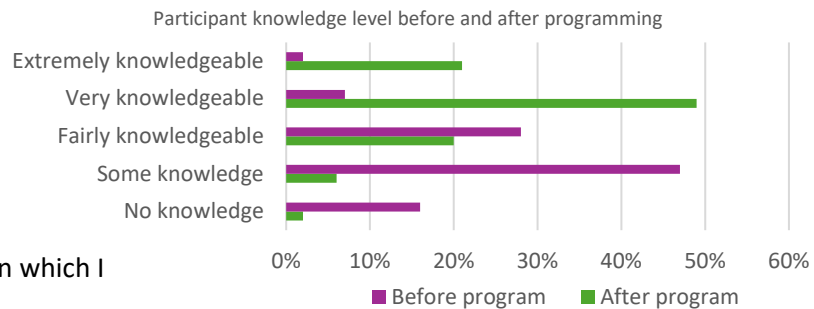


Erin Kampbell, Early Childhood Educator, Madison County 2025 Summary of Goals and Accomplishments

In 2025, my goals focused on increasing the number of caregivers of children birth to age eight who provide safe and healthy environments with developmentally appropriate interactions. To enhance the knowledge, skills, and practices of early childhood professionals, I provided research-based programming in three areas: **quality care and education, wellbeing, and healthy environments and practices**. Fostering growth in these areas elevates the physical and emotional wellbeing of young children and their caregivers. To meet the evolving needs of my region, I delivered training through a variety of formats, including multi-week sessions, day-long workshops, and one- to two-hour events, all tailored to address immediate and ongoing learning needs.

Quality early care and education

Early childhood professionals are required to complete at least 12 hours of professional development annually to maintain licensure. Supporting Nebraska’s caregivers through professional development is a key focus of my work, especially as access to quality childcare remains a critical issue in the state. This year, I awarded 2,460 Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) approved in-service hours to 390 unique participants (1,839 total contacts), indirectly reaching over 4,000 children. Among those surveyed (n=290), 93% reported they will probably or definitely use the information learned, and 90% reported they would recommend the training to peers. The chart at right shows the knowledge increase reported by participants across the 10 topics on which I delivered programming.



Caregiver and child wellbeing



Cultivating Healthy Intentional Mindful Educators (CHIME)

Supporting the emotional well-being of early childhood educators is crucial both in Nebraska and nationwide. CHIME is an eight-week, evidence-based program that supports educators’ wellbeing and helps them provide responsive care. Post-surveys and written feedback reveal CHIME’s impact: the percentage of participants who felt very or extremely knowledgeable about the topic increased from 10% to 80%. After completing CHIME, 89% of participants reported feeling less stress than before CHIME, and 73% reported feeling healthier, more in control, and more stable, feelings that can help prevent burnout. **Direct contributions:** I delivered five CHIME classes to 40 participants, awarding 564 in-service hours. The program indirectly reached 506 children. I supported CHIME’s growth both in Nebraska and nationally by co-delivering the 2.5 day Guiding Teacher training to 35 participants in North Carolina.

This training serves, for me, as a reminder that we all need to intentionally focus more on mindfulness and listening to understand, for ourselves and those we work and live with.
--2025 CHIME participant

- Extension Excellence Indicators: Exceptional Teaching and Learning, Meaningful, Impactful

Rooted in Relationships: Pyramid Model Implementation



Rooted in Relationships helps early childhood programs create nurturing environments where young children can thrive. Using the nationally recognized Pyramid Model, this initiative provides training, coaching, and resources to strengthen social-emotional support for children. Participants receive observations to collect data at three points. The data will be analyzed by UNMC’s Munro-Meyer Institute at the end of year three (2026).

We actually took a kid that has been kicked out of every child care he was in, and we have him now full time, and mom, for the first time has been able to get a job. So we’re having great success.
-Provider reflects on avoiding use of expulsions

Direct contributions: I served as a coach and in this role, I attended 24 hours of training alongside participants and observed/coached the director of my site for two hours per month. I also delivered four six-hour trainings to three area cohorts. Additionally, I completed specialized training to become an observer for the data collection portion.

- o Extension Excellence indicators: Impactful, Professionalism

Knowledge Network for Early Childhood Education Workforce (KNEW) Project



KNEW offered a community-driven, professional learning initiative supporting early childhood educator health, wellness, and emotional intelligence. KNEW supported 100 rural early childhood educators with up to 16 paid professional learning hours which combined peer learning, reflective practice, and practical strategies for wellness. The proportion of staff who often think about quitting dropped from 23% pre-program to 16% post-program with intentions to stay for at least two more years rising from 82% to 87%. These results suggest KNEW had impact on reducing staff uncertainty or desire to leave, strengthening overall retention.

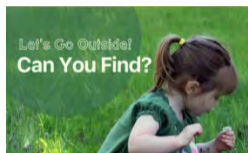
The program helped me reflect on why I chose childcare in the first place. Connecting to my purpose has increased my motivation.
-2025 KNEW participant

Direct contributions: I facilitated two Reflective Practice groups, supporting participants’ reflections on translating the content into practice. I also reviewed the professional development modules and provided feedback on program development.

- o Extension Excellence indicators: Innovation, Relevance

Healthy environments and practices

Let’s Go Outside—Can You Find?



Let’s Go Outside! is a free, nature-based program designed to foster toddler and preschool aged children’s outdoor exploration. Activities encourage children to engage with their surroundings while supporting developmental objectives such as fine motor skills, sensory integration, and critical thinking. Program participation included access to a professional learning cohort, 12 social media posts, 3 radio spots, 7 newspaper articles, a resource list, and a children’s book co-authored by the team. In 2025, there were 218 participants, 994 lesson downloads, and 45,924 children were reached indirectly. 86% of childcare provider participants agreed that parent engagement and communication increased and 100% of users saw an increase in outdoor staff/child interaction. **Direct contributions:** I co-authored 6 of the 12 lesson guides and the accompanying children’s book. I peer reviewed 6 guides and the marketing materials and co-delivered the professional development cohort.

This was a fun way to extend my child’s education throughout the summer.
--Parent

- o Excellence in Extension Indicator: Innovation, Relevance

Erin Kampbell, Early Childhood Educator, Madison County 2025 other significant contributions

Employee Wellness Committee: Members designed and implemented educational, interactive, and informational initiatives to promote wellness among Extension employees in the workplace. As a UNL HealthierU ambassador and newsletter contributor, I compiled, disseminated, and reviewed resources applicable to a climate of wellness within Extension.

- Excellence in Extension Indicator: Engagement

Go Nutrition and Physical Activity Self-Assessment for Child Care (Go NAPSACC) is a key component of Step Up to Quality, Nebraska's childcare quality rating system. I coached four programs in 2025. I also completed my term as a member of the **National Advisory Group**. This group offers feedback, advice, and guidance on the national Go NAPSACC system, training modules, educational materials, and strategic direction. In addition to peer reviewing resource sheets, surveys, and three sections of the new Social-Emotional training module, I volunteered to lead agenda items at two of the six meetings, mentored five new members from four states and served on the new member selection committee.

- Excellence in Extension Indicators: Engagement, Professionalism

The **Heartland Farm to School (F2S) and Early Care and Education (ECE) Institute** is a three-year, three-state collaboration between Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska, led by their Departments of Education and supported by partners like Nebraska Extension. The Institute follows the evidence-based model of the Northeast F2S Institute, focusing on integrating F2S in the Classroom, Cafeteria, and Community. The second retreat, in May 2025, welcomed nine school teams, with each of the three Nebraska teams receiving a \$3,000 stipend for implementation. I contributed to the Institute's development by reviewing surveys, applications, and marketing materials. I also served on the coaching subgroup, reviewed coaching materials, and **coached an early childhood team and a school team**.

- Excellence in Extension Indicators: Relevance, Engagement

The **National Extension Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (NEAFCS)** is a professional organization for Extension family and consumer sciences educators. The organization provides opportunities for professional growth and serves as a resource for programming and building partnerships. I served on the **national annual session committee**, judging proposals for conference.

- Excellence in Extension Indicator: Professionalism

The Nebraska Early Childhood Collaborative (NECC) created a **Licensing Toolkit Mentoring program** in which participants are assigned a mentor to coach them through the process of applying for their childcare license. My first two mentees from Colfax County received their operational licenses, creating **24 new licensed childcare spots**. I have been assigned four new providers. Three are completing requirements in preparation of submitting their applications. One has already received her provisional license and has opened, creating an additional **12 new licensed childcare spots** in Norfolk.

- Excellence in Extension Indicators: Meaningful, Impactful, Relevant

The **IANR Liaison Committee** advises the Vice Chancellor on faculty affairs and votes or approves considerations around evaluation and bylaws as needed. I was appointed by the Associate Vice Chancellor to fulfill the remainder of a term for a vacancy due to a faculty member leaving.



Josie Crouch
**Strengthening Rural Water Safety
for People, Pets, and Livestock**

2025 Impact

Extension

Nebraska Extension-Engagement Zone 07

Livestock Systems, Food, Nutrition & Health, Water and Cropping Systems, &
Rural Prosperity Nebraska

Issue

Nance County faces persistent groundwater concerns, including elevated nitrates from long-term fertilizer use, along with bacteria and mineral issues common with aging or shallow wells. Many rural residents and livestock producers are unsure what to test for, what levels are safe, or how to address/treat contamination. This lack of clear, assessable guidance creates risks for households and livestock water quality.

Public Value

Water quality directly affects the wellbeing of rural families, livestock productivity, and the sustainability of local resources. By helping residents and producers understand risks and evaluate treatment options, this program supports healthier communities, more resilient operations, and informed stewardship of groundwater.

Action

Extension partners identified a need for a coordinated, accessible program. I co-led planning and delivery of a multi-partner Water Quality Program focused on water testing basics, interpreting results, health implications, and treatment options. I helped coordinate speakers, shaped the agenda, and contributed a brief livestock component connecting water quality to animal health. The program provided clear, accessible guidance for both households and livestock audiences.

