

Dakota County Board of Equalization
Monday, January 5, 2026
2:45 p.m. Regular Meeting
County Board Meeting Room, First Floor
Dakota County Courthouse, Dakota City, Nebraska

Chair Van Berkum called the Board of Equalization meeting to order at 2:45 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present: Van Berkum, Bousquet, Reed, Hohenstein, Rodriguez. Absent: None. Also present was Stephanie Gatzemeyer, Treasurer, Christy Abts, Assessor, Kim Watson, County Attorney and Cherie Conley, County Clerk as Board Secretary. The Open Meetings Act location was noted for all citizens in attendance.

The agenda for this meeting was as follows:

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL – Excused Absence

A current copy of the *Open Meetings Act* is posted on the west wall near the entrance of the County Board Meeting Room and is available for review by all citizens in attendance.

The Dakota County Board of Equalization reserves the right to adjust the order of items on this agenda if necessary.

1. RE-ORGANIZATION

- a. Nomination for Chairperson §23-156
- b. Nomination for Vice-Chairperson

2. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of the previous minutes – December 8, 2025.
- b. Approval of the time of regular Board of Equalization meetings for 2:45 p.m.

3. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Hearing for Heartland Counseling Services Inc., application for Exemption from Motor Vehicle Taxes by Qualifying Nonprofit Organization for a 2012 Dodge Grand SXT Van VIN# 2C4RDGCG9CR190646. The vehicle is used to provide community support services, crisis response, peer support and daily support services to clients. Application comes with recommendation of approval by Stephanie Gatzemeyer, Treasurer. §60-3,185 and §60-3,189
 - Board to consider the recommendation of the County Treasurer and any other information it may obtain; and shall approve or deny the exemption on the basis of law and of rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the Tax Commissioner. §77-202(1)(c)(d)
- b. Christy Abts, Assessor, requesting approval of tax list corrections.(If any)

4. MAIL AND/OR EMERGENCY BUSINESS

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

6. ADJOURNMENT

Board Member Reed moved, seconded by Board Member Bousquet to nominate Brian Van Berkum as Board of Equalization Chairperson. ROLL CALL VOTE: Bousquet-Yes, Reed-Yes, Hohenstein-Yes, Rodriguez-Yes, Van Berkum-Yes. UNANIMOUS MOTION CARRIED.

Board Member Reed moved, seconded by Board Member Bousquet to nominate Rogelio Rodriguez for Board of Equalization Vice-Chairperson. ROLL CALL VOTE: Reed-Yes, Hohenstein-Yes, Rodriguez-Yes, Van Berkum-Yes, Bousquet-Yes. UNANIMOUS MOTION CARRIED.

Board Member Hohenstein moved, seconded by Board Member Rodriguez to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2025 meeting. ROLL CALL VOTE: Hohenstein-Yes, Rodriguez-Yes, Van Berkum-Yes, Bousquet-Yes, Reed-Yes. UNANIMOUS MOTION CARRIED.

Board Member Bousquet moved, seconded by Board Member Rodriguez to approve the time for regular Board of Equalization meetings for 2:45 p.m. ROLL CALL VOTE: Rodriguez-Yes, Van Berkum-Yes, Bousquet-Yes, Reed-Yes, Hohenstein-Yes. UNANIMOUS MOTION CARRIED.

Chair Van Berkum called for the hearing at 2:47 pm on the Heartland Counseling Services Inc., application for Exemption from Motor Vehicle Taxes by Qualifying Nonprofit Organization for a 2012 Dodge Grand SXT Van VIN# 2C4RDGCG9CR190646. The vehicle is used to provide community support services, crisis response, peer support and daily support services to clients. Stephanie Gatzemeyer, Treasurer, stated she approves the application. Chair Van Berkum closed the hearing at 2:48 pm. Board Member Bousquet moved, seconded by Board Member Reed, to accept the recommendation of the Dakota County Treasurer and approve the Heartland Counseling Services Inc., application for Exemption from Motor Vehicle Taxes by Qualifying Nonprofit Organization for the 2012 Dodge Grand SXT Van VIN# 2C4RDGCG9CR190646. ROLL CALL VOTE: Van Berkum-Yes, Bousquet-Yes, Reed-Yes, Hohenstein-Yes, Rodriguez-Yes. UNANIMOUS MOTION CARRIED.

There was no mail, emergency business or public comment.

Chair Van Berkum adjourned the January 5, 2026, Board of Equalization meeting at 2:49 p.m.

County Board of Equalization

Brian Van Berkum, Chair

Cherie Conley, County Clerk