STATE OF NEBRASKA

Minutes of the
Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards

August 21, 2026

Nebraska Department of Transportation
Central Headquarters Building Auditorium
1500 Nebraska Parkway, Lincoln, Nebraska

Meeting and Hearings Notices:

- Statewide news release emailed and posted on Nebraska Department of Transportation website, August 7, 2026.
- Event posted on the State of Nebraska website (Public Meeting Calendar), August 7, 2026.
- Event posted on the NDOT Boards- Liaison Services webpage, August 7, 2026
- Tentative agenda was made available to each board member and interested persons in SharePoint, August 7, 2026.
- Meeting agenda kept current and on public display in Liaison Services Section, Room 102, Nebraska Department of Transportation, 1600 Nebraska Parkway, Lincoln, Nebraska.
- Meeting agenda posted in the main entrance of the Nebraska Department of Transportation's 1500 Nebraska Parkway building, August 21, 2026.

Board members present:

Roger Figard, Lincoln, Chairman
Kent H. Anderson, Lemoyne
Kyle Anderson, Valley
Bruce H. Filipi, Milligan
Chris P. Jacobsen, Broken Bow
Barbara J. Keegan, Alliance
James K. McDonald, David City
Steven D. Rames, Norfolk
Nathan Sorben, Lincoln
Brandon Varilek, Lincoln

Board members absent:

Russell L. Kreachbaum, Jr., Central City

Staff members present:

LeMoyne D. Schulz, Board Secretary & Highway Local Liaison Coordinator, NDOT, Lincoln
Barbara Hasterlo, Liaison Services Administrative Specialist, NDOT, Lincoln
Jessie Sampson, Highway External Affairs Manager, Local Assistance Division, NDOT, Lincoln

Others in attendance:

Nichole Bogen, Assistant Attorney General, Nebraska Attorney General's Office, Lincoln
Brandie Neemann, Roadway Design, NDOT, Lincoln
Matthew Marra, Roadway Design, NDOT, Lincoln
Todd Hill, Roadway Design, NDOT, Lincoln
Mick Syslo, Deputy Director of Engineering, NDOT, Lincoln

Chairman Figard called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. The meeting was open to the public. There will be an opportunity for members of the public to speak at the end of the meeting.

For the record, Secretary Schulz made the following announcement: the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards is assembled in the auditorium at NDOT Headquarters in Lincoln, Nebraska. The date is Friday, August 21, 2026, and the time is 9:00 a.m. A copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted in the room. The Meeting Agenda and a copy of all materials that were provided to the Board Members, prior to the start of this meeting, are available on the table by the entrance to this room. A sign-in sheet is available. Visitors are not required to sign but are encouraged to do so.

There were no changes from the originally published agenda.

Member Jacobsen moved to approve the July 10, 2026, meeting minutes. Member Kyle Anderson seconded the motion. Members Kent Anderson, Kyle Anderson, Filipi, Jacobsen, Keegan, McDonald, Rames, Sorben, Varilek, and Figard voted YES. Member Kreachbaum was absent. The motion carried.

Meeting business:

- Election of Vice-Chair. Chairman Figard announced the former Vice-Chair, James Litchfield, was not reappointed to the board; therefore, the board needs to elect a new Vice-Chair. Elections take place in odd years, so at the beginning of 2027, we will hold another election for Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary.

  Member Kent Anderson nominated Member Chris Jacobsen. Member McDonald seconded the motion. Members Kent Anderson, Kyle Anderson, Filipi, Keegan, McDonald, Rames, Sorben, Varilek, and Figard voted YES. Member Jacobsen abstained. Member Kreachbaum was absent. The motion carried.

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- Minimum Design Standards – Proposed Changes. For those members not on the on the Minimum Design Standards Committee ("Committee"), Chairman Figard provided an explanation of the process completed so far, as well as plans after the vote today. The Committee has had several meetings over the past few months to review the NDOT proposed changes to the State Highway System Minimum Design Standards. The Committee was composed of five (5) members from the Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards; members of Liaison Services within NDOT; and Roadway Design members within NDOT. During these meetings the Committee reviewed the State Standards in depth, asking questions for clarification, and providing suggestions. The Committee is confident that they have done their due diligence to ensure these

standards are of good quality for the traveling public of Nebraska. All board members were provided with the following documents to review, prior to this meeting: (1) a presentation on the State Minimum Design Standards; (2) a summary sheet on the State Minimum Design Standards; and (3) a copy of the final State Minimum Design Standards.

Today, the board will vote to move the proposed changes to the State Minimum Design Standards into formal rule making.

Next, the board will follow a similar process to review proposed changes to the County and Municipal Minimum Design Standards and once those are complete, the board will hold a public hearing for both standards and then either adopt the revised regulations through a rules and regulations process or through the legislature. NDOT is working with counsel to verify the proper processes and procedures. This is expected to take place over the next 1-2 years.