Results/Outputs

Participants were exposed to foundational knowledge on safe contaminant levels, testing needs, and treatment options. Survey responses implied a reinforced understanding, appreciation for clear handouts, and requests for additional topics such as Nitrogen use. The program strengthened collaboration among Extension and across conservation partners.

Impact

Survey results suggested meaningful behavior change. Participants reported plans to watch for open wells, install or upgrade household filters, and begin filtering drinking water. Others noted increased awareness of safe contaminant levels and motivation to improve water management. Some reinforced existing practices, confirming the program's relevance. The program improved community confidence in identifying risks and taking action to protect household and livestock water quality. For me, co-leading this effort strengthened my skills in multi-topic program development and collaborative education.

IANR PILLARS

Grow and strengthen Nebraska agricultural and natural resources ecosystems.
Improve the health and well-being of all Nebraskans.
Promote progress and prosperity for all Nebraskans.

EXTENSION'S BIG 3

Strengthen Nebraska Agriculture & Food Systems
Inspire Nebraskans & Their Communities
Enhance The Health & Wellbeing Of All Nebraskans

IMPACT IN NEBRASKA

1

NANCE

NEBRASKA COUNTIES IMPACTED



Image Description: Photo of presenter showing participants seated and engaged during the program.

2025 Impacts and Accomplishments

Josie Crouch

Livestock Systems Educator

Goal 1: Deliver Relevant, Research-Based Programming

A major highlight of my year was co-planning and delivering the Water Quality Program in Fullerton, which became a defining moment in my growth as an educator. I coordinated with partners to design the agenda, secured speakers, developed livestock-focused content, and delivered a 20-minute presentation on pet and livestock considerations related to water quality. Seventeen adults attended the 2.5-hour program, and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Darren Nelson, a County Board of Supervisors member, shared that it was a “very good program that should be given to the whole state,” and State Senator Loren Lippincott personally expressed appreciation for the program’s relevance and quality. This program strengthened my confidence in program development, deepened my understanding of local water concerns, and demonstrated my ability to co-lead a multi-topic, multi-partner educational effort that resonated with both producers and community members.

Throughout the year, I delivered a range of producer-focused programs that expanded my reach and strengthened my role as a trusted resource. I provided 10 monthly livestock updates on KTIC Radio (3–4 minutes each), offering timely, relevant beef production information to a regional audience. I collaborated with the Hamilton County Extension Board to present a one-hour program on Optimizing Herd Longevity & Profitability to 38 FFA students and adult producers. I also hosted and facilitated a four-week WIA Leaving a Lasting Legacy transition series in Central City (14 hours, 10 participants), guiding families through conversations and activities focused on farm and ranch transition planning. Doing these programs ensured producers received research-based information that supported decision making and long-term planning.

Youth education remained a meaningful part of my delivery efforts, allowing me to build trust with families, schools, and community partners across my counties. I mentored a youth team during Inventure Day in Central City for 5.5 hours as part of an event involving 105 participants, helping students develop problem solving and teamwork skills. I coached the Fullerton FFA Meats Judging Team through six one-hour practices, guiding eight freshmen to within one point of qualifying for state. I also assisted Steve Pritchard with three hours of classroom embryology for 19 students in Fullerton. In addition to these school-based activities, I delivered a three-hour animal byproducts program for 10 homeschool students in Albion, offering hands-on, youth focused livestock education. Collectively, these efforts strengthened youth engagement in agriculture and expanded reach to diverse audiences.

Hands on livestock education was another key component of my programming. I assisted with cattle work for the Great Plains Heifer Development Program on two occasions, supporting processing and data collection for 169 heifers representing 16 producers statewide. I co-taught two Husker Beef Lab sessions at Hastings College (5 hours, 35 students) and at the Ag Showcase in York (219 students), contributing to hands on ruminant education. Delivering these activities allowed me to connect with both youth and adults in practical learning environments, reinforcing real world education.

Community engagement continued through my support of local fairs and events. I assisted with the Nance County Fair beef show by recording class results and distributing ribbons, and I supported the Hamilton and Merrick County beef shows by entering data into Showworks and recording results. I also served as a judge for the Aksarben Quiz Bowl in Grand Island, supporting a multi-state youth educational event with 20 participants. Finally, I expanded my digital reach by co-authoring a BeefWatch article and serving as

the content expert on the corresponding BeefWatch Podcast episode, helping producers statewide access practical, research-based resources.

Goal 2: Strengthen Relationships and Community Presence

Relationship building remained central to my work as I continued to integrate into the livestock community across my seven-county region, strengthening partnerships and increasing local engagement. I served as a local host for the Columbus Land Application Training, coordinating with Leslie Johnson and 29 participants during a 7-hour session. I also collaborated with the Nebraska Grazing Lands Coalition to host the “Next Generation of Farmers & Ranchers” transition workshop in Columbus (15 participants, 4 hours). Additionally, I hosted two BQA trainings in Columbus and Albion, supporting partner engagement serving 7 and 4 producers.

I continued expanding my presence across multiple livestock sectors to better serve the diverse needs of my region. I attended the Pork Expo in York to increase visibility in the pork sector and begin building relationships beyond beef-focused audiences. I also conducted four producer visits across Merrick, Hall, and Nance Counties to gather needs, strengthen trust, and maintain a local presence. By doing these visits, I had a better understanding of producer challenges to tailor my support.

Statewide engagement also played a role in strengthening my professional network. I served on the planning committee for an NCEA Ag Section Tour, collaborating with colleagues to design a high-quality professional experience. I also served on the planning committee and attended a Sheep Production Workshop in Clay Center with 14 adult and youth participants. These efforts helped build a more cohesive Extension presence and allowed me to contribute to statewide programming and professional development opportunities.

Goal 3: Invest in Professional Growth

Professional development remained a priority as I continued building the skills and knowledge needed to serve effectively. I strengthened my expertise by participating in the virtual Fundamentals of Feeding the Cow webinar series (4 sessions, 5 hours), attending the On-Farm Research Update in York, completing the virtual Calculating Annual Cow Cost series (6 sessions, 6 hours), and participating in the Midwest FEEDS Practicum in Ithaca. I also attended a Summer Grazing Field Day in Utica and the Range Beef Cow Symposium in Cheyenne, Wyoming, allowing me to stay current on emerging research/ideas, management strategies, and industry trends.

I prepared for future program delivery by attending the 7-hour Land Application Training in Geneva as an observer and completing the three-day Livestock Educators Capacity Building training in Kearney (11.5 hours), expanding my capacity to deliver programs and strengthened my confidence in taking on more leadership within Extension.

I also invested in developing my communication, leadership, and facilitation skills. I completed the two-day Trust Edge Experience in Lincoln, the virtual Fierce Foundations training, and the virtual Navigating Difficult Interactions refresher. I participated in the Evaluative Thinking Workshop in Lincoln, which strengthened my ability to assess programs, reflect on outcomes, and make informed decisions. These trainings improved my ability to navigate challenging conversations, build trust, and lead effective educational experiences.

51234 Madison-Platte Rd.
Newman Grove, NE 68758

Platte County Public Defender Board
2610 14th Street
Columbus, NE 68601

December 26, 2025

Ms. Murray and members of the Platte County Public Defender Board,

I am applying for the Public Defender position to take office in January 2027. I have more than a decade of experience as a public defender and have managed the Platte County Public Defender's office since the resignation of the elected public defender.

At the Platte County Public Defender's office, I have chaired or co-chaired numerous jury trials, including 1B felony charges carrying the potential for life imprisonment. I am the defense representative to the Platte County Problem Solving Court. I manage the entire mental health board docket and represent clients at all levels of criminal defense, including homicides.

Since May 2023, I have worked collaboratively with the County Board as part of preparing the annual office budget, to ensure that Platte County is a competitive employer for attorneys. During that time, the public defender's office has also expanded our caseload to incorporate efficiently covering juvenile court appointments, resulting in significantly reduced county expenditure on privately appointed attorney's fees for those cases.

The effectiveness of a public defender's office is fundamentally determined by the strength of its personnel. In addition to recruiting experienced attorneys to the office, I have focused on expanding legal talent acquisition, by establishing an internship opportunity for undergraduates from the University of Nebraska-Kearney Law Opportunities Program and conducting outreach to the UNL College of Law clinical and trial advocacy programs.

I am applying for the Platte County Public Defender position because I am committed to building a collaborative legal team dedicated to public service and to justice.

Enclosed you will find my resume and references. I look forward to discussing my qualifications with you.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Masilko". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "B".

