

Nebraska Hall of Fame Commission Meeting
June 26, 2026 – 1:00 PM (Central Time)

The Meeting was conducted in person and virtually via Teams

The public was invited to attend in person at:
Nebraska State Historical Society Capitol View Room,
1500 R Street, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508
or virtually at: <https://tinyurl.com/32nxeraf>
Meeting ID: 235 582 580 442 800 Passcode: 38NM6RK2

MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order, Welcome

Commission Secretary Daryl Bohac called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Roll Call – Quorum confirmed.

ATTENDING IN PERSON: Sara Crook, Tim Heller, Jim McKee, Jim Rose and Daryl Bohac.
ATTENDING ONLINE: Lisa Roskens
NOT PRESENT: Johnny Rodgers
GUESTS: Debra White, online

Certification of Publication - Notification of Open Meetings Act

- The legal notice required by state statute was published in the *Lincoln Journal Star* on June 19, 2026.
- The meeting complies with the Open Meetings Act.
- A copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act was available on the wall.
- Commission Secretary Daryl Bohac outlined the addition of the virtual option to this meeting and how it meets the Nebraska Open Meetings Act requirements.

Election of Commission Chair

Former chair Sara Crook's appointment had lapsed. Jim McKee nominated Sara Crook as President. Other nominations were called for but none were submitted for consideration.

Motion to approve the President as Nominated

Motion by: MCKEE
Second by: ROSE

Yeas: BOHAC, CROOK, HELLER, MCKEE, ROSE, ROSKENS
Nays: NONE

Abstain: NONE

Motion approved

Passing the Gavel

After the successful election of the President the Secretary passed the gavel to President Sara Crook to preside over the remainder of the meeting.

Review of Minutes from the April 30, 2024 Commission Meeting

Secretary Bohac clarified that members who were absent from the meeting may still vote on approving the minutes.

Motion to approve the April 30, 2024 Meeting Minutes as is.

Motion by: HELLER

Second by: MCKEE

Yeas: BOHAC, CROOK, HELLER, MCKEE, ROSE, ROSKENS

Nays: NONE

Abstain: NONE

Motion approved

Review of LB1159 Legislation

New legislative changes will go into effect on July 18, 2026. Discussion followed on the need to update processes. After July 18, 2026 the Commission may now nominate a living individual before June 30, 2027. Traditional 5-year nomination cycles remain in place. The requirement that nominees be deceased at least 35 years has been removed for all future nominations. Attorney General guidance: the Commission may establish processes but cannot counter legislative intent on that requirement. Concern was expressed that the new regulations may impact the future nomination volume.

Review of Hall of Fame Nominations Received to Date

Eight individuals have been nominated to date. All nominations received so far have been based on the 35-year deceased requirement. No submissions under the new criteria will be accepted until after the law takes effect July 18, 2026 and the application method is clarified. Currently, nominations are being initially reviewed when received to ensure they are complete and an acknowledgement is sent to the nominator. The Commission will conduct an in-depth review of each nomination after the nomination cycle closes in December 2026.

Set Meeting Date for Week of July 20th, 2026

The next meeting of the Commission will be Wednesday, July 22, 2026 at 2:30 pm at the State Capitol building. This will be an in-person meeting only; hybrid meeting not permitted under the current Open Meetings Act limitations.

Extensive discussion occurred regarding how to manage the new living nominee selection by June 30, 2027. A public press release will be issued appropriately announcing the meeting and nomination opportunity. The meeting should be succinct given the unusual nature of this one-time process. Nominations will likely be accepted from the floor at the July meeting with the nominator present rather than via formal packets online. The Commission may later revisit rules for future nomination cycles.

Funds for the special living nominee will come from a private donor, making it a gift to the state. Typical RFP/bidding processes are not required for privately funded artwork. The Commission's standard Hall of Fame bust fund remains at \$10,000 per year allocation from the State until a \$50,000 balance is reached per statute.

Opportunity for Public Questions and Comments

Debra White asked about the Commission membership and vacancies. Currently the Commission is full. A vacancy will open next year as one member is relocating from Nebraska.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.

Motion by: HELLER

Second by: ROSE

Yeas: BOHAC, CROOK, HELLER, MCKEE, ROSE, ROSKENS

Nays: NONE

Abstain: NONE

The meeting was adjourned by President Crook at 1:38 pm

Minutes submitted by:
Daryl Bohac, Secretary

Nebraska Hall of Fame Commission

Minutes remain in Draft status until formally approved at the next commission meeting.