

Commissioner Meeting Minutes

Date: December 16th, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present: Justin Clark, Kevin Stuber, Jerry Sedlacek, Amanda DeWitt, and Bret Heim (arrived at 10:00 a.m.)

Approval of Agenda & Minutes

- Jerry Sedlacek moved to approve the agenda. Kevin Stuber 2nd, motion passed.
- Jerry Sedlacek moved to approve the minutes from the **December 2, 2025** meeting. Kevin Stuber 2nd, motion passed.

Solid Waste Department

- **David Waddell**, Solid Waste Supervisor, reported:
 - The Solid Waste operations plan required updates per KDHE.
 - Updates were submitted and **approved by KDHE**.
 - Billed **9 loads** last week and **8 loads** this week.
 - Plans to replace and rearrange vehicles and equipment in 2026.

Sheriff's Department

- **Jacob Morrison**, Sheriff, requested executive session.

Executive Session

- Jerry Sedlacek moved to recess into executive session to discuss **non-elected personnel** for employee performance with Commissioners, Clerk, Sheriff, and Annette Benteman until **9:11 a.m.**
- Kevin Stuber seconded.
- **Motion passed.**
- Justin Clark arrived at **9:11 a.m.**

Sheriff Update

- Sheriff Morrison reported:
 - Reviewing **Fair Labor 7(k)** exemption for dispatch overtime.
 - Will consult with **Forrest Rhodes** for clarification.
 - Working with **ESU Pursuits** to obtain insurance for new vehicles.
 - One vehicle overheating and scheduled for inspection.
 - Four right-of-way violations remain noncompliant; awaiting notice from Bret Heim to issue fines.
- **Annette Benteman** shared she received a **critical mapping grant** covering:
 - Elementary school
 - High school
 - Football field
 - Mapping will allow dispatch to identify fire alarm locations.

City/Grant Discussion

- Kevin Stuber attended a city council meeting and discussed cost-sharing for a grant writer.
- Discussion to resume after the first of the year.

Road & Bridge Department

- **Gary Ward**, Supervisor, presented the final bill for shop insulation.
 - Kevin Stuber moved to pay **Airtight Insulation** in the amount of **\$16,150**. Jerry Sedlacek 2nd, motion passed.
- Gary Ward presented wage sheets for Dale Steinforth and Todd Green.
 - Justin Clark moved to approve a \$0.50 wage increase for Dale Steinforth for receiving a tanker endorsement effective 12/15/25. Kevin Stuber 2nd, motion passed.
 - Kevin Stuber moved to approve the wage increase for Todd Green effective 12/15/25. Justin Clark 2nd, motion passed.
- Additional updates:
 - Joe Greer released to **full duty**.
 - Two graders currently down for maintenance.
 - Exploring purchase of a **tractor or pickup** to pull road groomer.
 - Commissioners favored purchasing a **used tractor**, pending availability.

Courthouse Maintenance

- Jerry Sedlacek noted rust forming on courthouse step rails.
- Suggested Jarrod McVey paint rails during winter months.

Budget Hearing – Ambulance & Noxious Weed

- **Michelle Zimmerman**, Treasurer, presented budget amendment paperwork.
- Justin Clark opened the budget hearing at **10:00 a.m.**

- Treasurer Zimmerman explained:
 - Noxious Weed budget overestimated in prior years.
 - Amendment will cover cash shortfall.
 - Ambulance amendment covers wage back pay and increases.
- Clarified:
 - No new taxes for 2025.
 - Internal transfers only.
 - Ambulance vehicle replacement postponed.

Motions

- Justin Clark moved to close the budget hearing. Kevin Stuber 2nd, motion passed.
- Justin Clark moved to amend the **2025 Ambulance Budget to \$692,500**. Kevin Stuber 2nd, motion passed.
- Justin Clark moved to amend the **2025 Noxious Weed Budget to \$147,700**. Kevin Stuber 2nd, motion passed.

Public Comment

- **Judie Laws** requested the Commissioners review and update the county website.

Treasurer's Report

- Michelle Zimmerman presented **October department reports**.
 - Justin Clark moved to approve and sign reports. Kevin Stuber 2nd, motion passed.

Executive Sessions

- Justin Clark moved to recess into executive session for **attorney-client privilege** with Commissioners, Counselor, Clerk, and Forrest Rhodes via phone until **10:50 a.m.** Kevin Stuber 2nd, motion passed.
- Jerry Sedlacek moved to recess into executive session for **attorney-client privilege** with Commissioners and Counselor until **11:05 a.m.** Kevin Stuber 2nd, motion passed.
- Kevin Stuber moved to recess into executive session for **confidential data/trade secrets** with Commissioners, Counselor, and Clerk until **11:16 a.m.** Jerry Sedlacek 2nd, motion passed.

County Clerk

- **Amanda DeWitt**, Clerk, reported:
 - A grant opportunity through the Secretary of State's office.
 - Requested approval to purchase election equipment.
- Kevin Stuber moved to approve purchase of election equipment in the amount of **\$32,540**, to be paid from **Election Equipment Reserve**. Justin Clark 2nd, motion passed 2-1 (Jerry Sedlacek opposed).
- Clerk requested Commissioners consider **COLA raises** prior to year-end.
- Discussion held regarding completion of employee reviews.

Settlement Agreement

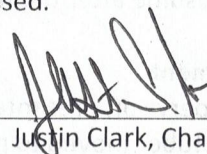
- Justin Clark moved to allow the Chair to sign the settlement agreement as presented. Kevin Stuber 2nd, **motion passed**.

Vouchers

- Kevin Stuber moved to approve vouchers in the amount of **\$68,451.91**. Justin Clark 2nd, motion passed.

Adjournment

- Kevin Stuber moved to adjourn at **12:04 p.m.** Justin Clark 2nd, motion passed.



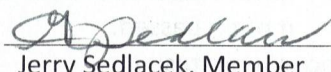
Justin Clark, Chairman



Kevin Stuber, Vice-Chairman

Attest:


Amanda DeWitt, County Clerk



Jerry Sedlacek, Member