

STATE OF NEBRASKA
Minutes of the
Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards

July 10, 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, July 1, 2026.
- Event posted on the State of Nebraska website (Public Meeting Calendar), July 1, 2026.
- Event posted on the NDOT Boards- Liaison Services webpage, July 6, 2026
- Tentative agenda made available to each board member and interested persons in SharePoint, July 1, 2026.
- Meeting agenda kept current and on public display in Liaison Services Section, Room 201, 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, July 10, 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
Russell L. Kreachbaum, Jr., Central City
James K. McDonald, David City
Steven D. Rames, Norfolk
Brandon Varilek, Lincoln

Board members absent:

Nathan Sorben, Lincoln

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
Jodi Gibson, Local Assistant Division Manager, NDOT, Lincoln
Brandie Neemann, Roadway Design, NDOT, Lincoln
Matthew Marra, Roadway Design, NDOT, Lincoln
Walter Moy, Materials & Research, Roadway Asset Management, NDOT Lincoln
Tony Dirks, Benesch, Lincoln Nebraska
Erin Sokolik, Benesch, Lincoln, Nebraska
Larry Legg, Lancaster County Engineering, Lincoln, Nebraska
John Linbo, Lancaster County Engineering, Lincoln, Nebraska

* * * * *

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, July 10, 2026, and the time is 9:00 a.m. A copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted in the room.

Chairman Figard welcomed and congratulated four (4) new members appointed by Governor Pillen effective June 18, 2026, and congratulated two (2) reappointments, effective December 1, 2025 (and notified June 18, 2026) as follows (*The appointments require confirmation by the Legislature*):

New (former Board of Examiners members) Presumptive Eligibility Appointments:

- Kent Anderson, representing Congressional District 1 Public Member (*replacing former member Edward Wootton - term expires November 30, 2029*)
- Bruce Filipi, representing Congressional District 3 Public Member (*previously vacant - term expires November 30, 2027*)
- Chris Jacobsen, representing a Class 5 County (*previously vacant - term expires November 30, 2027*)
- James K. McDonald, representing Municipal population <2,500 (*replacing former member James Litchfield - term expires November 30, 2029*)

Reappointments:

- Barbara Keegan, representing a Class 3 County Highway Superintendent (*reappointment - term expires November 30, 2029*)
- Nathan Sorben, representing NDOT (*reappointment - term expires November 30, 2029*)

Introductions of all board members were made for the newly merged board (*effective 7-1-26*).

* * * * *

There were no changes from the originally published agenda.

* * * * *

Mr. Rames moved to approve the May 15, 2026, meeting minutes of the *Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards*. Mr. Kyle Anderson seconded the motion. Members Kent Anderson, Kyle Anderson, Filipi, Jacobsen, Keegan, Kreachbaum, McDonald, Rames, Varilek, and Figard voted YES. Member Sorben was absent. The motion carried.

* * * * *

Mr. Jacobsen moved to approve the May 1, 2026, meeting minutes of the *Nebraska Board of Examiners for County Highway & City Street Superintendents final meeting*. Mr. Kent Anderson seconded the motion. Members Kent Anderson, Kyle Anderson, Filipi, Jacobsen, Keegan, Kreachbaum, McDonald, Rames, Varilek, and Figard voted YES. Member Sorben was absent. The motion carried.

* * * * *

Meeting business:

- Inspection Results 98th and Holdrege Street Investigation and Vote of Further Action – Steven Rames. The board will vote to approve or disapprove the findings in the investigators' June 2nd report, either in full or in part.

Mr. Rames gave a final report of the findings to the board of the investigation performed on June 2, 2026, by himself and Mr. Sorben. A final report was provided by email to the board members on June 5, 2026.

Chairman Figard moved that the board approve the findings and recommendations in the report. Mr. Kyle Anderson seconded the motion. Members Kent Anderson, Kyle Anderson, Filipi, Jacobsen, Keegan, Kreachbaum, McDonald, Rames, Varilek, and Figard voted YES. Member Sorben was absent. The motion carried.

* * * * *

- Recognition of former Board members Edward Wootton, Sr. and James Litchfield.
 - Wootton: Chairman Figard acknowledged the retirement of Edward, effective June 1, 2026, and thanked him for his many years on the board as a lay member, for Congressional District 1, whose term expired November 30, 2025. The board will honor Mr. Wotton with an admiralship in the Nebraska Navy, and the Chairman will send to Mr. Wotton.
 - Litchfield: Chairman Figard announced the recognition of former board member, James Litchfield, and thanked him for his many years of service on the board as a municipal representative for populations <2,500, whose term expired November 30, 2025. The board will honor Mr. Litchfield with an admiralship in the Nebraska Navy, and Chairman Figard will send to Mr. Litchfield.

* * * * *

There were no Comments from the Audience.

* * * * *

Acknowledgement of Visitors.

Chairman Figard acknowledged the Benesch visitors, Tony Dirks and Erin Sokolik.

* * * * *

The next tentative meeting is scheduled to be held on August 21, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., in the Nebraska Department of Transportation Central Headquarters Building Auditorium, 1500 Nebraska Parkway, Lincoln, Nebraska.

* * * * *

There being no further meeting business agenda items, Chairman Figard adjourned the open meeting business at 9:36 a.m. (*The board took a 17-minute break*)

* * * * *

Closed Meeting Business – At 9:53 a.m., Chairman Figard announced that Benesch will provide a presentation review of the Board Merger, details on the responsibilities of the Board and be available to answer questions, the closed meeting ended at 12:00 p.m.

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