

MEETING OF THE CHEYENNE COUNTY
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER AUTHORITY BOARD

The Cheyenne County Emergency Communications Center Authority Board held an open and public meeting on January 20, 2026 in the Cheyenne County Commissioners' Meeting room, Cheyenne County Court House, 1000 10th Avenue, Sidney, Nebraska. A notice of this meeting was published in the Sidney Sun-Telegraph on January 1, 2026, posted on the bulletin board in the County Courthouse and on the Cheyenne County website. A copy of the agenda was posted on the Court House bulletin board and on the Cheyenne County website, transmitted to each member and kept current and available to the public at the County Clerk's Office.

Chairman Darrell Johnson called the meeting to order at 1:35 P.M., with the following members present: Commissioner Darrell Johnson, Interim City Director Josh Hansen, Sheriff Adam Frerichs, Chief Sam Lovato. Absent was Sheriff Scott Decoste. Also present were Communications Center Director Heidi Gillespie, Cheyenne County Clerk Jordan Hajek, Communication Center Deputy Monique Christensen.

Chairman Johnson announced a current copy of the Open Meetings Law is posted on the wall in the Commissioners Meeting Room.

The minutes of the meeting on October 20, 2025, were reviewed. A motion was made by Frerichs, seconded by Hansen to approve the minutes as written. Motion passed unanimously.

The current agenda has been reviewed. A motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Frerichs, to approve the agenda as written. Motion passed unanimously.

Introductions of guests in attendance were as follows: Matthew Butts, John Stellar, Shannon Odiet and Jason Petik.

Chairman Johnson then called for nominations for Chairman of the Cheyenne County Emergency Communications Center Authority Board for the year 2026. A motion was made by Frerichs to nominate Darrell Johnson for Chairman and to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Darrell Johnson for Chairman of the Cheyenne County Emergency Communications Center Authority Board for the year 2026. Lovato seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Johnson called for nominations for Vice-Chairman of the Cheyenne County Emergency Communications Center Authority Board for the year 2026. A motion was made by Frerichs to nominate Josh Hansen for Vice-Chairman and to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Josh Hansen for Vice-Chairman of Cheyenne County Emergency Communications Center Authority Board for the year 2026. Lovato seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Next, Chairman Johnson called for nominations for citizen-at-large member of the Cheyenne County Emergency Communications Center Authority Board for the year 2026. A motion was made by Hansen to nominate Shannon Odiet for citizen-at-large and to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Shannon Odiet for citizen-at-large of Cheyenne County Emergency Communications Center Authority Board for the year 2026. Lovato seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Communications Center Director Heidi Gillespie updated the Board on Center activities. Director Gillespie presented the board with concerns regarding radio etiquette and not using the challenge and reply method when calling out. Director Gillespie offered her training materials and the attendees present agreed to have her share those materials.

Next Director Heidi Gillespie addressed the Board regarding lift assists. Director Gillespie received a letter from NIRMA that states if they receive a call for lift assists and the citizen declines receiving a lift assist, she is still obligated to send the ambulance due to liability.

2:16 P.M., a motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Lovato to enter into executive session to discuss salary for Communications Center Director Heidi Gillespie. Motion passed unanimously.

At 2:25 P.M., a motion was made by Hansen, seconded by Lovato to exit executive session. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of the salary of Communications Center Director Gillespie will be held in a Special Meeting February 12, 2026, for a performance review to discuss salary increase. A motion was made by Frerichs, seconded by Hansen to have a Special Meeting to discuss salary. Motion passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be February 12, 2026 at 1:30 P.M., in the County Commissioners Meeting room, Cheyenne County Court House, 1000–10th Avenue, Sidney, Nebraska.

There were no comments from the public.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:31 P.M.



Jordan Hajek
Recording Secretary