

UNAPPROVED DRAFT

VILLAGE OF NEHAWKA

MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 8, 2026

The Village of Nehawka Board of Trustees met in regular session on Wednesday, April 8, 2026, in the Nehawka Community Building. Chairman Chad Krueger called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m., noted the location of the Open Meetings Act for public viewing and roll call of the board. In attendance: Trustees: Chad Krueger, Tim Dineen, Ian Begemann, Matt Anson, and Pat Neu; Maintenance Ryan Adams and 15 guests. Village attorney, Tom Prickett was absent.

March 11, 2026 Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Neu to approve March 11, 2026 meeting minutes as presented and seconded by Anson. All members present voted in favor. Motion carried.

April 8, 2026 Treasurer's Report. A motion was made by Anson to approve Treasurer's Report as presented, seconded by Dineen. All members present voted in favor. Motion carried.

April 8, 2026 Claims. Neu noted the two additional claims that were added after they were previously forwarded to board. A motion was made by Anson to approve claims, seconded by Krueger. All members present voted in favor. Motion carried.

Correspondence: 1. Village Visa Business Card increase in credit limit to \$8,000.

2. Nebraska State Auditor's letter informing of approval of fiscal year 2025 audit waiver. Letter noted noncompliance of the village treasurer's mandatory continuing education reporting for the calendar year 2025 as per State statute; and village failure to publish its annual job and wage publication between July 15 and August 15 in a legal newspaper as required by law.

3. Nebraska NDPT Sign Permit renewal updating contact information regarding *Nehawka Welcomes You* sign adjacent to Hwy 34.

4. Letter from Nebraska Dept of Water, Energy, and Environment to verify and update contact information of our Floodplain Administrators and to inquire about any training needs.

Maintenance Report: Adams reported rock will be added to brush pile entrance; water at ballfield was turned on; emergency siren/fire whistle has been upgraded/repared and working fine; need to replace board(s) on one bleacher section; Rural Water will reimburse the 25,000 gallon discrepancy; meet with State of Nebraska official to review files and reports to prepare for upcoming inspection regarding water; replacement ballfield lights will be delivered around April 14th. Questions from Board: Neu inquired about maintenance's work log and getting a copy to board members to review and substantiate

present salary allocations, trees on the property line at the sewer plant can be cut down and removed as permission was received from ag property owner; and progress of sewer plant license (Adams noted he will be eligible to start review classes in a couple of months.)

Zoning and Planning Commission: Building Permit at 208 Maple Ave for a safe shed was reviewed and approved. Board approved said building permit request as presented.

Rescue Report: No report was received. It was noted that the squad's back bumper will need repair due to back-up incidence. Claim has been filed. Also, due to this being the third claim in five years, insurance rates have greatly increased.

1. Temporary Approval of Pat Neu as Clerk/Treasurer pending new hire: Neu explained the need to this appointment in order to be able to use the Village Visa Card per ordinance, represent the village, and access bank accounts. A motion was made by Begemann to approve and temporarily appoint Neu, seconded by Krueger. Neu abstained. Motion carried.
2. Review 6-Year Street Plan – Propose Street Overlay/Repairs. Reviewed 6-Year Plan, discussed street repairs at railroad tracks, Elm St and Sherman Ave intersection, other future projects. Noted three companies to possibly use for bidding the projects. Item was tabled.
3. Land Donation – Rustling Waters Encampment and Survey Costs. Krueger informed of the need to acquire additional land for a shooting range for the 1870's period campers and landowners' generous donation, stated survey costs would be approximately \$1,200. Noted proposed land is located west of Rustling Water and across the Weeping Water Creek. Neu raised concerns about this project and also phoned Corp of Engineers for information pertaining to waterway projects. Neu's concerns were village liability, insurance rates increase, if would need State approval or permits, what equipment would be needed to build any structure to go across creek, "free" land but our initial project costs and the cost of upkeep, need for an engineering study, is a fire arms/shooting range permitted in village boundary – check for ordinance, black powder/weapon debris at shooting range – how disposed of, need to consider neighbors – their safety and noise impact. Neu suggested this item be tabled to provide more information and land need. Item was tabled.

Public Comment, Concerns, and Input: Colleen Thonen questioned the lack of income or camp fees at Rustling Waters and the idea of acquiring additional land for a shooting range. Other guests voiced concerns about the need for the camp.

Rich Hickey asked for consideration of not having any additional sewer fees above minimum billed when initially filling a pool. The board will consider this request at the May 13th meeting.

John Henderson presented to the board and guests a Questions/Concerns list. Items listed concerned *the amount of people running the sewer plant (*Neu response-Adams in training and plant run per state requirements by contract operator and a back-up operator when needed to fill in*), *pools of water in streets after rains and bobcat not helping with situation, *town mower not being used (*response- Adams uses person rider to improve looks of ballfield and likes his mower suspension*), *broken pieces of asphalt not picked up off streets to keep out of drainage areas, *being able to hear at meetings and board not speaking loudly, *allowing public to voice opinions after each agenda items, *the encampment area and not investing money or town time – let volunteers help, . (*response- Adams that volunteers have be used to help with clean-up, etc at the encampment and Dineen response to the encampment was the board initially viewed this as an educational opportunity for the village and surrounding area school children. To enrich classroom learning and a view of how settlers lived during the 1870s time.*) *village residents worried about money being spent foolishly or unnecessarily, *is there a time limit at board meetings, *since rural water rates were increased a need to boast the village water/sewer rates (*response – will calculate if the new rates justify a need for an increase*), and *Henderson requested time on the May meeting agenda. Mr. Henderson's questions/concerns sparked a lively response from the guests in attendance with many voices joining in and were heard at one time.

Other questions/comments related to when the ballfield lights would be repaired – Adams noted that lights will be delivered around April 14th and that a new wood pole cost is approximately \$3,116. Neu informed that Nehawka did not qualify for the Berneice Hopper grant via a phone call from the Trustee.

Any other business pertinent to Village Operation: Neu informed that two village savings accounts- Communications Tower and Rustling Waters Encampment listed our former village clerk and chairman in the title and that she requested First State Bank to remove their names to be in line with the other accounts as titled. Customer Balance Summary list was reviewed and noted that one shutoff letter would need to be sent if not paid by the 10th of the month.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 8:12 p.m. was made by Begemann, seconded by Neu. All members present voted in favor. Motion carried.

Attest: Pat Neu, Acting Clerk/Treasurer