

# MINUTE RECORD

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**FRIEND CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES-REGULAR MEETING  
Tuesday, September 2, 2025**

Mayor Knoke called the regular meeting of the City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. at the City Hall. Advanced notice of the meeting was given by publication in The Sentinel, the appointed method for giving advanced notice. All proceedings shown were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Mayor Judith Knoke presided, and City Clerk John R. Schwab recorded the proceedings. The following Councilmembers were present: A quorum being present, and the meeting duly convened, the following proceedings were had and done.

As required by the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, Mayor Knoke announced that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act has been posted on the south door of the City Hall meeting room for all in attendance to review.

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Judith K. Knoke, Mayor

ATTEST

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John R. Schwab, City Clerk

I, the undersigned, City Clerk of the City of Friend, Nebraska, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of proceedings had and done by the Council on September 1, 2020; that all of the subjects included in the foregoing proceedings were contained in the agenda for the meeting, kept continually current and readily available for public inspection at the office of the Clerk; that such subjects were contained in said agenda for at least twenty-four hours prior to said meeting; that at least one copy of all reproducible material discussed at the meeting was available at the meeting for examination and copying by members of the public; that the said minutes from which the foregoing proceedings have been extracted and were in written form and available for public inspection within ten working days; that all news media requesting notification concerning meeting of said body were provided advance notification of the time and place of said meeting and the subjects to be discussed at said meeting.

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City Clerk

**NOTICE OF MEETING**

# MINUTE RECORD

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## CITY OF FRIEND, NEBRASKA

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Friend, Nebraska will meet at 7:00 p.m. on at the City Hall which meeting will be open to the public. Agenda for said meeting is kept current and is available in the City Clerk's office during regular business hours. Request to be on the agenda must be in the City Clerk's office 24 hours prior to the start of the meeting.

John R. Schwab, City Clerk

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**NEBRASKA OPEN MEETINGS ACT**

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**84-1407. Act, how cited.**

Sections 84-1407 to 84-1414 shall be known and may be cited as the Open Meetings Act.

**Source:** Laws 2004, LB 821, § 34.

**84-1408. Declaration of intent; meetings open to public.**

It is hereby declared to be the policy of this state that the formation of public policy is public business and may not be conducted in secret.

Every meeting of a public body shall be open to the public in order that citizens may exercise their democratic privilege of attending and speaking at meetings of public bodies, except as otherwise provided by the Constitution of Nebraska, federal statutes, and the Open Meetings Act.

**Source:** Laws 1975, LB 325, § 1; Laws 1996, LB 900, § 1071; Laws 2004, LB 821, § 35.

**Annotations**

- Nebraska's public meetings laws do not apply to school board deliberations pertaining solely to disputed adjudicative facts. *McQuinn v. Douglas Cty. Sch. Dist. No. 66*, 259 Neb. 720, 612 N.W.2d 198 (2000).
- The primary purpose of the public meetings law is to ensure that public policy is formulated at open meetings. *Marks v. Judicial Nominating Comm.*, 236 Neb. 429, 461 N.W.2d 551 (1990).
- The public meetings law is broadly interpreted and liberally construed to obtain the objective of openness in favor of the public, and provisions permitting closed sessions must be narrowly and strictly construed. *Grein v. Board of Education of Fremont*, 216 Neb. 158, 343 N.W.2d 718 (1984).
- A county board of equalization is a public body whose meetings shall be open to the public. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).

**84-1409. Terms, defined.**

For purposes of the Open Meetings Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1)(a) Public body means (i) governing bodies of all political subdivisions of the State of Nebraska, (ii) governing bodies of all agencies, created by the Constitution of Nebraska, statute, or otherwise pursuant to law, of the executive department of the State of Nebraska, (iii) all independent boards, commissions, bureaus, committees, councils, subunits, or any other bodies created by the Constitution of Nebraska, statute, or otherwise pursuant to law, (iv) all study or

advisory committees of the executive department of the State of Nebraska whether having continuing existence or appointed as special committees with limited existence, (v) advisory committees of the bodies referred to in subdivisions (i), (ii), and (iii) of this subdivision, and (vi) instrumentalities exercising essentially public functions; and

(b) Public body does not include (i) subcommittees of such bodies unless a quorum of the public body attends a subcommittee meeting or unless such subcommittees are holding hearings, making policy, or taking formal action on behalf of their parent body, except that all meetings of any subcommittee established under section 81-15,175 are subject to the Open Meetings Act, and (ii) entities conducting judicial proceedings unless a court or other judicial body is exercising rulemaking authority, deliberating, or deciding upon the issuance of administrative orders;

(2) Meeting means all regular, special, or called meetings, formal or informal, of any public body for the purposes of briefing, discussion of public business, formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action of the public body; and

(3) Virtual conferencing means conducting or participating in a meeting electronically or telephonically with interaction among the participants subject to subsection (2) of section 84-1412.

**Source:** Laws 1975, LB 325, § 2; Laws 1983, LB 43, § 1; Laws 1989, LB 429, § 42; Laws 1989, LB 311, § 14; Laws 1992, LB 1019, § 124; Laws 1993, LB 635, § 1; Laws 1996, LB 1044, § 978; Laws 1997, LB 798, § 37; Laws 2004, LB 821, § 36; Laws 2007, LB296, § 810; Laws 2011, LB366, § 2; Laws 2021, LB83, § 11.

**Annotations**

- A township is a political subdivision, and as such, a township board is subject to the provisions of the public meetings laws. *Steenblock v. Elkhorn Township Bd.*, 245 Neb. 722, 515 N.W.2d 128 (1994).
- A county agricultural society is a public body to which the provisions of the Nebraska public meetings law are applicable. *Nixon v. Madison Co. Ag. Soc'y*, 217 Neb. 37, 348 N.W.2d 119 (1984).
- Failure by a public governing body, as defined under section 84-1409, R.R.S.1943, to take and record a roll call vote on an action, as required by section 84-1413(2), R.S.Supp.,1980, grants any citizen the right to sue for the purpose of having the action declared void. In this case such failure could not be later corrected by a nunc pro tunc order because there was no showing that a roll call vote on the disputed action was actually taken, and even if it was the record showed it was not recorded until over a year later. Sections 23-1301, R.R.S.1943, and 23-1302, R.R.S.1943, make it the duty of the county clerk to record proceedings of the board of county commissioners. *State ex rel. Schuler v. Dunbar*, 208 Neb. 69, 302 N.W.2d 674 (1981).

- As an administrative agency of the county, a county board of equalization is a public body. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).
- The electors of a township at their annual meeting are a public body under the Open Meetings Act. *State ex rel. Newman v. Columbus Township Bd.*, 15 Neb. App. 656, 735 N.W.2d 399 (2007).
- The meeting at issue in this case was a "meeting" within the parameters of subsection (2) of this section because it involved the discussion of public business, the formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action of the public power district. *Hansmeyer v. Nebraska Pub. Power Dist.*, 6 Neb. App. 889, 578 N.W.2d 476 (1998).
- Informational sessions in which the governmental body hears reports are briefings. *Johnson v. Nebraska Environmental Control Council*, 2 Neb. App. 263, 509 N.W.2d 21 (1993).

