

Budget Hearings

A meeting of the Gosper County Board of Commissioners was convened in open and public session at 9:00 am on September 9, 2026, at the Gosper County Courthouse. Present were Chairperson Terry Lerdall and Members Bruce Bader and Glenn Hofman. County Clerk Karen Corder was present to record the proceedings.

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.

At 9:00 a.m., Chairman Lerdall opened the Public Hearing in compliance with Nebraska Revised Statutes Sections 13-501 to 13-512 for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism or suggestions regarding the proposed FY2026-2027 Gosper County Budget. Notice of the Budget Hearing and Budget Summary was published in the Valley Voice on September 3, 2026. Clerk Corder and County Treasurer Nicole Townsend, preparers of the budget, were present to review the proposed budget. Deputy County Clerk Hadley Martin was also present. No members of the public appeared to offer comment. Chairman Lerdall closed the Public Hearing at 9:10 a.m.

At 9:11 a.m., Chairman Lerdall opened the Public Hearing in compliance with Nebraska Revised Statutes Section 77-1632 for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism or suggestions regarding the adoption of a property tax request different from the prior year’s tax request. Notice of the Special Hearing to Set the Final Tax Request was published in the Valley Voice on September 3, 2026. Deputy County Clerk Hadley Martin was present. No members of the public appeared to offer comment. Chairman Lerdall closed the Public Hearing at 9:19 am.

Regular Board Meeting

A meeting of the Gosper County Board of Commissioners was convened in open and public session at 9:20 a.m. on September 9, 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 July 23, 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.

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 meeting was duly called to order by Chairman Lerdall, who informed the public that a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is available for review on the bulletin board next to the Commissioners’ table in the meeting room.

The Minutes of August 31, 2026, were read. Motion by Bader, seconded by Hofman to approve the minutes as read. Roll Call Vote: “Aye” Lerdall, Bader, Hofman, motion carried.

Sheriff Richie was present to discuss the purchase of a new patrol vehicle. He reported that bidding requirements would be waived because the purchase would be made through a cooperative purchasing agreement. He also reported that the Road Department may be interested in acquiring the used Sheriff’s vehicle for use by the Road Department.

Motion by Bader, seconded by Hofman, to approve **Resolution No 26-12** adopting the FY2026-2027 Gosper County Budget. Roll Call Vote: “Aye” Lerdall, Bader, Hofman, motion carried.

Motion by Lerdall, seconded by Bader, to approve **Resolution No. 26-13** setting the Property Tax Request for FY 2026-2027 at \$2,131,056.48. Roll Call Vote: “Aye” Lerdall, Bader, Hofman, motion carried.

Motion by Bader, seconded by Hofman to approve **Resolution No. 26-14**, which states that the FY2026-2027 budget was adopted with \$1,195,148.26 budgeted in the County General Miscellaneous Fund for the maintenance of county roads and bridges, and that said amount is hereby transferred from the County General Fund to the County Road and Bridge Fund. Roll Call Vote: “Aye” Lerdall, Bader, Hofman, motion carried.

Motion by Bader, seconded by Hofman, to approve the Clerk of the District Court Report for August. Roll Call Vote: “Aye” Lerdall, Bader, Hofman, motion carried.

The Board reviewed reports from District 11 Probation for the FY2025-2026 Budget Distribution and FY2026-2027 Budget Report.

At 9:45 a.m. bids were opened for a new courthouse HVAC system, including the replacement of 31 Trane Fan Coil units. One bid was received and opened, submitted by Rasmussen Mechanical Services in the amount of \$222,620.00. After discussion, motion by Hofman, seconded by Lerdall, to accept and sign the bid from Rasmussen Mechanical Services in the amount of \$222,620.00. Roll Call Vote: “Aye” Lerdall, Bader, Hofman, motion carried.

Highway Superintendent Kelly Lehmann submitted a written road report. He noted that he is working with Oak Creek Engineering on Project C003710610, a bridge replacement at Road 748 and Road 426 included in the One-Year Plan. Increased truck traffic from the opening of Road 749A has made this project a priority to protect the Johnson Lake Dam asphalt and avoid potential closures. Construction will need to occur in late fall or winter when Plum Creek flows are low enough for water diversion. A notice to bid will be published, with sealed bids to be opened at 10:00 a.m. on October 14, 2026.

The Board visited with Sarah Cathcart, Director of Central Nebraska Constituent Services for Senator Ricketts, who held a mobile office at the conclusion of the meeting. No action was taken. The Board adjourned at 11:40 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 September 30, 2026, at the Gosper County Courthouse, Elwood, Nebraska.