

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

May 15, 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, May 8, 2026.
- Event posted on the State of Nebraska website (Public Meeting Calendar), May 8, 2026.
- Tentative agenda emailed to each board member and interested persons, May 8, 2026.
- Meeting agenda kept current and on public display in Liaison Services Section, Room 123B, Nebraska Department of Transportation, 1400 Nebraska Parkway, Lincoln, Nebraska.
- Meeting agenda posted in the main entrance of the Nebraska Department of Transportation's 1500 Nebraska Parkway building, May 15, 2026.
- Relaxation of Standards hearing notice emailed to City of Papillion and NDOT Local Assistance Division, May 8, 2026.

Board members present:

Roger Figard, Lincoln, Chairman
James A. Litchfield, Wakefield, Vice Chairman (*Term expired November 30, 2025 – serves until a successor is appointed*)
Kyle Anderson, Valley
Barbara Keegan, Alliance (*Term expired November 30, 2025 – serves until a successor is appointed*)
Russell L. Kreachbaum, Jr., Central City
Nathan Sorben, Lincoln (*Term expired November 30, 2025 – serves until a successor is appointed*)
Brandon Varilek, Lincoln

Board members absent:

Steven D. Rames, Norfolk
Edward R. Wootton, Sr., Bellevue (*Term expired November 30, 2025 and seat will become vacant effective June 1, 2026, following Ed's notice of resignation*)
Congressional District 3 representative seat is vacant.
Class 5, 6 or 7 County representative seat is vacant.

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
Mick Syslo, Deputy Director of Engineering, NDOT, Lincoln
Todd Hill, Roadway Design, NDOT, Lincoln
Matthew Marra, Roadway Design, NDOT, Lincoln
Jodi Gibson, Local Assistance Division Manager, NDOT, Lincoln
Michael Kleffner, Public Works Director, City of Papillion
Karen Majerus, Local Assistance Division, NDOT, Lincoln
Kar Sia, Local Assistance Division, NDOT, Lincoln
Jim McDonald, self and former member of the *Nebraska Board of Examiners for County Highway & City Street Superintendents*, David City

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Chairman Figard called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was open to the public.

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Chairman Figard made the following announcements in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

- A copy of the Open Meetings Act is available for inspection and is posted by the entrance to this 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.

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There were no changes from the originally published agenda.

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Ms. Keegan moved to approve the February 20, 2026, meeting minutes. Mr. Kreachbaum seconded the motion. Members Anderson, Keegan, Kreachbaum, Litchfield, Sorben, Varilek, and Figard voted YES. Members Rames and Wootton were absent. The motion carried.

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The board considered the status of the submission of the 2025 Annual Certification of Program Compliance. The filing deadline was October 31, 2025.

1. A total of 93 County, 517 (*out of 526*) Municipal, and NDOT certifications have been received.

2. Zero (0) County and nine (9) Municipal certifications are delinquent: Bee, Elba, Elk Creek, Homer, Miller, Riverton, Santee, South Bend, and Taylor. Highway-User Revenue distribution was suspended, at the request of the board, at the February 20, 2026, meeting, and initiated with the March 10, 2026, distribution. Currently in the third month of suspension.
3. Four (4) Municipal certifications were received since the last meeting: Bladen, Craig, Melbeta, and Snyder.
4. 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, as the certifications were not received by October 31, 2025.

Mr. Anderson moved to accept the Status Report of the 2025 Annual Certification of Program Compliance as presented. Mr. Kreachbaum seconded the motion. Members Anderson, Keegan, Kreachbaum, Litchfield, Sorben, Varilek, and Figard voted YES. Members Rames and Wootton were absent. The motion carried.

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Mr. Kreachbaum moved to lift the suspension of Highway Allocation Funds to the Villages of Bladen, Craig, Melbeta and Snyder. Mr. Litchfield seconded the motion. Members Anderson, Keegan, Kreachbaum, Litchfield, Sorben, Varilek, and Figard voted YES. Members Rames and Wootton were absent. The motion carried. (See Attachment #1.)

2025 Annual Certification of Program Compliance

Delinquent Municipal certifications

As of May 15, 2026, 9:00 a.m.