Barbara Masilko

Barbara Masilko

51234 County Line Rd
Newman Grove, NE 68758

(402) 661-9056
bmasilko@plattecounty.ne.gov

Experience

Platte County Public Defender's Office

Deputy Public Defender – Columbus, NE March 2021 – Present

- Manage office, staff, and budget after resignation of elected PD in May 2023
- Represent clients in criminal, juvenile, mental health board, and problem-solving court
- Collaborate with County Board to ensure competitive compensation and efficient operations

Madison County Public Defender's Office

Deputy Public Defender – Madison, NE January 2015 – March 2021

- Represented clients in Madison County Court – average annual caseload 350 clients
- Appeals – *State v. Boche*, 294 Neb. 912 (2016); *State v. Nelson*, 27 Neb. App. 748 (2019)

Lancaster County Attorney's Office

Senior Certified Student Prosecutor – Lincoln, NE January 2014 – May 2014

- Prosecuted criminal cases – charging decisions, court appearances, and plea offers

Brown Immigration Law

Law Clerk – Lincoln, NE May 2012 – December 2014

- Drafted immigration applications for businesses and individuals

Chambers of Chief Judge Laurie Smith Camp

Judicial Extern – Omaha, NE January 2013 – May 2013

- Observed federal court proceedings and researched decisions for civil motions

U.S. Department of State – Foreign Service Officer

Policy Advisor – Middle East – New York, NY 2009 – 2011

- Negotiated at UN Security Council for U.S. Ambassador Susan Rice

United Arab Emirates Desk Officer – Washington, DC 2007 – 2009

- Organized interagency discussion of diplomatic negotiations

Trade Officer – Tel Aviv, Israel 2004 – 2007

- Facilitated U.S. promotion of Israeli-Palestinian trade

Consular Officer – Moscow, Russia 2002 – 2004

- Interviewed 10,000 visa applicants annually

Education

University of Nebraska College of Law, Lincoln, NE

Juris Doctor with high distinction, May 2014 2011 - 2014

- Emphasis – Criminal Litigation Skills Program
- NEBRASKA LAW REVIEW and National Moot Court Team

Creighton University, Omaha, NE

Bachelor of Arts conferred cum laude, May 2000 1996 – 2000

- Majors: International Relations and Spanish

Skills – Spanish and Russian – Basic Working Proficiency

Barbara Masilko – References

The Honorable Michael Long
District Court Judge – Seventh Judicial District
Michael.l.long@nejudicial.gov
402-841-6696

Breanna Flaherty
Platte County Attorney
bflaherty@plattecounty.ne.gov
402-563-4903

Raul Escobar
Certified Court Interpreter
escobarinterpreting@gmail.com
402-890-9561

Professor Steven Schmidt
UNL College of Law – Criminal Clinic/Trial Advocacy
steven.j.schmidt@unl.edu
402-440-3934

Jessica Fauss
Deputy Public Defender – Hall County
jessicaf@hallcountyne.gov
402-960-2043

Public Defender Interview Questions

Name: Barbara Masilko

Date and Time of Interview: 12pm on 1/20/2026

Knew she wanted to take a role as a Trial attorney. Knew it was what she wanted to do when she started. Proud of what they have built on thus far.

1. Legal Knowledge & Casework Skills

Objective: Assess legal competence, familiarity with Nebraska statutes, and courtroom experience.

Describe your experience handling criminal cases, particularly felonies and high-volume dockets. Which types of cases have you handled most frequently? Over last 2 years, office has started to take on 3A and juvenile court cases – take half of the felony loads with a focus on taking the more complicated felonies (domestics, sex assaults), also sit on the drug court board – do tend to take a large portion of the offices' cases when they are in drug court. Office splits everything; they all have a similar caseload.

Walk us through how you analyze a case file in the first 24–48 hours after assignment. Varies a little bit, if in jail they are on the phone with them same day, same afternoon, getting background information. If they aren't in jail ask them to come to the office right away. If juvenile stay after 5 to get information from them. Prepared for when they first engage.

How do you determine whether to recommend plea negotiations vs. preparing for trial? Always the clients' choice, at the end of the day it is the client that goes to jail, not the attorney. Has a great read on how the judges behave and act in their district.

Describe your experience with jury trials. Has had 8 felony jury trials; some felony bench trials. Important to know, learn from.

How do you stay current on changes in Nebraska criminal statutes, sentencing guidelines, and case law? Learn verbally, go to every Nebraska state bar presentation, read cases but not religious who read the advance sheets –

2. Constitutional & Ethical Considerations

Objective: Evaluate their understanding of due process, client rights, and ethical obligations.

How do you safeguard a client's constitutional rights at each stage of the criminal process? Part of the decision making process/metric, what is in the clients best interest and what are

Public Defender Interview Questions

the facts – what are the options? Explain where the rights are and where she feels the law would come out and then let the client make the decision.

Tell us about a time when you had to represent a client whose conduct or values conflicted with your own. One of the nice things is having an office that is not just one person, the cases that you find difficult from a personal perspective then can go to someone else that doesn't feel triggered in the office.

How do you navigate confidentiality concerns when clients discuss sensitive or incriminating information? Warn everyone, including juveniles about exceptions to confidentiality. Ability to disclose child abuse and if they are going to hurt someone.

3. Client Interaction & Communication

Objective: Assess empathy, patience, and ability to work with vulnerable populations.

Public defender clients often have mental health challenges, trauma histories, or distrust of the system. How do you build rapport quickly? Early on, discerning if things are mental health, substance abuse – tell them that there are competency issues up front and let another person make that determination.

Describe a time when you had to deliver difficult news to a client. How did you handle it? Generally it happens in the courtroom when it's not the outcome they had hoped for – explaining decisions and walking through decisions with them. Go through the information, talk about why the decision happened. Making sure they always have access to information.

4. Case Management & Workload Handling

Objective: Test time management and ability to function in a high-volume environment.

Public defenders often have large caseloads. How do you prioritize? Always responsive to the Court – ready for Court and ready for the Judge. Approach is that she triages work at least a week out. Recognize that she is in the courthouse all day no matter what—but that is not the case for everyone else. Efficiency within the courtroom is very important to her.

What tools or strategies do you use to stay organized with deadlines, discovery, motions, and court appearances? Triaging information at least a week out. Working backwards on a calendar so you a

5. Collaboration & Team Dynamics

Objective: Understand how they work within a county office, with law enforcement, and with courts.

Public Defender Interview Questions

Office collaboration: anyone can bring up anything that makes the office work great. If there is an issues, lets talk about it. Similar personality approach amongst each other.

How do you maintain a professional relationship with prosecutors and judges while advocating strongly for clients? At the end of the day, never badmouth judge or prosecutor to the client – consistent with patterns in other cases. When you start to undermine the other people – it starts to undermine the entire process. Very careful on this topic.

Describe your experience working with investigators, social workers, or support staff. Yes, lots of experience based on working with all the different types of cases she has worked with.

Tell us about a time when you disagreed with a supervisor or colleague on case strategy. What did you do? Within the office, always lean towards not having conflicts of interest and taking as many cases as possible – but sometimes has to be reminded of optics and the way it can look at other people. No one in the office is afraid to call the Council for Discipline to help with a direction.

7. Hypotheticals

Objective: Gauge analytical thinking under pressure.

A client wants to take a plea, but you believe it is not in their best interest. What do you do? Explain to them why it is not in the best interest, as long as they are competent, they have the choice and then they put it in writing to them – give them one more chance to look over it.

You discover late evidence that may impact plea negotiations. How do you handle it with both the client and prosecutor? Turn it over immediately – go through it! Having long term working relationships with them is valuable. Know that she is not messing around with information – she is not playing games.

8. Commitment to Public Defense

Objective: Identify motivation and fit for long-term service.

Why do you want to be a Public Defender in this county? Think that she has committed to a life sentence of Public Defense. First, adversarial process to argue things on her feet is something she is good at – in her life situation, she is not interested in other jobs right now. She doesn't intend to apply for judicial vacancies or private practices because she loves the way that public defender office works. Fair, effective, and aggressive office keeps prosecutors and law enforcement accountable in the community.

Public Defender Interview Questions

Biggest challenge and biggest priorities in the office: huge areas of unmet need because of budgetary constraints statewide. Figuring out how to triage essential needs and work for clients. Stability is needed.

Priority: legal assistant that needs training. Always going to be a desire for attorneys to move on – so for her, keeping a recruitment pipeline about future talent for the office is essential. Have to have outreach open and be creative.

Have tried to ensure she stays involved in the courthouse meetings, and department head integration. Where she has had to use some of her diplomacy skills – remembering to not approach every department in the courthouse the same way. Building relationships with the Board. Had not been enough information provided to the Board prior to Barbara being involved. Allowed the Board to see the actual value of their work to the County. Educating the Board on this information.

Timothy P. Matas

Attorney at Law

PO Box 1618

Columbus, NE 68602

Phone: (402) 730-2146

mataslaw@me.com

December 9, 2025

Hannah Murray
Zelle HR
Platte County Courthouse
Columbus, NE 68601
Sent to: hannah@zellehr.com

RE: Platte County Public Defender

Dear Ms. Murray:

I am writing to express my interest in the position of Platte County Public Defender. Having served as Deputy Platte County Public Defender from 2008 to 2010 and then as the Platte County Public Defender from 2010 to 2023, I bring more than a decade of experience representing the clients of the Platte County Public Defender's Office. My career has been dedicated to ensuring that every individual has access to quality legal representation and a fair trial, regardless of their personal circumstances.

During my tenure as Platte County Public Defender, I handled thousands of cases from misdemeanor offenses to serious felonies. I have developed strong trial advocacy skills, a deep knowledge of Nebraska criminal law and procedure, and the ability to manage a demanding caseload while providing each client with thorough and effective representation. In addition to courtroom advocacy, I worked closely with local judges, prosecutors, law enforcement, and community agencies to foster professional relationships that supported both my clients and the justice system as a whole.

