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**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 15, 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: Robert Zoller

CALL TO ORDER

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

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Approval of minutes of the County Commission Meeting on April 8, 2026
- Approval of accounts payable payment vouchers
- 2026-001-SUB: Spalding Enterprises II
- Resolution - Authorizing abatement of real property taxes for the Pickens and Hedding homestead (R26-04-015)
- Resolution - Authorizing abatement of real property taxes for the B&K Rents, LLC homestead (R26-04-016)
- Correction of minutes of the Board of County Commission Meeting on April 1, 2026
- Add-On: Action Agenda number six- Declaration and Proclamation of Local Disaster Emergency

Commissioner Diediker seconded; vote taken: 5 in favor; 0 opposed, the motion passes.

PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS AND PROCLAMATION

Proclamation – Administrative Professional’s Day April 22, 2026. Commissioner Vaughan read the proclamation. Commissioner Vaughan motioned to approve as presented, Commissioner Diediker seconded; vote taken: 5 in favor; 0 opposed, the motion passes.

ACTION AGENDA

Matthew Oehlert, Road and Bridge, Engineering Project Manager, requested Commission to authorize the Commission Chair to sign the Notice of Award for Superior Bowen Asphalt Company, LLC., for RFB 2026-01, it encompasses two projects, 2026 Asphalt Corrective Maintenance Program project #26-01-CO (670) and the sales tax project of the 287th Street Reconstruction and Osawatomie intersection to improve sight distance, Project #21-08-ST (683). Bids were opened on April 7, 2026, with two competitive bidders, Superior Bowen Asphalt Company, LLC being the apparent low bidder. There were three submittals, your base bid and two alternates. The base bid came in at \$3,037,407.24, alternate one came in at \$755,923.04, and alternate two came in at \$796,571.25 for a total of \$4,589,901.53. The sales tax bid was \$772,655.64. The two projects come from two separate funding sources. The Asphalt Corrective Maintenance project comes from the Road and Bridge asphalt line item which has \$ 3.5 million in the line item. The 287th street and Osawatomie intersection project is a sales tax. There is \$2.3 million in that fund. Staff asks the Commission to issue the Notice of Award to Superior Bowen for the 2026 Asphalt Corrective Maintenance Program at \$4,589,901.53 and the Notice of Award for Superior Bowen for the sales tax project of the 287th Street Reconstruction at \$772,655.64. Signing the Notice of Awards does not mean the Commission will be signing an agreement based on those funds; it allows negotiation with the contractor to finalize an agreement and action plan for these projects as the low bidder. Commissioner Scruggs thanked Mr. Oehlert for finding a

\$4,000.00

- Budgetary impact - decrease county funding by \$78,000.00 BCBS Option 2
- No plan design / HSA contribution change
- Increase PPO premium 5%
- Increase HDHP premium 2%
- Budgetary impact - increase county funding by \$82,000.00

Staff recommend the County move forward with option one authorizing Shane Krull, County Administrator sign the contracts or agreements for the renewals for Blue Cross, VSP, And Delta Dental. Chairman Pretz asked if the renewals are for our eye and dental as well? Ms. Denney answered yes, the Dental came in at a 6% increase Lockton got that down to a 3% increase. It would be a 4% increase if we move forward with the right start for kids' coverage. Commissioner Vaughan stated the benefits have stayed the same for the last eight years, this is a necessary step and has been a recommendation to the county for several years. Commissioner Vaughan motioned to approve the move to Blue Cross Blue Shield option 1, Commissioner Diediker seconded; vote taken: 5 in favor; 0 opposed, the motion passes. (A26-04-026)

Shane Krull, County Administrator, requested approval of a Declaration and Proclamation of Local Disaster Emergency. Mr. Krull stated with Monday's tornado event in Hillsdale he was contacted by the County's Emergency Management Coordinator and subsequently notified the Chairman. Verbal authorization was obtained to issue an emergency declaration. The declaration is effective for a period of 30 days. The Governor has declared a State of Emergency for all of Franklin, Miami and Linn Counties. Commissioner Vaughan motioned to approve as presented, Commissioner Diediker seconded; vote taken: 5 in favor; 0 opposed, the motion passes. (R26-04-017)

APPLICATIONS

Laura Epp, County Clerk, seeking Commission approval of a Special Event Permit for Running with the Cows to The Queen of the Holy Rosary Catholic School for May 9, 2026, and waive the \$250.00 permit fee. Clerk Epp stated Running with the Cows is an annual 5k and half-marathon run fundraiser benefiting the Queen of the Holy Rosary Catholic School in Wea. Applicants requested for a waiver of the \$250 permit fee as done in the past. This will help provide additional funds for the school. Department responses: Planning noted that Zoning Regulations do not allow for this type of event however the County has approved with a Special Event Permit in the past. Sheriff's Department has noted no charge for 2026. The event is May 9, 2026, from 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., located at Queen of the Holy Rosary Catholic School, 22705 Metcalf, Bucyrus. Commissioner Vickrey motioned to approve and waive the \$250 fee, Commissioner Diediker seconded; vote taken: 5 in favor; 0 opposed, the motion passes.

STAFF COMMENTS

Jason Leadbetter, Code Services Director, stated the department has been going out and doing assessments and checking structures from the recent storms. He asked the Commission to consider waiving the permit fees for repairs or replacement of homes and structures due to tornado damage for a period of one to two years. Chairman Pretz asked Shane Krull, County Administrator, if we need to have a resolution drawn up? Mr. Krull stated it would be good to formalize the fees being waived. Chairman Pretz stated there is a consensus to have a resolution drawn up to be approved in a couple of weeks. In the meantime, fees will be waived.

