

Commissioner Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Present: Justin Clark, Jerry Sedlacek, Kevin Stuber, Kathi Vining, and Bret Heim.

Approval of Agenda & Minutes

- Jerry Sedlacek moved to approve the agenda for today's meeting. Kevin Stuber seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- Jerry Sedlacek moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Kevin Stuber seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Executive Session – Attorney-Client Privilege

- Bret Heim requested an executive session.
- Justin Clark moved to recess into executive session for attorney-client privilege to discuss legal issues with commissioners and counselor for five minutes. Jerry Sedlacek seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- Justin Clark moved to recess into executive session for attorney-client privilege to discuss legal issues with commissioners and counselor for ten minutes. Jerry Sedlacek seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Executive Session – Non-Elected Personnel

- Michelle Zimmerman requested an executive session.
- Justin Clark moved to recess into executive session for non-elected personnel to protect employee confidentiality and discuss employee performance with commissioners, David Waddell, Bret Heim, and Michelle Zimmerman for ten minutes. Kevin Stuber seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Road & Bridge – Gary Ward and Todd Green

- Gary Ward presented photographs and pricing information for a dump truck available through federal surplus in the amount of \$13,000. Todd Green and Ricky Hodges inspected the truck and reported it appeared to be in good condition.
- Kevin Stuber moved to allow Road & Bridge to purchase the dump truck. Jerry Sedlacek seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- Kevin Stuber thanked Road & Bridge staff for searching and shopping carefully to save county funds.
- Gary Ward discussed the need to begin researching replacement options for the county mower. The current John Deere mower was purchased in 2013. Ward expressed interest in obtaining pricing for a commercial Hustler mower and suggested the Courthouse, Fair Building, Road & Bridge, and Noxious Weed departments contribute toward the purchase. Gary Ward will gather quotes for review at the next meeting.
- Gary Ward presented an estimate from Shepard's in the amount of \$15,635.00 for replacement of three 10x10 doors, framing, windows, and gutters at the Road & Bridge building to be paid from the Building Fund.
- Kevin Stuber moved to allow Road & Bridge to complete the repairs. Justin Clark seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- Road & Bridge will remove two trees at Owl Creek Cemetery to improve equipment access.
- Kevin Stuber reported the tree located on the northwest corner of the courthouse is dead and needs to be removed.
- Road & Bridge has begun dust control application. Graders are being pulled from roads due to extremely dry conditions. If dry conditions continue through the summer, significant ditching work may be completed.
- Justin Clark requested Road & Bridge inspect and trim trees located at the campground.

Executive Session – Non-Elected Personnel

- Justin Clark moved to recess into executive session for non-elected personnel to protect employee confidentiality and discuss employee performance with commissioners, Michelle Zimmerman, Gary Ward, and Todd Green for ten minutes. Kevin Stuber seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Noxious Weed

- Jerry Sedlacek contacted Jarrod McVey regarding sewage issues. Justin Clark asked whether testing results would be available by next week.

Solid Waste – David Waddell²

- David Waddell reported KDHE conducted an inspection at the Transfer Station and complimented the condition of the burn pile. KDHE plans to return to inspect the compost pile.
- Kevin Stuber commented the facility has improved significantly compared to two years ago. The department passed inspection.
- Waddell discussed placement of dumpsters for Yates Center Days and the Bull Bash event. Five dumpsters will be utilized.
- Waddell reported dumpsters placed in Neosho Falls and Toronto for citywide cleanup were heavily used.
- Waddell stated one trash truck needs repairs and will obtain a quote. Repairs are expected to cost less than the approximately \$5,000 spent on the previous truck.

Discussion

- Jerry Sedlacek discussed employee certifications and noted certifications do not automatically warrant pay increases. Discussion was held regarding implementing a formal pay scale and adding policy language to the employee handbook.
- Sedlacek reported the county spends approximately \$63,000 annually per dispatcher position.
- James Cude reported Jacob Morrison and Jarrod Helkenberg were attending training.
- Kevin Stuber requested volunteers for the dunk tank event.

Zoning / Planning Discussion

- Michelle Zimmerman reported Stephanie presented zoning paperwork for special events permits.
- Commissioners discussed right-of-way citations, zoning board issues, and the need for a chairperson for the zoning board.

Neighborhood Revitalization Program

- Michelle Zimmerman presented an NRP application for Kyle and Maggie Owens for a garage awning.
- Justin Clark moved to approve and sign the NRP application for Kyle and Maggie Owens. Kevin Stuber seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Four-Day Work Week Discussion

- Commissioners discussed the possibility of implementing four-day work weeks with office hours from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- Discussion included potential utility savings, impact on community services, holiday scheduling, and practices utilized by other counties.
- Michelle Zimmerman stated the Treasurer's Office would prefer being closed on Mondays, noting most office business occurs on Fridays.
- Jerry Sedlacek requested a department head meeting be scheduled as soon as possible to discuss the proposal further, including the possibility of a six-month trial period.

Dispatch / Overtime Discussion

- Jerry Sedlacek discussed dispatcher overtime hours and noted overtime trends from previous years.
- Discussion was held regarding payroll calculations and overtime being paid after 80 hours every two weeks instead of after 40 hours each week.
- Kevin Stuber stated the issue should be discussed with Sheriff Morrison to develop a solution.
- Jerry Sedlacek also discussed moving Annette back into the dispatch office at the jail. Additional discussion will occur at a later date.

Noxious Weed / Spraying Discussion

- Jerry Sedlacek discussed weather-related spraying delays with Jarrod McVey and suggested limiting vacation during peak spraying season.
- Commissioners discussed utilizing Road & Bridge employees to assist with spraying if necessary. Gary Ward stated his department would assist if provided direction and materials.

Additional Discussion


- Kevin Stuber reported the courthouse flag has been replaced.
- Michelle Zimmerman reported Jaimie Nitch will be supervising janitorial staff.

Vouchers

- Justin Clark moved to approve vouchers in the amount of \$199,988.98. Kevin Stuber seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Adjournment

- Kevin Stuber moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:10 p.m. Jerry Sedlacek seconded the motion. Motion passed.



Justin Clark, Chairman



Kevin Stuber, Vice-Chairman

Attest: 
Amanda A DeWitt, County Clerk



Jerry Sedlacek, Member