I take pride in my commitment to client-centered defense, my ability to navigate complex legal and procedural issues, and my record of effective advocacy. I believe my prior experience makes me an excellent candidate to return to serving as Platte County Public Defender.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Timothy P. Matas

TIMOTHY PAUL MATAS

2121 33rd Street • Columbus, NE 68601
Mobile: (402) 730-2146 • EMAIL: timothymatas@mac.com

EDUCATION

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| University of Nebraska College of Law | Dates Attended: Graduation Date: Degree: | August 2005 – May 2008 May 10, 2008 J.D. |
| University of Nebraska BA - Political Science Minors: History, Int. Relations | Dates Attended: Graduation Date: | August 1996 – May 2001 May 5, 2001 |

EXPERIENCE

Private Practice

Timothy P. Matas, Attorney at Law
Solo Practitioner

Columbus, NE
March 2025 - present

- Legal practice in the areas of Criminal Defense, Juvenile Law, Divorce, Custody, Child Support, Civil Litigation, Wills and Estate Planning, and appeals to Nebraska Court of Appeals and Nebraska Supreme Court
- In addition to retained clients, accepts court appointments in criminal and juvenile matters throughout the 5th Judicial District
- Chosen as a 2025 Fellow in the UNL Children's Justice Attorney Education Program

Stratton, DeLay, Doele, Carlson, Buettner & Stover, P.C., L.L.O.
Attorney

Norfolk, NE
May 2023 – March 2025

- Legal practice in the areas of Criminal Defense, Juvenile Law, Divorce, Custody, Child Support, Civil Litigation, Wills and Estate Planning, and appeals to Nebraska Court of Appeals and Nebraska Supreme Court
- Consulted and assisted partners with complex criminal and civil cases
- Provided courtroom coverage throughout the firm's service area

Platte County Public Defender's Office

Platte County Public Defender
Deputy Public Defender

Columbus, NE
Jan 2010 – April 2023
Oct 2008 – Jan 2010

- Legal practice in the areas of Criminal Defense, Juvenile Law, Child Support, Mental Health Board, and appeals to Nebraska Court of Appeals and Nebraska Supreme Court
- Department head and lead administrator for two full-time deputies and two full-time support staff
- Office routinely handled 700+ individual cases per year

Private Practice (part-time)

Timothy P. Matas, Attorney at Law
Solo Practitioner

Columbus, NE
Oct 2008 – April 2023

- In addition to retained clients, accepted court appointment in juvenile and criminal matters outside of Platte County, Nebraska
- Practiced in the areas of Criminal Defense, Juvenile Law, Estate Planning, Real Estate Transactions and Adoptions

TIMOTHY PAUL MATAS

2121 33rd Street • Columbus, NE 68601
Mobile: (402) 730-2146 • EMAIL: timothymatas@mac.com

TRAINING, CONFERENCES AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

National Criminal Defense College
Trial Practice Institute
Mercer Law School, Macon, GA
July 18-31, 2010

Children's Justice Attorney Education Program
Fellow
April 2025 – November 2025

CLE (Past five years)

Substance Abuse and the Effective Defense:
Beyond the Disease Model
Nebraska Criminal Defense Attorneys
Association
11/7/2025

LB530 – The essential role of attorneys
Administrative Office of Courts and Probation
8/29/2025

Bill Like an Attorney: Ethical Strategies that
Actually Work
Smokeball
8/27/2025

2025 Legislative Update
Nebraska Criminal Defense Attorney
Association
8/22/2025

Children's Justice Attorney Education Program
June 2025 Workshop
University of Nebraska College of Law
6/20/2025

Special Immigrant Juvenil Status
University of Nebraska College of Law
7/15/2025

Children's Justice Attorney Education Program
April 2025 Workshop
University of Nebraska College of Law
4/25/2025

The Power of Perspective
University of Nebraska College of Law
4/18/2025

Immigration Considerations for Lawyers
University of Nebraska College of Law
2/7/2025

Using NebDocs 2.0 in Your Practice
Nebraska State Bar Association
1/9/2025

Home Grown CLE #15 . . . "Legal Potpourri"
7th Judicial District Bar Association
5/22/2024

2024 NSBA Annual Meeting
Nebraska State Bar Association
10/11/2024

Divorce Math: When $1 + 1 = \frac{1}{2}$
Nebraska State Bar Association
11/26/2024

TIMOTHY PAUL MATAS

2121 33rd Street • Columbus, NE 68601
Mobile: (402) 730-2146 • EMAIL: timothymatas@mac.com

Caution: Keep Hands Off!

Nebraska State Bar Association
12/31/2024

NSBA Leadership Summit

Nebraska State Bar Association
5/26/2022

Home Grown CLE #14 . . .”Moving on Down
the Road”

7th Judicial District Bar Association
5/2023

The Modernization of Court Rule
Revisions Effective 1/1/22

Nebraska Supreme Court
12/22/2021

2023 Legislative Update

Nebraska Criminal Defense Attorneys
Association
8/11/2023

Nebraska State Bar Association
2021 Annual Meeting

I Think, Therefore, I Am Biased
Nebraska Criminal Defense Attorneys
Association
10/13/2021

NCDAAs LB 77

Nebraska Criminal Defense Attorneys
Association
5/12/2023

NCDAAs 2021 Legislative Update
Nebraska Criminal Defense Attorneys
Association
7/29/2021

2022 Defending Sex Cases Training Seminar
National Association of Criminal Defense
Lawyers
11/10/2022

Variations of Basic Estate Planning
Nebraska State Bar Association
2/12/2021

License Plate Readers

Nebraska Criminal Defense Attorneys
Association
10/5/2022

HONORS & PUBLICATIONS

Selected as Fellow for the 2025 Children’s Justice Attorney Education Program administered by the University of Nebraska College of Law.

Guest, *Another Not Guilty Podcast*, Season 3, Episode 16 “Sleeping With The Frenemy” (September 20, 2020)

Guest Lecturer, Southeast Community College, Lincoln, Nebraska (2012 - 2019).

Featured Speaker, Columbus Sertoma Club, Heritage Day Celebration (February 16, 2011)

2010 Don Fiedler Scholarship

- Nebraska Criminal Defense Attorneys Association
- National Criminal Defense College Trial Practice Institute

TIMOTHY PAUL MATAS

2121 33rd Street • Columbus, NE 68601
Mobile: (402) 730-2146 • EMAIL: timothymatas@mac.com

- Mercer Law School, Macon, GA

Admiral, The Great Navy of the State of Nebraska

- Conferred on January 1, 2004 by Governor Mike Johanns

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Nebraska Criminal Defense Attorneys Association; Board of Directors (2017 - present); Secretary (2025); Treasurer (2026)
- Nebraska State Bar Association; House of Delegates (2015 - present)
- Nebraska State Bar Association; Legal Services Committee (2011 – 2018)
- Nebraska State Bar Association; Rules and Bylaws Committee (2016 – present)
- Nebraska State Bar Association; Elections Committee (2016 – present); Chairperson (2023 – present)
- Nebraska State Bar Association; Judicial Resources Committee (2021 – present)
- Judicial Nominating Commission; 5th Judicial District (2013 - 2014)
- Platte County Bar Association (2008 – present)
- National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (2008 – present)
- National Association of Public Defenders (2008 – 2023)
- Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity (2006 – present)

VOLUNTEER & COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Columbus Public Library Board of Trustees; Board Member (2021 - present); Vice President (2022); President (2023 - 2024)
- Habitat for Humanity Columbus; Resource Development Committee (2022)
- Boone, Merrick, Nance and Polk/Through the Eyes of the Child; Team 5.3 (2018 – 2020)
- Nebraska Bar Foundation; Mock Trial Judge (2014 – present)
- Nebraska Bar Foundation; Mock Trial Attorney Coach; Scotus Central Catholic High School, Columbus, NE (2009 – 2013)
- Peace Lutheran Church; Vacation Bible School Teacher (2017-2019)
- Peace Lutheran Church Board of Elders; Board Member/Secretary (2015 - 2018)
- Peace Lutheran Church Governance Board; Board Member (2018 – 2021, 2024 – present)
- Peace Lutheran Church Governance Board; Vice Chairman (2019 – 2020); Chairman (2020 – 2021)
- Peace Lutheran Church, Voices of Peace Adult Choir; Director (2010 - present)
- Peace Lutheran Church, Joyful Sound Children's Choir; Director (2022 – present)
- Peace Lutheran Church, Brass Choir (2009 - present)

INTERESTS & ACTIVITIES

- Lakeview Summer Baseball 8U Coach/Assistant Coach (2024 – present)
- CYSA T-Ball and Coach Pitch Coach/Assistant Coach (2018-present)
- AYSO Soccer Coach (2020 - 2023)
- Columbus Jazz Orchestra (2010 - present); Secretary/Treasurer (2014 - present)

TIMOTHY PAUL MATAS

2121 33rd Street • Columbus, NE 68601
Mobile: (402) 730-2146 • EMAIL: timothymatas@mac.com

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

- Breanna Flaherty, Platte County Attorney, 2610 14th Street, Columbus, NE 68601
- Tonia Soukup, Deputy Butler County Attorney, 451 North 5th Street, David City, NE 68632
- Bruce Prenda, Colfax County Attorney, 412 East 11th Street, Schuyler, NE 68661
- Honorable Robert Steinke (retired), 2436 37th Street, Columbus, NE 68601
- Honorable Frank Skorupa (retired), 3156 36th Avenue, Columbus, NE 68601
- Honorable Jason Bergevin, Nebraska Supreme Court, PO Box 98910, Lincoln, NE 68509
- Honorable Denise Kracl, Platte County Court, 2610 14th Street, Columbus, NE 68601
- Honorable Stephen Twiss, Merrick County Court, PO Box 27, Central City, NE 68826

Public Defender Interview Questions

Name: Tim Matas

Date and Time of Interview: 3pm on 1/20/2026

1. Legal Knowledge & Casework Skills

Objective: Assess legal competence, familiarity with Nebraska statutes, and courtroom experience.

Was the PD for several years, left the role because he had an opportunity with a different firm. Have been working on his own since then. Felt that this was a good opportunity now for himself and his family. Has always loved the work of what Public Defenders do.

Describe your experience handling criminal cases, particularly felonies and high-volume dockets. Which types of cases have you handled most frequently? Criminal cases specifically he was very much handling most of the felony docket. Had to take his share of the misdemeanor docket as well. Since being out of the PD office, his juvenile caseload has grown. In general, his practice has always been weighted towards criminal law.

Walk us through how you analyze a case file in the first 24–48 hours after assignment. Almost every criminal case comes through County Court, look at complaint, see what the charges are – important first step is to speak with the client. Get a feel for what their position is and deciding how to move forward from there. 90% of cases we are going to advise our client to plead not-guilty until they can get full discovery.

How do you determine whether to recommend plea negotiations vs. preparing for trial? All comes down to what the state is able to prove. When you get discovery – anecdotal, physical, video evidence, etc. Good to understand that his purpose is not to fight every single detail of every case, it is totality of the circumstances. Talk to your client. Informed perspective is to be given.

