

**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 July 16, 2025. Those present were:

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

Visitors: Bill Osborn

CALL TO ORDER

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

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Approval of minutes of the County Commission Meeting on July 9, 2025
- Approval of AP payment vouchers and payroll
- 25001-SUB: Victory Estates Subdivision

Commissioner Diediker seconded; the vote was unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

Shane Krull, County Administrator, requested the Commission to Authorize the Chair to sign the Letter of No Objection Agreement with Phillips 66 for the Miami County Force main crossing in Bucyrus. Mr. Krull said Phillips 66 reached out to Miami County for the permitting process for the high-pressure lines that are west of Pflumm Road along 223rd street. The permitting process is what is needed for Miami County to work within their easement to put the sewer line in. The agreement with Phillips 66 Carrier, LLC is for two years to construct a six-inch Force Main Sewer Line within its permanent sewer line easement. Mr. Krull said Kirk Ridgway, County Counselor, and Addy Mills, Miami County's Engineer on the project, both looked at the agreement and said it was a pretty standard fair with Phillips 66. Commissioner Vaughan moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Diediker seconded; the vote was unanimous. (A25-07-036)

Matthew Oehlert, Road and Bridge Engineering Project Manager, requested Project Authorization and Authorization to Solicit for Design Services on Project 25-02-SB (704) Bridge 9-G.1 Replacement. Mr. Oehlert said the replacement is located on 335th Street approximately 285 feet east of Plum Creek Road. Built in 1939 with an ADT of 8, the current structure is a 70.9-foot single-span steel girder. The current structure was temporarily closed by Miami County Road and Bridge on April 14, 2025, because of a load path disruption due to section loss. Mr. Oehlert said the preliminary engineering included Geotech, Survey, and Design Services, then the Right of Way (ROW), and Utilities are funded from the Special Bridge 2025 fund for \$55,000.00. Multiple options have been discussed that might include a full bridge replacement; therefore, this budget is worst case scenario. The intent is to replace it with a low water crossing. The funds for this bridge include ten percent for Construction Engineering (CE) that are from the Special Bridge 2026 fund for a total of \$575,300.00. Commissioner Pretz moved to approve the project and to solicit design bids for project 25-02-SB (704). Commissioner Diediker seconded; the vote was unanimous.

Matthew Oehlert, Road and Bridge Engineering Project Manager, requested the Commissioners to authorize Project 21-13-SB (688) and authorize staff to solicit for design services for the replacement of Bridge 21-D. Mr. Oehlert said the replacement is located at 239th Street approximately 600 ft east of Indianapolis Road. Built in 1915 with an ADT of 48, the current structure is a 28-foot single-span steel girder which will be replaced by a 40-foot single-span steel girder with a concrete deck and bridge approaches. The current structure was temporarily closed by Miami County Road and Bridge on April 14, 2025, because of a load path disruption due to section loss.

Mr. Oehlert said the funding Special Bridge 2025 intent is for Geotech, Survey, Design. (Right of Way (ROW) and Utility relocations is approximately \$55,000.00. Special Bridge 2026 funds are for bridge and grading work, ten percent is for Construction Engineering (CE) that are from the Special Bridge 2026 fund for \$443,300.00, totaling \$498,300.00 for construction of the bridge. Commissioner Diediker moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Vickrey seconded; the vote was unanimous.

Lucas Mellinger, Assistant County Administrator/ Finance Director, requested the Commission to authorize the Commission Chair to sign the Notice of Revenue Neutral Rate Intent stating that Miami County, Kansas, will be exceeding the revenue neutral rate. Mr. Mellinger said the governing body of Miami County, Kansas, hereby notifies the Miami County Clerk of intent to exceed the revenue neutral rate for fiscal year 2026. The proposed mill levy rate is 36.755. The date of the hearing is August 27th, at 1:00pm. Commissioner Vickrey said he would like to see Miami County trim the budget back and have less than the 36.755 levy rate, but the positive is Miami County cannot go above but can still go lower. Mr. Mellinger clarified that Miami County cannot go above the new water mark after the intent to exceed is signed, but we can always go down. Commissioner Diediker moved to exceed the Revenue Neutral rate for the year 2026 for the Miami County budget, Commissioner Vaughan seconded; the vote was unanimous.

Sitting as MIFD1 Board

Lucas Mellinger, Assistant County Administrator/ Finance Director, requested the Commission to authorize the Commission Chair to sign the Notice of Revenue Neutral Rate Intent stating that Miami County Fire District #1 will be exceeding the revenue neutral rate. Mr. Mellinger said the governing body of Miami County Fire District #1 hereby notifies the Miami County Clerk of intent to exceed the revenue neutral rate for fiscal year 2026. The proposed mill levy rate is 3.337 which is the same mill levy rate for 2025. The date of the hearing is August 27th, at 1:00pm. Commissioner Pretz moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Vickrey seconded; the vote was unanimous.

