

Nebraska Travel Association Membership Meeting Minutes

February 11, 2026

Kerrie Rempp called the February 11, 2026, membership meeting of the Nebraska Travel Association to order at 3:30 pm CST. Present in addition to Rempp were Karli Bartz, Anjanette Bonham, Theresa Grape, Steve Maly, Regina Osburn and Fred Uhe. Executive Director Wendy Kreuser and Lobbyist Andy Pollock were also present.

Membership present included Lori Bergman, Visit North Platte; Joanie Brecka, Seward County Visitors Bureau; Pat Coldiron, Seward County Visitors Bureau; Amanda Connick, Visit North Platte; Emma Ebitto, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission; Matt Elston, Visit Sidney/Cheyenne County; Sarah Focke, Visit Kearney; David Fudge, Nebraskaland Days; Traci Jeffrey, Visit Norfolk; Sheila Jenkinson, Growing Small Town Nebraska Podcast; Chris Kreikemeier, Cuming County Visitors Bureau; Roger Kuehn; Jeff Maul, Visit Lincoln; Vanessa McCain, Cuming County Visitors Bureau; Brad Mellema, Visit Grand Island; Stacy Miller, Visit Knox County; Kendra Mitchell, Visit Sidney/Cheyenne County; Christa Monti, Boys Town; Kim Nelson, Kimball County Visitors Committee; Molly Paden, Fremont and Dodge County Convention and Visitors Bureau; Carl Reichart, Cass County Tourism; Shawn Rubek, Visit Keith County; Alex Saathoff, York County Visitors Bureau; William Suit, Visit Alliance; Sherri Twombly, Visit Sidney/Cheyenne County; Tina Worthman, Visit Ghering.

Suit moved and Saathoff seconded to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2025, membership meeting. All members voted to approve.

Osburn delivered the financial report saying that a progressive pay increase has been created to get lobbyist wages to the proper level. Osburn also shared that net income is sitting higher in 2026 than at this time in 2025. Assets and liabilities are sitting similar this time last year.

Maul moved and Jeffrey seconded to approve the financial report. All members voted to approve.

Pollock shared a legislative update. The unicameral is currently on day 25 of a 60-day session and 21 bills that were being watched by NETA were carried over into this session. None of these bills have seen meaningful action. Pollock updated membership on current legislation sharing that NETA is in support of eight bills (LB772, LB778, LB943, LB1058, LB1107, LB1115, LB1116, LB1128), monitoring one bill (LB1151) and opposed to four bills (LB1023, LB1244, LB1257, LB1142). LB1142 is of greatest concern and has been moved from government to banking committee. Pollock stated that NETA will continue to oppose the bill, but all signs are pointing at the bill being dead.

Pollock informed membership that the goal following this session will be to have a conversation about what tourism can do to move forward and away from bills of a similar nature. He also shared that an interim study will be completed regarding why the tourism commission should be kept separate from DED and what tourism has done for the state.

Rempp updated membership on advocacy day stating that all senators have been invited, packets are available and the event will take place at 8:00 AM on Thursday, February 12 in the Capitol Cafeteria.

Rempp shared an update on membership dues. Membership dues go towards paying the NETA lobbyist. Rempp challenged members to go into their communities and find organizations that should become members.

Rempp shared that brochure swap will take place May 13-14, 2026, in Kearney. Kreuser informed membership that a hotel block and details are in the process of being finalized.

Mellema updated membership on UMCVB. This year's conference will be held in Grand Island, Nebraska, September 21-23. Registration starts in March.

Fudge reminded membership that the Nebraska Tourism Commission meets on Thursday, February 12 at 10:00 AM.

Osburn moved and Grape seconded to adjourn the meeting at 4:05 pm.