Delinquent Municipalities:

Bee Bladen Craig Elba Elk Creek	<i>Rec'd 3/23/26</i> <i>Rec'd 3/2/26</i>	Homer Melbeta Miller Riverton Santee	<i>Rec'd 3/18/26</i>	Snyder South Bend Taylor	<i>Rec'd 3/20/26</i>
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At 9:04 a.m., the Board heard the City of Papillion request for a Relaxation for Federal Aid Project MAPA-5006(6), C.N. 22930, E. 6th St, 72nd – 84th, City Project No. M483-169A & B (*The hearing was held in an informal format, the City of Papillion having declined the option of a formal hearing.*) The request is for a Relaxation of 428 NAC 2 001.03B-General Note 8 first paragraph, to allow the posting of a 35 MPH speed limit on two sag curves designed to the 428 NAC 2 001.03C, New & Reconstructed – Municipal Street System Minimum Design Standard of 30 MPH, on a Minor Arterial/Other Arterial Street, as specified in City Resolution No. R26-0082 dated April 21, 2026, and the City of Papillion letter dated May 4, 2026. Mr. Kleffner presented the request. No one appeared in opposition. The hearing concluded at 9:15 a.m. The Board then considered the request.

Mr. Sorben moved to grant the City of Papillion relaxation, in whole, in view of the peculiar, special, or unique local situation presented whereby the application of specific Minimum Design Standards would work a special hardship. Ms. Keegan seconded the motion. Members Keegan, Kreachbaum, Litchfield, Sorben, Varilek, and Figard voted YES. Member Anderson abstained. Members Rames and Wootton were absent. The motion carried with the requisite majority votes.

* * * * *

Status of Written Complaint Received August 1, 2025, and consideration of standard investigation form. Ms. Sampson gave an update on the complaint. The board will perform an investigation on June 2, 2026, with board members Rames and Sorben serving as investigators. A final report will be provided by June 5, 2026, and distributed to the board members. Ms. Sampson presented a standard investigation form to use. The Assistant Attorney General has reviewed the proposed standard investigation form.

Mr. Anderson moved to accept the standard investigation form as presented. Mr. Litchfield seconded the motion. Members Anderson, Keegan, Kreachbaum, Litchfield, Sorben, Varilek, and Figard voted YES. Members Rames and Wootton were absent. The motion carried.

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Status on updating Title 428 Nebraska Administrative Code (NAC) and affected regulations and state statutes as needed:

- Chairman Figard gave a brief overview and advised that NDOT Roadway Design has hired a consultant to update the County and Municipal Standards.
- The Minimum Standards Committee will meet at 10:30 a.m. today, following the NBCS meeting.

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Presentation of NDOT Proposed Draft State Highway Minimum Design Standards Revisions.

- Mr. Hill gave a presentation on the NDOT Proposed Draft State Highway Minimum Design Standards Revisions. A copy of the presentation will be emailed to the board members following the meeting.

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Other business:

- Board Merger, LB346 (2025) & LB 905 (2026). Chairman Figard gave a brief update in the transition work underway. The board merger will be effective July 1, 2026.
- State and federal Legislative Report. A written report was received from the NDOT Acting Government Affairs Manager.
- The tentative schedule of meetings and exams for 2026 and 2027 are on hold at this time and will be addressed at a future meeting.

- Status of Board Members (*Members serve until a successor is appointed*):
 - Two (2) NDOT Members: Sorben (*term expired November 30, 2025*) & Varilek (*term expires November 30, 2027*).
 - Three (3) Municipal Members: Litchfield (*term expired November 30, 2025*) & Figard & Rames (*terms expire November 30, 2027*).
 - Three (3) County Members: Keegan (*term expired November 30, 2025*): Kreachbaum (*term expires November 30, 2027*) & the Class 5, 6, 7 County Board Member Representative seat remains vacant since January 2023.
 - Three (3) Lay Members: Wootton (*term expired November 30, 2025 and seat will become vacant effective June 1, 2026 with Ed's notice of resignation*); Anderson (*term expires November 30, 2027*); & the Third Congressional District Lay Citizen Representative seat remains vacant since November 2020.