**84-1410. Closed session; when; purpose; reasons listed; procedure; right to challenge; prohibited acts; chance meetings, conventions, or workshops.**

(1) Any public body may hold a closed session by the affirmative vote of a majority of its voting members if a closed session is clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest or for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual and if such individual has not requested a public meeting. The subject matter and the reason necessitating the closed session shall be identified in the motion to close. Closed sessions may be held for, but shall not be limited to, such reasons as:

(a) Strategy sessions with respect to collective bargaining, real estate purchases, pending litigation, or litigation which is imminent as evidenced by communication of a claim or threat of litigation to or by the public body;

(b) Discussion regarding deployment of security personnel or devices;

(c) Investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct;

(d) Evaluation of the job performance of a person when necessary to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person and if such person has not requested a public meeting;

(e) For the Community Trust created under section 81-1801.02, discussion regarding the amounts to be paid to individuals who have suffered from a tragedy of violence or natural disaster; or

(f) For public hospitals, governing board peer review activities, professional review activities, review and discussion of medical staff investigations or disciplinary actions, and any strategy session concerning transactional negotiations with any referral source that is required by federal law to be conducted at arms length.

Nothing in this section shall permit a closed meeting for discussion of the appointment or election of a new member to any public body.

(2) The vote to hold a closed session shall be taken in open session. The entire motion, the vote of each member on the question of holding a closed session, and the time when the closed session commenced and concluded shall be recorded in the minutes. If the motion to close passes, then the presiding officer immediately prior to the closed session shall restate on the record the limitation of the subject matter of the closed session. The public body holding such a closed session shall restrict its consideration of matters during the closed portions to only those purposes set forth in the motion to close as the reason for the closed session. The meeting shall be reconvened in open session before any formal action may be taken. For purposes of this section, formal action shall mean a collective decision or a collective commitment or promise to make a decision on any question, motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance or formation of a position or policy but shall not include negotiating guidance given by members of the public body to legal counsel or other negotiators in closed sessions authorized under subdivision (1)(a) of this section.

(3) Any member of any public body shall have the right to challenge the continuation of a closed session if the member determines that the session has exceeded the reason stated in the original motion to hold a closed session or if the member contends that the closed session is neither clearly necessary for (a) the protection of the public interest or (b) the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. Such challenge shall be overruled only by a majority vote of the members of the public body. Such challenge and its disposition shall be recorded in the minutes.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require that any meeting be closed to the public. No person or public body shall fail to invite a portion of its members to a meeting, and no public body shall designate itself a subcommittee of the whole body for the purpose of circumventing the Open Meetings Act. No closed session, informal meeting, chance meeting, social gathering, email, fax, or other electronic communication shall be used for the purpose of circumventing the requirements of the act.

(5) The act does not apply to chance meetings or to attendance at or travel to conventions or workshops of members of a public body at which there is no meeting of the body then intentionally convened, if there is no vote or other action taken regarding any matter over which the public body has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power.

**Source:** Laws 1975, LB 325, § 3; Laws 1983, LB 43, § 2; Laws 1985, LB 117, § 1; Laws 1992, LB 1019, § 125; Laws 1994, LB 621, § 1; Laws 1996, LB 900, § 1072; Laws 2004, LB 821, § 37; Laws 2004, LB 1179, § 1; Laws 2006, LB 898, § 1; Laws 2011, LB390, § 29; Laws 2012, LB995, § 17.

**Annotations**

- There is no absolute discovery privilege for communications that occur during a closed session. *State ex rel. Upper Republican NRD v. District Judges*, 273 Neb. 148, 728 N.W.2d 275 (2007).
- If a person present at a meeting observes a public meetings law violation in the form of an improper closed session and fails to object, that person waives his or her right to object at a later date. *Wasikowski v. Nebraska Quality Jobs Bd.*, 264 Neb. 403, 648 N.W.2d 756 (2002).
- The public interest mentioned in this section is that shared by citizens in general and by the community at large concerning pecuniary or legal rights and liabilities. *Grein v. Board of Education*, 216 Neb. 158, 343 N.W.2d 718 (1984).
- Hearing in closed executive session was contrary to this section since there was no showing of necessity or reason under subdivision (1)(a), (b), or (c), but did not result in reversal of board decision. *Simonds v. Board of Examiners*, 213 Neb. 259, 329 N.W.2d 92 (1983).
- Negotiations for the purchase of land need not be conducted at an open meeting but the deliberations of a city council as to whether an offer to purchase real estate should be made should take place in an open meeting. *Pokorny v. City of Schuyler*, 202 Neb. 334, 275 N.W.2d 281 (1979).
- Public meeting law was not violated where the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska voted to hold a closed session to consider the university president's resignation, and also discussed the appointment of an interim president during such session. *Meyer v. Board of Regents*, 1 Neb. App. 893, 510 N.W.2d 450 (1993).

**84-1411. Meetings of public body; notice; method; contents; when available; right to modify; duties concerning notice; virtual conferencing authorized; requirements; emergency meeting without notice; appearance before public body.**

(1)(a) Each public body shall give reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of each meeting as provided in this subsection. Such notice shall be transmitted to all members of the public body and to the public.

(b)(i) Except as provided in subdivision (1)(b)(ii) of this section, in the case of a public body described in subdivision (1)(a)(i) of section 84-1409 or such body's advisory committee, such notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction and, if available, on such newspaper's website.

(ii) In the case of the governing body of a city of the second class or village or such body's advisory committee, such notice shall be published by:

(A) Publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction and, if available, on such newspaper's website; or

(B) Posting written notice in three conspicuous public places in such city or village. Such notice shall be posted in the same three places for each meeting.

(iii) In the case of a public body not described in subdivision (1)(b)(i) or (ii) of this section, such notice shall be given by a method designated by the public body.

(c) In addition to a method of notice required by subdivision (1)(b)(i) or (ii) of this section, such notice may also be provided by any other appropriate method designated by such public body or such advisory committee.

(d) Each public body shall record the methods and dates of such notice in its minutes.

(e) Such notice shall contain an agenda of subjects known at the time of the publicized notice or a statement that the agenda, which shall be kept continually current, shall be readily available for public inspection at the principal office of the public body during normal business hours. Agenda items shall be sufficiently descriptive to give the public reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at the meeting. Except for items of an emergency nature, the agenda shall not be altered later than (i) twenty-four hours before the scheduled commencement of the meeting or (ii) forty-eight hours before the scheduled commencement of a meeting of a city council or village board scheduled outside the corporate limits of the municipality. The public body shall have the right to modify the agenda to include items of an emergency nature only at such public meeting.

(2)(a) The following entities may hold a meeting by means of virtual conferencing if the requirements of subdivision (2)(b) of this section are met:

(i) A state agency, state board, state commission, state council, or state committee, or an advisory committee of any such state entity;

(ii) An organization, including the governing body, created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, the Joint Public Agency Act, or the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act;

(iii) The governing body of a public power district having a chartered territory of more than one county in this state;

(iv) The governing body of a public power and irrigation district having a chartered territory of more than one county in this state;

(v) An educational service unit;

(vi) The Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council;

(vii) An organization, including the governing body, of a risk management pool or its advisory committees organized in accordance with the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act;

(viii) A community college board of governors;

- (ix) The Nebraska Brand Committee;
- (x) A local public health department;
- (xi) A metropolitan utilities district;
- (xii) A regional metropolitan transit authority;
- (xiii) A natural resources district; and
- (xiv) The Judicial Resources Commission.

