Dawes County, Nebraska

Independent Auditor's Reports and Financial Statements

Year Ended June 30, 2025

DAWES COUNTY, NEBRASKA

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DAWES COUNTY, NEBRASKA
451 Main St
Chadron, NE 69337

LIST OF COUNTY OFFICIALS
At June 30, 2025

Title	Name	Term Expires
Board of Commissioners	Jake Stewart	Jan. 2027
	Valentin Rivera	Jan. 2027
	Walt Juhlin	Jan. 2029
Assessor	Roberta Coleman	Jan. 2027
Planning & Zoning		Appointed
Attorney	Vance Haug	Jan. 2027
Clerk Election Commissioner Register of Deeds	Cheryl Feist	Jan. 2027
Clerk of the District Court	Celeste Cattin	Jan. 2027
Sheriff	Jeff Johns	Jan. 2027
Treasurer	Sam Wellnitz	Jan. 2027
Public Defender	Becca Chasek	Jan. 2029
Veterans' Service Officer	Robert Jordan	Appointed
Weed Superintendent	Dan Wordekemper	Appointed
Highway Superintendent	Wade Yada	Appointed
Emergency Manager	Nan Gould	Appointed
Tourism Director	Kerri Rempp	Appointed

Lengemann & Associates, P.C.
Certified Public Accountants
www.lengemanncpa.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Commissioners
Dawes County, Nebraska

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of Dawes County, Nebraska (the County), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash basis financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the County as of June 30, 2025, and the respective changes in cash basis financial position for the year then ended in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the County and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinions are not modified with respect to this matter.

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Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 1, and for determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the County's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements. The accompanying combining nonmajor funds financial statement, budgetary comparison information, schedule of office activities, and schedule of taxes certified and collected, as listed in the table of contents, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 9, 2026, on our consideration of the County's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Lengemann & Associates, P.C.
Papillion, Nebraska
July 9, 2026

DAWES COUNTY

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION – CASH BASIS

June 30, 2025

	Governmental Activities
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 5,860,595
Investments	322,246
TOTAL ASSETS	$ 6,182,841
NET POSITION	
Restricted for:	
Visitors Promotion	$ 250,560
911 Emergency Services	205,746
Drug Education/Enforcement	47,368
Law Enforcement	16,725
Preservation of Records	31,249
Debt Service	116,754
Road/Bridge Maintenance	855,565
Community Development	99,003
Federal Relief	139,531
Total Restricted	1,762,501
Unrestricted	4,420,340
TOTAL NET POSITION	$ 6,182,841

DAWES COUNTY

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES – CASH BASIS

Year Ended June 30, 2025

FUNCTIONS:	Cash Disbursements	Program Cash Receipts: Fees, Fines, and Charges for Services	Program Cash Receipts: Operating Grants and Capital Contributions	Net (Disbursements) Receipts and Changes in Net Position
Governmental Activities:				
General Government	$ (3,475,643)	$ 303,919	$ 58,909	$ (3,112,815)
Public Safety	(1,604,194)	228,336	1,458	(1,374,400)
Public Works	(2,193,604)	1,470	1,346,186	(845,948)
Public Health	(28,119)	-	-	(28,119)
Public Assistance	(175,035)	-	-	(175,035)
Culture and Recreation	(295,233)	-	20,288	(274,945)
Debt Service	(97,595)	-	-	(97,595)
Total Governmental Activities	$ (7,869,423)	$ 533,725	$ 1,426,841	(5,908,857)
General Receipts:				
Taxes				5,173,883
Investment Income				305,530
Grants and Contributions				228,233
Miscellaneous				158,607
Total General Receipts				5,866,253
Changes in Net Position				(42,604)
Net Position – Beginning				6,225,445
Net Position – Ending				$ 6,182,841

DAWES COUNTY

STATEMENT OF CASH BASIS ASSETS AND FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

June 30, 2025

	General Fund	Road Fund	Inheritance Fund	Highway Bridge Buyback Fund	Nonmajor Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS						
Cash and Cash Equivalents	$ 1,952,539	$ 129,417	$ 2,118,865	$ 830,281	$ 829,493	$ 5,860,595
Investments	59,459	3,941	64,523	25,284	169,039	322,246
TOTAL ASSETS	$ 2,011,998	$ 133,358	$ 2,183,388	$ 855,565	$ 998,532	$ 6,182,841
FUND BALANCES						
Restricted for:						
Visitor Promotion	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 250,560	$ 250,560
911 Emergency Services	-	-	-	-	205,746	205,746
Drug Education/Enforcement	-	-	-	-	47,368	47,368
Law Enforcement	-	-	-	-	16,725	16,725
Preservation of Records	-	-	-	-	31,249	31,249
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	116,754	116,754
Road/Bridge Maintenance	-	-	-	855,565	-	855,565
Community Development	-	-	-	-	99,003	99,003
Federal Relief	-	-	-	-	139,531	139,531
Committed to:						
Road Maintenance	-	133,358	-	-	-	133,358
Aid and Assistance	-	-	-	-	6,565	6,565
Appraisal of Property	-	-	-	-	85,031	85,031
Assigned to:						
Other Purposes	-	-	2,183,388	-	-	2,183,388
Unassigned	2,011,998	-	-	-	-	2,011,998
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	$ 2,011,998	$ 133,358	$ 2,183,388	$ 855,565	$ 998,532	$ 6,182,841

