

**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 May 07, 2025. Those present were:

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

Absent: Keith Diediker, Commissioner

Visitors: Anne Smith, Jeff Oliver

CALL TO ORDER

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Anne Smith, Human Service Coordinator for East Central Kansas Economic Opportunity Corporation (ECKAN), stated May is Community Action Month and talked about poverty in Miami County in rural areas versus urban areas. Ms. Smith stated that after attending the Transportation Engineering Conference in Manhattan, transportation for low-income citizens is going to be even more troublesome. The transportation for a round trip to medical services costs around \$40.00, which is a significant amount for these citizens. "In Miami County, we have very few social service agencies and very little funds with which to help people."

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Approval of minutes of the County Commission Meeting on April 30, 2025
- Approval of AP payment vouchers and payroll
- GOE Agreement: 25004-LS (Cutshaw) (A25-05-025)
- Removal of Action Agenda number 1- Award for RFB- Renovation for District Court bathroom (Project ID: 2025-001)

Commissioner Vickrey seconded; the vote was unanimous.

PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS AND PROCLAMATION

Proclamation-

ECKAN May 2025 Community Action Month. Anne Smith, Human Service Coordinator for ECKAN, read the proclamation. Commissioner Scruggs moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Vickrey seconded; the vote was unanimous.

National Law Enforcement Week, May 11-17, 2025. Commissioner Vaughan stated that it is notable what the law enforcement does in our county, and we have a great team. Matt Kelly, Undersheriff, invited the captains of the two divisions to speak. Andrew Roush, Captain of the jail, stated, "Thank you for recognizing us this week. We appreciate the Commission's support." Commissioner Vickrey moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Scruggs seconded; the vote was unanimous.

National Correctional Officers Appreciation Week, May 4-10, 2025. Commissioner Vaughan stated that their day in the life inside a jail is a challenging job for a starting position and is worth acknowledging. Ethan Rodgers, Operations Captain, stated, "Thank you for notarizing the men and women who come in and serve the community, protecting everyone." We appreciate everything the Commission does. Commissioner Scruggs moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Vickrey seconded; the vote was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

Mark Whelan, Emergency Management Coordinator, requested that the Commissioners approve the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Microwave User Agreement. Mr. Whelan stated MARC has requested access to the Miami County 800 Radio Microwave System. This request is to provide redundancy for the 911 phone system. This redundant system would provide 911 call routing to various Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) or dispatch centers. MARC will pay for and maintain the equipment that rides on the microwave system. The microwave would only be used in the event of a primary system failure. Failures include fiber cuts or traditional phone line issues. The Miami County Government will incur no costs for maintaining the required MARC equipment. Equipment will be placed at both the Freeman and Wildwood radio tower shelters. Commissioner Pretz moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Vaughan seconded; the vote was unanimous. (A25-05-026)

Lucas Mellinger, Assistant County Administrator/ Finance Director, requested the Chairperson to sign the 2025 Weed Control Agreement with DeAngelo Contracting Services LLC. Mr. Mellinger stated that DeAngelo Contracting Services, LLC, was awarded a bid in 2023 with options to continue the contract for two renewable years. This would be the last year of using DeAngelo Contracting Services LLC. Chairman Pretz asked Mr. Mellinger, 'Is this not to exceed \$23,400.00 annually?' Mr. Mellinger answered yes, and DeAngelo Contracting Services, LLC has the rates for their labor in the contract. Commissioner Vaughan moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Vickrey seconded; the vote was unanimous. (A25-05-027)