(b) The requirements for holding a meeting by means of virtual conferencing are as follows:

(i) Reasonable advance publicized notice is given as provided in subsection (1) of this section, including providing access to a dial-in number or link to the virtual conference;

(ii) In addition to the public's right to participate by virtual conferencing, reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend at a physical site and participate as provided in section 84-1412, including reasonable seating, in at least one designated site in a building open to the public and identified in the notice, with: At least one member of the entity holding such meeting, or his or her designee, present at each site; a recording of the hearing by audio or visual recording devices; and a reasonable opportunity for input, such as public comment or questions, is provided to at least the same extent as would be provided if virtual conferencing was not used;

(iii) At least one copy of all documents being considered at the meeting is available at any physical site open to the public where individuals may attend the virtual conference. The public body shall also provide links to an electronic copy of the agenda, all documents being considered at the meeting, and the current version of the Open Meetings Act; and

(iv) Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision or subsection (4) of section 79-2204, no more than one-half of the meetings of the state entities, advisory committees, boards, councils, organizations, or governing bodies are held by virtual conferencing in a calendar year. In the case of an organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sells electricity or natural gas at wholesale on a multistate basis or an organization created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, the organization may hold more than one-half of its meetings by virtual conferencing if such organization holds at least one meeting each calendar year that is not by virtual conferencing. The governing body of a risk management pool that meets at least quarterly and the advisory committees of the governing body may each hold more than one-half of its meetings by virtual conferencing if the governing body's quarterly meetings are not held by virtual conferencing.

(3) Virtual conferencing, emails, faxes, or other electronic communication shall not be used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established in the Open Meetings Act.

(4) The secretary or other designee of each public body shall maintain a list of the news media requesting notification of meetings and shall make reasonable efforts to provide advance notification to them of the time and place of each meeting and the subjects to be discussed at that meeting.

(5) When it is necessary to hold an emergency meeting without reasonable advance public notice, the nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes and any formal action taken in such meeting shall pertain only to the emergency. Such emergency meetings may be held by virtual conferencing. The provisions of subsection (4) of this section shall be complied with in conducting emergency meetings. Complete minutes of such emergency meetings specifying the nature of the emergency and any formal action taken at the meeting shall be made available to the public by no later than the end of the next regular business day.

(6) A public body may allow a member of the public or any other witness to appear before the public body by means of virtual conferencing.

(7)(a) Notwithstanding subsections (2) and (5) of this section, if an emergency is declared by the Governor pursuant to the Emergency Management Act as defined in section 81-829.39, a public body the territorial jurisdiction of which is included in the emergency declaration, in whole or in part, may hold a meeting by virtual conferencing during such emergency if the public body gives reasonable advance publicized notice as described in subsection (1) of this section. The notice shall include information regarding access for the public and news media. In addition to any formal action taken pertaining to the emergency, the public body may hold such meeting for the purpose of briefing, discussion of public business, formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action by the public body.

(b) The public body shall provide access by providing a dial-in number or a link to the virtual conference. The public body shall also provide links to an electronic copy of the agenda, all documents being considered at the meeting, and the current version of the Open Meetings Act. Reasonable arrangements shall be made to accommodate the public's right to hear and speak at the meeting and record the meeting. Subsection (4) of this section shall be complied with in conducting such meetings.

(c) The nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes. Complete minutes of such meeting specifying the nature of the emergency and any formal action taken at the meeting shall be made available for inspection as provided in subsections (5) and (6) of section 84-1413.

**Source:** Laws 1975, LB 325, § 4; Laws 1983, LB 43, § 3; Laws 1987, LB 663, § 25; Laws 1993, LB 635, § 2; Laws 1996, LB 469, § 6; Laws 1996, LB 1161, § 1; Laws 1999, LB 47, § 2; Laws 1999, LB 87, § 100; Laws 1999, LB 461, § 1; Laws 2000, LB 968, § 85; Laws 2004, LB 821, § 38; Laws 2004, LB 1179, § 2; Laws 2006, LB 898, § 2; Laws 2007, LB199, § 9; Laws 2009, LB361, § 2; Laws 2012, LB735, § 1; Laws 2013, LB510,

§ 1; Laws 2017, LB318, § 1; Laws 2019, LB212, § 5; Laws 2020, LB148, § 3; Laws 2021, LB83, § 12.

### **Cross References**

- **Intergovernmental Risk Management Act**, see section 44-4301.
- **Interlocal Cooperation Act**, see section 13-801.
- **Joint Public Agency Act**, see section 13-2501.
- **Municipal Cooperative Financing Act**, see section 18-2401.

### **Annotations**

- Under subsection (1) of this section, the Legislature has imposed only two conditions on the public body's notification method of a public meeting: (1) It must give reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of each meeting and (2) it must be recorded in the public body's minutes. *City of Elkhorn v. City of Omaha*, 272 Neb. 867, 725 N.W.2d 792 (2007).
- An emergency is "(a)ny event or occasional combination of circumstances which calls for immediate action or remedy; pressing necessity; exigency; a sudden or unexpected happening; an unforeseen occurrence or condition." *Steenblock v. Elkhorn Township Bd.*, 245 Neb. 722, 515 N.W.2d 128 (1994).
- An agenda which gives reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at a meeting of a city council complies with the requirements of this section. *Pokorny v. City of Schuyler*, 202 Neb. 334, 275 N.W.2d 281 (1979).
- When notice is required, a notice of a special meeting of a city council posted in three public places at 10:00 p.m. on the day preceding the meeting is not reasonable advance publicized notice of a meeting as is required by this section. *Pokorny v. City of Schuyler*, 202 Neb. 334, 275 N.W.2d 281 (1979).
- Teacher waived right to object to lack of public notice in board of education employment hearing by voluntary participation in the hearing without objection. *Alexander v. School Dist. No. 17*, 197 Neb. 251, 248 N.W.2d 335 (1976).
- A county board of commissioners and a county board of equalization are not required to give separate notices when the notice states only the time and place that the boards meet and directs a citizen to where the agendas for each board can be found. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).
- A county board of equalization is a public body which is required to give advanced publicized notice of its meetings. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).
- Notice of recessed and reconvened meetings must be given in the same fashion as the original meeting. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).
- True notice of a meeting is not given by burying such in the minutes of a prior board proceeding. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).
- An agenda notice which merely stated "work order reports" was an inadequate notice under this section because it did not give interested persons knowledge that

plans for a 345 kv transmission line through the district was going to be discussed and voted upon at the meeting. Inadequate agenda notice under this section meant there was a substantial violation of the public meeting laws; however, later actions by the board of directors cured the defects in notice, and such actions were in substantial compliance with the statute. *Hansmeyer v. Nebraska Pub. Power Dist.*, 6 Neb. App. 889, 578 N.W.2d 476 (1998).

**84-1412. Meetings of public body; rights of public; public body; powers and duties.**

(1) Subject to the Open Meetings Act, the public has the right to attend and the right to speak at meetings of public bodies, and all or any part of a meeting of a public body, except for closed sessions called pursuant to section 84-1410, may be videotaped, televised, photographed, broadcast, or recorded by any person in attendance by means of a tape recorder, a camera, video equipment, or any other means of pictorial or sonic reproduction or in writing.