Describe your experience with jury trials. Has had experience dating back to when he first started practicing. 2-3 jury trials/year since the beginning of his career. Felony and misdemeanor.

How do you stay current on changes in Nebraska criminal statutes, sentencing guidelines, and case law? Member of the Board of NE criminal defense – discussion often there. Decisions on NE Supreme Court cases that come out.

2. Constitutional & Ethical Considerations

Objective: Evaluate their understanding of due process, client rights, and ethical obligations.

Public Defender Interview Questions

How do you safeguard a client's constitutional rights at each stage of the criminal process? Entire job basically, something that you analyze at every step of the case. Ongoing process, making sure discovery violations don't happen.

Tell us about a time when you had to represent a client whose conduct or values conflicted with your own. Being a Public Defender, you don't get to choose who your clients are – take great pride in knowing that he has been able to separate his personal feelings on a habit or attitude from what he can provide as a Public Defender and what is legally obligated to a person. Seems to get most of the cases the PD office gets conflicted out of – and thinks he does a good job of 'toning things down.'

How do you navigate confidentiality concerns when clients discuss sensitive or incriminating information? Obviously anything that clients tell him are their secrets. There are situations where you do need to consult with someone else in the field, to the extent that you can share the situation, then you do that. Talk to client first to ensure they are okay if he does need to bring in another practitioner.

3. Client Interaction & Communication

Objective: Assess empathy, patience, and ability to work with vulnerable populations.

Public defender clients often have mental health challenges, trauma histories, or distrust of the system. How do you build rapport quickly? Same way that he does with all his clients – when he meets his clients it is typically on the worst day of their life. A lot of times they don't care if they are guilty or not – it is most important to listen to them. Be the person on the other side of the table listening to them.

Describe a time when you had to deliver difficult news to a client. How did you handle it? This comes a lot. Practice is never to blow smoke, be as honest with his client on day one as he is on the final day with them.

How do you communicate legal options in a way that clients with limited legal knowledge can understand? Try to simplify it without being condescending. Even though they may not be particularly sophisticated they've seen shows and everybody has some basis for understanding legal concepts. Trying to figure out what language they are speaking. Think about it in terms of a game, sport, etc – analogize what is going on.

4. Case Management & Workload Handling

Objective: Test time management and ability to function in a high-volume environment.

Public defenders often have large caseloads. How do you prioritize? Had a lot of practice with this, start with a triage of things that have to be done today because there is court

Public Defender Interview Questions

tomorrow. With felony cases there are things that need to be done – so prioritizing all of those things. One week out, two weeks out, and you handle it – get things done. Electronic calendaring.

5. Collaboration & Team Dynamics

Objective: Understand how they work within a county office, with law enforcement, and with courts.

How do you maintain a professional relationship with prosecutors and judges while advocating strongly for clients? Have conversations with prosecutors – the thing to remember is that everybody there is just doing their job; nothing is personal. People are doing their job. Same with the judges – none of them do anything because of personal bias and you have to remember that. Have seen what happens when people take things personally.

Describe your experience working with investigators, social workers, or support staff. Has the experience, has always had a great working relationship with law enforcement.

Tell us about a time when you disagreed with a supervisor or colleague on case strategy. What did you do? Has happened quite a bit. Jessica and Tim were famous on not agreeing with strategy in a number of cases. It was his case, he made the decision, and they moved on. Generally left case strategy to the person the case was assigned to. Open discussion – but someone has to make the final decision.

7. Hypotheticals

Objective: Gauge analytical thinking under pressure.

A client wants to take a plea, but you believe it is not in their best interest. What do you do? Advise them that it is not in their best interest, explain why – ask them why they are insistent on taking the plea – at the end of the day the decision is theirs.

You discover late evidence that may impact plea negotiations. How do you handle it with both the client and prosecutor? Late evidence is still evidence, talk to the client, tell them what you found, tell them what you feel the effect of it is. Advise them on how you feel they should go forward.

8. Commitment to Public Defense

Objective: Identify motivation and fit for long-term service.

Why do you want to be a Public Defender in this county? This is something that he has done his whole career; love this work. Having the chance to help somebody that cannot help

Public Defender Interview Questions

themselves is something he takes a lot of pride in and something that makes him feel his career is worth something. Standing up for them when they can't stand up for themselves.

Biggest Challenge in PD Office: over the next year, the biggest challenge is managing the caseload. Since the time he left they've been handling Juvenile cases and Drug Court responsibilities. Specifically managing the Attorney resources. Both are very competent attorneys but a lot of times Barb and Chelsey are in the courtroom at the same time. Seemed that 3 attorneys was a good caseload for the office.

How do you measure success of the office? Ability to handle the caseload without burning out the attorneys. Has been aware of the need to cease for appointments until they get caught up. Measure of success is how happy are the attorneys with the services they are able to provide to those clients.

How would it be different this time around? Never had the experience of being in private practice prior to being in PD office. Some type of time tracking mechanism could be helpful.

Time allocation of the office: administrative duties that needs to be handled by the Department head, don't know that he ever spent more than 10% of his time dedicated to administrative functions. The vast majority of his time was spent lawyering.

Pipeline for hiring attorneys and staff: having a bit more of a connection to the law schools and going to one or two of the job fairs and getting connected with the criminal clinic could be a good thing. Has trained attorneys before and would not be opposed to training attorneys again.

SUMMARY OF ONE- AND SIX-YEAR PLAN

Name (County/Municipality): Platte County

Six-Year Period Ending:

12/31/2031

| Work or Project Number | Year One | Length | Unit of Measure | General Location Description | Type of Improvement | Est. Cost (Thousands) | Additional Information |
|------------------------|----------|--------|-----------------|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| C-71 (429) | ✓ | 0.01 | miles | 205 Ave., 400-415 Streets | BR REPL | TBD | poss. Culverts |
| C-71 (538) | | 0.01 | miles | 250th Ave., 490-505 Streets | BR REPL | 270 | poss. Culvert |
| C-71 (612) | | 0.10 | miles | 205 Ave. , 280-295 Streets | BR REPL | TBD | Canal Bridge |
| C-71 (622) | | 0.10 | miles | 460th Ave., 325-340 Streets | BR REPL | 180 | possible culverts |
| C-71 (657) | | 0.50 | miles | 310th Street, 310-325 Ave. | BR REPL | 400 | |
| C-71 (669) | x | 0.10 | miles | 265th Street, 235-250 Ave. | BR REPL | TBD | 43625, BIP Grant |
| C-71 (674) | x | 1.00 | miles | 295th Ave., 370-385 Street | GR, CULV EXT | TBD | |
| C-71 (716) | | 0.01 | miles | 310 Ave., 265-280 Street | BR REPL | 900 | Under Construction |
| C-71 (725) | | 0.50 | miles | 160th St., 287-280 Ave. | NEW ROADWAY | TBD | |
| C-71 (758) | | 0.40 | miles | 14th Ave.17thSt./Randy Cook Dr. | CONC PVMT, CULV | 510 | |
| C-71 (808) B | x | 2.50 | miles | Hwy 30 south to 8th Street, 8th St 29 Ave to co line | ASPH PVMTor Concrete | 2,760 | Add drainage and Redo intersection |
| C-71 (817) | x | 0.01 | miles | 340th St. 475-490 Ave. | BR REPL | 8 | |
| C-71 (820) A | | 3.50 | miles | 205 Ave. 280-340 St/ | GR, DRAINAGE STRUCTURES | 300 | |
| C-71 (821) | | 1.00 | miles | 227th St. E. of 415th Ave. | GR, CULV | 21 | |
| C-71 (822) | | 2.30 | miles | 220th St. W. Of 415th Ave. to Nance County Line | GR,CULV | 30 | |
| C-71(825) | | 4.00 | miles | 83rd St., 205 Ave. to Hwy 81 | OVRLY | TBD | |
| C-71 (829)A | | 1.25 | miles | 490th St.from Hwy. 91-Hwy. 81 | OVRLY | TBD | |
| C-71 (829) B | | 0.10 | miles | on 490 St. # 10635 | BR REHAB | TBD | |
| C-71 (832) | | 2.60 | miles | 497th St. 385-400 Ave. and S to Hwy. 91 | ARMOR COAT | TBD | |
| C-71 (854)A | x | 2.50 | miles | St. Ben | CONC PVMT | 840 | |
| C-71 (854)B | | 1.00 | miles | St. Mary | CONC PVMT | 370 | |
| C-71 (860) | x | 3.00 | miles | St. Johns/ 385th | ASPH PVMT | TBD | |

SUMMARY OF ONE- AND SIX-YEAR PLAN

Name (County/Municipality): Platte County

Six-Year Period Ending:

