The Hitchcock County School’s Board of Education 2025-2026 budget hearing on September 8, 2025 was opened at 6:50 PM at the Hitchcock County Junior/Senior High School in Trenton. Board President Scott reviewed the budget document with the board members, with the General Fund totaling $ 4,202,020.00. There was no public comment or questions. The hearing was declared closed by President Scott at 6:51 PM.

Craig Scott, President Larry Marks, Secretary

The 2025-2026 property tax request hearing for the Hitchcock County Schools was opened on September 8, 2025 at 6:51 PM. The request of 0.743529 per $100 of valuation for a total asking of $4,202,020.00 for the General Fund; and of 0.083479 per $100 of valuation for a total asked of $471,778.00 for the Bond Fund; and of 0.008937 per $100 of valuation for a total asked of $ 50,505.00 for the Special Building Fund was reviewed by the board. There was no public comment or questions. With no further business, the hearing was adjourned at 6:54 PM.

Craig Scott, President Larry Marks, Secretary

The Board of Education of the Hitchcock County Schools met September 8, 2025 at 6:54 PM in the Distance Learning Room at the high school in Trenton. Present were board members Scott, Webb, Cook, Melchert, Hagan, and Marks. Also present were Superintendent Sattler, Principal Wallace, Assistant Principal Erickson, Assistant Principal/Counselor McCarter, C. Rippen and C. Hrnchir.

President Scott called the meeting to order at 6:54 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, August 28, 2025.

Moved by Melchert; seconded by Cook to approve the September 2025 regular meeting agenda as presented. Aye votes Hagan, Webb, Marks, Cook, Melchert, and Scott; nay votes none.

President Scott welcomed visitors. Board member Cook asked a question regarding student admission into the home games. Mr. Sattler clarified that Hitchcock County Jr/Sr High students are allowed free admission to regular home game events.

Moved by Hagan; seconded by Webb to approve the consent agenda as presented. Aye votes Webb, Marks, Cook, Melchert, Scott, and Hagan; nay votes none. The consent agenda consisted of the following: (1) Minutes of the August 2025 regular board meeting. (2) The Activity Fund. (3) The Bill Roster with general fund bills totaling $521,269.19 and lunch fund bills totaling $23,920.72. (4) Other funds.

Superintendent Sattler presented the board with a letter from the Hitchcock County Educators Association. Moved by Cook; seconded by Melchert to accept the Hitchcock County Educators Association as the official bargaining unit for the 2027-2028 school year. Aye votes Marks, Cook, Melchert, Scott, Hagan, and Webb; nay votes none.

Superintendent Sattler presented the board with a letter of resignation from Loren Wagner effective the end of the 2025-2026 school year. Moved by Marks; seconded by Hagan to accept the resignation of Loren Wagner, effective at the end of the 2025-2026 school year, with gratitude for his years of service to Hitchcock County Schools. Aye votes Cook, Melchert, Scott, Hagan, Webb, and Marks; nay votes none.

Superintendent Sattler presented the board with propane bids for the 2025-2026 school year. Bosselman Energy submitted a bid for $1.20 per gallon, pay as you go contract running from October 1, 2025 through April 1, 2026. Farmers Coop submitted a bid for $ 1.27 per gallon, pay as you go contract running October 1, 2025 through April 1, 2026. Moved by Cook; seconded by Melchert to accept the propane bid from Bosselman Energy for the amount of $1.20 per gallon for a pay as you go contract for both the elementary and secondary sites. Aye votes Melchert, Scott, Hagan, Webb, Marks, and Cook; nay votes none.

Superintendent Sattler presented the board with bids for the repairing the leaking control valves at the elementary school. Johnson Controls Inc. submitted a bid of $14,524.91. Rasmussen Mechanical Services submitted 2 bids, covering the full scope of the repairs, which totaled $9,161.00. Moved by Cook; seconded by Webb to accept a proposal of $9,161.00 from Rasmussen Mechanical Services to repair the leaking control valves at the elementary to be paid out of Depreciation Reserve fund. Aye votes Scott, Hagan, Webb, Marks, Cook, and Melchert.

RESOLUTION SETTING THE PROPERTY TAX REQUEST RESOLUTION NO. 25-1

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 77-1632 and 77-1633 provides that the Governing Body of Hitchcock County Public School passes by a majority vote a resolution or ordinance setting the tax request; and WHEREAS, a special public hearing was held as required by law to hear and consider comments concerning the property tax request; NOW, THEREFORE, the Governing Body of Hitchcock County Public School resolves that:

1. The 2025-2026 property tax request be set at:

General Fund: $ 4,202,020.00

Bond Fund: $ 471,778.00

Special Building Fund: $ 50,505.00

Qualified Capital Purpose Undertaking Fund: $0

2. The total assessed value of property differs from last year’s total assessed value by 11.16 percent.

3. The tax rate which would levy the same amount of property taxes as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of property would be 0.81698 per $100 of assessed value.

