The Board of Education of the Hitchcock County Schools met April 14, 2025 at 7:00pm at the Hitchcock County Jr/Sr High School. Present were board members Scott, Webb, Cook, Melchert, Hagan, & Marks.

President Scott called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Notice of the board’s adherence to the Nebraska Open Meeting Law posted on the north wall of the meeting room was given. The meeting was properly advertised in the Hitchcock County News on Thursday, April 3, 2025. Also present were Asst. Principal/ Counselor McCarter, Principal Tines, K-12 Asst. Principal Erickson, E. O’Byrne, L. Caddick, C. Rippen, T. Lewis, K. Shuler, A. Kisker, M. Carlson, N. Caddick, I. Vrbas, and C. Hrnchir.

Moved by Hagan; seconded by Melchert to approve the April 2025 Regular Meeting Agenda as presented. Aye votes Hagan, Webb, Marks, Cook, Melchert, and Scott. Nay votes none.

President Scott recognized and welcomed visitors. E. O’Byrne addressed the board regarding the school’s crisis response & additional staff crisis training, weekly in-school counseling, mental health grant funds & exit interviews for teachers leaving the district. President Scott thanked O’Byrne for her comments.

Moved by Hagan; seconded by Cook to approve the consent agenda as presented. Aye votes by Webb, Marks, Cook, Melchert, Scott, and Hagan; nay votes none. The consent agenda consisted of the following items: (1) Minutes of the March 2025 regular board meeting. (2) The Activity Fund. (3) The bill roster with general fund bills totaling $426,793.50 and lunch fund bills totaling $23,340.32. (4) Other funds.

FFA Instructor, Thomas Lewis accompanied by Hitchcock County FFA officers; Adam Kisker – Vice President, Karson Shuler – Treasurer, Madysen Carlson – Reporter, Noah Caddick - Sentinel, & Issaac Vrbas – Parliamentarian, presented a slide show of this year’s FFA activities. The student presenters included their participation in the Culbertson 4th of July & Trenton Harvest Festival parades, LDE & CDE Agricultural contests, & activities during FFA Week. The FFA State Convention held many exciting learning opportunities & adventures. FFA member Dakota Vrbas was selected as a member of the FFA State Choir & the Hitchcock County FFA Chapter was recognized during a session of the Nebraska Unicameral. FFA Members receiving their State degrees were Calista Carney, Asia Homma, Adam Kisker, & Karson Shuler. The students also highlighted their successful Labor Auction fundraiser & the students’ hard work in the Greenhouse preparing the plants they will sell in the spring. The Hitchcock County FFA banquet will be held to honor the achievements of this year’s FFA members on May 1, 2025.

Moved by Marks; seconded by Hagan to accept the resignation of Amanda Horinek. Aye votes by Marks, Cook, Melchert, Scott, Hagan, and Webb; nay votes none.

Moved by Cook; seconded by Webb to accept the resignation of Teresa Osborne. Aye votes Cook, Melchert, Scott, Hagan, Webb and Marks; nay votes none.

Moved by Hagan; seconded by Marks to accept the resignation of Diane Bohochick. Aye votes by Melchert, Scott, Hagan, Webb, Marks, and Cook; nay votes none.

Moved by Cook; seconded by Webb to hire Nicole Springer as a teacher for the 2025-2026 school year and to pay a one-time signing bonus of $6,000.00. Aye votes by Scott, Hagan, Webb, Marks, Cook and Melchert; nay votes none.

Moved by Cook; seconded by Melchert to move into executive session at 7:22 p.m.to to discuss personnel needs for the 2025-2026 school year. Aye votes by Hagan, Webb, Marks, Cook, Melchert, and Scott; nay votes none.

Moved by Cook; seconded by Marks to move out of executive session at 7:42 p.m. Aye votes Webb, Marks, Cook, Melchert, Scott, Hagan; nay votes none.

Committee Reports as follows: Board member Cook reported that the Transportation committee met and discussed the need for a Suburban and a 27-28 Passenger Wheelchair accessible bus. Mr. Sattler will contact vendors for pricing quotes.

Principal Tines’ report as follows: (1) 03/11 – ESU15 Principal Meeting. (2) 03/18 – Hoops for Heart Assembly. Students raised over $5,000. (3) 03/18 -Elem ESU15 Quiz Bowl. (4) 03/21 – Because of You Award given to Eisley Rundle. (5) 03/21 – Pre-K & Kindergarten roundup. Enrollment estimated at 20 K/18 Pre-K. (6) NSCAS window opened.

(7) 03/26 - Tornado Drill in cooperation with the City of Culbertson. (8) 03/28 – PBIS Pep Rally. (9) 04/04 – Mrs. Rundel’s Retirement Assembly. (10) 04/15 - ESSA Title review. (11) 04/30 – 6th Grade orientation in Trenton.