12/31/2031

| Work or Project Number | Year One | Length | Unit of Measure | General Location Description | Type of Improvement | Est. Cost (Thousands) | Additional Information |
|------------------------|----------|--------|-----------------|--|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| C-71 (865) | x | 0.01 | miles | Bridge on 370th Ave. N. of 250 Street | BR REPL | TBD | Need plans |
| C-71 (870) | | 0.01 | miles | 355 Ave. .4 Mi. S. of 370 St. | BR REPL | 380 | Possible CBC |
| C-71 (871) | x | 0.01 | miles | 295th Ave. .4 mi. N.of 280 St/ | BR REPL | 40 | Check RR row |
| C-71 (872) | | 0.60 | miles | Humphrey Cemetery Roads 467 St. and 285 Ave. | ASPH PVMT | 200 | |
| C-71 (877) | x | 0.01 | miles | 710002110 400th Ave. | BR REHAB | TBD | |
| C-71(878) | | 1.00 | miles | Central Hwy to A St, A St. to 4th St, \$th St to F St. | OVRLY | TBD | Central Hwy |
| C-71 (880) | | 0.10 | miles | 490 St. Replace deck #10640 | BR REHAB | | |
| C-71 (883) | x | 0.10 | miles | 205 Ave. S. of 83rd St. 7104710 | BR REPL | | 04710, BIP Funding |
| C-71 (884) | x | 0.10 | miles | 175 Ave. S of 250th Ave.7105105 | BR REPL | TBD | 05105, BIP Funding |
| C-71 (885) | x | 0.10 | miles | 53rd St. E. of 3rd Ave. 7124005 | BR REPL | TBD | 24005, BIP Funding |
| C-71(886) | | 1.00 | miles | 100 Ave, south of Hwy 30 | CONC PVMT | 300 | Colfax co project |
| C-71 (890) | | 0.60 | miles | E. 32nd Ave. & 18th Street | CONC PVMT | TBD | |
| C-71(893) | | 0.10 | miles | 122 ave, south of 298th | BR REPL | 1,100 | 5705P |
| C-71(896) | x | 16.00 | miles | 445 ave, hwy 91 to hwy 22 | OVRLY | 4,800 | Lindsay South |
| C-71(898) | x | 0.10 | miles | On 340th St.east of 535 Ave. | BR REPL | 350 | 2610 |
| C-71(901) | x | 14.00 | miles | 175 ave 490 St to 280 st. and 66th st to lost creek pkwy | SURF SHLDR | TBD | Monastery Rd |
| C-71(903) | x | 0.10 | miles | On 325th st. 0.10 miles east of 122nd Ave. | GR | 282 | Christ Lutheran bank stab |
| C-71(904) | | 0.10 | miles | 340th St from 445 Ave west to co line | CONC PVMT | 14,600 | |
| C-71(905) | | 1.00 | miles | On 295 Ave., 0.16 miles south of Platte Center | BR REPAIR | | 03510P replacement and BS |
| C-71(906) | x | 0.10 | miles | On 175 Ave., 0.40 miles south of 325th street | BR REPL | | 5120 |

July 1, 2017 version

SUMMARY OF ONE- AND SIX-YEAR PLAN

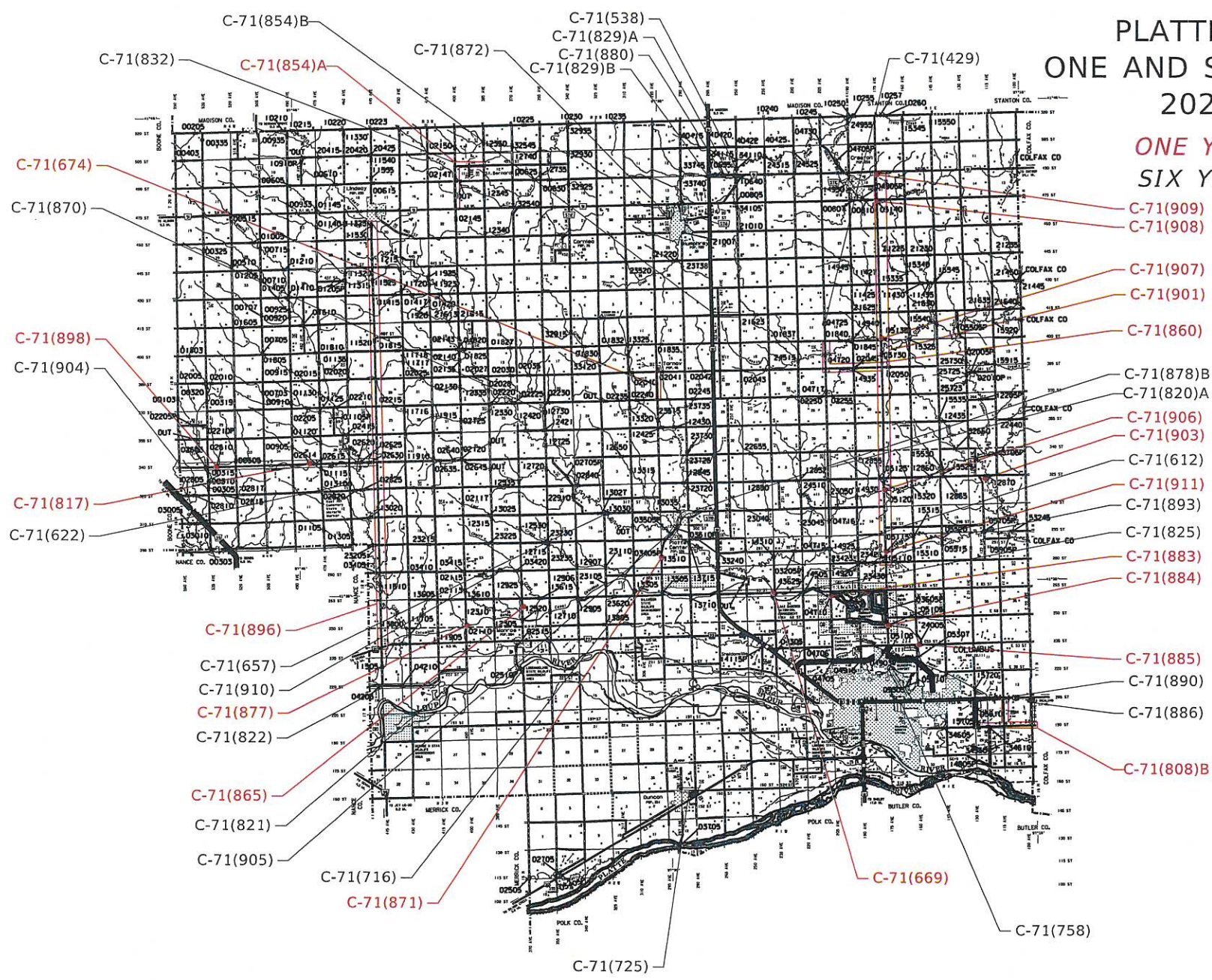
Name (County/Municipality): Platte County

Six-Year Period Ending: 12/31/2031

| Work or Project Number | Year One <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Length | Unit of Measure | General Location Description | Type of Improvement | Est. Cost (Thousands) | Additional Information | | | |
|---|--|--|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------|--|------------------------|-----------------|--|--|
| C-71(907) | x | 0.10 | miles | On 175 Ave., approximately 100' north of 400 street | BR REPL | | 5135 | | | |
| C-71(908) | x | 0.10 | miles | On 175 Ave., approximately 233' north of 400 street | BR REPL | | 5140 | | | |
| C-71(909) | x | 0.10 | miles | On 175 Ave., 0.10 miles south of HWY 91 | BR REPL | | | | | |
| C-71(910) | | 0.10 | miles | On 280 St. West of 370 Ave | BR REPL | | | | | |
| C-71(911) | x | 0.10 | miles | 175 Ave, north of 280 St | BR REPL | | 5115 | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL COST ESTIMATE: | | | | | | 5,379 | | | | |
| Check if no works/projects to report in One-Year Plan: <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | <table border="1"> <tr> <td rowspan="2" style="text-align: center;">Estimated Available Funding (Thousands)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Entire Six-Year Period</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">First Year Only</td> </tr> </table> | | Estimated Available Funding (Thousands) | Entire Six-Year Period | First Year Only | | |
| Estimated Available Funding (Thousands) | Entire Six-Year Period | | | | | | | | | |
| | First Year Only | | | | | | | | | |
| Printed Name: Justin Laudenklos | | <i>Municipalities: add note(s) if accumulating, investing or relinquishing funds</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Signature: | | | Title: County Highway Superintendent | | Date: 2/4/2026 | | | | | |

PLATTE COUNTY ONE AND SIX YEAR PLAN 2026-2031

ONE YEAR PLAN
SIX YEAR PLAN



AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FORM

(To be completed by requesting Department)

Forward all requests to jbrown@plattecounty.ne.gov

DEADLINE SUBMITTAL IS 12:00 P.M. TUESDAY 1 WEEK BEFORE THE BOARD MEETING

Agenda Item: Utility Applications

(i.e., Consent/Recognition-Proclamation/Presentation/Public Hearing/Committee, etc.)

Date to be on the agenda: February 10, 2026

Exact wording to be used for **the agenda:** _____

Magnum Electric for Ryan Loseke - Water and Electrical line MK 1930

Lehr, Inc. - Electrical Service MR 3029

Action Requested Approval

Funding Code N/A

IS this item in current fiscal year budget? Yes No

Does this item commit funds for future years? Yes No

If yes, explain: _____

If an agreement or contract*, has the County Attorney reviewed and approved?

*Provide County Clerk with contact info for outside organizations Yes No

Previous action taken on this item if any? _____

Recommendations and rationale or action: Approval and authorize Chairperson to sign

Will anyone speak on behalf of this item, if so who? Justin

If this is a rush agenda item, please explain why: _____

Submitted by (Name & Department) Jane Cromwell. Ext. 206

Date Submitted: January 30, 2026

List of attachments: _____

(Attach resolution and all pertinent documentation, i.e., contract, agreement, memorandums, etc.)

Completed by Receiving office.
Received in Clerk's Office: Date _____ Time _____ Initials _____

APPLICATION TO OCCUPY PLATTE COUNTY ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY
PLATTE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT COURTHOUSE,
2610 14TH STREET, COLUMBUS, NE 68601

Name: Lehr Inc.

lehrinc30@gmail.com

Address: _____

Phone Number: 402-942-2977

Applicant is: Property Owner Other: _____

LOCATION OF ROAD CROSSING OR OCCUPATION: Map attached Yes

Approximately 250 feet North from the SW section corner of

Section 29, Township 17 North, Range 1W

Platte Co. Road No. MR 3029

Street 175th Avenue 265th R.O.W. Width _____

Type of Utility or Occupation to be constructed:

Water or Irrigation Line Pipe size and type _____

Sewer Pipe size and type _____

Electric Voltage/Type 480V 3 phase

Natural Gas Pipe size and type _____

Telephone Type _____

Fiber Optic Cable size and type _____

Other grain bins

Proposed method of installation:

Open Trench Width _____ Depth _____

Continuous Bore Size _____ Depth _____

Encasement Pipe Size _____ Depth _____

Air Knife Size _____ Depth _____

Plowing Size _____ Depth _____

Explosives: no

Name and address of contractor performing the work: Leroys Pivot Service

Expected Start Date: _____ Length of time for construction: _____

Encasement Requirements: _____

**** ALL PLASTIC PIPE REQUIRED A TRACER LINE a minimum of 6" above the line. ****

Method of installation: _____

I (We) agree to construct the grain bins in accordance with the permit requirements and the policies and provisions included as a part of this permit.