(2) It shall not be a violation of subsection (1) of this section for any public body to make and enforce reasonable rules and regulations regarding the conduct of persons attending, speaking at, videotaping, televising, photographing, broadcasting, or recording its meetings, including meetings held by virtual conferencing. A body may not be required to allow citizens to speak at each meeting, but it may not forbid public participation at all meetings.

(3) No public body shall require members of the public to identify themselves as a condition for admission to the meeting nor shall such body require that the name of any member of the public be placed on the agenda prior to such meeting in order to speak about items on the agenda. The body shall require any member of the public desiring to address the body to identify himself or herself, including an address and the name of any organization represented by such person unless the address requirement is waived to protect the security of the individual.

(4) No public body shall, for the purpose of circumventing the Open Meetings Act, hold a meeting in a place known by the body to be too small to accommodate the anticipated audience.

(5) No public body shall be deemed in violation of this section if it holds its meeting in its traditional meeting place which is located in this state.

(6) No public body shall be deemed in violation of this section if it holds a meeting outside of this state if, but only if:

(a) A member entity of the public body is located outside of this state and the meeting is in that member's jurisdiction;

(b) All out-of-state locations identified in the notice are located within public buildings used by members of the entity or at a place which will accommodate the anticipated audience;

(c) Reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend, hear, and speak at the meeting, including making virtual conferencing available at an in-state location to members, the public, or the press, if requested twenty-four hours in advance;

(d) No more than twenty-five percent of the public body's meetings in a calendar year are held out-of-state;

(e) Out-of-state meetings are not used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established in the Open Meetings Act; and

(f) The public body publishes notice of the out-of-state meeting at least twenty-one days before the date of the meeting in a legal newspaper of statewide circulation.

(7) Each public body shall, upon request, make a reasonable effort to accommodate the public's right to hear the discussion and testimony presented at a meeting.

(8) Public bodies shall make available at the meeting or the in-state location for virtual conferencing as required by subdivision (6)(c) of this section, for examination and copying by members of the public, at least one copy of all reproducible written material to be discussed at an open meeting, either in paper or electronic form. Public bodies shall make available at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room at a location accessible to members of the public. At the beginning of the meeting, the public shall be informed about the location of the posted information.

**Source:** Laws 1975, LB 325, § 5; Laws 1983, LB 43, § 4; Laws 1985, LB 117, § 2; Laws 1987, LB 324, § 5; Laws 1996, LB 900, § 1073; Laws 2001, LB 250, § 2; Laws 2004, LB 821, § 39; Laws 2006, LB 898, § 3; Laws 2008, LB962, § 1; Laws 2021, LB83, § 13.

**Annotations**

- To preserve an objection that a public body failed to make documents available at a public meeting as required by subsection (8) of this section, a person who attends a public meeting must not only object to the violation, but must make that objection to the public body or to a member of the public body. *Stoetzel & Sons v. City of Hastings*, 265 Neb. 637, 658 N.W.2d 636 (2003).

**84-1413. Meetings; minutes; roll call vote; secret ballot; when; agenda and minutes; required on website; when.**

(1) Each public body shall keep minutes of all meetings showing the time, place, members present and absent, and the substance of all matters discussed.

(2) Any action taken on any question or motion duly moved and seconded shall be by roll call vote of the public body in open session, and the record shall state how each member voted or if the member was absent or not voting. The requirements of a roll call or viva voce vote shall be

satisfied by a public body which utilizes an electronic voting device which allows the yeas and nays of each member of such public body to be readily seen by the public.

(3) The vote to elect leadership within a public body may be taken by secret ballot, but the total number of votes for each candidate shall be recorded in the minutes.

(4) The minutes of all meetings and evidence and documentation received or disclosed in open session shall be public records and open to public inspection during normal business hours.

(5) Minutes shall be written, except as provided in subsection (6) of this section, and available for inspection within ten working days or prior to the next convened meeting, whichever occurs earlier, except that cities of the second class and villages may have an additional ten working days if the employee responsible for writing the minutes is absent due to a serious illness or emergency.

(6) Minutes of the meetings of the board of a school district or educational service unit may be kept as an electronic record.

(7) Beginning July 31, 2022, the governing body of a natural resources district, the city council of a city of the metropolitan class, the city council of a city of the primary class, the city council of a city of the first class, the county board of a county with a population greater than twenty-five thousand inhabitants, and the school board of a school district shall make available on such entity's public website the agenda and minutes of any meeting of the governing body. The agenda shall be placed on the website at least twenty-four hours before the meeting of the governing body. Minutes shall be placed on the website at such time as the minutes are available for inspection as provided in subsection (5) of this section. This information shall be available on the public website for at least six months.

**Source:** Laws 1975, LB 325, § 6; Laws 1978, LB 609, § 3; Laws 1979, LB 86, § 9; Laws 1987, LB 663, § 26; Laws 2005, LB 501, § 1; Laws 2009, LB361, § 3; Laws 2015, LB365, § 2; Laws 2016, LB876, § 1; Laws 2021, LB83, § 14.

**Annotations**

- If a person present at a meeting observes and fails to object to an alleged public meetings laws violation in the form of a failure to conduct rollcall votes before taking actions on questions or motions pending, that person waives his or her right to object at a later date. *Hauser v. Nebraska Police Stds. Adv. Council*, 264 Neb. 944, 653 N.W.2d 240 (2002).
- Subsection (2) of this section does not require the record to state that the vote was by roll call, but requires only that the record show if and how each member voted. Neither does the statute set a time limit for recording the results of a vote, after which no corrections of the record can be made. If no intervening rights of third persons have arisen, a board of county commissioners has power to correct the record of the proceedings had at a previous meeting so as to make them speak the

truth, particularly where the correction supplies some omitted fact or action and is done not to contradict or change the original record but to have the record show that a certain action was taken or thing done, which the original record fails to show. *State ex rel. Schuler v. Dunbar*, 214 Neb. 85, 333 N.W.2d 652 (1983).

- Failure by a public governing body, as defined under section 84-1409, R.R.S.1943, to take and record a roll call vote on an action, as required by section 84-1413(2), R.S.Supp.,1980, grants any citizen the right to sue for the purpose of having the action declared void. In this case such failure could not be later corrected by a nunc pro tunc order because there was no showing that a roll call vote on the disputed action was actually taken, and even if it was the record showed it was not recorded until over a year later. Sections 23-1301, R.R.S.1943, and 23-1302, R.R.S.1943, make it the duty of the county clerk to record proceedings of the board of county commissioners. *State ex rel. Schuler v. Dunbar*, 208 Neb. 69, 302 N.W.2d 674 (1981).
- There is no requirement that a public body make a record of where notice was published or posted. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).

**84-1414. Unlawful action by public body; declared void or voidable by district court; when; duty to enforce open meeting laws; citizen's suit; procedure; violations; penalties.**

(1) Any motion, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action of a public body made or taken in violation of the Open Meetings Act shall be declared void by the district court if the suit is commenced within one hundred twenty days of the meeting of the public body at which the alleged violation occurred. Any motion, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action of a public body made or taken in substantial violation of the Open Meetings Act shall be voidable by the district court if the suit is commenced more than one hundred twenty days after but within one year of the meeting of the public body in which the alleged violation occurred. A suit to void any final action shall be commenced within one year of the action.

