

Big Springs Village Board of Trustees
Special Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 13, 2025, 6:00 p.m.
Village Office Meeting Room

Notice was posted at the Post Office, Henderson State Bank, Village Office, and Village website. The meeting complied with the Open Meetings Act, with the poster displayed. Agenda was current and available for public inspection. Meeting was recorded and open to the public.

Purpose: To consider the Special Designated Liquor License application submitted by the Big Springs Fire District for the Annual Bull Fry Fundraiser and to discuss animal control issues.

Roll Call: Present Trustees: Payne, DeCoste, and Huff. Absent Trustees: Everitt, and Thompson. Others present: Village Clerk/Treasurer Tamera Loomis, and Animal Control Logan Gumaer.

Chairman Huff called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Advisory: Chairman Huff announced that a copy of the Nebraska Open Meeting Law Poster is posted on the north wall of the meeting room, accessible to the public.

Special Designated Liquor License – Bull Fry Fundraiser: Trustee Huff moved to approve the Special Designated Liquor License application submitted by the Big Springs Fire District for the Annual Bull Fry Fundraiser scheduled for Saturday, December 6, 2025, from 5:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., and to authorize the Chairman to sign the application. Trustee Payne seconded the motion.

Prior to voting, Trustee DeCoste disclosed that she is a member of the Fire Department and questioned whether she should participate. The Clerk advised that no personal benefit existed; the Board determined that no conflict of interest was present, and Trustee DeCoste voted.

Roll Call Vote: Yea: DeCoste, Payne, and Huff. Motion passed.

Animal Control Program Discussion: Trustee DeCoste reported on requirements under the Nebraska Commercial Dog and Cat Operator Inspection Act, and related regulations obtained from the Nebraska Department of Agriculture. She noted that licensing animal shelters and kennels requires a nonrefundable \$125 application fee, annual inspections by the Department, and recordkeeping of animal acquisition and disposition.

The Board discussed that housing liability could be removed from the Village if arrangements were made with an outside facility for kenneling or sheltering services. Potential options identified included AdoptADog in Chappell, Baltzell Veterinary in Ogallala, and the Animal Clinic in Ogallala or Julesburg. Trustee Huff reported that AdoptADog indicated they could reserve space for the Village at a rate of \$18 per day for impounding dogs.

Concerns were noted regarding the limited hours of availability at outside facilities, which may affect the Village's ability to deliver dogs for impoundment.

Trustee DeCoste agreed to contact AdoptADog, Baltzell Veterinary, and the Animal Clinic to explore possible arrangements and contract options, with information to be presented at the next regular board meeting on Tuesday, December 2, 2025.

Trustees were encouraged to review the Nebraska Revised Statutes chapter dedicated to animal control laws.

Adjournment: Huff moved to adjourn, seconded by DeCoste. Yea: Payne, Huff, and DeCoste. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:29 PM.

Richard Huff, Chairman
Village of Big Springs Board of Trustees

ATTEST:

Tamera Loomis, Village Clerk