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- Correspondence and general information to report:
 - Retirement Recognition of Edward 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 at a future meeting, or be presented by Chairman Figard, on behalf of the board, to Mr. Wootton. (*Staff was directed to prepare the admiralship in the Nebraska Navy.*)
 - Note of thanks received from Jeff Schroeder, retired, was passed around to the board.

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There were no Comments from the Audience.

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Acknowledgement of Visitors.

- Chairman Figard acknowledged Jim McDonald for attending the NBCS meeting and thanked him for his service on the former, Nebraska Board of Examiners for County Highway / City Street Superintendents.

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The next meeting is scheduled to be held on July 17, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., in the Nebraska Department of Transportation Central Headquarters Building Auditorium, 1500 Nebraska Parkway, Lincoln, Nebraska. (*On June 2, the July 17 meeting was rescheduled to July 10, 2026*). The next meeting is scheduled for July 10, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in the Central Headquarters Building Auditorium, 1500 Nebraska Parkway, Lincoln, Nebraska.)

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There being no further agenda items, Chairman Figard adjourned the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

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

May 15, 2026



Jim Pillen, Governor

Mr. Joey Spellerberg
Nebraska State Treasurer
State Capitol, Rm 2005
Lincoln NE 68509

RE: Release of Highway-User Revenue to the **Village of Bladen**

Dear Mr. Spellerberg:

The Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards ("Board") has received the Annual Certification of Program Compliance for 2025 from the **Village of Bladen**, as referenced in Neb. Rev. Stat. §§39-2120 and 39-2121(1).

The penalty provision of Neb. Rev. Stat. §39-2121(2) provides that if any municipality fails to file such certification on or before its due date, the Board shall notify the local governing board, the Governor, and the State Treasurer who shall suspend distribution of any Highway-User Revenue allocated to such municipality until the certification has been filed. Such funds shall be held in escrow for six months until the municipality complies. If the municipality complies within the six-month period, it shall receive the money in escrow, but after six months, if the municipality fails to comply, the money in the escrow account shall be lost to the municipality and shall be distributed to other municipalities, as appropriate, in the manner provided by law for allocation of highway-user revenue.

Having complied, the Board respectfully requests that you release the funds held in escrow, and resume distribution of Highway-User Revenue distribution to the **Village of Bladen** at this time. Please note that this Board's action does not alter sanctions imposed by the State Auditor pursuant to other statutes.

Sincerely,

LeMoyne D. Schulz

LeMoyne D. Schulz
Secretary for the Board

xc: Jim Pillen, Governor
Bladen Village Board
Roger Figard, NBCS Board Chair
Heidi Wallace, Nebraska State Treasurer's Office
Lily Kathee-Harner, Nebraska Department of Transportation
James Busing, Nebraska Department of Transportation
Mark Avery, Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts Office

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

LeMoyne D. Schulz
Secretary – ex officio

NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Journey.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

May 15, 2026



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LeMoyne D. Schulz
Secretary – ex officio

Mr. Joey Spellerberg
Nebraska State Treasurer
State Capitol, Rm 2005
Lincoln NE 68509

RE: Release of Highway-User Revenue to the **Village of Craig**

Dear Mr. Spellerberg:

The Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards ("Board") has received the Annual Certification of Program Compliance for 2025 from the **Village of Craig**, as referenced in Neb. Rev. Stat. §§39-2120 and 39-2121(1).

The penalty provision of Neb. Rev. Stat. §39-2121(2) provides that if any municipality fails to file such certification on or before its due date, the Board shall notify the local governing board, the Governor, and the State Treasurer who shall suspend distribution of any Highway-User Revenue allocated to such municipality until the certification has been filed. Such funds shall be held in escrow for six months until the municipality complies. If the municipality complies within the six-month period, it shall receive the money in escrow, but after six months, if the municipality fails to comply, the money in the escrow account shall be lost to the municipality and shall be distributed to other municipalities, as appropriate, in the manner provided by law for allocation of highway-user revenue.