4. Hitchcock County Public School proposes to adopt a property tax request that will cause its tax rate to be 0.835945 per $100 of assessed value.

5. Based on the proposed property tax request and changes in other revenue, the total operating budget of Hitchcock County Public School will increase last year’s budget by .99 percent.

6. A copy of this resolution be certified and forwarded to the County Clerk on or before October 15, 2025. Motion by Webb, seconded by Hagan to adopt Resolution #25-1.

Voting yes were: Scott, Hagan, Webb, Marks, Cook, and Melchert

Voting no were: none

Absent or not voting were: none

Dated this 8th day of September, 2025

Mr. Sattler presented the proposed 2025-2026 budget. Moved by Hagan; seconded by Marks to adopt the 2025-2026 budget as presented. Aye votes Hagan, Webb, Marks, Cook, Melchert, and Scott; nay votes none.

Committee reports as follows: (1) President Scott thanked Budget Committee members Melchert & Cook for their work on the committee. (2) Negotiations committee members Scott, Melchert & Webb will meet on October 13th, prior to the board meeting to begin preparation for the 2027-2028 teacher negotiations.

Principal Wallace’s report as follows: (1) Students have settled into a fantastic new school year! (2) 08/29 – Falcon families met for the 1st time. Heartwarming to see the 6th graders help the Kindergarteners find their way to their new Falcon Family rooms. (3) 08/18 – Launch day for our Walking Club which takes place the first 15 minutes before school starts. A huge thank you to Mrs. Springer for her outstanding support & leadership in getting the Walking Club off to a strong start. (4) Students are wrapping up their fall testing & teachers are ready to review the data to tailor instruction & support every student’s success. (5) 08/27 – 5th & 6th graders attended Nebraska’s Largest Classroom at the Nebraska State Fair in Grand Island. This special educational event operates as a self-guided tour of the fairgrounds. (6) 08/29 – Bridge of Home presented the ROAR program for the K, 1st, & 2nd grades. The ROAR program teaches body safety & how kids can keep themselves safe. (7) 09/09 & 09/11 - Elem. Homecoming activities - Tues. Color War day & Thurs. Falcon Spirit day.

Assistant Principal/Counselor McCarter’s report as follows: (1) Senior College courses are underway. Student counts are 15 in College Algebra, 15 in College English 101, 1 in Medical Terminology, 1 in EMT course, & 3 students participating in Computer Coding coursework. Hitchcock County Seniors have the opportunity to apply for the Racine-Baker-Miller scholarship to cover the cost of the courses. (2) 09/10/25 – Rachel’s Challenge presentation for 6th – 12th grade students. Community presentation @ 6pm on September 10th. (3) 09/11 – Homecoming Coronation after the Football game. (4) 09/13 – Homecoming Dance - Pictures @ 6:30pm, Dance @ 7:30 – 11pm; DJ - Nate Acton.

Assistant Principal Erickson’s report: (1) ESU 15 received the Nebraska Comprehensive Literacy State Dept. Grant for $518,000 (available for the 10 ESU 15 schools.) Hitchcock County elementary teachers & paras, along with Mrs. Wallace & Mrs. Erickson will use the grant to attend the professional development LETRS (Language Essential for Teacher of Reading and Spelling) training based on the Science of Reading. This will be a 2-year cohort with one week of training this summer & one week the following summer. Mrs. Wallace & Mrs. Erickson will be attending Jim Knight’s teacher Coaching Training through this grant.

(2) 4th – 6th grade teachers are piloting a new math curriculum called Fishtank. This student-friendly curriculum is more closely aligned to our math state standards. (3) 3rd - 12th grade math teachers are going to pilot the Get More Math online program. This free program will assist in differentiating learning. (4) Mrs. Erickson has been working with our first-year teachers assisting them with their lesson plans, pacing & classroom management. (5) Mrs. Erickson administered a color personality test to 7th-12th grade students and teachers to identify individual strengths. Throughout the year, we will continue exploring what our personality traits reveal about how we learn & work. (6) Watch for our Hitchcock County Schools – Culbertson/Trenton Facebook social media posts as we promote the great things happening at the Elementary, Jr. and Sr. High.