DAWES COUNTY

STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	General Fund	Road Fund	Inheritance Fund	Highway Bridge Buyback Fund	Nonmajor Funds	Total Governmental Funds
RECEIPTS						
Taxes	$ 4,634,958	$ 196	$ 164,170	$ -	$ 374,559	$ 5,173,883
Investment Income	305,530	-	-	-	-	305,530
Intergovernmental	306,936	1,230,664	-	152,862	43,663	1,734,125
Charges for Services	527,137	1,598	-	-	4,990	533,725
Miscellaneous	54,581	132	-	-	24,843	79,556
TOTAL RECEIPTS	5,829,142	1,232,590	164,170	152,862	448,055	7,826,819
DISBURSEMENTS						
General Government	3,285,257	-	-	-	190,386	3,475,643
Public Safety	1,457,250	-	-	-	146,944	1,604,194
Public Works	115,376	1,914,978	-	-	163,250	2,193,604
Public Health	28,119	-	-	-	-	28,119
Public Assistance	106,620	-	-	-	68,415	175,035
Culture and Recreation	-	-	-	-	295,233	295,233
Debt Service:						
Principal Payments	-	-	-	-	75,200	75,200
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	-	-	-	22,395	22,395
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	4,992,622	1,914,978	-	-	961,823	7,869,423
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	836,520	(632,388)	164,170	152,862	(513,768)	(42,604)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)						
Transfers in	-	400,000	-	-	101,780	501,780
Transfers out	(497,780)	-	-	-	(4,000)	(501,780)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	(497,780)	400,000	-	-	97,780	-
Net Change in Fund Balances	338,740	(282,388)	164,170	152,862	(415,988)	(42,604)
FUND BALANCES – BEGINNING	1,673,258	415,746	2,019,218	702,703	1,414,520	6,225,445
FUND BALANCES – ENDING	$ 2,011,998	$ 133,358	$ 2,183,388	$ 855,565	$ 998,532	$ 6,182,841

DAWES COUNTY

STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION - CASH BASIS

Year ended June 30, 2025

	Custodial Funds
ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	$ 593,763
NET POSITION	
Restricted for:	
State – Collected by County Treasurer	$ 176,038
State – Collected by Other Offices	10,881
Schools	242,951
Educational Service Units	3,991
Technical College	4,932
Natural Resource Districts	3,458
Fire Districts	4,784
Municipalities	48,266
Agricultural Society	1,411
Others – Collected by County Treasurer	54,205
Others – Collected by Other Offices	42,846
TOTAL NET POSITION	$ 593,763

DAWES COUNTY

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION - CASH BASIS

Year ended June 30, 2025

	Custodial Funds
ADDITIONS	
Collections for Other Governments	$ 18,565,545
Miscellaneous Collections	871,413
TOTAL ADDITIONS	19,436,958
DEDUCTIONS	
Payments to Other Governments	18,494,948
Other Miscellaneous Items Paid to Individuals	850,448
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	19,345,396
NET INCREASE IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION	91,562
NET POSITION – BEGINNING OF YEAR	502,201
NET POSITION – END OF YEAR	$ 593,763

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies utilized in the accounting system of Dawes County.

A. Reporting Entity

Dawes County, Nebraska, (County) is a governmental entity established under and governed by the laws of the State of Nebraska (State). The County is managed by county officials who are elected on a political ballot for four-year terms. As a political subdivision of the State, the County is exempt from State and Federal income taxes. The financial statements include all funds of the County that are not legally separate. The County has also considered all potential component units for which it is financially accountable, as well as other organizations that are either fiscally dependent on the County or maintain a significant relationship with the County, such that exclusion would be misleading or incomplete. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. These criteria include appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body, and (1) the ability of the County to impose its will on that organization, or (2) the potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on, the County. The County is also considered financially accountable if an organization is fiscally dependent on and there is potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on, the County regardless of whether the organization has (1) a separately elected governing board, (2) a governing board appointed by a higher level of government, or (3) a jointly appointed board.

As required by Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), these financial statements present the County (the primary government). No component units were identified.

Joint Organization

Behavioral Health Region I – The County has entered into an agreement with surrounding counties and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services to provide services to carry out the provisions of the Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act (Act). Agreements were established under the authority of the Interlocal Cooperation Act for services to be provided under the Act. Region I (Region) consists of the following counties: Sioux, Dawes, Box Butte, Sheridan, Scotts Bluff, Morrill, Garden, Banner, Kimball, Cheyenne, and Deuel.

The governing board for the Region includes representatives from the participating county boards. Each county contributes to the financial support of the Region activities based on formulas developed by the Region governing board and as required by the Act. Funding is provided by a combination of Federal, State, local, and private funding. The County contributed $30,650 toward the operation of the Region during fiscal year 2025. In the event of the termination of the agreement, assets would be disposed of in accordance with the terms of the agreement. The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services requires the Region to be audited annually in accordance with State statute. Financial information for the Region is available in those audit reports.

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

A. Reporting Entity (continued)

Joint Organization (continued)

Health Department – The County has entered into an agreement with the Panhandle Public Health Department (Department) to provide public health services. The agreement was established under authority of the Interlocal Cooperation Act for services to be provided per Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 71-1626 to 71-1636 (Reissue 2018).

The Department's governing board is established by statute and includes representatives from the participating county boards and the health profession. Funding is provided by a combination of Federal, State, local, and private funding. The County did not contribute toward the operation of the Department during fiscal year 2025. In the event of the termination of the agreement, assets would be disposed of in accordance with the terms of the agreement. The Department is audited in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-304(4) (Reissue 2024). Financial information for the Department is available in that report.

B. Basis of Presentation

Government-Wide Financial Statements. The Statement of Net Position – Cash Basis and Statement of Activities – Cash Basis display information about the activities of the County and are in the format of government-wide statements, as required by GASB Statement Number 34. These statements include all the financial activities of the County, except for fiduciary activities. Internal activities in these statements were considered immaterial and have not been eliminated. Governmental Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) requires internal activity to be eliminated to minimize double counting. The County reports governmental activities only. Governmental activities are generally financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts, and other nonexchange transactions. The County is reported separately from certain legally separate component units for which the primary government is financially accountable. The Statement of Net Position presents the County's non-fiduciary assets in two categories:

> **Restricted.** This category results when constraints are externally imposed on net asset use by creditors, grantors, or contributors, or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the County's policy to use restricted resources first, then the unrestricted resources as they are needed.
>
> **Unrestricted.** This category represents resources that do not meet the definition of the preceding category. Unrestricted resources often have constraints on resources that are imposed by management, but those constraints can be removed or modified.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct disbursement of a given function or segment is offset by program receipts. Direct disbursements are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program receipts include the following: 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment; and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program receipts are reported instead as general receipts.

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

B. Basis of Presentation (continued)

Fund Financial Statements. The fund financial statements provide information about the County's funds, including its fiduciary funds. GAAP requires separate statements by fund category – governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary. The County uses only the governmental and fiduciary fund categories. The County Board is the highest level of decision-making authority and has the authority, by resolution, to establish, modify or rescind the commitment or assignment of a fund balance to a specific purpose. When resources for a specific purpose are available in more than one fund balance classification, the County's policy is to use resources in the following order: restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds. All remaining governmental funds are aggregated and reported as nonmajor funds.

