

A meeting of the Gosper County Board of Commissioners was convened in open and public session at 9:00 a.m. on October 14, 2026, at the Gosper County Courthouse, Elwood, Nebraska. Present were Chairperson Terry Lerdall and Members Bruce Bader and Glenn Hofman. Clerk Karen Corder was present to record the proceedings. County Attorney Beverly Bogle Louthan was also present.

Notice of the regular meeting schedule for the remainder of 2026 was given in advance by publication in the Valley Voice, Cambridge, NE on September 3, 2026. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the published notice. All proceedings of the Board were conducted while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public

Chairman Lerdall informed the public that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available for review on the bulletin board next to the Commissioners' table in the meeting room.

The undersigned Clerk hereby certifies that these minutes were written and available for public inspection within ten (10) working days after the date of said meeting.

The minutes of September 30, 2026, meeting were read. Motion by Bader, seconded by Hofman to approve the minutes as read. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Lerdall, Bader, Hofman, motion carried.

Kevin Hagan, Dawson/Gosper Weed Superintendent, was present to provide a weed report and presented the County Noxious Weed Program Evaluation Report for the Board to review.

Sheriff Joshua Richie was present to discuss grant opportunities for a K-9 program. He stated that he is researching non-matching grants to help fund the program, with the goal of securing funding for the first two years before county funds would be needed. Sheriff Richie also reported that a new deputy has been hired. Motion by Hofman, seconded by Lerdall, to authorize the Sheriff to pursue and apply for grants related to a K-9 program, subject to any required Board approval for acceptance of grant funds. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Lerdall, Bader, Hofman, motion carried.

Sheriff Richie requested to go into closed session to discuss personnel matters. Motion by Lerdall, seconded by Bader, to enter closed session at 9:16 a.m. to discuss personnel matters. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Lerdall, Bader, Hofman, motion carried. The Board returned to open session at 9:34 a.m. No action was taken during closed session.

Motion by Bader, seconded by Hofman, to convene as the **Board of Equalization**. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Lerdall, Bader, Hofman, motion carried. Clerk Corder reviewed the Rates of Tax set by Gosper County. Motion by Lerdall, seconded by Bader, to approve the Rates of Tax for Gosper County, Nebraska, for fiscal year 2026-2027. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Lerdall, Bader, Hofman, motion carried. Motion by Lerdall, seconded by Bader, to adjourn as the **Board of Equalization**. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Lerdall, Bader, Hofman, motion carried. The Rates of Tax for Gosper County, Nebraska, will be included in the October 28, 2026, minutes after all counties required to certify their rates of tax to Gosper County have submitted their certifications.

Motion by Bader, seconded by Hofman to approve the Clerk of District Court report for September. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Lerdall, Bader, Hofman, motion carried.

Motion by Bader, seconded by Hofman to approve the Sheriff's Quarterly Report for July through September 2026. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Lerdall, Bader, Hofman, motion carried.

At 10:00 a.m., bids were opened for the Structure No. C003710610 project to replace the bridge with a box culvert. Present were Highway Superintendent Kelly Lehmann; Alex Lindenstein, Oak Creek Engineering; and Braden Spath, representing High Plains Structural Group. One Bid was received from High Plains Structural Group in the amount of \$337,535.50. Lehmann recommended tabling the matter, and Lindenstein discussed the option of negotiating with High Plains Structural Group regarding the project. After Discussion, Motion by Bader, seconded by Hofman, to postpone action on the bid until the October 28, 2026, Commissioner meeting. Call Vote: Ayes: Lerdall, Bader, Hofman, motion carried.

County Attorney Beverly Bogle Louthan and County Treasurer Nicole Townsend were present to discuss the transfer of county funds. Treasurer Townsend requested a closed session to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person. Motion by Hofman, seconded by Bader, to enter closed session at 10:22 a.m. to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Lerdall, Bader, Hofman, motion carried. The Board returned to open session at 10:53 a.m. No action was taken during closed session.

Kelly Lehmann, Highway Superintendent, was present to give a road report and to discuss charging fees for Permits to Construct on County Right of Way. Lehmann presented a sample permit and fee schedule used by another county. The Board directed Lehmann to proceed with developing a fee schedule. A resolution establishing the fees will be presented for Board approval at the next meeting.

The Board received a letter from the Elwood Area Foundation and a flyer from Elwood TeamMates regarding the 2026 Give Big Elwood event to be held on November 12, 2026. Motion by Bader, seconded by Hofman, to allocate \$500.00 from the Keno/Lottery Fund to the Elwood Area Foundation and \$500.00 from the Keno/Lottery Fund to Elwood TeamMates for 2026 Give Big Elwood. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Lerdall, Bader, Hofman, motion carried.

Motion by Bader, seconded by Lerdall, to approve the Special Designated Liquor License for Crazy Marv's RV & Cabin Retreat, LLC, for an event to be held on November 14, 2026. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Lerdall, Bader, Hofman, motion carried.

The Board adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

ATTEST:

Karen J. Corder, Clerk (Seal)

Terry G. Lerdall, Chairperson

The next regular meeting of the Gosper County Board of Commissioners will be October 28, 2026, at the Gosper County Courthouse, Elwood, Nebraska.