(2) The Attorney General and the county attorney of the county in which the public body ordinarily meets shall enforce the Open Meetings Act.

(3) Any citizen of this state may commence a suit in the district court of the county in which the public body ordinarily meets or in which the plaintiff resides for the purpose of requiring compliance with or preventing violations of the Open Meetings Act, for the purpose of declaring an action of a public body void, or for the purpose of determining the applicability of the act to discussions or decisions of the public body. It shall not be a defense that the citizen attended the meeting and failed to object at such time. The court may order payment of reasonable attorney's fees and court costs to a successful plaintiff in a suit brought under this section.

(4) Any member of a public body who knowingly violates or conspires to violate or who attends or remains at a meeting knowing that the public body is in violation of any provision of

the Open Meetings Act shall be guilty of a Class IV misdemeanor for a first offense and a Class III misdemeanor for a second or subsequent offense.

**Source:** Laws 1975, LB 325, § 9; Laws 1977, LB 39, § 318; Laws 1983, LB 43, § 5; Laws 1992, LB 1019, § 126; Laws 1994, LB 621, § 2; Laws 1996, LB 900, § 1074; Laws 2004, LB 821, § 40; Laws 2006, LB 898, § 4.

#### **Annotations**

- The Legislature has granted standing to a broad scope of its citizens for the very limited purpose of challenging meetings allegedly in violation of the Open Meetings Act, so that they may help police the public policy embodied by the act. *Schauer v. Grooms*, 280 Neb. 426, 786 N.W.2d 909 (2010).
- Any citizen of the state may commence an action to declare a public body's action void. *City of Elkhorn v. City of Omaha*, 272 Neb. 867, 725 N.W.2d 792 (2007).
- The reading of ordinances constitutes a formal action under subsection (1) of this section. *City of Elkhorn v. City of Omaha*, 272 Neb. 867, 725 N.W.2d 792 (2007).
- If a person present at a meeting observes a public meetings law violation in the form of an improper closed session and fails to object, that person waives his or her right to object at a later date. *Wasikowski v. Nebraska Quality Jobs Bd.*, 264 Neb. 403, 648 N.W.2d 756 (2002).
- Under the Public Meetings Act, a county lacks capacity to maintain an action to declare its official conduct "void" for noncompliance with the act. *County of York v. Johnson*, 230 Neb. 403, 432 N.W.2d 215 (1988).
- When a petitioner under this section is successful in the district court, that court may allow attorney fees. *Tracy Corp. II v. Nebraska Pub. Serv. Comm.*, 218 Neb. 900, 360 N.W.2d 485 (1984).
- Informal discussions between the Tax Commissioner and the State Board of Equalization in which instructions were clarified, with such clarification leading to the amendment of hearing notices, did not constitute a public meeting subject to the provisions of this section. *Box Butte County v. State Board of Equalization and Assessment*, 206 Neb. 696, 295 N.W.2d 670 (1980).
- The right to collaterally attack an order made in contravention of the Public Meeting Act must occur within a period of one year as is specifically provided by this section. *Witt v. School District No. 70*, 202 Neb. 63, 273 N.W.2d 669 (1979).
- Statutory change, requiring "publicized notice" for board of education employment hearings, occurring between dates meeting scheduled and conducted, held not to void proceedings. *Alexander v. School Dist. No. 17*, 197 Neb. 251, 248 N.W.2d 335 (1976).
- Voiding an entire meeting is a proper remedy for violations of the Open Meetings Act. Once a meeting has been declared void pursuant to Nebraska's public meetings law, board members are prohibited from considering any information

obtained at the illegal meeting. *Wolf v. Grubbs*, 17 Neb. App. 292, 759 N.W.2d 499 (2009).

- Actions by the board of directors were merely voidable under this section, and not void. Pursuant to subsection (3) of this section, the plaintiffs were awarded partial attorney fees because they were successful in having the court declare that the board of directors was in substantial violation of the statute, even though the plaintiffs did not get the relief requested of having the board's actions declared void. *Hansmeyer v. Nebraska Pub. Power Dist.*, 6 Neb. App. 889, 578 N.W.2d 476 (1998).

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Source: [http://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/display\\_html.php?begin\\_section=84-1407&end\\_section=84-1414](http://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/display_html.php?begin_section=84-1407&end_section=84-1414)

Date: July 2021



**I pledge allegiance to the Flag  
of the United States of America,  
and to the Republic for which it stands,  
one Nation under God, indivisible,  
with liberty and justice for all.**

**Do not recreate or revise the pages of this document**, as revisions and recreations will not be accepted. Failure to **return both pages of the original document** by the filing deadline (October 31, 2025) may result in the suspension of Highway Allocation funds until the documents are filed.

**RESOLUTION**

**SIGNING OF THE  
MUNICIPAL ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF PROGRAM COMPLIANCE  
2025**

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Whereas:** State of Nebraska Statutes, sections 39-2115, 39-2119, 39-2120, 39-2121, and 39-2520(2), requires an annual certification of program compliance to the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and standards; and

**Whereas:** State of Nebraska Statute, section 39-2120 also requires that the annual certification of program compliance by each municipality shall be signed by the Mayor or Village Board Chairperson and shall include the resolution of the governing body of the municipality authorizing the signing of the certification.

**Be it resolved** that the Mayor  Village Board Chairperson  of Friend  
(Check one box) (Print name of municipality)  
is hereby authorized to sign the Municipal Annual Certification of Program Compliance.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ Nebraska.  
(Month)

City Council/Village Board Members

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City Council/Village Board Member \_\_\_\_\_  
Moved the adoption of said resolution  
Member \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded the Motion  
Roll Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Abstained \_\_\_\_\_ Absent  
Resolution adopted, signed, and billed as adopted.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Signature of Clerk)*

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**MUNICIPAL  
ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF PROGRAM COMPLIANCE  
TO  
NEBRASKA BOARD OF PUBLIC ROADS CLASSIFICATIONS  
AND STANDARDS  
2025**

In compliance with the provisions of the State of Nebraska Statutes, sections 39-2115, 39-2119, 39-2120, 39-2121, and 39-2520(2), requiring annual certification of program compliance to the Board of Public Roads

Classifications and Standards, the City  Village  of Friend  
(Check one box) (Print name of municipality)

hereby certifies that it:

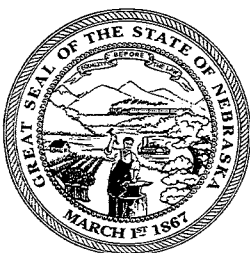
- ✓ has developed, adopted, and included in its public records the plans, programs, or standards required by sections 39-2115 and 39-2119;
- ✓ meets the plans, programs, or standards of design, construction, and maintenance for its highways, roads, or streets;
- ✓ expends all tax revenue for highway, road, or street purposes in accordance with approved plans, programs, or standards, including county and municipal tax revenue as well as highway-user revenue allocations;
- ✓ uses a system of revenue and costs accounting which clearly includes a comparison of receipts and expenditures for approved budgets, plans, programs, and standards;
- ✓ uses a system of budgeting which reflects uses and sources of funds in terms of plans, programs, or standards and accomplishments;
- ✓ uses an accounting system including an inventory of machinery, equipment, and supplies;
- ✓ uses an accounting system that tracks equipment operation costs;
- ✓ has included in its public records the information required under subsection (2) of section 39-2520; and
- ✓ **has included in its public records a copy of this certification and the resolution of the governing body authorizing the signing of this certification by the Mayor or Village Board Chairperson.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Mayor  Village Board Chairperson  (Required) (Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of City Street Superintendent (Optional) (Date)

**Return the completed original signing resolution and annual certification of program compliance by **October 31, 2025** to:**

Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards  
PO Box 94759  
Lincoln NE 68509



**Do not recreate or revise the pages of this document**, as revisions and recreations will not be accepted. Failure to **return both pages of the original document** by the filing deadline (October 31, 2025) may result in the suspension of Highway Allocation funds until the documents are filed.