Frank Burrow, EMS Chief, provided a recap of the recent storm events from EMS. Chief Burrow stated they received notification from Franklin County on Monday, he reached out to the Battalion Chief to be weather aware in the event they needed to help Franklin County out. After seeing the storm heading towards Miami County the Battalion Chief contacted the Hillsdale station to get in their unit and go to Paola. We had 19 units sitting throughout Miami County prepared for injuries. With callbacks we were able to staff the backup truck and had five units fully staffed. We had admin vehicles around and a part time staff member came out

way to be within the budget. Chairman Pretz motioned to approve as presented awarding the Noice of Awards to Superior Bowen, Commissioner Scruggs seconded; vote taken: 5 in favor; 0 opposed, the motion passes.

Laura Epp, County Clerk, requested the Commission's approval and appointment of Dr. Erin Miller as Trustee of the Marysville Township Board for the remaining term. Request for Commission to appoint a new Trustee to the Marysville Township to complete the remaining term. The recent vacancy is due to the resignation of the Elected Trustee, Jennifer Williams. Per K.S.A. 25-1606, all vacancies in the offices of trustee, clerk or treasurer of any township shall be filled by appointment by the Board of County Commissioners. Commissioner Vaughan motioned to appoint Dr. Erin Miller as Trustee of the Marysville Township Board for the remaining term. Commissioner Diediker seconded; vote taken: 5 in favor; 0 opposed, the motion passes.

Laura Epp, County Clerk, requested the Commissioners signatory authority of Chairperson and approval for quote provided by KOMTEK Systems Corporation for 22,889 statements in compliance with SB13. Clerk Epp stated in accordance with SB13, a quote was obtained by KOMTEK Systems Corporation for printing and mailing of the Revenue Neutral Rate (RNR) notices for the estimated total cost of \$22,198.35. A total of 22,889 statements will be produced at a cost of approximately \$0.97 cents per statement. An increase of 14.1% or \$0.12 cents per statement from last year's charges. The actual expenditure has been over the estimate in previous years due to information not fitting on the current format of the program limitations resulting in additional pages. It is anticipated additional pages being required again this year, estimated \$3,000 to \$3,500 more than quote provided. S Sub for HB2125 will allow for reimbursement of printing and postage costs associated with RNR notices for 2026 from the State of Kansas. Chairman Pretz clarified that this is just for the RNR notices. Clerk Epp answered correct. Shane Krull asked if the protest petition bill comes into play is that incorporated in the RNR notices or will it be a separate piece of paper inserted? Clerk Epp answered her understanding it is incorporated, but there is not a lot of room so that will be a software question. Commissioner Vaughan motioned to approve as presented, Commissioner Diediker seconded; vote taken: 5 in favor; 0 opposed, the motion passes.

Laura Epp, County Clerk, presented the Commission's consideration of a temporary resolution: Special Events World Cup. Clerk Epp stated the resolution was drafted by legal counsel and will help ease the burden on special events for June and July of 2026. Clerk Epp reminded the residence they will still need to fill out the special event application and take the application to the Sheriff's Office, Road and Bridge, Planning and Zoning, and Environmental Health. Chairman Pretz confirmed the application will go through the Board of County Commission Meeting for final approval? Clerk Epp confirmed yes. Commissioner Vickrey motioned to approve as presented, Commissioner Diediker seconded; vote taken: 5 in favor; 0 opposed, the motion passes.

Sara Denney, Human Resources Director, recommended the Commission accept a benefit renewal option with Blue Cross & Blue Shield (BCBS) as presented, and authorize the County Administrator to sign the necessary agreements. Ms. Denney stated Lockton has made the recommendation that if the county does not make relevant plan design and HSA contribution changes, we will need to increase our premiums to offset the added exposure with the change in stop loss and expected plan performance. Lockton has also recommended that the county's health reserve should be \$700,000.00; we are currently at \$300,000.00 with an anticipated return of \$90,000.00 at the end of the plan year. Known changes:

- Increase specific (individual) stop loss from \$125,000.00 to \$150,000.00
- Increase aggregate stop loss from 120% to 125% BCBS Option 1
- No premium rate change
- Decrease PPO employer coinsurance from 100% to 90%
- Decrease PPO employee Out of Pocket (OOP) max from \$6,500.00/\$13,000.00 to \$5,000.00/\$10,000.00
- Decrease the county HSA seed for the High-Deductible Health Plan (HDHP) deductible to \$2,000.00/

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with his pickup truck. Mr. Burrow said the station in Hillsdale did get hit and gave a report on the damage from the tornado. He thanked the crew, the Sheriffs Office, all the workers, the community, and Health Department for their response.

Shane Krull, County Administrator, stated he anticipates quite a bit of submittals of abatements on taxes. He feels we will process more than 100. He is proud of the professionalism and preparedness, extremely grateful for the mutual aid partners to our North and Johnson County and the suburbs, the State, Red Cross and other counties that contributed. We would not have had the speed and ease without the support and mutual aid.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Vickrey stated he was thankful no lives were lost. Thankful for our community showing up, volunteering, and helping their neighbors.

Commissioner Diediker stated a gratitude of thanks. He saw the help in action; it went smooth and congratulated everyone.

Commissioner Vaughan echoed the previous comments and stated nice work to everyone. It shows your preparation. I am proud of the people in Miami County for being caring, loving, and with the people in Hillsdale.

Chairman Pretz echoed the comments on the Hillsdale efforts by all, including private citizens.

Chairman Pretz announced there is no Board of Commissioners Study Session or 1:00 p.m. meeting next week, April 22, 2026, due to at least three Commissioners being in Hutchinson, Kansas for the Commissioners Conference.

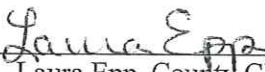
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:37 p.m.




George Pretz, Chairman

ATTEST:


Laura Epp, County Clerk