

**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 February 04, 2026. Those present were:

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

Visitors: Nick Hall, Pat Campbell, Chris Tidd

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 January 23, 2026
- Approval of accounts payable payment vouchers
- Resolution- Authorizing abatement of real property taxes for the Cousins homestead (R26-02-004)
- Resolution- Authorizing abatement of real property taxes for the Johnson homestead (R26-02-005)
- Resolution- Authorizing abatement of real property taxes for the Lowry homestead. (R26-02-006)

Commissioner Diediker seconded; the motion carried, and the vote was unanimous.

ACTION AGENDA

Matthew Kelly, Miami County Undersheriff, requested approval to purchase cameras for the radio tower sites using the 911 funds. ETI Electronics provided a quote of \$3144.75 per site for one interior camera and one exterior camera, including all hardware, installation, and labor. The total cost for all six tower sites is \$18,868.50. Commissioner Vaughan thanked Mr. Kelly for working hard to reduce the quote. Commissioner Diediker moved to approve the purchase of one camera on the inside and outside for all six towers, Commissioner Vickrey seconded; the motion carried, and the vote was unanimous.

Kenneth Cook, Planning Director, presented an application for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for the Evermore Venue and Event Center (25009-CUP), located on 215th Street and U.S. Highway 69. The proposal includes an 8,000 square-foot building and a pond. The facility will host private celebrations, with some events planned to occur outside. The Planning Commission voted unanimously (8-0), to recommend approval of the CUP. Recommended condition changes included extending the permit term from ten years to twenty years and updating public water source requirements. Chairman Pretz asked Mr. Cook how many acres is the CUP? Mr. Cook responded the CUP encompasses approximately 50 acres. Commissioner Vaughan stated he is glad the condition number thirteen, requiring a fire protection plan in lieu of sprinklers, was included and asked whether emergency services fall under Miami County or the City of Overland Park. Mr. Cook responded the property is located within the City of Louisburg but noted uncertainty regarding jurisdictional boundary changes on the east side of the highway. Mark Whelan, Emergency Management Coordinator, stated the property is located within the automatic aid response area involving the City of Overland Park and the Louisburg Fire Station. Overland Park would respond to structure fires, significant fire events, and life-threatening Emergency Medical Services calls. Commissioner Vickrey moved to approve the CUP for the Evermore Venue and Event Center, Commissioner Scruggs seconded. Mr. Cook discussed the design schedules, moving into construction and the time of year the concern is being able to get

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the building permit within the one-year time limit. Commissioner Vickrey moved to change the motion to approve the CUP with a two-year timeline to get a building permit, Commissioner Scruggs seconded; the motion carried, and the vote was unanimous. (R26-02-007)

Shane Krull, County Administrator, presented two redistricting map options for Commission consideration. To listen to the full redistricting discussion, please refer to the meeting video available at:

<https://miamicoks.portal.civicclerk.com/event/876/media>

Commissioner Diediker moved to approve Redistricting Map Number Two, Commissioner Vaughan seconded; the motion carried, and the vote was unanimous.

STAFF COMMENTS

Eric Sandberg, Road and Bridge Director, introduced Pat Campbell as the new Noxious Weed Supervisor.

Shane Krull, County Administrator, reported he attended the inaugural meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee, which operates under the Transportation Policy Committee. The call for projects date will be announced on February 25, 2026, and conclude for submittals on March 25, 2026. He noted the funding allocation for project submissions related to the Federal Highway Funding are for the Kansas and Missouri side which is approximately 34 million dollars.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Vaughan reported that he and Chairman Pretz attended the State Capital last week and participated in meetings with the Kansas Association of Counties (KAC) and the League of Kansas Municipalities.

Commissioner Vaughan recognized Chriss Tidd getting his building permit, commission approval of a large Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for Evermore and acknowledged the volume of CUP applications in the northern portion of the county. He stated it is encouraging to see local individuals investing in Miami County.

Commissioner Scruggs inquired to Chairman Pretz and Commissioner Vaughan about proposed property tax bill and other bills including the proposed three percent cap on appraisal increases and senior citizens no sales tax after they turn 65. Chairman Pretz said the three percent cap is out on Committee and hope to be on the Senate Floor to be voted on in August by the people. Commissioner Vaughan stated the Governor spoke highly of all of her accomplishments and all the money she has been able to store for the state reserves and at the same time he believed it was the Topeka Mayor who said the state does not have money to help at the local level.

Commissioner Vickrey echoed Commissioner Vaughan's comments and stated he is thankful commercial businesses are investing in Miami County. Shane Krull, County Administrator, reported building permits issued in the month of January totaled over six million dollars in construction value.

Commissioner Pretz motioned to re-appoint Clint Davis, Joe Brull, Lester Town and Marcus Sanders to the Airport Advisory Board and to appoint Travis Deason to the vacant position on the Airport Advisory Board. Commissioner Vaughan seconded; the motion carried, and the vote was unanimous.

Chairman Pretz announced there could be two or more Commissioners present at the following events:

- The Miami County Legislative Breakfast on February 28, 2026, at the Paola Highschool starting at 7:00 a.m.
- March 3, 2026, County Government Day in Topeka
- March 3, 2026, Paola Chamber of Commerce State of the City, and the Schools of Paola event. Chairman Pretz stated County Administrator Shane Krull, and he will represent Miami County. They will provide a short presentation and answer questions. It is at the Town Square from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.



George Pretz
George Pretz, Chairman

ATTEST:

Laura Epp

Laura Epp, County Clerk