

VILLAGE OF HAIGLER MINUTES FOR REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING –
FEBRUARY 4, 2026

The regular meeting of the Village of Haigler Board was held on February 04, 2026 at 7:00p.m. at the Village Board room. Notice of Meeting was posted in advance at the Haigler US Post Office, Family Market and Haigler Country Café. The Agenda for the Meeting was posted and available at the Village office. Notice of this meeting, along with the Agenda, were delivered to the Board of Trustees in advance and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of said things is kept on file at the Village office.

Chairperson Irwin called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m. and stated that the meeting was an open meeting of the Village of Haigler, which abides by the Open Meetings Act in conducting business. A copy of the Open Meetings Act was displayed on the West wall of the Village Board room as required by state law.

Present by roll call vote were Board Members Haskell, Irwin, Gregory and Noffsinger. Tafoya arrived at 7:04p.m. Others present were Superintendent Casey Richard, Clerk/Treasurer Karen Testa, Deputy Sheriff/K9 Handler Preston and community member, Rick Morris. There were no public comments.

In Reports – Sheriff’s Department – The January 2026 Sheriff’s Dept. report was submitted in advance via email by Chief Deputy Lucci and handed out by the Clerk. A copy of the Sheriff’s Report is kept on file at the Village office.

Dundy County Commissioner: No one was present to give a report.

Clerk: Karen gave her clerk report from prepared notes, a copy of which is kept on file at the Village office. In regard to status of water/sewer/trash bill payments: A total of 12 Disconnect Notice letters for the month of January were mailed out on January 07, 2026. All payments were received by the official water shut-off date of January 15, 2026. A total of 10 Past Due Notice letters for bills that were due by January 15th, 2026 were mailed out January 23, 2026. Disconnect Notice letters will be mailed February 09, 2026 after checking in with SWPPD (who does our billing) for an update on payments that morning. The official water shutoff date is February 18, 2026. The Village received a 2024- 2025 Worker’s Compensation Final Audit Statement from League Association of Risk Management (LARM) informing us on the completion of our recent Payroll Audit that was done in January. Upon completion, the Village has a credit of \$136.83. Conversation was had with a customer service representative from Quick Books on January 9th, 2026 and they are renewing the 12-month promotional special on our subscriptions. Payroll Core will be locked in at \$25.00 per month. QuickBooks Online Essentials will be locked in at \$32.50 per month. A charge of \$6/month for each active employee will still transpire. LB 289- is a legislative bill that was passed in 2025 that provides a procedure for a Village Board to initially comprised of either 3 or 5 members and that an existing Village Board of 5 members may be decreased to 3 members if a petition is filed to do so, signed by at least 5% of the electors registered to vote in the Village at the preceding statewide general election. If the measure is affirmed by a vote of the Village residents, the board will thereafter consist of 3 rather than 5 members. LB 289 sets forth the procedure in detail and if a Village decides to take this action, it is advised to seek legal advice on the process. If the Board is wanting to discuss this further, it can be added for the March Board Meeting. As a reminder, Keith Haskell, Monte Noffsinger and JoAnn Tafoya’s Elected Official terms are up in December 2026; the Village of Haigler will have 3 vacancies listed in the General election. Due to the recent change in Superintendent and Clerk/Treasurer positions, updates to the Emergency Response Plan, Emergency Contact List, Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) and NE 811 Members List for the Village of Haigler for 2026 were all submitted last month.

Superintendent/Maintenance: Casey gave his Superintendent/Maintenance report from prepared notes, a copy of which is kept on file at the Village office. Well readings were sent to the state of Nebraska. Coliform testing was done in January. The Christmas lighting/decorations were removed at the beginning of the month of January. Maintenance was performed on the following motors: power washer, generator and water pump.

Marking of waterline valves for spring valve testing (exercising) was completed. The windows have been cleaned on the Village building. On January 16th, 2026 there was a power outage due to the high winds that day. There was a frozen pipe break at a resident’s house; it was quickly resolved. Repairs were done on 3 RO systems and 1 filter replacement. Repairs were completed to a blown-out window, a downed fence and tumbleweeds were removed from the fence at the wells. Water meter readings were completed on January 20th, 2026. Updates were done to match the RO filter schedule to be in sync with the Nebraska State arsenic testing schedule. Shop clean-up and inventory are ongoing. A resident conducting community service assisted in the clean-up behind the shop and storage building. Due to the burn ban and the unseasonably dry conditions, the Tree Dump is reaching full capacity. Crushed concrete will have to be sourced to facilitate maintenance/repairs at the sewer lagoons. Crushed concrete, crushed granite, gravel, paint, etc. will need to be sourced this calendar year. A 90% response on the residential backflow surveys is required by Nebraska Department of Water, Energy and Environment (NDWEE); this survey is taken every 5 years for municipalities by NDWEE.

Irwin made a motion, seconded by Noffsinger, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on January 07, 2026. Yes votes: Tafoya, Noffsinger, Gregory, Irwin and Haskell. Motion carried. A copy of the Minutes is kept on file at the Village office and also posted on the website.

Tafoya made a motion, seconded by Haskell, to decline to pay the Nebraska UC Fund Voluntary Contribution Payment of \$487.91 due to it not saving the Village money. Yes votes: Irwin, Tafoya, Gregory, Haskell and Noffsinger. Motion carried.

Noffsinger made a motion, seconded by Irwin, to approve to pay the February 2026 Claims. Yes votes: Gregory, Haskell, Noffsinger, Irwin and Tafoya. Motion carried. A copy of the Claims is kept on file at the Village office.