## RESOLUTION

### SIGNING OF THE MUNICIPAL ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF PROGRAM COMPLIANCE 2025

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

**Whereas:** State of Nebraska Statutes, sections 39-2115, 39-2119, 39-2120, 39-2121, and 39-2520(2), requires an annual certification of program compliance to the Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and standards; and

**Whereas:** State of Nebraska Statute, section 39-2120 also requires that the annual certification of program compliance by each municipality shall be signed by the Mayor or Village Board Chairperson and shall include the resolution of the governing body of the municipality authorizing the signing of the certification.

**Be it resolved** that the Mayor  Village Board Chairperson  of Friend  
(Check one box) (Print name of municipality)  
is hereby authorized to sign the Municipal Annual Certification of Program Compliance.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ Nebraska.  
(Month)

City Council/Village Board Members

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

City Council/Village Board Member \_\_\_\_\_  
Moved the adoption of said resolution  
Member \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded the Motion  
Roll Call: \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Abstained \_\_\_\_ Absent  
Resolution adopted, signed, and billed as adopted.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Clerk)

**Do not recreate or revise the pages of this document**, as revisions and recreations will not be accepted. Failure to **return both pages of the original document** by the filing deadline (October 31, 2025) may result in the suspension of Highway Allocation funds until the documents are filed.

**MUNICIPAL  
ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF PROGRAM COMPLIANCE  
TO  
NEBRASKA BOARD OF PUBLIC ROADS CLASSIFICATIONS  
AND STANDARDS  
2025**

In compliance with the provisions of the State of Nebraska Statutes, sections 39-2115, 39-2119, 39-2120, 39-2121, and 39-2520(2), requiring annual certification of program compliance to the Board of Public Roads

Classifications and Standards, the City  Village  of Friend  
(Check one box) (Print name of municipality)

hereby certifies that it:

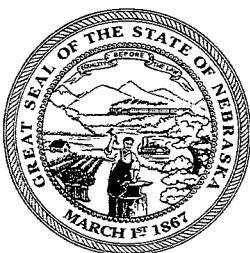
- ✓ has developed, adopted, and included in its public records the plans, programs, or standards required by sections 39-2115 and 39-2119;
- ✓ meets the plans, programs, or standards of design, construction, and maintenance for its highways, roads, or streets;
- ✓ expends all tax revenue for highway, road, or street purposes in accordance with approved plans, programs, or standards, including county and municipal tax revenue as well as highway-user revenue allocations;
- ✓ uses a system of revenue and costs accounting which clearly includes a comparison of receipts and expenditures for approved budgets, plans, programs, and standards;
- ✓ uses a system of budgeting which reflects uses and sources of funds in terms of plans, programs, or standards and accomplishments;
- ✓ uses an accounting system including an inventory of machinery, equipment, and supplies;
- ✓ uses an accounting system that tracks equipment operation costs;
- ✓ has included in its public records the information required under subsection (2) of section 39-2520; and
- ✓ **has included in its public records a copy of this certification and the resolution of the governing body authorizing the signing of this certification by the Mayor or Village Board Chairperson.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Mayor  Village Board Chairperson  (Required) (Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of City Street Superintendent (Optional) (Date)

**Return the completed original signing resolution and annual certification of program compliance by **October 31, 2025** to:**

Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards  
PO Box 94759  
Lincoln NE 68509



**ORDINANCE NO. 25-810**

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE, SALE, AND DELIVERY OF A TAX ANTICIPATION NOTE OF THE CITY OF FRIEND, NEBRASKA IN THE MAXIMUM PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$630,000 TO PROVIDE FINANCING FOR CERTAIN OPERATING EXPENSES OF WARREN MEMORIAL HOSPITAL (AKA FRIEND COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS); PRESCRIBING THE FORM AND DETAILS OF THE NOTE; COVENANTING TO PAY SUCH NOTE FROM THE REVENUES OF WARREN MEMORIAL HOSPITAL (FRIEND COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS) AND, IF NECESSARY, TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST ON THE NOTE; PROVIDING FOR THE PUBLICATION OF THIS ORDINANCE IN PAMPHLET FORM AND RELATED MATTERS**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FRIEND, NEBRASKA:**

**Section 1.** The Mayor and Council (the “**Council**”) of the City of Friend, Nebraska (the “**City**”) hereby finds and determines:

(a) The City is duly organized and validly existing as a city of the second class and political subdivision of the State of Nebraska (the “**State**”) under Chapter 17, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, as amended.

(b) It is necessary, desirable, and advisable and in the best interests of the City that the City provide an operating line of credit to pay expenses incurred at Warren Memorial Hospital, aka Friend Community Healthcare Systems (the “**Hospital**”), owned and operated by the City.

(c) The City is authorized pursuant to Section 18-1750, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, as amended (“**Section 18-1750**”), to borrow money to the amount of 70% of the unexpended balance of total anticipated receipts (as determined pursuant to Section 18-1750) for the current fiscal year and the following fiscal year.

(d) The City anticipates receipts for the current fiscal year and the following fiscal year of \$939,571.15 from the levying of taxes for the current fiscal year and the following fiscal year, determined pursuant to Section 18-1750.

(e) Based upon the most recent report of the City’s Treasurer, the unexpended balance of total anticipated general fund receipts is \$939,571.15.

(f) As of the Closing Date, there is a principal balance of \$560,000.00 plus accrued and unpaid interest thereon outstanding in note or warrant indebtedness under the previous promissory note passed, approved, and issued by the City in the maximum principal amount of \$654,000 dated October 18, 2023, held by Citizens State Bank (“**Previous Note**”).

(g) It is necessary, desirable, and advisable and in the best interest of the City to borrow money and issue its negotiable revolving line of credit promissory note as provided under Section 18-1750, in an aggregate principal amount of \$630,000.