Having complied, the Board respectfully requests that you release the funds held in escrow, and resume distribution of Highway-User Revenue distribution to the **Village of Craig** at this time. Please note that this Board's action does not alter sanctions imposed by the State Auditor pursuant to other statutes.

Sincerely,

LeMoyne D. Schulz

LeMoyne D. Schulz
Secretary for the Board

xc: Jim Pillen, Governor
Craig Village Board
Roger Figard, NBCS Board Chair
Heidi Wallace, Nebraska State Treasurer's Office
Lily Kathee-Harner, Nebraska Department of Transportation
James Busing, Nebraska Department of Transportation
Mark Avery, Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts Office

Vicki Kramer, Director
Department of Transportation

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Attachment No. 1
Page 2 of 4 Pages

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

May 15, 2026



Jim Pillen, Governor

Mr. Joey Spellerberg
Nebraska State Treasurer
State Capitol, Rm 2005
Lincoln NE 68509

RE: Release of Highway-User Revenue to the **Village of Melbeta**

Dear Mr. Spellerberg:

The Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards ("Board") has received the Annual Certification of Program Compliance for 2025 from the **Village of Melbeta**, as referenced in Neb. Rev. Stat. §§39-2120 and 39-2121(1).

The penalty provision of Neb. Rev. Stat. §39-2121(2) provides that if any municipality fails to file such certification on or before its due date, the Board shall notify the local governing board, the Governor, and the State Treasurer who shall suspend distribution of any Highway-User Revenue allocated to such municipality until the certification has been filed. Such funds shall be held in escrow for six months until the municipality complies. If the municipality complies within the six-month period, it shall receive the money in escrow, but after six months, if the municipality fails to comply, the money in the escrow account shall be lost to the municipality and shall be distributed to other municipalities, as appropriate, in the manner provided by law for allocation of highway-user revenue.

Having complied, the Board respectfully requests that you release the funds held in escrow, and resume distribution of Highway-User Revenue distribution to the **Village of Melbeta** at this time. Please note that this Board's action does not alter sanctions imposed by the State Auditor pursuant to other statutes.

Sincerely,

LeMoyne D. Schulz

LeMoyne D. Schulz
Secretary for the Board

xc: Jim Pillen, Governor
Melbeta Village Board
Roger Figard, NBCS Board Chair
Heidi Wallace, Nebraska State Treasurer's Office
Lily Kathee-Harner, Nebraska Department of Transportation
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Attachment No. 1
Page 3 of 4 Pages

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

May 15, 2026



Jim Pillen, Governor

Mr. Joey Spellerberg
Nebraska State Treasurer
State Capitol, Rm 2005
Lincoln NE 68509

RE: Release of Highway-User Revenue to the **Village of Snyder**

Dear Mr. Spellerberg:

The Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards ("Board") has received the Annual Certification of Program Compliance for 2025 from the **Village of Snyder**, as referenced in Neb. Rev. Stat. §§39-2120 and 39-2121(1).

The penalty provision of Neb. Rev. Stat. §39-2121(2) provides that if any municipality fails to file such certification on or before its due date, the Board shall notify the local governing board, the Governor, and the State Treasurer who shall suspend distribution of any Highway-User Revenue allocated to such municipality until the certification has been filed. Such funds shall be held in escrow for six months until the municipality complies. If the municipality complies within the six-month period, it shall receive the money in escrow, but after six months, if the municipality fails to comply, the money in the escrow account shall be lost to the municipality and shall be distributed to other municipalities, as appropriate, in the manner provided by law for allocation of highway-user revenue.

Having complied, the Board respectfully requests that you release the funds held in escrow, and resume distribution of Highway-User Revenue distribution to the Village of Snyder at this time. Please note that this Board's action does not alter sanctions imposed by the State Auditor pursuant to other statutes.

Sincerely,

LeMoyne D. Schulz

LeMoyne D. Schulz
Secretary for the Board

xc: Jim Pillen, Governor
Snyder Village Board
Roger Figard, NBCS Board Chair
Heidi Wallace, Nebraska State Treasurer's Office
Lily Kathee-Harner, Nebraska Department of Transportation
James Busing, Nebraska Department of Transportation
Mark Avery, Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts Office

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Page 4 of 4 Pages