

**THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF MIAMI COUNTY, KANSAS**

The Board of Miami County Commissioners met in regular session, in the Commission Chambers, Miami County Administration Building, Paola, Kansas, on March 5, 2025. Those present were:

George Pretz, Chairman	Shane Krull, County Administrator
Tyler Vaughan, Pro-Tem	Laura Epp, County Clerk
Keith Diediker, Commissioner	Cari Foster, Operations Support Specialist
Paul Scruggs, Commissioner	Staci Wilson, Operations Support Specialist
W. Jene Vickrey, Commissioner	

Visitors: Kevin and Kimberly Hightower, Bill Osborn, Dino and Robin Motta

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Pretz called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kevin Hightower, 16 Holly Lane, stated he is here today to ask the Commissioners for the county to honor what they have already agreed to do, and stand behind the damages caused by a county ambulance to their vehicle. On February 18, 2025, Mr. Hightower's vehicle was struck by a county vehicle on 311th St., the ambulance was far over the center line, he states. Mr. Hightower states that had he not been as far right as he was, they would have had a head on collision. The county was notified of the incident the following day, fault was acknowledged and Mr. Hightower states he was informed that the county would be paying for damages to their vehicle out of pocket. Mr. Hightower states that they were asked to get an estimate for the repairs. Once the estimate was sent back to the county, within a day or two of the accident, the county turned the claim into their insurance. Mr. Hightower states that they were informed on Monday that the insurance company is rejecting the claim because a citation was not issued to the ambulance driver. Mr. Hightower states that the ambulance did not stop after the accident, therefore a citation could not be written. Mr. Hightower states that he respectfully asks that the county stand behind these damages, caused by a county employee driving recklessly, especially since the county has already acknowledged fault when notified of the accident damages. Mr. Hightower states that he does have quotes and pictures of the damages. Chairman Pretz asks Mr. Hightower to turn quotes and pictures into Laura Epp, County Clerk. Commissioner Vickrey asks if there was a police report completed? Mr. Hightower states, yes, there was a police report.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Vaughan moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as follows:

- Approval of minutes of the County Commission Meeting on February 26, 2025
- Approval of AP payment vouchers
- Sanitary Sewer Easement and Temporary Construction Easement Purchase-Carol Ann Kibler and K. Kolette Kibler. (A25-03-007)
- Sanitary Sewer Easement and Temporary Construction Easement Purchase-345, LLC. (A25-03-008)
- Sanitary Sewer Easement and Temporary Construction Easement Purchase-345, LLC. (A25-03-009)
- 23002-SUB: Turkey Ridge 2nd Plat
- Add-On: ISG Technology service agreement and backup cloud services

Commissioner Vickrey seconded; the vote was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve a resolution to cancel the March 12, 2025, meeting because of a lack of a quorum. Commissioner

Vaughan moved to approve the Resolution canceling the meeting on March 12, 2025, Commissioner Vickrey seconded; the vote was unanimous. (R25-03-011)

Frank Burrow, EMS Chief, requested the Commissioners to consider a Change order request to relocate a gas meter and additional gas supply line at the new Hillsdale Emergency Medical Services (EMS) building to keep the project on schedule. Mr. Burrow states that Atmos Energy came out and decided that the initial location of the meter was not appropriate for them. The new location caused an increase of forty-two feet of additional 1.5 inch and twenty-two feet of below grade two inch steel pipe to make accommodations. Mr. Burrow states that this total cost comes to \$4,026.09. Commissioner Vaughan moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Pretz seconded; the vote passes 4- Approve -1 Nay- Scruggs.

Mackenzie Kelly, Miami County Health Department, requesting the Chairman to sign the MCHD - Aid to Local Grant application and Signature page. Ms. Kelly states that these are grants that Miami County Health Department applies for every year, they include our Maternal Child Health Program, Public Health Emergency Preparedness State Formula and the Immunization Action Plan. Commissioner Diediker moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Vaughan seconded; the vote was unanimous.