The County reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund. This is the County's primary operating fund. It accounts for financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Road Fund. This fund is used to account for costs associated with the repair and maintenance of roads and bridges and is primarily funded by State tax receipts.

Inheritance Fund. This fund is used to account for the receipts generated from inheritance taxes and is used for various projects.

Highway Bridge Buyback Fund. This fund is used to account for costs associated with the repair and maintenance of roads and bridges in the County and is primarily funded by amounts received from the State of Nebraska through the Federal Funds Purchase Program.

The County reports the following additional nonmajor governmental fund types:

Special Revenue Funds. These funds account for the proceeds from a specific receipt source that is restricted to disbursements for a specified purpose.

Custodial Funds. These funds account for assets held by the County as an agent for various local governments.

Debt Service Fund. The Dunlap Road Project Fund accounts for the resources for, and the payment of, general long-term debt principal, interest, and related costs.

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

B. Basis of Presentation (continued)

The County designates fund balances as follows:

Restricted. The fund balance is restricted by external impositions, such as creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments.

Committed. The fund balance has been designated by the County Board for a specific purpose.

Assigned. The fund balance has not been designated by the County Board for a specific purpose, but it has been separated based on the type of revenue.

Unassigned. This portion of the General Fund is not restricted, committed, or assigned for a specific purpose.

C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus and basis of accounting. The accounting records of the County are maintained and the government-wide financial statements were reported on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements. As such, the measurement focus includes only those assets and fund balances arising from cash transactions on the Statement of Net Position – Cash Basis and the Statement of Activities – Cash Basis. Receipts are recognized when received, and disbursements are recognized when paid. This differs from governmental GAAP, which requires the government-wide and fiduciary fund financial statements to be reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Under this measurement focus and basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when earned, and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

The governmental fund financial statements were also reported on the cash receipt and disbursement basis of accounting. As such, the same measurement focus and basis of accounting were used, as described above. This differs from governmental GAAP, which requires governmental fund financial statements to be reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this measurement focus the basis of accounting, revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. Expenditures are generally recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, expenditures related to compensated absences, and claims and judgments are recorded only when payment is due.

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. Assets and Net Position

Cash and Cash Equivalents. The County's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, certificates of deposit, and demand deposits.

Investments. The types of investments in which the County is authorized to invest funds are enumerated in Neb. Rev. Stat. 77-2315, 77-2340, and 77-2341 (Reissue 2018, Cum. Supp. 2024) and generally include U.S. Government obligations and securities, which are authorized by the Nebraska Investment Council.

Capital Assets. Under the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting, capital assets are not capitalized in the funds used to acquire or construct them. Instead, capital acquisitions are reflected as disbursements in governmental funds. GAAP requires capital assets, which would include property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets (e.g., roads, bridges, sidewalks, and similar items), to be reported in the applicable governmental activities columns in the government-wide financial statements.

Depreciation expenses on capital assets were not recorded on the cash basis financial statements. Under GAAP, depreciation expenses would be recorded in the Statement of Activities. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that does not add to the value of the asset or extend asset life is not capitalized.

Compensated Absences. Vested or accumulated vacation leave that is liquidated with expendable available financial resources is reported as a disbursement of the County funds as paid. Upon termination, employees are paid for any unused vacation. Under the receipts and disbursements basis of accounting, the liabilities for compensated absences are not reported since they do not represent liabilities arising from cash transactions. Under GAAP, the compensated absences liability would be reported in the government-wide financial statements and would be recorded in accordance with the County's policy, which is to recognize the expense and accrued liability when vacation and compensatory leave is earned.

Restricted Net Position. When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the County's policy to use restricted resources first, then the unrestricted resources, as they are needed. Net position is reported as restricted when constraints placed on its use are either externally imposed or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. The government-wide statement of net position reports $1,762,501 of restricted net position which is fully restricted by enabling legislation.

Budgetary Process. The County adopts an annual budget in accordance with the statutory requirements of the Nebraska Budget Act and County Budget Act of 1937. The budget is prepared on the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. The budget contains only those receipts actually received by the County Treasurer. The County does not utilize an encumbrance accounting system. All appropriated spending authority lapses at the end of the fiscal year.

NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

D. Assets and Net Position (continued)

On or before August 1, the County budget-making authority prepares and transmits a budget for each County fund to the County Board. The budget includes the requirements, the outstanding warrants, the operating reserves to be maintained, the cash on hand at the close of the preceding fiscal year, the receipts from sources other than taxation, and the amount to be raised by taxation. The County Board must hold at least one public hearing on the proposed budget. On or before September 20, the County Board adopts the budget and appropriates the amounts specified in the budget for the departments, offices, activities, and funds of the County.

The County Board is authorized to transfer budgeted amounts between departments within any fund through resolution; however, if revisions are made that alter the total disbursement of any fund, an additional public hearing must be held. The legal level of budgetary control for the General Fund is at the function level, and the special revenue fund types are at the fund level. The County board is also authorized to budget for the transfer of money between County funds.

NOTE 2 – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

The County has generally pooled the cash resources of the various funds for investment purposes. Interest earned on pooled funds is credited to the County General Fund in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. 77-2315 (Reissue 2018).

At year end, the County's carrying amount of deposits was $6,182,841 for County funds and $593,763 for Fiduciary funds. The bank balances for all funds totaled $6,458,088. For purposes of classifying categories of custodial risk, the bank balances of the County's deposits, as of June 30, 2025, were either entirely insured or collateralized with securities held by the County's agent in the County's name.

The County's carrying value of investments is stated at cost, which approximates market. Investments of $322,246 are deposited in the Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust (NPAIT). The U.S. Government Securities were held by the County or its agent in the name of the County. NPAIT is a public entity investment pool operated under the direction of a nine-member Board of Trustees. All net income of the trust is determined as of the close of business on each banking day and is credited thereafter pro rata to each participant's account. Net income that has accrued to each participant is converted as of the close of business of each calendar month into additional units, which thereafter are held in each participant's trust account. Since net income of the fund is allocated among participants each time net income is determined, the net asset value remains at $1.00 per unit. Securities held by NPAIT are not held in the County's name.