Superintendent Sattler’s report as follows: (1) Submit Budget to State Auditor, NDE, & County Clerks. (2) Working to prepare for the yearly Audit. (3) ESU 15 – Nebraska CLSD Grant funding. (4) 09/10- Rachel’s Challenge presentation for 6th-12th grade students & staff. Letters sent out to the parents of participating students along with an invite to attend the community presentation. (4) Mr. Brenning’s Construction Class project will be building an 18’ x 24’ storage building addition onto the north parking lot garage. Mead Lumber has bid $6,800 for building materials. Levi Lucero will trench for the foundation footings. (6) School will need a used pickup & snow blade for the 2025-26 winter season to replace our current equipment. Government surplus auction & possible local bids were discussed. Proposals will be presented at the October board meeting.

President Scott adjourned the meeting at 7:43 PM. The next board meeting will be held Monday, October 13, 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

20/20 Technologies – contracted services 3,837.14

McCook Ace Hardware – grounds/building supply 620.78

American Electric McCook – building supply 187.11

American Family Ins. Co – payroll deductions 2,077.94

Blue Cross Blue Shield – health insurance 65,159.83

Bosselman Energy – building/bus fuels 1,135.92

Cash-Wa Distributing – custodial supply 94.35

Culbertson Auto Body – bus repair 500.00

DansRUs – trash 207.95

Eakes Office Solutions – custodial/bldg supply 1,555.95

Employee Benefit fund– payroll deduction 287.32

ESU 15 – contracted services 17,843.91

Educational Service Unit 5 – DL Spanish 37,100.00

Flinn Scientific – classroom supply 121.28

Floyd’s Truck Center – Activity bus repair 3,991.72

Great Plains Communications – phone bill/internet 2,192.36

HCHS Petty Cash – reimbursements 875.29

HCS Flex Plan – contributions 1,762.51

Heads Up Sprinkler – grounds repair 458.74

Henderson State Bank – FICA/taxes 68,020.93

Credit Management Services – payroll deductions 249.77

Hometown Leasing – copiers 515.03

Hot Lunch fund – payments 1,430.65

Ideal Linen – custodial supply 229.85

Innovative Office Solutions 1,093.14

Lakeshore Learning Materials 34.49

Lathem Time Corp. – timeclock subscription 694.00

Legal Shield – payroll deduction 214.73

LVNV Funding – payroll deduction 292.69

Mark’s Plumbing – building supply 94.20

Medical Air Service Assoc. – payroll deductions 137.00

McCook Gazette – newspaper subscription 144.00

MCI – long distance 52.05

Mead Lumber – classroom supply 2,342.27

Menards – classroom supply/equipment 1,645.98

Matrix Trust Co – annuities 5,761.33

Mid-American Research Chemical – custodial supply 300.87

Midwest Alarm Services – fire alarm inspect/monitoring 1,122.16

National Art & School Supply – classroom supply 172.21

Ne. Dept. of Education – staff development 20.00

HCS Retirement Account – retirement 50,366.41

NE Department of Revenue – state taxes 9,989.73

Northwest Fire Ext. – repair/ maintenance/ 262.00

New York Life Ins Co – payroll deduction 103.36

Optum – FSA fees 150.00

University of Oregon – SWIS licenses 1,075.00

Principal Life In Co – disability 1,180.09

Pyramid School – classroom supply 45.56

Quill Corp – office/custodial supply/sped furniture 1,490.45

Rippen Oil – bus fuel/parts/labor 984.32

Schaben Services – CDL testing 1,300.00

Scoop Media – ad/print/newspaper subscription 982.34

Snell Service – repair/maintenance 782.04

Southwest Public Power District – electric 2,487.84

Special Building fund – payroll deduction 220.00

Teacher Created Resources – classroom supply 35.98

Teacher Direct –classroom supply 544.90

TKO Pest Control – pest control 200.00

Trafera – computer hardware 2,964.00

Trails West – bus fuel 1,807.95

Trifoia (IRIS Ed) – guidance supply 537.70

UniFirst Corp – custodial supply 135.84

U-Save Pharmacy – nurse supply 15.75

US Bank – credit card 5,159.51

Village of Trenton – utilities 4,156.43

Vision Service Plan – payroll deductions 480.82

Payroll – net (gross - $308,038.95) 209,233.72

Lunch Fund bills

Cash-Wa Distributing – food/supply 14,004.33

Eakes Office – kitchen supply 195.11

Fresh Foods – kitchen supply 170.83

Henderson State Bank – FICA/taxes 1,496.53

Credit Management Services – payroll deduction 272.04

Ideal Linen - kitchen supply 67.90

HCS Retirement Account – retirement 1,228.24

NE Department of Revenue – state taxes 121.74

Red Willow County Court – payroll deduction 328.99

US Bank – credit card 36.99

Payroll – net (gross - $8,201.00) 5,998.02