Date: 1-10-05

By: [Signature]
Applicants Signature

Phone: 4029422977

An inspection of the site of the road crossing or occupation as stated in the above application has been made. It is recommended that the permit be

Approved

Disapproved

Special Requirements of this Permit: Must be encased in plastic case.

Location/Distance from center line of road: _____ Depth: 5-6 ft

Location/Distance from edge of road surface: _____ Depth: _____

Date: 2/3/06

By: [Signature]
Platte County Highway Department

The above application is hereby approved subject to the County Policy and to specific requirements stated above.

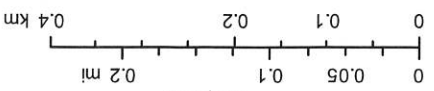
Signed this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Chairman, County Board of Supervisors



December 30, 2025 18:08 PM
 DISCLAIMER: This map is not intended for conveyances, nor is it a legal survey. The information is presented on a best-efforts basis, and should not be relied upon for making financial, survey, legal or other commitments.

- Townships
- Parcels
- Lot Lines
- Sections



1:7,938

APPLICATION TO OCCUPY PLATTE COUNTY ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY
PLATTE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT COURTHOUSE,
2610 14TH STREET, COLUMBUS, NE 68601

Name: Ryan Loseke/Jon Abegglen-Magnum Electric Inc

Address: 34532 130th ave Columbus Ne

Phone Number: 402-2761886

Applicant is: Property Owner Other: _____

LOCATION OF ROAD CROSSING OR OCCUPATION: Map attached No

Approximately 650 feet East from the SW section corner of

Section 19 , Township 18 North, Range 1E

Platte Co. Road No. 280th St. MK 1930

Street 280th St Avenue _____ R.O.W. Width 66'

Type of Utility or Occupation to be constructed:

Water or Irrigation Line Pipe size and type 2.5 cic

Sewer Pipe size and type _____

Electric Voltage/Type 480

Natural Gas Pipe size and type _____

Telephone Type _____

Fiber Optic Cable size and type _____

Other _____

Proposed method of installation:

Open Trench Width _____ Depth _____

Continuous Bore Size 2.5 Depth 6

Encasement Pipe Size _____ Depth _____

Air Knife Size _____ Depth _____

Plowing Size _____ Depth _____

Explosives: NO

Name and address of contractor performing the work: Magnum Electric Inc.

Expected Start Date: 01/13/26 Length of time for construction: Day

Encasement Requirements: _____

**** ALL PLASTIC PIPE REQUIRED A TRACER LINE a minimum of 6" above the line. ****

Method of installation: Horizontal Boring

I (We) agree to construct the _____ in accordance with the permit requirements and the policies and provisions included as a part of this permit.

Date: 01/06/26

By: *Jon Aguilar*
Applicants Signature

Phone: 402-910-1006

An inspection of the site of the road crossing or occupation as stated in the above application has been made. It is recommended that the permit be

Approved

Disapproved

Special Requirements of this Permit: _____

Location/Distance from center line of road: _____ Depth: 5-6 ft

Location/Distance from edge of road surface: _____ Depth: 5-6 ft

Date: 2/3/26

By: *Jon Linn*
Platte County Highway Department

The above application is hereby approved subject to the County Policy and to specific requirements stated above.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Chairman, County Board of Supervisors

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Journey.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

July 24, 2025

Notice to file the Annual Certification of Program Compliance and Signing Resolution with the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards (NBCS) by October 31, 2025.

Please make this an agenda item for your next County Board meeting and return to the NBCS by October 31, 2025.

To avoid the suspension of Highway-User Revenue to your county please complete the enclosed **COUNTY ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF PROGRAM COMPLIANCE** and **SIGNING RESOLUTION** and **return them to the NBCS by October 31, 2025.** Reference Neb. Rev. Stat. §§39-2120 and 39-2121(1).


Penalties for failure to comply can be found in the following State Statutes:

- Failure to comply with the provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. §39-2115.
- Failure to comply with the provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. §39-2119.
- Failure to file the County Annual Certification of Program Compliance with the NBCS, Neb. Rev. Stat. §39-2121(2).
- Filing of a materially false County Annual Certification of Program Compliance, Neb. Rev. Stat. §39-2121(3).
- Construction below minimum standards without the prior approval of the NBCS, Neb. Rev. Stat. §39-2121(3).

Note: While the signature of the County Highway Superintendent is optional on the certification, the NBCS strongly recommends that the superintendent sign this certification if said county has a superintendent.

Please let me know if you have any questions. Email: ndot.blshelp@Nebraska.gov
Phone: (402) 479-4436

Sincerely,



LeMoynes D. Schulz
Secretary for the Board

LDS/2025

Attachments (2)

Vicki Kramer, Director
Department of Transportation

Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards
1400 Nebraska Parkway
PO Box 94759
Lincoln, NE 68509-4759

OFFICE 402-479-4436
ndot.blshelp@nebraska.gov

dot.nebraska.gov

Kyle A. Anderson
Valley

Roger A. Figard
Lincoln

Barbara J. Keegan
Alliance

Russell Kreachbaum, Jr.
Central City

James A. Litchfield
Wakefield

Steven D. Ramos
Norfolk

Nathan Sorben
Lincoln

Brandon Varilek
Lincoln

Edward R. Wootton, Sr.
Bellevue

LeMoynes D. Schulz
Secretary – ex officio

Do not recreate or revise the pages of this document, as revisions and recreations will not be accepted. Failure to **return both pages of the original document** by the filing deadline (October 31, 2025) may result in the suspension of Highway Allocation funds until the documents are filed.

RESOLUTION

**SIGNING OF THE
COUNTY ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF PROGRAM COMPLIANCE
2025**

Resolution No. _____

Whereas: State of Nebraska Statutes, sections 39-2115, 39-2119, 39-2120, 39-2121, and 39-2510(2), requires an annual certification of program compliance to the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and standards; and

Whereas: State of Nebraska Statute, section 39-2120 also requires that the annual certification of program compliance by each county shall be signed by the County Board Chairperson and shall include the resolution of the governing body of the county authorizing the signing of the certification.

Be it resolved that the County Board Chairperson of _____ County is hereby
(Print name of county)
authorized to sign the County Annual Certification of Program Compliance.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 20____ at _____ Nebraska.
(Month)

County Board Members

County Board Member _____
Moved the adoption of said resolution
Member _____ Seconded the Motion
Roll Call: ____ Yes ____ No ____ Abstained ____ Absent
Resolution adopted, signed, and billed as adopted.

Attest:

(Signature of Clerk)

Do not recreate or revise the pages of this document, as revisions and recreations will not be accepted. Failure to **return both pages of the original document** by the filing deadline (October 31, 2025) may result in the suspension of Highway Allocation funds until the documents are filed.

**COUNTY
ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF PROGRAM COMPLIANCE
TO
NEBRASKA BOARD OF PUBLIC ROADS CLASSIFICATIONS
AND STANDARDS
2025**

In compliance with the provisions of the State of Nebraska Statutes, sections 39-2115, 39-2119, 39-2120, 39-2121, and 39-2510(2), requiring annual certification of program compliance to the Board of Public Roads

Classifications and Standards, the County of _____ hereby certifies that it:
(Print name of county)

- ✓ has developed, adopted, and included in its public records the plans, programs, or standards required by sections 39-2115 and 39-2119;
- ✓ meets the plans, programs, or standards of design, construction, and maintenance for its highways, roads, or streets;
- ✓ expends all tax revenue for highway, road, or street purposes in accordance with approved plans, programs, or standards, including county and municipal tax revenue as well as highway-user revenue allocations;
- ✓ uses a system of revenue and costs accounting which clearly includes a comparison of receipts and expenditures for approved budgets, plans, programs, and standards;
- ✓ uses a system of budgeting which reflects uses and sources of funds in terms of plans, programs, or standards and accomplishments;
- ✓ uses an accounting system including an inventory of machinery, equipment, and supplies;
- ✓ uses an accounting system that tracks equipment operation costs;
- ✓ has included in its public records the information required under subsection (2) of section 39-2510; and
- ✓ **has included in its public records a copy of this certification and the resolution of the governing body authorizing the signing of this certification by the County Board Chairperson.**

Signature of County Board Chairperson (Required)

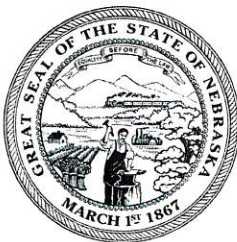
(Date)

Signature of County Highway Superintendent (Optional)

(Date)

Return the completed original signing resolution and annual certification of program compliance by October 31, 2025 to:

Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards
PO Box 94759
Lincoln NE 68509



ARPA funds/projects

Request for down payment for Biswanger Glass
for County Court Clerk office (\$10,000.00)

Request for down payment for Columbus
Carpet for second floor carpet replacement
(\$30,000.00)



Binswanger Enterprises, LLC. dba
Binswanger Glass #580
 1902 W Omaha Ave
 Norfolk, NE 68701
 Office: (402) 316-7625
 Cell: (402) 992-6703
 Email: dloseke@binswangerglass.com

Bid Proposal & Contract

Date: Mon, Jan 26 2026

Project Name: **Platte County Courthouse**
 Location: 2610 14th Street
 Columbus, NE 68601

Company Phone:
 Attention: **Ron Reilly**
 Contact Phone: **402-910-4605**

Fax: -

Description of Scope of Work:

Addendums Noted: [REDACTED]

Sales Tax: **Not Included**

BINSWANGER GLASS proposes to furnish and install per the following:

Installation of window partition system at Platte County Courthouse.