Sara Denney, Interim Human Resources Director, requested the commission to approve the renewal agreement with Toshiba to provide DocuWare cloud-based document management software for Miami County and authorize the County Administrator to execute related documents. Ms. Denney stated Miami County is currently in contract (A22-03-012) with Toshiba to provide DocuWare document management software (DMS) and services. Having a DMS solution for the county enables departments to operate in a paperless environment while maintaining records and adhering to state and federal record retention requirements. Currently, Human Resources, the Health Department, and Finance use DocuWare services. The new agreement includes an additional 10GB of data storage. Ms. Denney stated the five-year agreement is \$69,461.10, which is \$13,892.22 per year. Commissioner Vaughan moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Vickrey seconded; the vote was unanimous. (A25-05-028)

STAFF COMMENTS

Mark Whelan, Emergency Management Coordinator, gave an update on the equipment we received for the jail. We have been looking for self-contained breathing apparatus that is reasonably priced for years. They are used by our fire department in the jail. We got six air packs from the Kansas Forest Service. The air packs have been tested, face pieces have been obtained for them, and also got spare bottles for a total cost of \$6,000.00. New air packs cost \$9,000.00- \$13,000.00 each. We used promissory funds to purchase them. We are going to mount the air packs and train our Deputy Jailers and the Deputies that work in the jail. There is no cost to the citizens. Commissioner Vaughan asked if those are never used how long do the air packs last? Mr. Whelan answered an unlimited amount of time as long as we can get parts for them. We will test and certified the air packs every year. The bottles will need to be replaced in five years at a cost of around \$1,000.00. They have a life span of fifteen years. They have to be hydrostatic tested every five years and after you do that a couple of times you have to drill a hole in them and dispose of them.

Laura Epp, County Clerk, stated we have completed the Louisburg Library District 1 Special Election. Thank you to the staff in the office. With me being away for the last month for training, it put a lot on their shoulders. We had 72 election workers who are volunteers from the public. We received assistance from various offices, including the Sheriff's Office for security, Road and Bridge for transporting and setting up the equipment at the polling locations, and Human Resources for processing the paperwork for both volunteers and workers. Additionally, the community that showed up and voted in the library district that

covers the eastern side of the county would not have had their voices heard without them, so thank you to them. Election Day opened promptly at 7:00 a.m. at six polling locations. Unofficial results are on the website. We had 1,748 voters as of last night; we still have a three-day grace period to go. We had a 22.85% turnout. Ms. Epp stated that the canvass is scheduled for next Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. in the Clerk's Office, which is open to the public.

Laura Epp, County Clerk, stated the USD 367 Osawatomie School Bond election's last day to register is next Tuesday, May 13, 2025. Advanced ballots will be mailed out next Wednesday, May 14, 2025, and early voting starts next Thursday, May 15, 2025, in the Clerk's Office during regular business hours. Election Day is scheduled for June 3, 2025, at the Max Steele Gym, and the canvass will take place on June 11, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. Chairman Pretz inquired about the last day to register for Osawatomie, which is May 13, 2025, at the close of business or noon. Ms. Epp stated at the close of business.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Vickrey stated the election went well in Louisburg, and we had a good turnout for a special election.

Commissioner Scruggs stated Thank you, Anne Smith, as you were speaking about how poverty increases the level of homelessness, also increases. I think that is something we need to address. As Commissioners, we hear about the negatives in Miami County, but there are also a lot of good things in Miami County as well, like My Father's House and the Elizabeth Layton Center, for mental health, so thank you.

Commissioner Vaughan stated Thank you to the Sheriff's Office for putting together the training on the First Amendment. It was a beneficial good training. I appreciate the guests who came down and did it.

Chairman Pretz stated the Commissioners will be meeting at the canvass on May 14, 2025, at 9:00 am in the Clerk's Office for the Louisburg Library District 1 vote and on June 11, 2025, at 9:00 am in the Clerk's Office for the USD 367 Osawatomie vote.

Commissioner Pretz stated Thank you to the taxpayers of Miami County.

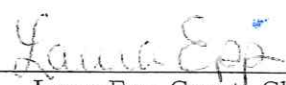
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:26 p.m.




George Pretz, Chairman

ATTEST:


Laura Epp, County Clerk