NOTE 3 – TAXES

Property taxes are levied by the County Board on or before October 15 of each year for all political subdivisions in the County. Real estate and personal property taxes are due and attach as an enforceable lien on January 1 following the levy date, and they become delinquent in two equal installments on May 1 and September 1. Motor vehicle taxes are due when application is made for registration of a motor vehicle.

Counties are permitted by the State Constitution to levy a tax of up to $.50/$100 of assessed valuation for general governmental services other than the payment of principal and interest on bonded debt. Counties may levy taxes in addition to the 50-cent limitation upon a vote of the people.

The levy set in October 2024, for the 2024 taxes which will be materially collected in May and September 2025, was set at $.355792/$100 of assessed valuation. The levy set in October 2023, for the 2023 taxes, which were materially collected in May and September 2024, was set at $.376961/$100 of assessed valuation. The amount collected for the motor vehicle tax is outlined in State statute.

Additionally there is currently a statutory lid limitation, which limits taxation to the prior year's level, with provisions for growth. The lid may be increased by 1% upon the approval of a three-fourths majority of the County Board.

NOTE 4 – RETIREMENT SYSTEM

The Retirement System for Nebraska Counties (the Plan) is a multiple-employer plan administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board in accordance with the provisions of the County Employees Retirement Act. The Plan consists of a defined contribution option and a cash balance benefit. The cash balance benefit is a type of defined benefit plan. The Plan provisions are established under Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 23-2301 through 23-2334 (Reissue 2022, Supp. 2023, 2024 Neb. Laws, L.B. 198, § 4) and may be amended through legislative action.

Participation in the Plan is required of all full-time employees. Part-time (working less than one – half of the regularly scheduled hours) employees may elect voluntary participation upon reaching age 18. Part-time elected officials may exercise the option to join.

County employees and elected officials contribute 4.5% of their total compensation. In addition, the County contributes an amount equal to 150% of the employee's contribution. The contribution rates are established by § 23-2307 and § 23-2308 and may be amended through legislative action. The employee's and employer's contributions are kept in separate accounts. The employee's account is fully vested. The employer's account is fully vested after three years of participation in the system or credit for participation in another governmental plan prior to actual contribution to the Plan. Non-vested County contributions are forfeited upon termination. Forfeitures are used to cover a portion of the pension plan's administrative expenses. Prior service benefits are paid directly by the County to the retired employee. The Plan's financial statements, including pension costs and obligations, are audited annually and can be obtained from the State of Nebraska Public Employees Retirement System.

NOTE 4 – RETIREMENT SYSTEM (Continued)

A supplemental retirement plan was established on January 1, 2003, for the benefit of all present and future commissioned law enforcement personnel employed by the County. Employees contribute 2% of their salary, and the County contributes an amount equal to 100% of the employee's contribution. In a defined contribution plan, benefits depend solely on amounts contributed to the Plan plus investment earnings.

For the year ended June 30, 2025, 80 employees contributed $135,418, and the County contributed $202,527. The County contributes towards the supplemental law enforcement plan for eight law enforcement employees. Lastly, the County paid $504 directly to nine retired employees for prior service benefits.

NOTE 5 – RISK MANAGEMENT

The County is exposed to various risks of loss related to the following: torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The County is a member of the Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Association (NIRMA), a public entity risk pool currently operating as a common risk management and insurance program for 112 counties and local governments throughout Nebraska.

The County pays an annual deposit premium, as calculated by the administrator of the pool. The premium is based on the losses and exposures of each County and the entire pool. If the pool becomes insolvent or otherwise unable to discharge its legal liabilities and obligations, the County may be assessed for an additional contribution. Each county remains liable for such assessments, regardless of the county's withdrawal from participation or the termination of the agreement, as well as for liabilities of the pool incurred during the county's period of membership.

The agreement with NIRMA requires the risk pool to provide coverage for up to a maximum amount per occurrence and purchase commercial insurance for claims in excess of coverage provided. In the event of a liability exceeding the commercial insurance, the County would be responsible for funding the excess amount.

	NIRMA Coverage	Maximum Coverage
General Liability Claim	$ 500,000	$ 5,000,000
Workers' Compensation Claim	$ 550,000	Statutory Limits
Property Damage Claim	$ 500,000	Insured Value at Replacement Cost

The County has not paid any additional assessments to the pool or paid out any amounts that exceeded coverage provided by the pool in the last three fiscal years. There were no significant reductions in insurance coverage from the prior year coverage.

NOTE 6 – INTERFUND TRANSFERS

Interfund transfers for the year ended June 30, 2025, consisted of the following:

	Transfers from		
Transfers to	General Fund	Nonmajor Funds	Total
Road Fund	$ 400,000	$ -	$ 400,000
Nonmajor	97,780	4,000	101,780
Total	$ 497,780	$ 4,000	$ 501,780

Transfers are used to move unrestricted receipts collected in the General Fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations.

NOTE 7 – LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

Bonds

The County issued bonds on August 15, 2019, in the amount of $1,140,000 for the purpose of paying the costs of constructing certain road improvements within the County. The bond payable balance, as of June 30, 2025, was $755,000. The County has the ability to levy taxes as necessary to cover the annual required principal and interest payments over the term of these bonds. Future tax resources will be used to pay off the bonds.

Long-Term Obligations

Future Payments:

Year	Principal	Interest	Total
2026	$ 75,000	$ 20,657	$ 95,657
2027	75,000	19,120	94,120
2028	80,000	17,170	97,170
2029	80,000	15,090	95,090
2030	85,000	13,010	98,010
2031-2034	360,000	32,850	392,850
Total Payments	$ 755,000	$ 117,897	$ 872,897

NOTE 8 – CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

From time to time, the County is a defendant in various lawsuits. Although the outcome of these lawsuits is not presently determinable, the County Attorney believes the resolution of these matters will not have a materially adverse effect on the financial condition of the County.

NOTE 9 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated all subsequent events through July 9, 2026 that may have required and adjustment to, or inclusion in, the financial statements. The County had no subsequent events for inclusion in these financial statements.

