

**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 April 1, 2026. Those present were:

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

Visitors: William 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 March 25, 2026
- Approval of accounts payable payment vouchers
- Order of Correction of Irregularities

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

PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS AND PROCLAMATION

Presentation- Recognize the Q1 2026 Employee of the Month recipients. Sara Denney, Human Resources Director announced the employee of the month for January, February, and March 2026.

- January 2026 Employee of the Month: Andrew Roush - Captain, County Jail.
- February 2026 Employee of the Month: Kelly Franke - Paralegal, County Attorney.
- March 2026 Employee of the Month: Stacey Weaver - Office Coordinator II, County Clerk.

Proclamation – National County Government Month, April 2026. Commissioner Vaughan moved to approve the National County Government Month Proclamation, Commissioner Diediker seconded; the motion carried, and the vote was unanimous.

Proclamation – Fair Housing Month, April 2026. Shane Krull, County Administrator, stated Miami County does this every year as part of the Community Development Block Grant process and other fundings Miami County receives from the Department of Commerce. Commissioner Vaughan moved to approve the Fair Housing Month Proclamation, Commissioner Diediker seconded; the motion carried, and the vote was unanimous.

Proclamation – National Public Health Week, April 6-12, 2026. Christena Beer, Public Health Director, extended the Health Departments gratitude for the Commission recognizing and proclaiming National Public Health Week. Commissioner Vaughan thanked Miami County Health Department for their work with the county employees. Commissioner Vaughan moved to approve the National Public Health Week, Commissioner Diediker seconded; the motion carried, and the vote was unanimous.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Kenneth Cook, Planning Director, requested the Commissioners approve and sign the 2026 Miami County Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Cook stated before Miami County is able to adopt Zoning Regulations Miami County has to have a Comprehensive Plan. State Statute requires Miami County to do an annual update to the Comprehensive plan. Chairman Pretz asked if he met the public comment at the Planning Commission Hearing. Mr. Cook answered yes. Commissioner Vaughan noted a lot of work went into the Comprehensive

Plan from staff. The plan lists several residences and stakeholders from the community that participated. The feedback helps guide where the county goes. He thanked everyone who participated in working on the Comprehensive Plan. Commissioner Scruggs stated his concern is if the plan is going to be flexible enough with not knowing when the next Comprehensive Plan will be started. There is a lot of change that happens in five years along with the change in population. Commissioner Vickrey stated his concern is with flexibility also and noted the countryside part of the plan limiting ten- or fifteen-acre sites, but we have three acre lots grandfathered in. Shane Krull, County Administrator, stated the county has around 900 lots in the three to five acre range. Chairman Pretz stated the plan will be reviewed every year by the Planning Commission. He confirmed the last plan was in 2004. Mr. Cook answered correct. Commission Diediker said, "he considered this is a living growing document." "As times change, while we have the right to make changes with it." Commissioner Vaughan read some comments on the wants and concerns of living in Miami County. He stated the wants will never line up with the concerns. What the County wants compared to lower costs is impossible, so keep that in mind when the Commission makes decisions. Commissioner Vaughan moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Diediker seconded; the motion carried, and the vote was unanimous. (R26-04-013)

ACTION AGENDA

Pat Campbell, Noxious Weed Supervisor, requested approval to set the 2026 noxious weed chemical price list and the 2026 noxious weed chemical cost share budget. Staff recommend the chemical cost share budget to be set at \$30,000.00. Commissioner Scruggs asked if the \$30,000.00 budget gets maxed out every year? Mr. Campbell answered the amounts have usually been between \$28,000.00 to \$29,000.00. Commissioner Diediker moved to approve the green discount cost share and \$30,000.00 budget, Commissioner Vickrey seconded; the motion carried, and the vote was unanimous.

Matthew Oehlert, Road and Bridge Engineering Project Manager, requested the Commissioners authorize the Commission Chair to sign the agreement with Olsson, Inc. Mr. Oehlert stated this is amendment number one to the agreement A25-09-051 with Olsson, Inc, project number AV-2026-33. The original agreement was executed on September 3, 2025, for bidding and design services for the rehabilitation of the west taxi lane and the hangar ramps. Amendment Number one pertains to the construction and closeout services for the same project. Olsson, Inc. is the Consulting Engineer for Miami County Airport. Phase 610 Construction Services is for a Not-to-Exceed amount of \$85,500.00.00, and Phase 620 Closeout Services is for a lump sum amount of \$3,900.00 for a total of \$ 89,400.00. The project as it stands now is total cost of \$816,111.00 which is part of a grant from Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT). KDOT's cost share of 90% is \$734,499.00 and Miami County's cost share of 10% is \$81,612.00. This is for the rehabilitation of half of the taxiways and half of the hangers excluding the runway. Chairman Pretz asked if the money will come out of the airport budget? Shane Krull, County Administrator, answered yes we budget for the capital expenditures for the grant money. Chairman Pretz asked when was the last time we have had a grant from KDOT? Mr. Krull answered in 2000 when the apron was put in, when the runway realignment was done. Commissioner Pretz moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Vaughan seconded; the motion carried, and the vote was unanimous. (A26-04-016)