Metal to be: Kawneer 451 dark bronze. Metal dimensions are 4-1/2" x 2". System to anchor to the countertop and to wood in the ceiling (wood installed by Binswanger).

Glass to be 3/8" clear laminated. Each to have a hole for speak thru and notch cut at the bottom for deal tray.

Speak thru to be: C.R.Lawrence brushed stainless steel 5".

Deal Tray to be: C.R.Lawrence brushed stainless steel. 12" wide x 10" deep x 2" high. Tray to sit on top of countertop.

Note: Deal Tray installation instructions say to silicone in place for anchoring. While silicone is adequate, Binswanger can also use a double face tape for added security.

Final cleaning of glass and framing not included.

50% down required to proceed with order. Remaining balance due at time of completion.

Special tools will be required to install including knives, deadblows (hammer), side cutters, etc.

Total Amount of Base Bid: \$16,264.06

Adds / Deducts:

Add:

EXCLUSIONS (unless covered in proposal above): 1. Wood blocking 2. Demolition 3. Glass for millwork 4. Final cleaning or protection 5. Brake Metal 6. Mirrors 7. Mock Ups 8. Liquidated damages and/or other penalties 9. Provisions for OCIP or CCIP insurance programs 10. Permits or fees 11. Testing procedures 12. Inspection costs 13. Payment or performance bonds 14. Engineering calculations/stamping 15. Cutting, patching, or erection of any concrete, masonry, steel, or wood 16. Backer/Substrate

CLARIFICATIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Our proposal is based upon generally accepted glazing standards and/or applicable building codes. Some variation in architectural intent may occur so to meet such criteria. 2. This proposal and offer are contingent upon the signing of a mutually agreed upon contractual instrument. 3. All applicable material warranties will be passed through from the manufacturer without modification by Binswanger Glass. 4. Workmanship warranty will be executed on a standard Binswanger form only. Unless stated otherwise, our standard one (1) year warranty is included as a part of this proposal. 5. Building structure, or any component which our system (s) attach to, must be capable of carrying all loads imposed by our system (s). 6. All schedules must be mutually agreed upon by Binswanger Glass and the customer. 7. All factory and field labor will be performed during normal business hours. 8. It is assumed that electricity will be provided at no additional charge to Binswanger Glass. 9. All sealants to be standard in color. 10. We do not include a cost provision within our proposal for glass broken or damaged by other trades. Any glass breakage caused by Binswanger Glass will be replaced at no additional charge. 11. Bid Proposal is based upon NON-UNION Labor 12. Bid Proposal is based upon NORMAL Working Hours - Monday thru Friday 8am to 5 pm 13. Terms and Conditions apply (last page of this proposal) 14. Bid Proposal is based upon normal Working Hours - Monday thru Friday 8am to 5 pm 13. Terms and Conditions apply (last page of this proposal) 14. The prices of materials and equipment contained in this agreement are those in effect as of the date of execution of the agreement. In the event of a price increase between the execution date and the date submittals are returned approved, Binswanger Glass shall be entitled to reimbursement for such price increase by change order by the actual amount of such increase.

PERFORMANCE AND PAYMENT BONDS (IF REQUIRED ADD 1.5% TO THE BID AMOUNT) "Note: Performance bonds and Labor and Material (Payment) bonds are provided for the construction period only and will include a twelve (12) month warranty period. Regardless of the warranty or maintenance provided by the Principal in the contract, the Surety shall have no liability under the bond for warranty, defective work or defective material claims arising more than one year after project acceptance, as stated in the Defect Bond which will be provided along with the Performance and Payment (Statutory) bonds. Bonds are to be written on Westchester Fire Insurance Company standard forms, or Performance, Statutory and Defect bonds are dependent upon Surety's acceptance of contract terms."

Accepted By: _____

Proposed by: *Derek Loseke*

Printed name: _____

Estimated by: **DEREK LOSEKE** (402) 992 - 6703

dloseke@binswangerglass.com

Title: _____

Date: _____

This Bid Proposal is subject to change if not accepted within 30 days.

CONTACT: RON REILLY (402) 910-4605

| | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| SOLD TO PLATE CO. COURTHOUSE | |
| ADDRESS 2610 14TH ST. | |
| CITY COLUMBUS | STATE NE ZIP 68601 |
| HOME PHONE | JOB PHONE |

COLUMBUS CARPET, INC.

3615 Howard Boulevard
Columbus, NE 68601
(402) 562-6546
Fax (402) 562-7314

Invoice 88461

| | |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| SOLD BY D.D. | DATE OF ORDER 12/4/25 |
| CASH | FINANCE |
| CHECK | MC/VISA/DISC. |

| | | |
|---------------|------------|---------------|
| JOB LOCATION: | INSTALLER: | INSTALL DATE: |
|---------------|------------|---------------|

| MFR/DIST | STYLE NO. | STYLE NAME | COLOR NO. | COLOR NAME | WIDTH | LENGTH | TOTAL SQ-YD/FT | PRICE PER SQ-YD/FT | AMOUNT |
|----------|-----------|--|-----------|------------|-------|--------|----------------|--------------------|----------|
| 1 | | MOHAWK PL 333 ECOSPHERE | | | | | | 204.31 | 30957.89 |
| 2 | | MOHAWK CROSSING CURRENT COLL | | | | | | 103.89 | 2701.05 |
| 3 | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | | ALL SKINRIES (SEE BREAKOUT) | | | | | | | 3858.50 |
| 5 | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 | | ALL LABOR (SEE BREAKOUT) | | | | | | | |
| 8 | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | | | | | | | | | |
| 11 | | (ALSO SEE NOTES ON MOVING CAB/BENCHES) | | | | | | | |
| 12 | | | | | | | | | |
| 13 | | | | | | | | | |

STORE POLICY REQUIRES HALF DOWN PRIOR TO ORDERING AND THE REMAINDER DUE UPON COMPLETION.

A FINANCE CHARGE OF 1.5% (18% PER ANNUM) WILL BE CHARGED ON ACCOUNTS PAST 30 DAYS.

Unforeseen floor problems found upon installation may change the balance due upon completion. Buyer understands there may be a dye lot variation from the sample. Room must be clear of furniture and all obstacles at the time of installation. Seller is not responsible for manufacture or shipping delays. Seller is not responsible for cutting doors. Seller is not responsible for customer measurements.

BUYER HEREBY ACCEPTS THE ABOVE TERMS AND CONDITIONS: Sig: _____ Date: _____

| | |
|-------------|-----------|
| MILEAGE | _____ |
| FREIGHT | _____ |
| LABOR | 12300.50 |
| SALES TAX | EXEMPT |
| TOTAL | 49,819.94 |
| DEPOSIT | _____ |
| BALANCE DUE | 49,819.94 |

DATE COMPLETED AND PAID IN FULL _____

Thank You!

COLUMBUS CARPET INC

-  Inbox
-  Sent
-  Drafts
-  Trash
-  Spam
-  Folders
- ...

← Back        ...   

 Inbox

FW: VFW Payment

Ron Reilly
To: me · Wed, Feb 4 at 9:45 AM ▾

From: Jennifer Brown <jbrown@plattecounty.ne.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 10:57 AM
To: Ron Reilly <district6@plattecounty.ne.gov>
Cc: Kim Kwapnioski <district3@plattecounty.ne.gov>; Gene Trouba <District7@plattecounty.ne.gov>
Subject: Re: VFW Payment

Hi all,
 Im home ill today but I am familiar with this. Payment was not processed yet because there was a discrepancy on what we were told each meal would be and what we were charged after the fact.
 We were quoted 38.00 per meal and billed at 44.00. I discussed this with the new manager - I cant remember her name.
 I will follow up with you more when I am back in the office.

Thanks,
 Jenny









Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
[Get Outlook for Android](#)

From: Ron Reilly <district6@plattecounty.ne.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 9:35:34 AM
To: Jennifer Brown <jbrown@plattecounty.ne.gov>
Cc: Kim Kwapnioski <district3@plattecounty.ne.gov>; Gene Trouba <District7@plattecounty.ne.gov>
Subject: VFW Payment

Jenny – I was contacted by an official from the local VFW club concerning monies owed to them from the Courthouse Christmas party that I believe took place the first week of December. Would you please look into this, and let me know what you find out?
 Thanks.

Ron
 This message has been sent as a part of discussion between recipient and the addressee whose name is specified above. Should you receive this message by mistake, we would be most grateful if you informed us that the message has been sent to you. In this case, we also ask that you delete this message from your mailbox, and do not forward it or any part of it to anyone else. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. This message has been sent as a part of discussion between recipient and the addressee whose name is specified above. Should you receive this message by mistake, we would be most grateful if you informed us that the message has been sent to you. In this case, we also ask that you delete this message from your mailbox, and do not forward it or any part of it to anyone else. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Starred Contacts More

-  **Re: Claim # 300-0...**
Conyers,, me · 10/21/20:
-  **What happens to ...**
Thrift Savings Plan · 6/26
-  **Fw: NWS Omaha ...**
me · 3/4/2025
-  **2023 Stires Lake ...**
StiresLake · 9/5/2023
-  **Email Address Up...**
Swyfft Customer Suppor
-  **Re: Your Stires La...**
SRTC, Van, me · 10/30/2
-  **Re: Picture of cre...**
me · 7/13/2020
-  **Fw: Pescadero R...**
Doug, me · 3/10/2020

[Go to Starred folder](#) →