Shane Krull, County Administrator, requested the Commissioners to sign the ISG Technology service agreement and backup cloud services. Mr. Krull states this agreement is for ISG Technology to provide managed services to Miami County, to manage our network services, manage our server and storage services, and manage perimeter security services for a total cost of \$4,738.38. Mr. Krull states that the term of this agreement is five years with an exclusionary clause to get out of the agreement with a 90-day notice from either party. The 5-year agreement has the opportunity for ISG to increase the cost 5% annually. Mr. Krull says we have had a relationship with ISG since 2009. This would be a vendor service in lieu of having an in house I.T. Director. Chairman Pretz asks Mr. Krull the cost for the backup cloud services? Mr. Krull states there is a secondary agreement for a managed cloud back up service schedule in the amount \$1,898.16. Commissioner Vickrey asked what the cost of a full-time employee with benefits be for a year? Mr. Krull said it would be over \$120,00.00 with benefits and this agreement would roughly be around \$80,00.00 per year. Commissioner Vickrey moved to accept the ISG contract, Commissioner Scruggs seconded; the vote was unanimous. (A25-03-10) (A25-03-11)

STAFF COMMENTS

Mark Whelan, Emergency Management Coordinator, spoke about fire responses from 2/26/25 to 3/2/25, totaling 39 fire and EMS responses. Mr. Whelan reviewed the status of equipment and vehicles with the commissioners. Mr. Whelan states that there was a large grass fire on 2/27/25, a total of eleven fire units responded to the scene. On 2/28/25, there was a grass fire that extended to several neighbor's properties, with a total of four fire units responding. On 3/1/25, there was a grass fire with six units responding. Mr. Whelan informs the commissioners that on 3/2/25 Osawatomie and Fontana Fire Departments responded to three hundred hay bales burning with the grass on fire. The units remained on the scene for 27 hours. Cutler, Pottawatomie, and Linn County firefighters from Parker, also came to assist. Miami County EMS showed up for rehab and treated two injured fire fighters. Road and Bridge assisted with a track hoe, as well as the Volunteer Fire Fighter families and Cub Scout Pack 3106 Den 3 provided food and drinks to the crews on scene. The 911 center handled a total of 793 emergency and non-emergency phone calls, and just over 13,000 radio transmissions occurred during that time. Mr. Whelan stated yesterday just after quitting time dispatch received a call from Federal EPA reporting an oil well leaking on K-68 and Turkey Creek Road. Mr. Whelan went to the scene and found a broken hose line on an oil well spilling one to two barrels of crude oil. Mr. Whelan was able to dig a quick containment line in the ditch and Eric Sandberg, Road and Bridge Director along with his crew came out and helped with a bobcat and dirt. Federal EPA showed up on site and clean up has been turned over to the Kansas Corporation Commission. Mr. Whelan stated he is very appreciative of Road and Bridge, EMS, and our mutual aid partners for helping us out this weekend.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Vickrey comments that our volunteers work for the same stipend for a 27-hour call as they do for an hour or two, so we appreciate their work.

Commissioner Scruggs comments that he made a wrong vote earlier in the meeting, he confused it with one of the issues on the study session. Chairman Pretz and the Commissioners discuss if Commissioner Scruggs can change his earlier vote. Commissioner Vickrey states Roberts Rules of Order that someone on the prevailing side can make a motion to reconsider a vote. Commissioner Vaughan moved to make a motion to reconsider the change order of relocating the gas meter and additional gas line supply. Commissioner Vickrey seconded; the vote was unanimous. Commissioner Vaughan moved to approve the change order on the relocation of the gas meter and additional gas line supply. Commissioner Vickrey seconded; the vote was unanimous.

Commissioner Vaughan thanks Chairman Pretz and Shane Krull for their participation in the State of the City in Paola event.

Chairman Pretz states that he has had numerous calls on the envelope evaluations that were sent out and they do not line up with our present Beacon System. Chairman Pretz states that it seems to be some fault of the state on IP addresses. Chairman Pretz advises to go with the envelope you got in the mail, that is the new evaluation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Pretz moved to have a Personnel Exception Executive Session to discuss non-elected personnel issues on behalf of the Fire Board for Miami County Rural Fire District #1. For 20 minutes beginning at 1:22 p.m. to include the Commissioners serving as the Fire Board Trustees, County Administrator and Mark Whelan, Emergency Management Coordinator. Commissioner Vaughan seconded; the vote was unanimous. Chairman Pretz reconvened the regular meeting at 1:42 p.m.

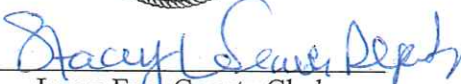
Commissioner Vaughan moved to relieve Fire Chief Fenoughty of the Fontana Fire District immediately and appoint Deputy Chief Brandon Ream as the Interim Fire Chief. Commissioner Vickrey seconded; the vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:43 p.m.




George Pretz, Chairman

ATTEST: 
Laura Epp, County Clerk