**Section 2.** (a) For the purpose of paying the costs of certain operational expenses of the Hospital issuing the note herein authorized, there is hereby ordered issued a promissory note to the City in the principal amount of Six Hundred Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$630,000), designated as “**Promissory Note, Series 2025**” (the “**Note**”). The Note shall be fully registered as to both principal and interest on the books

of the Note Registrar and Paying Agent designated in **Section 3** of this Ordinance (the “**Registrar**”), bear a Date of Original Issue of the date of execution and delivery thereof, be numbered R-1, be in any denomination, shall mature on the second anniversary of the Date of Original Issue and bear interest, calculated on the basis of a 360/366-day year and actual days elapsed. The Note shall be in the amount advanced by the Purchaser (hereinafter defined) upon request from the City from time to time up to a maximum principal amount of **\$630,000** bear interest computed daily on the principal amount from time to time outstanding and unpaid at a rate equal to the Purchaser’s base rate for such date based on the Wall Street Journal Prime Rate (“WSJ Prime”) minus 1.25%. Interest on the Note is payable on the first anniversary of the Date of Original Issue and at maturity. The outstanding unpaid principal on Note R-1 shall be due and payable at maturity.

Payments of interest due on the Note shall be made by the Registrar by mailing a check or draft on each payment date in the amount due for such interest to the Purchaser at its registered address as shown on the books of registration as required to be maintained in **Section 3** hereof. Payments of principal due at maturity shall be made by the Registrar to the Purchaser upon presentation and surrender of the Note to the Registrar in lawful money of the United States of America. All payments on account of interest or principal made to the Purchaser in accordance with the terms of this Ordinance shall be valid and effectual and shall be a discharge of the City and the Registrar, in respect of the liability upon the Note or claims for interest to the extent of the sum or sums so paid.

**Section 3.** (a) The Treasurer of the City is hereby designated the Registrar for the Note. The Registrar shall specify its acceptance of the duties, obligations and trusts imposed upon it by the provisions of this Ordinance by a written instrument deposited with the City prior to the issuance of the Note. The City reserves the right to remove the Registrar upon 30-days notice and upon the appointment of a successor Registrar, in which event the predecessor Registrar shall deliver all cash in its possession to the successor Registrar and shall deliver the Bond register to the successor Registrar. The Registrar shall have only such duties and obligations as are expressly specified by this Ordinance and no other duties or obligations shall be implied to the Registrar.

(b) The Registrar shall keep and maintain for the City books for the registration and transfer of the Note at its office in Friend, Nebraska. The names and registered addresses of the registered owner of the Note shall at all times be recorded in such books.

(c) The Registrar shall also be responsible for making the payments of principal and interest as the same fall due upon the Note from funds transferred to it by the City for such purpose. Payment of interest due upon the Note prior to maturity shall be made by the Registrar by mailing a check in the amount due for such interest on each interest payment date to the Purchaser addressed to Purchaser at its registered address as shown on the books of registration as required to be maintained under this **Section 3**. Payments of principal due at maturity, together with any accrued interest then due, shall be made by the Registrar upon presentation and surrender of such Note at the office of the Registrar. The City and the Registrar may treat the registered owner of any Note as the absolute owner of such Note for the purpose of making payment thereon and for all other purposes. All payments on account of interest or principal made to the registered owner of any Note shall be valid and effectual and shall be a discharge of the City and the Registrar in respect of the liability upon such Note or claims for interest to the extent of the sum or sums so paid.

**Section 4.** The Note is subject to prepayment at any time at the option of the City. Any prepayment shall be applied and mutually agreed between the City and the Purchaser.

**Section 5.** The Note shall be in substantially in the format attached as Exhibit A to this ordinance.

**Section 6.** The Note shall be executed on behalf of the City by the manual signatures of the Mayor and Clerk. In case any officer whose signature shall appear on any Note shall cease to be such officer before the delivery of such Note (including any Note delivered to the Registrar for issuance upon transfer), such signature shall nevertheless be valid and sufficient for all purposes the same as if such officer or officers had remained in office until the delivery of such Note.

**Section 7.** Upon execution and registration of the Note, and upon delivery of the Previous Note to the Registrar, the Registrar is authorized to (a) deliver the Note to Citizens State Bank, a Nebraska banking corporation, Friend, Nebraska, the purchaser thereof (the “**Purchaser**”), and (b) pay the Purchaser the amount of accrued and unpaid interest on the Previous Note as of the date the same is surrendered and delivered to the Registrar. The current principal balance of the Previous Note **(\$560,000)** plus accrued interest shall be deemed paid by the issuance of the Note which, immediately upon issuance, shall have a beginning principal balance of **\$574,077.08**. The Purchaser shall have the right to direct the registration of the Note and the denomination thereof, subject to the restrictions of this Ordinance.

**Section 8.** The Clerk is directed to make and certify transcripts of the proceedings of the City precedent to the issuance of the Note, one of which transcripts shall be delivered to the purchaser of the Note.

**Section 9.** City represents, warrants, agrees and covenants with and for the benefit of the registered owner of the Note as follows:

(a) It has duly adopted an operating budget for the current fiscal year with respect to the general fund within the time required by law and levy ad valorem taxes on all of the taxable property within the City as required by law.

(b) The receipts from the levy of taxes together with other sources for the current fiscal year and the following fiscal year legally available for the payment of the principal of and interest on the Note will be sufficient to pay such principal and interest in full when and as the same become due.

(c) It will have on deposit in the Warren Memorial Hospital (Friend Community Healthcare Systems) Fund and the general fund of the City amounts sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the Note in full when and as the same become due.

(d) It will pay the principal of and interest on the Note from the net revenues of Warren Memorial Hospital (Friend Community Healthcare Systems). To the extent the same is insufficient for such purposes, the City shall pay the principal of and interest on the Note in full when and as the same become due.

(e) In preparing, approving and adopting a budget which controls or provides for the expenditure of its funds, the City will appropriate, allot and approve, in the manner required by law, from the Warren Memorial Hospital (Friend Community Healthcare Systems) Fund and the general fund of the City amounts sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the Note in full when and as the same become due.

**Section 10.** There is hereby established with the Registrar a Note Fund (the “**Note Fund**”) to be used solely for the purpose of paying the principal of and interest on the Note. Beginning January 1 of each year, the City shall deposit into the Note Fund such proceeds from the net revenues of Warren Memorial Hospital (Friend Community Healthcare Systems) and any other funds necessary pursuant to **Section 9** of this Ordinance as shall be sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on the Note when and as the same shall become due.

**Section 11.** Without in any way limiting the power, authority, or discretion elsewhere herein granted or delegated, the Council hereby authorizes and directs the Mayor and all other officers, employees,

and agents of the City to carry out, or cause to be carried out, and to perform such obligations of the City and such other actions as they, or any one of them shall consider necessary, advisable, desirable, or appropriate in connection with this Ordinance, and the issuance, sale, and delivery of the Note, including, without limitation and whenever appropriate, the execution and delivery thereof and of all other related documents, instruments, certifications, and opinions; and delegates, authorizes, and directs the Mayor the right, power, and authority to exercise his own independent judgment and absolute discretion in determining and finalizing the terms, provisions, form and contents of each of the foregoing. The execution and delivery by the Mayor or by any such other officer, officers, agent or agents of the City of any such documents, instruments, certifications, and opinions, or the doing by them of any act in connection with any of the matters which are the subject of this Ordinance, shall constitute conclusive evidence of both the City's and their approval of all changes, modifications, amendments, revisions, and alterations made therein, and shall conclusively establish their absolute, unconditional, and irrevocable authority with respect thereto from the City and the authorization, approval, and ratification by the City of the documents, instruments, certifications, and opinions so executed and the action so taken.