DAWES COUNTY

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
GENERAL FUND

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
RECEIPTS				
Taxes	$ 4,562,831	$ 4,562,831	$ 4,634,958	$ 72,127
Investment Income	50,500	50,500	305,530	255,030
Intergovernmental	300,436	300,436	306,936	6,500
Charges for Services	465,900	465,900	527,137	61,237
Miscellaneous	41,000	41,000	54,581	13,581
TOTAL RECEIPTS	5,420,667	5,420,667	5,829,142	408,475
DISBURSEMENTS				
General Government:				
County Board	83,442	83,442	80,189	3,253
County Clerk	211,748	211,748	208,500	3,248
County Treasurer	246,624	246,624	226,676	19,948
County Assessor	224,333	224,333	213,755	10,578
Election Commissioner	24,275	24,275	13,217	11,058
Building and Zoning	16,560	16,560	16,442	118
Clerk of the District Court	104,020	104,020	100,943	3,077
County Court System	156,800	156,800	144,519	12,281
District Judge	79,200	79,200	43,927	35,273
Public Defender	106,983	106,983	108,531	(1,548)
Buildings and Grounds	119,888	119,888	112,231	7,647
Agricultural Extension Agent	113,344	113,344	86,223	27,121
Miscellaneous	2,048,719	2,048,719	1,930,104	118,615
Public Safety				
County Sheriff	377,174	377,174	333,638	43,536
County Attorney	194,824	194,824	188,630	6,194
Communication Office	65,750	65,750	30,051	36,699
Crawford Law Enforcement	207,604	207,604	205,137	2,467
County Attorney Child Support	49,261	49,261	47,744	1,517
County Jail	667,554	667,554	612,057	55,497
Predatory Animal Control	90,872	90,872	39,993	50,879
Public Works				
County Surveyor	15,000	15,000	5,925	9,075
Noxious Weed Control	130,600	130,600	109,451	21,149
Public Health				
Alcohol & Drug Abuse	17,000	17,000	28,119	(11,119)
Public Assistance				
County Relief	11,460	11,460	8,185	3,275
Veterans' Service Officer	102,360	102,360	97,433	4,927
Institutions	25,701	25,701	1,002	24,699
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	5,491,096	5,491,096	4,992,622	498,474
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	(70,429)	(70,429)	836,520	906,949

(Continued)

DAWES COUNTY

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
GENERAL FUND

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in	-	-	-	-
Transfers out	(952,829)	(952,829)	(497,780)	455,049
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	(952,829)	(952,829)	(497,780)	455,049
Net Change in Fund Balance	(1,023,258)	(1,023,258)	338,740	1,361,998
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	1,673,258	1,673,258	1,673,258	-
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	$ 650,000	$ 650,000	$ 2,011,998	$ 1,361,998

(Concluded)

DAWES COUNTY

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
OTHER MAJOR FUNDS

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
ROAD FUND				
RECEIPTS				
Taxes	$ 196	$ 196	$ 196	$ -
Intergovernmental	1,230,319	1,230,319	1,230,664	345
Charges for Services	1,500	1,500	1,598	98
Miscellaneous	-	-	132	132
TOTAL RECEIPTS	1,232,015	1,232,015	1,232,590	575
DISBURSEMENTS	2,202,810	2,202,810	1,914,978	287,832
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSMENTS	(970,795)	(970,795)	(682,388)	288,407
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES				
Transfers in	855,049	855,049	400,000	(455,049)
Transfers out	-	-	-	-
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	855,049	855,049	400,000	(455,049)
Net Change in Fund Balance	(115,746)	(115,746)	(282,388)	(166,642)
FUND BALANCE – BEGINNING	415,746	415,746	415,746	-
FUND BALANCE – ENDING	$ 300,000	$ 300,000	$ 133,358	$ (166,642)
INHERITANCE FUND				
RECEIPTS				
Taxes	$ 75,000	$ 75,000	$ 164,170	$ 89,170
TOTAL RECEIPTS	75,000	75,000	164,170	89,170
DISBURSEMENTS	2,094,218	2,094,218	-	2,094,218
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSMENTS	(2,019,218)	(2,019,218)	164,170	2,183,388
Net Change in Fund Balance	(2,019,218)	(2,019,218)	164,170	2,183,388
FUND BALANCE – BEGINNING	2,019,218	2,019,218	2,019,218	-
FUND BALANCE – ENDING	$ -	$ -	$ 2,183,388	$ 2,183,388

(Continued)

DAWES COUNTY

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
OTHER MAJOR FUNDS

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
HIGHWAY BRIDGE BUYBACK FUND				
RECEIPTS				
Intergovernmental	$ 152,862	$ 152,862	$ 152,862	$ -
TOTAL RECEIPTS	152,862	152,862	152,862	-
DISBURSEMENTS	855,565	855,565	-	855,565
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSMENTS	(702,703)	(702,703)	152,862	855,565
Net Change in Fund Balance	(702,703)	(702,703)	152,862	855,565
FUND BALANCE – BEGINNING	702,703	702,703	702,703	-
FUND BALANCE – ENDING	$ -	$ -	$ 855,565	$ 855,565

(Concluded)