Salaries (DD, DD)	General (Superintendent & Clerk/Treasurer)	\$ 8,249.01
IRS/941 payroll taxes (ACH)	General (941 payroll taxes)	\$ 2,774.93
Nebraska Department of Revenue (ACH)	General (NE Monthly Income/Payroll Taxes)	\$ 325.58
Nebraska Department of Revenue (ACH)	General (Form 10, Monthly Sales & Use Tax)	\$ 153.97
Dundy County Treasurer	General (Dundy County Sheriff Contract)	\$ 840.00
BWTelecom	General/FD (Telephone)	\$ 314.52
SWPPD	Utilities/Billing	\$ 1,093.34
St Francis Equity	Street/Water/Sewer/Park/Fire (Gas/Oil)	\$ 214.85
American Ag Lab	Water (Testing)	\$ 27.56
NE Public Health Environmental Lab	Water (Testing)	\$ 194.00
Waste Connections of NE, Inc.	Solid Waste (Contract)	\$ 2,568.46
Scoop Media	General (Publications)	\$ 70.38
Southwest Nebraska Clerks Association	General (Dues/Subs.)	\$ 10.00
Municipal Supply, Inc. Of Nebraska	Water (R/M)	\$ 583.12
Quality Farm & Ranch Center - Ace Wray	General (office supplies/R/M), Water (R/M)	\$ 101.90
Pinnacle Bank - Insurance Account (Bank Transfer)	General (Insurance) to build acct for Annual LARM pymt	\$ 1,250.00
Pinnacle Bank - Water Improvement Account (Bank Transfer)	Water (to build acct for Annual USDA loan pymt)	\$ 1,100.00
Pinnacle Bank - Street Account (Bank Transfer)	Street (25% Hwy Allocation of January pymt received)	\$ 785.32
Pinnacle Bank - Credit Card (ACH)	Water/General (Postage), General (Dues/Subs/Office Supplies)	\$ 486.59
	TOTAL	\$ 21,143.53

Regarding the former Clerk/Treasurer’s payroll for the January 2026 pay period, Daniela’s letter of resignation at the March 2025 Meeting was initially for December 31, 2025. Due to the timeline of finding a replacement for the position so much later in the year and with the Holidays and vast amount of information required to transfer from Clerks, it was required to approve paying Daniela Thorn for her hours.

Gregory made a motion, seconded by Haskell, to approve the February 2026 Treasurer’s Report. Yes votes: Irwin, Haskell, Noffsinger, Gregory and Tafoya. Motion carried. A copy of the report is kept on file at the Village Office.

After completing the mandatory Planning Overview webinar, the Village is waiting on next steps from West Central Nebraska Development District in regard to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

Haskell made a motion, seconded by Gregory, to approve the American Legion Hall's Special Designated License (SDL) for liquor sales for an event on March 07, 2026. Yes votes: Gregory, Irwin, Noffsinger, Irwin and Tafoya. Motion carried.

Janelle Irwin requested Board approval on the street closure for the annual Aaron Irwin Memorial Car Show; this event is during a time where the life of an admired former Village resident and Veteran is honored. The Car Show takes place on Saturday, May 30, 2026 and features a car show, a food truck and a cornhole and a horseshoe tournament. This is the one day out of the year that cones will be placed to temporarily block off Main Street from Highway 34 to the end of Newark Street from 9:00a.m. to 3:30p.m. This event brings an influx of people from surrounding areas to this small town, fostering a deeper sense of community and providing an opportunity to support the local economy and businesses. Haskell made a motion, seconded by Noffsinger, to approve the street closure for the Annual Aaron Irwin Memorial Car Show to be held on Main Street in Haigler on May 30th, 2026 from 9:00a.m. to 3:30p.m. Yes votes: Tafoya, Gregory, Haskell and Noffsinger. Abstain: Irwin. Motion carried.

Haskell made a motion, seconded by Tafoya, to approve permission for a resident to put in a culvert to their property with no costs associated to the Village based on municipal code. Yes votes: Gregory, Tafoya, Haskell, Noffsinger and Irwin. Motion carried.

Regarding the unpaid presence of the former Superintendent as of January 1st, 2026, James Thorn will be donating occasional unpaid personal time to assist in the transition process.

Regarding the unpaid presence of the former Clerk/Treasurer as of February 1st, 2026, Daniela Thorn will be donating personal time in February to complete a Clerk/Treasurer user guide for the Village of Haigler.

Discussion was had in regard to a frozen valve on the Village of Haigler fire truck. Fire Chief Olson will do research for the process that is involved to fix the frozen valve on the fire truck and will follow up with the Village. Discussion will continue at the next Board Meeting.

Board member Haskell, former Clerk/Treasurer Daniela Thorn and current Clerk/Treasurer Karen Testa attended the Dundy County Commissioner's Meeting on February 2nd, 2026 to discuss payment structure and arrangements with Dundy County for Emergency Director Expenses associated with Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP); the Village will await to hear from the Commissioners and/or Clerk for a follow-up meeting date.

The next Regular Meeting will be held March 04, 2026 starting at 7:00p.m.

There being no further business, Chairperson Irwin adjourned the meeting at 7:55p.m. A complete copy of the Minutes is available for viewing at the Village office, or on the website at: www.haiglerne.com/boardoftrustees. Please be advised that the Clerk has within 10 working days after a Board Meeting to prepare the Meeting Minutes for public viewing; Minutes are approved at the next scheduled Board Meeting.

Signed, Karren Testa, Village Clerk

Chairperson, Janelle Irwin

Village Clerk, Karen Testa