Assistant Principal/School Counselor McCarter’s report as follows: (1) 03/17-03/21 FFA Week included Drive a Tractor to school, Dress like a Farmer, Community Breakfast, Scavenger hunt, and Ag. Olympics. (2) 03/21 – Jr. High Dance (3) 03/25 Hosted RPAC Band – Mrs. Burnside did a great job. (4) 03/26 – HS Quiz Bowl in Bartley. (5) 03/31 – Student Council Blood Drive. Donations exceeded the goal. . (6) 04/05 – Jr. High Speech at North Platte. (7) 4/08 – Juniors took the ACT. (8) 04/11 – Paint-In at MPCC-McCook. (9) Jr. High Speech at Maxwell (10) 04/12 – Prom. (11) 04/14 – Pre-class registration (12) 04/14 National Honor Society Induction.

Superintendent Sattler’s report as follows: (1) 3 Year Title I, II, and IV review. (2) Observing legislature for policy changes.

President Scott adjourned the meeting at 7:52pm. The next board meeting will be held May 12, 2025 at 7:00 PM. The agenda kept continuously current is available to the public for items of an emergency nature. The meeting is open to the public.

 Craig Scott – President Larry Marks – Secretary

General Fund bills

Aflac – payroll deductions 670.70

American Family Ins. Co – payroll deductions 2,154.34

Blue Cross Blue Shield – health insurance 59,403.03

Community First Bank – FICA/taxes 50,897.13

Employee Benefit Fund – payroll deductions 691.59

HCS – payroll deduction 14.18

HCS Flex Plan – contributions 1,398.50

Credit Management Services – payroll deductions 294.88

Hot Lunch Fund – payments 2,355.55

Legal Shield – payroll deduction 121.03

Medical Transport Solutions – payroll deductions 137.00

Matrix Trust Company – annuities 5,538.00

HCS Retirement – retirement 46,283.69

Ne. Dept of Revenue – state taxes 6,690.03

New York Life Insurance – payroll deduction 103.36

Principal Life Insurance – disability 1,153.97

Special Bldg Fund – payroll deduction 652.87

Village of Trenton – payroll deduction 400.00

Vision Service Plan – payroll deductions 418.79

McCook Ace Hardware – custodial/classroom supply 134.47

Bosselman Energy – building/bus fuels 6,163.96

C & K Distributors – classroom supply 85.08

Cash-Wa Distributing – custodial supply 76.55

Crowne Plaza Kearney – admin lodging 279.90

D & S Hardware – classroom supply 21.99

DansRUs – trash 7.20

Diamond Vogel – classroom supply 70.82

Dundy County Hosp. – DOT bus physical 165.00

ESU 15 – contracted services 27,054.16

ESU 16 – contracted services 129.01

Farmers Coop – bus fuel/supply 778.25

Follett Content Solutions – Title IV/ library books 5,190.89

Tawnya Fry – reimbursement 22.98

Great Plains Communications – phone/internet 1,583.78

Harris School Solutions – admin supply 725.89

HCHS Petty Cash – reimbursements 814.43

Hometown Leasing – copier lease 515.03

Hot Lunch Fund – lunch reimb. 51.00

Ideal Linen & Uniform – custodial/kitchen supply 324.89

IXL Learning – web software 7,082.50

Johnson Controls – bldg repair/maint 1,807.00

Jyssica Forch – reimbursement 20.00

KSB School Law – legal services 440.00

Lakeside Sand & Gravel – grounds supply 108.36

Masters Transportation – bus part 2,594.55

MCI – phone/internet 51.80

Mead Lumber – grounds/custodial/classroom supply 969.21

Menards – grounds/classroom supply 201.10

MPCC – textbook 117.91

NE Association of School Boards – board travel 150.00

Nebraska Safety Center – bus training 100.00

Nebraska Educ. Tech Assoc – Staff Development 498.00

NewzBrain – web software 309.00

O’Brien – bldg repair/fixtures/supply 3,296.56

Optum – FSA Fee 150.00

Pye-Barker Fire & Safety – bldg repair 776.85

Quill Corp. – equip/custodial/office/daycare supply 565.91

Rachel’s Challenge – REAP prof. services 2,320.00

Renaissance Learning – web software 5,197.50

Rippen Oil – fuel/parts/repair 2,991.93

Scoop Media – ad/print fees 229.80

7-D Lockshop – keys/bldg sup 30.00

Southwest Public Power District – utilities 1,310.75

Staples – custodial/classroom supply 807.77

Student Assurance Services Ins – insurance 537.00

TKO Pest Control – pest control 200.00

Trails West – bus fuel/supply 1,406.53

Transport Access Co – SPED bus part 165.20

UniFirst Corp – custodial supply 123.44

Unitech – custodial sup 466.80

US Bank – credit card 859.14

Village of Culbertson – water/sewer 108.72

Village of Trenton – sidewalk concrete/ utilities 6,274.22

Yandas Music & Pro Audio – equip repair 252.35

Payroll – net (gross $243,450.93) 160,699.68

Lunch Fund Bills

Community First Bank – FICA/taxes 1,673.15

Credit Management Services – payroll deductions 303.59

HCS Retirement Acct – retirement 1,764.42

Ne. Dept of Revenue – state taxes 154.62

Cash-Wa Distributing – food/ lunch supply 11,962.01

Gary’s Super Foods – food 165.78

HCHS Petty Cash – reimbursements 90.26

Ideal Linen & Uniform – custodial / kitchen supply 118.51

Danny Carmen – kitchen maint service 115.50

US Foods – food 106.80

Payroll – net (gross $9,191.70) 6,885.68