DAWES COUNTY

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
NONMAJOR FUNDS

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
VISITORS PROMOTION FUND				
Receipts	$ 133,370	$ 133,370	$ 128,805	$ (4,565)
Disbursements	(173,903)	(173,903)	(154,037)	19,866
Net Change in Fund Balance	(40,533)	(40,533)	(25,232)	15,301
Fund Balance – Beginning	40,533	40,533	40,533	-
Fund Balance – Ending	$ -	$ -	$ 15,301	$ 15,301
VISITORS IMPROVEMENT FUND				
Receipts	$ 132,000	$ 132,000	$ 126,851	$ (5,149)
Disbursements	(381,604)	(381,604)	(141,196)	240,408
Net Change in Fund Balance	(249,604)	(249,604)	(14,345)	235,259
Fund Balance – Beginning	249,604	249,604	249,604	-
Fund Balance – Ending	$ -	$ -	$ 235,259	$ 235,259
REAPPRAISAL FUND				
Receipts	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Disbursements	(129,800)	(129,800)	(44,769)	85,031
Transfers in	58,769	58,769	58,769	-
Transfers out	-	-	-	-
Net Change in Fund Balance	(71,031)	(71,031)	14,000	85,031
Fund Balance – Beginning	71,031	71,031	71,031	-
Fund Balance – Ending	$ -	$ -	$ 85,031	$ 85,031
PRESERVATION & MODERNIZATION FUND				
Receipts	$ 4,000	$ 4,000	$ 4,990	$ 990
Disbursements	(31,118)	(31,118)	(859)	30,259
Net Change in Fund Balance	(27,118)	(27,118)	4,131	31,249
Fund Balance – Beginning	27,118	27,118	27,118	-
Fund Balance – Ending	$ -	$ -	$ 31,249	$ 31,249
VETERANS AID FUND				
Receipts	$ -	$ -	$ 16	$ 16
Disbursements	(8,252)	(8,252)	(1,703)	6,549
Net Change in Fund Balance	(8,252)	(8,252)	(1,687)	6,565
Fund Balance – Beginning	8,252	8,252	8,252	-
Fund Balance – Ending	$ -	$ -	$ 6,565	$ 6,565
DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT & EDUCATION FUND				
Receipts	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Disbursements	(9,488)	(9,488)	-	9,488
Net Change in Fund Balance	(9,488)	(9,488)	-	9,488
Fund Balance – Beginning	9,488	9,488	9,488	-
Fund Balance – Ending	$ -	$ -	$ 9,488	$ 9,488

(Continued)

DAWES COUNTY

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
NONMAJOR FUNDS

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
GRANT FUND				
Receipts	$ 32,333	$ 32,333	$ 28,932	$ (3,401)
Disbursements	(43,856)	(43,856)	(23,730)	20,126
Transfers in	-	-	-	-
Transfers out	(4,000)	(4,000)	(4,000)	-
Net Change in Fund Balance	(15,523)	(15,523)	1,202	16,725
Fund Balance – Beginning	15,523	15,523	15,523	-
Fund Balance – Ending	$ -	$ -	$ 16,725	$ 16,725
CDBG GRANT FUND				
Receipts	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Disbursements	(220,094)	(220,094)	(121,091)	99,003
Transfers in	4,000	4,000	4,000	-
Transfers out	-	-	-	-
Net Change in Fund Balance	(216,094)	(216,094)	(117,091)	99,003
Fund Balance – Beginning	216,095	216,095	216,094	-
Fund Balance – Ending	$ -	$ -	$ 99,003	$ 99,003
EMERGENCY 911 FUND				
Receipts	$ 17,000	$ 17,000	$ 20,119	$ 3,119
Disbursements	(66,300)	(66,300)	(42,258)	24,042
Transfers in	39,011	39,011	39,011	-
Transfers out	-	-	-	-
Net Change in Fund Balance	(10,289)	(10,289)	16,872	27,161
Fund Balance – Beginning	10,289	10,289	10,289	-
Fund Balance – Ending	$ -	$ -	$ 27,161	$ 27,161
911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND				
Receipts	$ 42,000	$ 42,000	$ 47,440	$ 5,440
Disbursements	(254,101)	(254,101)	(80,956)	173,145
Net Change in Fund Balance	(212,101)	(212,101)	(33,516)	178,585
Fund Balance – Beginning	212,101	212,101	212,101	-
Fund Balance – Ending	$ -	$ -	$ 178,585	$ 178,585
DUNLAP ROAD PROJECT FUND				
Receipts	$ 75,558	$ 75,558	$ 77,462	$ 1,904
Disbursements	(97,445)	(97,445)	(97,595)	(150)
Net Change in Fund Balance	(21,887)	(21,887)	(20,133)	1,754
Fund Balance – Beginning	136,887	136,887	136,887	-
Fund Balance – Ending	$ 115,000	$ 115,000	$ 116,754	$ 1,754
OPIOID RECOVERY FUND				
Receipts	$ 12,000	$ 12,000	$ 13,423	$ 1,423
Disbursements	(36,457)	(36,457)	-	36,457
Net Change in Fund Balance	(24,457)	(24,457)	13,423	37,880
Fund Balance – Beginning	24,457	24,457	24,457	-
Fund Balance – Ending	$ -	$ -	$ 37,880	$ 37,880

(Continued)

DAWES COUNTY

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
NONMAJOR FUNDS

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
LOCAL ASSIST & TRIBAL CONSISTENCY FUND				
Receipts	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Disbursements	(206,069)	(206,069)	(66,712)	139,357
Net Change in Fund Balance	(206,069)	(206,069)	(66,712)	139,357
Fund Balance – Beginning	206,069	206,069	206,069	-
Fund Balance – Ending	$ -	$ -	$ 139,357	$ 139,357
COVID AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUND				
Receipts	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Disbursements	(187,074)	(187,074)	(186,900)	174
Net Change in Fund Balance	(187,074)	(187,074)	(186,900)	174
Fund Balance – Beginning	187,074	187,074	187,074	-
Fund Balance – Ending	$ -	$ -	$ 174	$ 174

(Concluded)

DAWES COUNTY

COMBINING STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES NONMAJOR FUNDS

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Visitors Promotion Fund	Visitors Improvement Fund	Reappraisal Fund	Preservation & Modernization Fund	Veterans Aid Fund
RECEIPTS					
Taxes	$ 114,851	$ 114,851	$ -	$ -	$ 16
Intergovernmental	2,534	12,000	-	-	-
Charges for Services	-	-	-	4,990	-
Miscellaneous	11,420	-	-	-	-
TOTAL RECEIPTS	128,805	126,851	-	4,990	16
DISBURSEMENTS					
General Government	-	-	44,769	859	-
Public Safety	-	-	-	-	-
Public Health	-	-	-	-	-
Public Works	-	-	-	-	-
Public Assistance	-	-	-	-	1,703
Culture and Recreation	154,037	141,196	-	-	-
Debt Service:					
Principal Payments	-	-	-	-	-
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	154,037	141,196	44,769	859	1,703
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	(25,232)	(14,345)	(44,769)	4,131	(1,687)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES					
Transfers in	-	-	58,769	-	-
Transfers out	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	-	-	58,769	-	-
Net Change in Fund Balances	(25,232)	(14,345)	14,000	4,131	(1,687)
FUND BALANCES – BEGINNING	40,533	249,604	71,031	27,118	8,252
FUND BALANCES – ENDING	$ 15,301	$ 235,259	$ 85,031	$ 31,249	$ 6,565