Sara Denney, Human Resources Director, requested approval to enter into an agreement with InComm Benefits and Peak One for the consolidated management of HSA, FSA, and COBRA benefits. Ms. Denney stated Miami County contracts these services through HSA bank and WEX benefits. We have found a cost savings consolidating vendors. Chairman Pretz asked about the money savings? Ms. Denney answered we currently pay \$1.75 per employee per month for HSA fees that is going to \$0.00. This is a three-year contract with a five year guarantee on all the fees. FSA fees are going from \$3.95 to \$2.75 per employee per month. COBRA fees are going from \$0.43 to \$0.60. Direct Bill- retirees are going from \$4.75 to \$4.00. There is going to be a plan document fee for FSA creation of \$300.00 each year and the fee is being waived the first year. The total saving based off of current participation and what was spent in 2025 is \$1,600.00 this year

and \$1,300.00 moving forward. We discussed this morning there is a \$25.00 account closing fee for employees opting in to the bulk transfer when we close HSA accounts. Commissioner Vaughan noted the improved benefit of the 2% cash back and the no minimum on investments in the HSA account. It is increased benefits and savings. Commissioner Vaughan moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Diediker seconded; the motion carried and the vote was unanimous. (A26-04-017) (A26-04-018 A,B,C,D,E)

Kenneth Cook, Planning Director, requested the Commissioners to authorize the Commission Chair to sign the Miami County Codes Court Judge agreement. Mr. Cook stated the Codes Court is primarily used by the Planning Department as well as the Codes Department as we deal with issues of violations. In July 2025, Miami County was made aware that our previous Codes Court Judge would no longer be able to serve due to other commitments he had with his law practice. Staff began a search for a replacement and worked with the county's attorneys on preparing a contract. After reaching out to a number of individuals recommended as possible replacements by our previous judge, who were also unable to take on the functions of the Codes Court Judge, Judge Kimball was identified as a possible candidate in January 2025. Judge Kimball retired after serving as a District Magistrate Judge for the 4th Judicial District for 18 years and currently serves as a codes court judge for other Kansas communities. Judge Kimball also served for 25 years in law enforcement with the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. Commissioner Vaughan moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Diediker seconded; the motion carried and the vote was unanimous. (A26-04-019)

APPLICATIONS

Wendy Newton, Deputy Clerk, requested the Commission to approve the application for a special event permit submitted by Rita Knop, representative of I Got Your Back, LLC, for a special event on a private residence raising funds for veterans. The event is scheduled for June 13, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Commissioner Vickrey stated this will be the second year for this event and I hope to be able to attend this year. It sounded like it was a meaningful time last year for those who attended, and they raised quite a bit of funds for veterans. Chairman Pretz asked for the exact location? Ms. Newton answered 30731 Pflumm Road in Paola. Commissioner Diediker moved to approve the special event permit for I Got Your Back, LLC, Commissioner Vickrey seconded; the vote was unanimous.

STAFF COMMENTS

Kenneth Cook, Planning Director, gave an update on a project the Planning Commission is working on in Hillsdale. The property owner purchased the property within the last few years and has been working with the State of Kansas. The property has a few thousand tires on it. The State of Kansas has agreed to use their orphaned tire program to help fund the cleanup on the property. The only cost associated with the project for Miami County will be the time staff is working on it. The project should be completed within the next month. Commissioner Vaughan stated he talked to the landowner and he is thankful for Mr. Cook and his department.

Shane Krull, County Administrator, stated he attended Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Technical Advisory Committee. Their call for projects have concluded. They received 31 applications from the State of Kansas totaling \$231 million for various projects with \$61 million available. When we get with Spring Hill on the partnership project on the 223rd Street corridor that will be one of the funding avenues Miami County pursues as well as other avenues.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Vickrey stated it is Easter this week, the most important holiday of the year.

Commissioner Scruggs stated there could be two or more Commissioners present at the Miami County Conservation Coffee on April 16, 2026, at Casa Summerset Bed and Breakfast, 16315 W. 287th Street, Paola, KS, from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Chairman Pretz announced there could be two or more Commissioners present at the Kansas County

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Commission Association Meeting at the Hilton Garden Inn in Hutchinson, Kansas on April 22, 2026, through April 24, 2026.

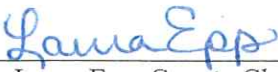
ADJOURNMENT

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




George Pretz, Chairman

ATTEST:


Laura Epp, County Clerk