Sitting as MIFD2 Board

Lucas Mellinger, Assistant County Administrator/ Finance Director, requested the Commission to authorize the Commission Chair to sign the Notice of Revenue Neutral Rate Intent stating that Miami County Fire District #2 will be exceeding the revenue neutral rate. Mr. Mellinger said the governing body of Miami County Fire District #2 hereby notifies the Miami County Clerk of intent to exceed the revenue neutral rate for fiscal year 2026. The proposed mill levy rate is 4.763 which is the same mill levy rate as 2025. The date of the hearing is August 27th, at 1:00pm. Commissioner Vaughan moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Diediker seconded; the vote was unanimous.

Closed sitting as Miami County Fire Boards

Lucas Mellinger, Assistant County Administrator/ Finance Director, requested the Commission to authorize the Commission Chair to sign the Notice of Revenue Neutral Rate Intent stating that that Bucyrus Lights & Sirens will remain revenue neutral. Mr. Mellinger said the governing body of Bucyrus Lights & Sirens hereby notifies the Miami County Clerk of intent to remain revenue neutral for fiscal year 2026. Commissioner Vaughan moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Diediker seconded; the vote was unanimous.

Lucas Mellinger, Assistant County Administrator/ Finance Director, requested the Commission to authorize the Commission Chair to sign the Notice of Revenue Neutral Rate Intent stating that Hillsdale Lights & Sirens will remain revenue neutral. Mr. Mellinger said the governing body of Hillsdale Lights & Sirens hereby notifies the Miami County Clerk of intent to remain revenue neutral for fiscal year 2026. Commissioner Vaughan moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Diediker seconded; the vote was unanimous.

Sitting as MIFD1 Board for the following action item

Mark Whelan, Emergency Management Coordinator, recommends the MIFD1 board wave the county RFP process and purchase the compressors. Mr. Whelan said Baurer Compressors has a large inventory of SCBA air compressors used in the fire service. The vendor is offering significant discounts due to the number of compressors they have available in their warehouse. Current list prices for similar models of compressors are

between \$85,000.00 and \$100,000.00 each. We can obtain the two compressors, including shipping and installation, five new high pressure 6000 PSI bottles for \$102,256.49. Mr. Whealan said he had to add an additional 6000 PSI bottle for the Fontana station for \$1,948.67. Fontana only had three bottles, and the new compressor will require four. Chairman Pretz asked Mr. Whelan if he has had some sales to cover the cost? Mr. Whelan answered yes, the recent sale of MIFD1 equipment that was no longer needed netted \$85,360.00 minus fees on Purple Wave. These funds can cover the majority of the cost with minimal impact to the capital budget. This will free up capital funds for other needed purchases. Commissioner Vickrey asked we are waiving the requirement to go out to bid with this motion? Commissioner Diediker answered yes. Commissioner Diediker moved to purchase the air compressors, Commissioner Scruggs seconded; the vote was unanimous.

Angie Eads, Director of Community Corrections, requested the Chairman to sign FY25 Community Corrections Year-End Outcome Report Signatory Approval for Adult Services Comp Plan. Ms. Eads said on the adult side we focused on evidence-based practices and utilizing ethic tools. Evidence-based practices showed a four to one positive reinforcement. We will have some training carry over into FY26. Commissioner Vaughan moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Diediker seconded; the vote was unanimous. (A25-07-037)

Angie Eads, Director of Community Corrections, requested the Chairman to sign FY25 Community Corrections Year-End Outcome Report Signatory Approval for Juvenile Services Comp Plan. Ms. Eads said on the immediate intervention and the juvenile intake and assessment we focused on doing a short, revised version of the risk needs assessment. We worked with families on setting up services and followed up to see how the services were going for the families that chose to sign up. Juvenile intensive supervised probation— and case management mirrored what we were doing on the adult side working with the four to one positive reinforcement and epic tools we were utilizing with our clients. Commissioner Vaughan moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Diediker seconded; the vote was unanimous. (A25-07-038)

Shane Krull, County Administrator, requested the Commission to authorize the chair to sign the change order No. 4 for the EMS facility in Hillsdale, Project No. 1504.11 with CB Construction Services, LLC. Mr. Krull said Miami County requested the contractor switch out the arc fault breakers and outlets to GFI outlets in the bay area for safety improvement for a cost of \$715.00. Commissioner Vaughan moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Vickrey seconded; the vote was unanimous.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Chairman Pretz thanked the taxpayers and the staff for carrying out what needs to be done to make everything go. The budgets made us aware of everything that needs to be done.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:21 p.m.



ATTEST:

Laura Epp
Laura Epp, County Clerk

George Pretz
George Pretz, Chairman

Tyler Vaughan
Tyler Vaughan