(Continued)

DAWES COUNTY

COMBINING STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES NONMAJOR FUNDS

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Drug Law Enforcement & Education Fund	Grant Fund	CDBG Grant Fund	Emergency 911 Fund	911 Wireless Service Fund
RECEIPTS					
Taxes	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 20,119	$ 47,440
Intergovernmental	-	28,932	-	-	-
Charges for Services	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL RECEIPTS	-	28,932	-	20,119	47,440
DISBURSEMENTS					
General Government	-	-	121,091	-	-
Public Safety	-	23,730	-	42,258	80,956
Public Works	-	-	-	-	-
Public Health	-	-	-	-	-
Public Assistance	-	-	-	-	-
Culture and Recreation	-	-	-	-	-
Debt Service:					
Principal Payments	-	-	-	-	-
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	-	23,730	121,091	42,258	80,956
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	-	5,202	(121,091)	(22,139)	(33,516)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES					
Transfers in	-	-	4,000	39,011	-
Transfers out	-	(4,000)	-	-	-
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	-	(4,000)	4,000	39,011	-
Net Change in Fund Balances	-	1,202	(117,091)	16,872	(33,516)
FUND BALANCES – BEGINNING	9,488	15,523	216,094	10,289	212,101
FUND BALANCES – ENDING	$ 9,488	$ 16,725	$ 99,003	$ 27,161	$ 178,585

(Continued)

DAWES COUNTY

COMBINING STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES NONMAJOR FUNDS

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Dunlap Road Project Fund	Opioid Recovery Fund	Local Assistance & Tribal Consistency Fund	COVID American Rescue Plan Fund	Total Nonmajor Funds
RECEIPTS					
Taxes	$ 77,282	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 374,559
Intergovernmental	197	-	-	-	43,663
Charges for Services	-	-	-	-	4,990
Miscellaneous	-	13,423	-	-	24,843
TOTAL RECEIPTS	77,479	13,423	-	-	448,055
DISBURSEMENTS					
General Government	17	-	-	23,650	190,386
Public Safety	-	-	-	-	146,944
Public Works	-	-	-	163,250	163,250
Public Assistance	-	-	66,712	-	68,415
Culture and Recreation	-	-	-	-	295,233
Debt Service:					
Principal Payments	75,200	-	-	-	75,200
Interest and Fiscal Charges	22,395	-	-	-	22,395
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	97,612	-	66,712	186,900	961,823
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	(20,133)	13,423	(66,712)	(186,900)	(513,768)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES					
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	101,780
Transfers out	-	-	-	-	(4,000)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	-	-	-	-	97,780
Net Change in Fund Balances	(20,133)	13,423	(66,712)	(186,900)	(415,988)
FUND BALANCES – BEGINNING	136,887	24,457	206,069	187,074	1,414,520
FUND BALANCES – ENDING	$ 116,754	$ 37,880	$ 139,357	$ 174	$ 998,532

(Concluded)

DAWES COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF OFFICE ACTIVITIES

Year Ended June 30, 2025

	County Clerk	Clerk of the District Court	County Sheriff	Veterans Service Officer	Employee Cafeteria Plan	Total
BALANCES, BEGINNING	$ 14,179	$ 33,897	$ 5,603	$ 5,148	$ 14,008	$ 72,835
RECEIPTS						
Charges for Services	72,273	15,254	19,788	1,702	-	109,017
State Fees	122,309	13,118	-	-	-	135,427
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	6,824	6,824
Other Liabilities	2,101	262,029	23,838	-	-	287,968
TOTAL RECEIPTS	196,683	290,401	43,626	1,702	6,824	539,236
DISBURSEMENTS						
Payments to County Treasurer	71,493	16,085	21,026	-	-	108,604
Payments to State Treasurer	122,309	14,206	-	-	-	136,515
Petty Cash & Other Payments	-	-	-	1,702	14,348	16,050
Other Liabilities	465	250,271	24,204	-	-	274,940
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	194,267	280,562	45,230	1,702	14,348	536,109
BALANCES, ENDING	$ 16,595	$ 43,736	$ 3,999	$ 5,148	$ 6,484	75,962
BALANCES CONSIST OF:						
Due to County Treasurer	$ 6,385	$ 843	$ 3,375	$ 5,148	$ 6,484	22,235
Due to State Treasurer	10,110	771	-	-	-	10,881
Petty Cash	-	-	-	-	-	-
Due to Others	100	42,122	624	-	-	42,846
BALANCES, ENDING	$ 16,595	$ 43,736	$ 3,999	$ 5,148	$ 6,484	75,962

DAWES COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF TAXES CERTIFIED AND COLLECTED FOR ALL POLITICAL SUBDIVSIONS IN THE COUNTY

Year Ended June 30, 2025

Item	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Tax Certified by Assessor	$ 15,212,692	$ 15,465,498	$ 16,129,550	$ 16,953,431	$ 13,797,523
Corrections:					
Net Additions/(Deductions)	(21,131)	(25,508)	(18,921)	(11,157)	(73,197)
Corrected Certified Tax	15,191,561	15,439,990	16,110,629	16,942,274	13,724,326
Net Tax Collected by County Treasurer during Fiscal Year Ending:					
June 30, 2021	9,024,305	-	-	-	-
June 30, 2022	6,171,176	9,463,339	-	-	-
June 30, 2023	7,291	5,980,172	9,672,408	-	-
June 30, 2024	(15,326)	(11,504)	6,419,112	10,181,309	-
June 30, 2025	1,518	2,821	8,792	6,732,785	8,348,263
Total Net Collections	15,188,964	15,434,828	16,100,312	16,914,094	8,348,263
Total Uncollected Tax	$ 2,597	$ 5,162	$ 10,317	$ 28,180	$ 5,376,063
Percentage Uncollected Tax	0.02%	0.03%	0.06%	0.17%	39.17%

Note: Tax refunds are netted against tax collections to determine Net Tax Collected.