Discussion prior to voting: Chairman Figard recommended a change in the members of the Minimum Standards Committee, and asked member Nathan Sorben to step down, and that he be replaced by member Chris Jacobsen. *(New committee members will be: Kyle Anderson, Barbara Keegan, Chris Jacobsen, Steven Rames, and Roger Figard.)*

Chairman Figard stated that the question before the Board is to move the proposed changes to the 428 NAC 2-001 State Highway System Minimum Design Standards into formal rule making.

Member Keegan moved that the proposed changes to the 428 NAC 2-001 State Highway System Minimum Design Standards proceed into formal rule making. Member Filipi seconded the motion. Members Kent Anderson, Kyle Anderson, Filipi, Jacobsen, Keegan, McDonald, Rames, Sorben, Varilek, and Figard voted YES. Member Kreachbaum was absent. The motion carried.

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- Professional Engineer Application and License Certificate and License Card Updates. Members reviewed and discussed the Class B License Application of Bryan D. Kratky. Member Jacobsen moved to approve the license.

  Member Filipi seconded the motion. Members Kent Anderson, Kyle Anderson, Filipi, Jacobsen, Keegan, McDonald, Rames, Sorben, Varilek, and Figard voted YES. Member Kreachbaum was absent. The motion carried. License Number assigned: S-1844.

  Secretary Schulz reported that with the issuance of this license, Nebraska has 390 Licensees that hold 235 Class B and 155 Class A licenses. The license certificates will be updated with the names of the current board, the Chair, Secretary, and Vice Chair.

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- Applicants and Candidates for the October 2, 2026, Exam.
  Secretary Schulz advised that there are 14 prior and one (1) new candidates, and 7 new applicants.

Member McDonald moved to affirm the 14 prior and one (1) new candidates previously accepted by the Nebraska Board of Examiners for County Highway and City Street Superintendents and accept the seven (7) new applicants as candidates. Member Kent Anderson seconded the motion. Members Kent Anderson, Kyle Anderson, Filipi, Jacobsen, Keegan, McDonald, Rames, Sorben, Varilek, and Figard voted YES. Member Kreachbaum was absent. The motion carried.

The 14 Prior Candidates are: Nick Boomgaarn; Dylas Thomas Christenson; Daniel Christenson; Ryan E. Dickison; Corby Goerl; Tim Hawkins; Nate Hoffman; Shawn Patrick Kenny; Patrick Parsons; Ashley Rasmussen; Corey L. Spellman; Robert D. Theisen; Jeremy Thompson; and Callen Whartman. The one (1) New Candidate is: Jonathan Binkley and the 7 New Applicants are: Arnulfo J. Biberos; Thomas Fields; Matt Mitchell; Mark Nelson; Matthew Pawling; Blake Power; and Nicole Tyrrell-Feltes.

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- Exam Updates.
  Chairman Figard advised that the October 2, 2026, exam will be held in the NDOT Auditorium in Lincoln. The exam application filing deadline was June 30, 2026. The exam preparation and grading will be done by staff. The exam preparation training workshop is scheduled for September 15, 16, 17 and 18, 2026 in the NDOT Auditorium in Lincoln

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- **2025/2026 Annual Certification of Program Compliance Update**

  - **2025 Final Status Report**

    1. A total of 93 County, 518 *(out of 526)* Municipal, and NDOT certifications have been received.

    2. The County and Municipal filing deadline was October 31, 2025.

    3. At the February 20, 2026, meeting, the NBCS board voted to suspend Highway User Revenue, in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 39-2120 and 39-2121, if the certification is not received within six (6) months, or by August 10, 2026.

    4. One (1) municipal filing was received from the Village of Miller on June 4, 2026.

    5. Eight (8) municipalities remain delinquent: Bee, Elba, Elk Creek, Homer, Riverton, Santee, South Bend, and Taylor.

    Member Kyle Anderson moved to (1) accept the final Status Report of the 2025 Annual Certification of Program Compliance as presented; (2) lift the suspension to the municipality of Miller and request the State Treasurer to release the funds withheld; and (3) request the State Treasurer to release the funds withheld from the municipalities of Bee, Elba, Elk Creek, Homer, Riverton, Santee, South Bend, and Taylor, and redistribute those funds in accordance with §39-2121. Member Rames

seconded the motion. Members Kent Anderson, Kyle Anderson, Filipi, Jacobsen, Keegan, McDonald, Rames, Sorben, Varilek, and Figard voted YES. Member Kreachbaum was absent. The motion carried. The total suspended amounts are as follows:

