Village of Panama

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**July 8, 2025**

Chairman of the Board, Travis Filing called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, and acknowledged the Open Meetings Act located inside the Panama Community Center. Chairman of the Board and Board Members Travis Filing, Jan Hart, Shirley Ele, Larry Gadeken and Tim Watters attendance. Village employee Rita Shea was present. Melissa Languis, Sarah Soflin, and Sue Krogman were in attendance representing Panama Foundation and Panama Community Improvement Group. The agenda was posted on the Village Bulletin Board, US Post Office Bulletin Board, and in the Community Center Window.

**The following motions were duly approved and passed:**

* Filing moved and Watters seconded to approve the Minutes from June 10, 2025.   
  Roll call vote: Filing, Hart, Ele, Gadeken and Watters voted YES. Motion carried.
* Watters moved and Gadeken seconded to approve the claims. Roll call vote: Filing, Hart, Ele, Gadeken and Watters voted YES. Motion carried.
* Filing moved and Ele seconded to approve the Treasurer’s Report.

Roll call vote Filing, Ele, Hart, and Gadeken voted YES. Motion carried.

* Watters motioned and Filing seconded to approve Downey Drilling as the contractor for the replacement and repair of items listed in the April 2025 water audit. The telemetry improvements will not be made at this time. Roll call vote: Filing, Hart, Ele, Gadeken and Watters voted YES. Motion carried.
* Filing motioned and Hart seconded to approve JEO’s assistance, if needed, for a fee up to $600 to assist in the state infrastructure survey. Roll call vote Filing, Ele, Hart, Gadeken, and Watters voted YES. Motion carried.

Claims Approved for Payment: Payroll $6,247.40, Payroll Tax $485.77, Sales & Use Tax $75.17, Gale Huenink Electrical $308.62, BMG $210.00, Jan Hart (reimbursement) $67.36, Rita Shea (reimbursement) $49.57, Lancaster Rural Water Dist. #1 $750.00, NE Environmental Lab $31.00, One Call Concepts $14.03, SAPP Bros $1,519.92, Solheim Law $35.00, US Bank $161.00, Voice $70.87, Black Hills Energy $143.61, Norris Public Power $1,089.27, Uribe $1,631.30, Verizon $202.36. Clerk and Maintenance reports were submitted and discussed with no updates.

Panama Community Improvement Group: Discussed Panama Day locations of activities with the board, and also areas for clean-up. Also discussed fixing the sidewalk in front of the community center before Panama Day.

Panama Area Community Foundation: Purchased Panama flags for the event and requested American flags be put up.

Board discussed street improvements and will contact NL Driveway for estimate and plan to repair this fall. Also discussed having Gale Huenink acting as PRN as needed, paying by the hour. Hart indicated the hand dryer in the men’s bathroom needs to be taken out, and replaced with paper towel dispenser.

Watters motioned and Filing seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:26pm. Roll call vote Filing, Ele, Hart, Gadeken, and Watters voted YES. Motion carried.

Next Village of Panama Board Meeting is Tuesday, August 12, 2025 at 7:00 pm, Transformation Conference Center, 301 Locust, Panama, NE.

Rita Shea, Village Clerk/Treasurer [panamaclerk88@gmail.com](mailto:panamaclerk88@gmail.com)