**Section 12.** If any one or more of the provisions of this Ordinance should be determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be contrary to law, then such provisions shall be deemed severable from the remaining provisions of this Ordinance and the invalidity thereof shall in no way affect the validity of the other provisions of this Ordinance or of the Note and the owner of the Note shall retain all the rights and benefits accorded to it under this Ordinance and under any applicable provisions of law.

If any provisions of this Ordinance shall be held or deemed to be or shall, in fact, be inoperative or unenforceable or invalid in any particular case in any jurisdiction or jurisdictions, or in all cases because it conflicts with any constitution or statute or rule of public policy, or for any other reason, such circumstances shall not have the effect of rendering the provision in question inoperative or unenforceable or invalid in any other case or circumstances, or of rendering any other provision or provisions herein contained inoperative or unenforceable or invalid to any extent whatever.

**Section 13.** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect and after its passage, approval and publication in pamphlet form as provided by law.

Passed and approved this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2025.

CITY OF FRIEND, NEBRASKA

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judith K. Knoke, Mayor

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Heather Varney, Deputy City Clerk

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
STATE OF NEBRASKA  
COUNTY OF SALINE  
CITY OF FRIEND, NEBRASKA  
PROMISSORY NOTE, SERIES 2025**

No. R-1

**\$630,000**

<u>Date of Issue</u>	<u>Date of Maturity</u>	<u>Rate of Interest</u>
October __, 2025	September 30, 2027	WSJ Prime Rate minus 1.25%

**REGISTERED OWNER: CITIZENS STATE BANK**

**PRINCIPAL AMOUNT: \$630,000**

The CITY OF FRIEND, NEBRASKA (the “City”), hereby acknowledges itself to owe and for value received promises to pay to the Registered Owner specified above, or registered assigns, the principal sum of **Six Hundred Thirty Thousand (\$630,000)** or so much thereof as is disbursed and remains outstanding hereunder as shown on the records of the Registered Owner hereof, not to exceed the Principal Amount specified above with interest thereon from the Date of Issue shown above at the interest rate per annum, specified above, payable annually on September 30 of each year, commencing September 30, 2026 and at the Date of Maturity (each of such dates an “**Interest Payment Date**”). Such interest shall be computed daily on the then outstanding unpaid balance of the Principal Amount at the then current Rate of Interest and on the basis of a 360/366-day year and actual days elapsed. The principal of this Note (the “Note”) is payable upon presentation and surrender of the same at the office of the Treasurer of the City, the registrar and paying agent (the “**Registrar**”). Interest on this Note will be paid by check or draft mailed on each Interest Payment Date by the Registrar to the Registered Owner of this Note, as shown on the books of record maintained by the Registrar to such owner’s address as shown on such books and records.

This Note evidences a revolving line of credit. Advances under this Note may be made upon written request submitted only by the Registrar; provided, however, the Registered Owner shall have no obligation to advance funds under this Note if the City is in default under the terms of this Note. City agrees to be liable for all sums advanced under this Note and other amounts described in this Note.

The issuance of this Note was authorized by Ordinance No. 25-810 duly passed and adopted by the Mayor and Council on **October \_\_, 2025** (the “Ordinance”) in strict compliance with the provisions of Sections 18-1750, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, as amended, for the purpose of providing funds to pay certain expenses of Warren Memorial Hospital (Friend Community Healthcare Systems), owned and operated by the City. Reference is hereby made to the Ordinance, all of the provisions of which any owner of this Note by its acceptance hereof thereby assents, for a description of the nature and extent of the security for the Note, the covenants of the City and the taxes, funds and revenues pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on the Note. A certified copy of the Ordinance is on file at the office of the Council.

Prepayment of all or any portion of the principal may be made at any time at the option of the City without premium.

If City shall fail to pay any sums hereunder when due, or if an Event of Default shall occur as defined below, then, and in any or all such events, the entire then outstanding unpaid balance of the Principal

Amount, together with all accrued and unpaid interest thereon and any other sums due and payable hereunder, shall at the option of the Registered Owner, become immediately due and payable without further notice or demand. The failure of the Registered Owner to exercise its option to accelerate or any of the rights to which the Registered Owner may be entitled shall not constitute a waiver of the right to exercise such option or any other right in the event of any subsequent default whether of the same or different nature. For purposes of this Note, an Event of Default shall include the following:

1. If the City shall fail to pay when due any amount payable under this Note or shall fail to comply with any of the other terms of this Note, time being of the essence; or
2. If the City shall file or there shall be filed against the City, a petition in bankruptcy, readjustment, liquidation, dissolution or similar relief under the Bankruptcy Code of the United States or under any other applicable federal, state or other statute or law, or if a receiver, trustee or liquidator shall have been appointed with respect to the City, or all or any substantial part of the City's property.

In the event it becomes necessary for the Registered Owner to employ legal counsel or to take legal action to collect any sums due hereunder, to enforce any provisions hereof or to protect any of the Registered Owner's rights hereunder, the City agrees to pay to the Registered Owner, to the extent permitted by law, in addition to taxable costs of any legal proceedings or actions, reasonable attorney fees actually incurred, and all costs of preparation and conduct of such proceedings, all of which shall be and become a part of the amount due hereunder.

This Note is to be construed according to the laws of the State of Nebraska. Remedies of Registered Owner as provided in this Note shall be cumulative and concurrent and may be pursued singly, successively, or together against the City at the sole discretion of the Registered Owner, and any such remedies shall not be exhausted by any exercise thereof but may be exercised as often as the occasion therefore shall occur. Registered Owner shall not by any acts of admission or commission be deemed to have waived any rights or remedies hereunder unless such waiver is in writing and signed by the Registered Owner, and then only to the extent specifically set forth therein; a waiver on one event shall not be construed as continuing or as a bar to or waiver of such right or remedy on a subsequent event.

The Note is issuable as a fully registered Note as provided in the Ordinance. This Note is transferable by the Registered Owner or such owner's attorney duly authorized in writing at the office of the Registrar in Friend, Nebraska upon surrender and cancellation of this Note, and thereupon a new Note of the same aggregate principal amount, interest rate and maturity will be issued to the transferee as provided in the Ordinance, subject to the limitations therein prescribed. The City, the Registrar and any other person may treat the person in whose name this Note is registered as the absolute owner hereof for the purpose of receiving payment due hereunder and for all purposes and shall not be affected by any notice to the contrary, whether this Note be overdue or not.

**IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED AND WARRANTED** that all conditions, acts and things required by law to exist or to be done precedent to and in the issuance of this Note did exist, did happen and were done and performed in regular and due form and time as required by law and that the indebtedness of the City, including this Note, does not exceed any limitation imposed by law. The City agrees that it shall pay the principal of and interest on this Note from the net revenues of Warren Memorial Hospital (Friend Community Healthcare Systems) and to cause to be levied and collected annually a special levy of taxes on all the taxable property in the City to pay the principal of and interest on the Note as the same become due to the extent such net revenues are insufficient.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Mayor and Council have caused this Note to be executed on behalf of the City by the manual signatures of its Mayor and Clerk, all as of the Date of Issue shown above.

CITY OF FRIEND, NEBRASKA

ATTEST:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy City Clerk

*[The remainder of this page intentionally left blank.]*