Municipality	March	April	May	June	July	August	Total
Bee	$3,011.79	$3,144.12	$2,635.66	$2,834.30	$3,331.51	$2,794.78	$17,752.16
Elba	$3,831.05	$3,999.39	$3,355.17	$3,608.04	$4,240.99	$3,557.75	$22,592.39
Elk Creek	$1,333.03	$1,391.61	$1,166.97	$1,254.92	$1,475.06	$1,237.43	$7,859.02
Homer	$7,152.89	$7,467.18	$6,253.83	$6,725.15	$7,904.93	$6,631.29	$42,135.27
Riverton	$2,201.15	$2,297.87	$1,933.05	$2,078.73	$2,443.40	$2,049.80	$13,004.00
Santee	$5,420.77	$5,658.95	$4,741.09	$5,098.40	$5,992.80	$5,027.22	$31,939.23
***South Bend**	$1,406.56	$1,468.36	$1,230.52	$1,323.26	$1,555.40	$1,304.80	$5,413.98
Taylor	$3,325.11	$3,471.22	$2,914.10	$3,133.72	$3,683.47	$3,090.07	$19,617.69

***South Bend** – The March and April allocation of $1,406.56 and $1,468.36 were redistributed to other municipalities in Cass County due to a prior State Auditor withholding.

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- **2026 Initial Status Report**

1. The County and Municipal 2026 Municipal Certification of Program Compliance was mailed out July 24, 2026, to all county and municipal clerks.

2. A total of 40 County *(out of 93);* 149 *(out of 526)* Municipal; and NDOT certifications have been received.

3. The County and Municipal filing deadline is October 31, 2026.

Member Kent Anderson moved to accept the initial Status Report of the 2026 Annual Certification of Program Compliance as presented. Member McDonald seconded the motion. Members Kent Anderson, Kyle Anderson, Filipi, Jacobsen, Keegan, McDonald, Rames, Sorben, Varilek, and Figard voted YES. Member Kreachbaum was absent. The motion carried.

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- Process Change for Licensed Superintendent Exam.
Ms. Sampson presented recommendations to the board of a process change for the Licensed Superintendent Exam.

1. Allowing those taking the exam that have only missed one section – such as plan reading – to only retake the failed section of the exam and attend the failed portion of training.

2. Change process to no longer complete interviews during exams to minimize distractions and save travel costs. Instead, a well-thought-out list of questions

will be provided to those taking the exam and they will be required to reach out to chosen board members prior to their exam (via phone or video chat).

Following discussion, member Jacobsen moved to (1) allow those taking the exam that have only missed the plan reading section to only retake that section of the exam; and (2) change process to no longer complete interviews during exams to minimize distractions and add a well-thought-out list of questions to the application form. Member Rames seconded the motion. Members Kyle Anderson, Jacobsen, Rames, Sorben, Varilek, and Figard voted Yes. Members Kent Anderson, Filipi, Keegan, and McDonald voted no. Member Kreachbaum was absent. The motion carried.

Upon further discussion regarding the previous vote, member Kyle Anderson pointed out that 3 of the former Nebraska Board of Examiners for County Highway/City Street Superintendents (BEX) and one (1) NBCS board member voted "No," and asked for more discussion, as the old BEX members have more intricate knowledge. Discussion continued, with all former BEX members weighing in, along with member Keegan. The Chair asked if the board wants to consider adding 5 – 6 questions to the license application form.

After further discussion, Member Jacobsen moved to rescind the previous motion. Member Kent Anderson seconded the motion. Members Kent Anderson, Kyle Anderson, Filipi, Jacobsen, Keegan, McDonald, Rames, Sorben, Varilek, and Figard voted YES. Member Kreachbaum was absent. The motion carried.

Member McDonald moved to develop a list of appropriate questions to the license application form and send them to Ms. Sampson by September 4, 2026. Member Sorben seconded the motion. Members Kent Anderson, Kyle Anderson, Filipi, Jacobsen, Keegan, McDonald, Rames, Sorben, Varilek, and Figard voted YES. Member Kreachbaum was absent. The motion carried.

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- Tentative Schedule of Upcoming Meetings and Examinations for CY2026 - CY2027. Member Kent Anderson moved to (1) adopt the schedule and (2) change the December meetings to the 2nd Friday *(December 11, 2026, and December 10, 2027)*. Member Jacobsen seconded the motion. Members Kent Anderson, Kyle Anderson, Filipi, Jacobsen, Keegan, McDonald, Rames, Sorben, Varilek, and Figard voted YES. Member Kreachbaum was absent. The motion carried.

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- Correspondence and General Information.

  - Chairman Figard advised that an NDOT Relaxation request for I-80 from 50th Street to I-480 in Omaha, C.N. 22855, was received on June 24, 2026, and later withdrawn on August 10, 2026.

  - Member Jacobsen expressed email concerns with the board, litigation process.

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There were no Comments from the Audience.

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Acknowledgement of Visitors.

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The next tentative meeting is scheduled to be held on September 18, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., in the Nebraska Department of Transportation Central Headquarters Building Auditorium, 1500 Nebraska Parkway, Lincoln, Nebraska. *On August 26, 2026, the Chairman determined the board would not meet on September 18, 2026. The next meeting will be October 16, 2026.*

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There being no further meeting business agenda items, Chairman Figard adjourned the open meeting business at 10:20 a.m.

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LeMoyne D. Schulz
Secretary for the Board
https://dot.nebraska.gov/business-center/lpa/boards-liaison/