Lengemann & Associates, P.C.
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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

Board of Commissioners
Dawes County, Nebraska

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of Dawes County, Nebraska (the County), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated July 9, 2026. The report notes the financial statements were prepared on the cash basis of accounting.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the County's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the County's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We identified certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as items 2025-001 and 2025-002 that we consider to be a significant deficiencies.

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Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the County's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Additional Items

We also noted certain matters that we reported to the management of Dawes County in a separate letter dated July 9, 2026.

The County's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the County's response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. The County's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the County's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Lengemann & associates, P.C.

Lengemann & Associates
Papillion, Nebraska
July 9, 2026

DAWES COUNTY

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES

Year Ended June 30, 2025

Reference Number	Significant Deficiency
2025-001	Financial Statement Preparation

Criteria or Specific Requirement

Internal Controls should be in place to provide for preparation of the financial statements and notes in accordance with the cash basis of accounting.

Condition

The Board of Commissioners has engaged an outside audit firm to prepare the financial statements and notes in accordance with the cash basis of accounting.

Effect

The entity is not able to prepare the financial statements and notes in accordance with the cash basis of accounting.

Cause

The entity does not have an internal control system designed to prepare the financial statements and notes in accordance with the cash basis of accounting.

Recommendation

We recommend the Board of Commissioners and Officers stay involved in the process to ensure oversight over the nonaudit service of the preparation of the financial statements by the outside audit firm.

Response

The Board of Commissioners has designated competent individuals to oversee the preparation of the financial reports. The Board will oversee and monitor the transactions being reported and will accept responsibility for the financial reports.

DAWES COUNTY, NEBRASKA

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS

Year Ended June 30, 2025

Reference Number	Significant Deficiency
2025-002	Lack of Segregation of Duties

Criteria or Specific Requirement

The Entity maintains an internal control system designed to provide for the adequate segregation of duties.

Condition

Due to the size of the County staff, there is limited segregation of duties over bookkeeping functions.

Effect

When one or even two individuals are responsible for all accounting functions on a day-to-day basis, without adequate oversight:

- Intentional or unintentional errors could be made and not detected.
- Transactions could be coded in the wrong accounts or classes.
- Entries could be made to cover up fraud (fraudulent financial reporting or misappropriation of assets).

Cause

The County has limited staff size.

Recommendation

We highly recommend the Board of Commissioners and Officers continue to review, implement and monitor their financial policies and procedures to segregate duties to the extent possible and to implement additional oversight, including maximizing the Board involvement in oversight, questioning transactions and reviewing the monthly financial reports.

Views of Responsible Officials and Planned Corrective Action

The Board of Commissioners and Officers indicated that they recognize that the concentration of these accounting procedures is weak from the standpoint of effective internal control. However, they informed us that they will continue to update, implement and monitor their financial policies, but in view of the limited number of accounting department personnel and cost considerations, adding personnel would not be practical.

DAWES COUNTY, NEBRASKA

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS

Year Ended June 30, 2025

Reference Number	Prior Audit Findings and Status
2024-001	Lack of Segregation of Duties - Same as 2025-002.

Lengemann & Associates, P.C.
Certified Public Accountants
www.lengemanncpa.com

July 9, 2026

Board of Commissioners
Dawes County, Nebraska

Dear Commissioners:

We have audited the basic financial statements of Dawes County (County) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, and have issued our report thereon dated July 9, 2026. In planning and performing our audit of the basic financial statements of the County, we considered internal control in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the basic financial statements. An audit does not include examining the effectiveness of internal control and does not provide assurance on internal control. We also performed tests of the County's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants.

During our audit, we noted certain matters involving internal control over financial reporting and other operational matters that are presented here. These comments and recommendations are intended to improve the internal control over financial reporting or result in operational efficiencies in the following areas:

COUNTY TREASURER

Fund and Bank Account Balances Do Not Agree

The County Treasurer opened two bank accounts with Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust (NPAIT) dedicated specifically towards holding funds for the Local Assistance & Tribal Consistency Fund and the COVID American Rescue Plan Fund. However, the County Treasurer was not reconciling the fund balances to the bank balances for these accounts.

The following table details the variances identified as of June 30, 2025:

Fund Name	Fund Balance	Bank Balance	Variance
Local Assistance & Tribal Consistency Fund	$ 139,357	$ 156,662	$ 17,305
COVID American Rescue Plan Fund	$ 174	$ 46,177	$ 46,003

Good internal controls and sound accounting practices require procedures to ensure that bank balances agree to fund balances for any bank accounts dedicated towards holding money for a specific fund, and all interest earned is coded to the correct account code in the accounting system.

Without such procedures, there is an increased risk for not only loss or misuse of County funds but also material financial statement misstatements.

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A similar finding was noted in the prior audit.

> We recommend the County Treasurer implement procedures to ensure bank balances agree to fund balances for any bank accounts dedicated towards holding money for a specific fund.

Daily Balance Sheet and Accounting System Variances

During the audit, we noted that the total fund balances recorded in the County Treasurer's accounting system were understated by $1,816 at June 30, 2025, compared to the actual money in his custody per the Daily Balance Sheet (DBS), which the County Treasurer uses to reconcile the activity and balances occurring in the County Treasurer's bank accounts to the activity and fund balances recorded in the accounting system. The County Treasurer was unable to explain the specific issue(s) causing the variance noted.

As shown in the table below, similar unknown variances have been noted during the last three audits. These discrepancies indicate that, although the County Treasurer may be attempting to reconcile the financial activity and balances of his office, such attempts are proving consistently unsuccessful:

Fiscal Year	Variance Noted
FY 2023	$ 3,989
FY 2024	$ 1,622
FY 2025	$ 1,816

Good internal controls and sound accounting practices require procedures to ensure that the total fund balance in the accounting system agrees to the total amount of money in the County Treasurer's custody, as identified on the DBS, and any variances noted are resolved in a timely manner.

Without such procedures, there is an increased risk for not only loss, theft, or misuse of funds, but also material financial statement misstatements to occur and remain undetected.

A similar issue was noted during the prior audit.

> We recommend the County Treasurer implement procedures to ensure the total fund balance in the accounting system agrees to the total amount of money in the County Treasurer's custody, as identified on the DBS, and any variances noted are resolved in a timely manner.

Very truly yours,

Lengemann & associates, P.C.

LENGEMANN & ASSOCIATES, P.C.
Papillion, NE