

**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 11, 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	

News: Brian McCauley, Miami County Republic

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 February 4, 2026
- Approval of accounts payable payment vouchers and payroll
- Tax Roll Corrections-m Order of Irregularities
- GOE: 2026-001- LS: Anthony and Courtney Burdick (A26-02-002)

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Shannon Gaboni, 14910 W 335th Street, Paola thanked the community and co-workers. To view her full comments, please see the meeting video available on Miami County's website.

<https://miamicoks.portal.civicclerk.com/event/877/media>.

PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS AND PROCLAMATION

Sara Denney, Human Resources Director, recognized Casey Brown as the 2025 Miami County Employee of the Year. Mr. Brown has worked for the county since 2021 in the Information Technology (IT) Department. He has been recognized for his willingness to step in, step up, and assist wherever needed. Mr. Brown consistently works to ensure employee IT issues are resolved promptly, and his dedication and efforts are greatly appreciated. Mr. Brown thanked everyone and said coming to Miami County was the best move for his career. He works with all the departments in Miami County and sees a lot of hardworking people trying to help the public. He enjoys coming to work every day.

ACTION AGENDA

Eric Sandberg, Road and Bridge Director, requested the Commissioners approval to purchase two Freightliner 108SD plus tandem axle dump trucks equipped with Monroe snow plowing equipment from Omaha Truck Center, Inc. utilizing the State of Kansas contract, for the amount of \$555,760.00. Each Freightliner 1080SD tandem axle dump truck with Monroe snow plowing equipment is \$275,880.00 and each hopper grate for Monroe salt spreader is \$2,000.00. Commissioner Vickrey stated purchasing through the state program is less expensive. Commissioner Diediker asked if the trucks will be delivered in March. Mr. Sandberg confirmed there is no waiting period. Commissioner Diediker moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Vaughan seconded; the motion carried, and the vote was unanimous. (A26-02-003)

Mathew Oehlert, Road and Bridge Engineering Project Manager, requested the Commission Chair to authorize the Phase II Environmental Site Assessment with a total not-to-exceed cost of \$24,955.00. The Phase II Environmental Site Assessment for the Miami County, KS Courthouse is requested based on the

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findings of a Phase I ESA that was conducted in the Fall of 2025. The Phase I ESA indicated the presence of multiple nearby (adjacent) properties with former uses that likely had a release and may have impacted the courthouse property. These former nearby (adjacent) facilities were all considered to be recognized environmental conditions (RECs) and vapor encroachment conditions in the Phase I ESA Report and have the potential to impact the courthouse property. This proposal is a continuation of Agreement A25-07-040, with a total not-to-exceed cost of \$24,955.00. Commissioner Vaughan moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Diediker seconded; the motion carried, and the vote was unanimous. (A26-02-004)
(Ref: A25-07-040)

Shane Krull, County Administrator, motion to appoint Patton Apple, a non-lawyer to the 6th District Judicial Nominating Commission. Mr. Apple currently serves as the non-lawyer member of the 6th District Judicial Nominating Commission. His current term expires on the first Monday of March 2026. The upcoming term will run from March 2, 2026, through March 5, 2030. Mr. Krull has spoken with Mr. Apple, who has expressed his willingness to be reappointed to serve another term as the non-lawyer member of the 6th District Judicial Nominating Commission. Commissioner Pretz moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Vickrey seconded; the motion carried, and the vote was unanimous.

Shane Krull, County Administrator, requested the Commissioners to sign the resolution and approve the Alternate method for disposal of real property. Mr. Krull said he conferred with the County Counselor and statute says property is \$50,000.00 in value and above requires the county to advertise the property in our publication of record and receive sealed bids. This resolution will allow Miami County to sell the property using a real estate agent or broker. Miami County will still need to provide notice of sixty days in advance. Commissioner Pretz asked if the resolution is for any real property Miami County has? Mr. Krull answered no, it is for the specific location. If the Commission wants to sell property in the future, Miami County will have to go through this same process. Commissioner Vaughan moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Scruggs seconded; the motion carried, and the vote was unanimous.

APPLICATIONS

Laura Epp, County Clerk, reported that few departments have not yet submitted their inventory documentation. As a result, consideration of the inventory will be postponed for one week.

STAFF COMMENTS

Mark Whelan, Emergency Management Coordinator, reported that he and Chief Ream of the Fontana Fire Department traveled to Nebraska to pick up the new tender. After completing the checklist, they drove the vehicle back Thursday night. The radio was installed on Friday, and the tender was put into service on Saturday. Chief Ream cleaned up the old reserve Louisburg tender and returned it to Louisburg Fire Department.

Mark Whelan, Emergency Management Coordinator, reported on a fire last Wednesday, February 4, 2026, at the Font property on Block road north of 311th.

Laura Epp, County Clerk, reported that updates have been made to the County website in preparation for the upcoming primary election. Information regarding the Primary Election is available on the website for public review.

Shane Krull, County Administrator, announced Miami County received a grant through Senator Moran's Office of \$1.8 million to extend the airport runway to 4,000 feet to accommodate larger aircraft. He expressed appreciation to Chairman Pretz for his advocacy with Senator Moran and his staff through this process, and thanked Mr. Koontz for preparing the grant package. Miami County's match will be ten percent. Chairman Pretz said Miami County can handle the ten percent on the \$1.8 million to finish up the runway to the appropriate length. Commissioner Vaughan asked if that would allow cargo to come in? Mr. Krull answered the runway will support aircraft with a 12,500-pound weight limit.

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COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Pretz announced Miami County offices will be closed on Monday, February 16, 2026, for Presidents Day.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:29 p.m.




George Pretz, Chairman

ATTEST:


Laura Epp, County Clerk