

**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 August 19, 2026. Those present were:

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

**Visitors:** Daryl Marmon, Duke Dorian, Dan Creason, Renee Slinkard

**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 August 12, 2026
- Approval of accounts payable payment vouchers
- Order of Corrections — Tax roll Corrections for Special Assessment abates.
- GOE - 2026-021-LS: Allen, Jimmy E & Patricia (A26-08-042)

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Duke Dorian, 10291 W. 295<sup>th</sup> Street, expressed concerns regarding road and bridge conditions from 287<sup>th</sup> to 295<sup>th</sup> Streets. He requested that the County investigate the conditions and consider returning road maintenance responsibilities to the neighboring property owners.

Renee Slinkard, 5630 W. 2200 Road, expressed concerns with emergency access in the Parker area due to multiple railroad crossings. She discussed a previously proposed cost share grant involving Miami and Linn Counties and requested consideration of connecting Devlin Road to Indianapolis to provide alternate access to U.S. 169.

Dan Creason, 35215 John Brown Highway, expressed concerns regarding annexation by the City of Osawatometie involving privately owned property in the area of Indianapolis Road, John Borwn Highway, and 363<sup>rd</sup> Street. He requested information regarding the annexation process and options available to affected property owners.

**PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS AND PROCLAMATION**

Proclamation: Constitution Week 2026. Renee Slinkard, Daughters of American Revolution Chair, presented information in recognition of Constitution Week 2026. Ms. Slinkard recognized activities commemorating the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary and events at the Miami County museum in June, a donation of a tree at the Veteran's Park in Paola with a 250<sup>th</sup> marker and participation in the recent Osawatometie Parade. Commissioner Vaughn moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Diediker seconded; vote taken: 5 in favor; 0 opposed, the motion passed.

**ACTION AGENDA**

Matthew Oehlert, Road & Bridge, Engineering Project Manager, requested the Commissioners to authorize Project 26-03-AP (707) Miami County Airport Runway 21 Extension. The project will extend the runway to 4,000 feet, including 602-foot addition, additional runway lights, and relocate existing runway lights per Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) standards. Relocate Precision Approach Path Indicator (PAPI) and Runway End Identifier Lights (REILs), construct a turnaround at runway end, and remove obstructions. The project will begin in late 2026 and be completed in 2028. In 2027 Miami County will have a funding obligation of \$300,000.00 (\$270,000.00 Airport Infrastructure Grant (AIG) that will get reimbursed. Miami County will pursue the Build Kansas Grant to cover the local share of \$30,000) for the Environmental, Design, Bidding, and Airports Geographic Information System (AGIS) services. In 2028 the construction, construction engineering, inspection, and As-Built AGIS totaling \$1,850,000.00 (\$1,515,000.00 Airport Improvement Program (AIP) funds and \$150,000.00 Non-Primary Entitlement (NPE) funds. For a local share of \$185,00.00. Commissioner Pretz moved the Commission to authorize Project 26-03-AP (707) Miami County Airport

Runway Extension, Commissioner Diediker seconded; vote taken: 5 in favor; 0 opposed, the motion passed.  
(A26-08-043)

Matthew Oehlert, Road & Bridge, Engineering Project Manager, requested authorization for the Chairman to execute an Environmental Review Agreement with Olsson, Inc., Project Number 26-03-AP (707) for the Miami County Airport Runway Extension. Miami County will receive a preliminary sketch, and Olsson will perform the required environmental review and required permitting associated with the project. The consultant agreement is a lump sum not to exceed \$16,400.00. We will pursue the Build Kansas Grant to cover the local share. Commissioner Pretz moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Scruggs seconded; vote taken: 5 in favor; 0 opposed, the motion passed.  
(A26-08-044)

Eric Sandberg, Road & Bridge Director, requested adoption of a resolution authorizing placement of a stop sign at intersection of 239th Street and State Line Road. Commissioner Vickrey moved to approve as presented, Commissioner Scruggs seconded; vote taken: 5 in favor; 0 opposed, the motion passed. (R26-08-028)

Kenneth Cook, Planning Director, requested consideration of Display Fireworks Permit, Permit 2026-011-TP for pyrotechnics and flame effects associated with Dancefestopia at Wildwood Outdoor Education Center, Inc., September 10-13, 2026. The applicant requested authorization to operate beyond the County's 11:00 p.m. restriction on certain evenings. Display Operator Daryl Marmon addressed the Board regarding efforts to reduce noise impacts and the type of pyrotechnics proposed. Daryl Marmon addressed previous years concerns from Commissioners indicating a majority of complaints were not from the fireworks, the event lowered the decibel readings of music and re-angled the stage to Southeast in response to these concerns. The type of pyrotechnics used are not high aerial. The sound you will hear from the fireworks is equivalent of shooting a twenty-two rifle. Commissioner Diediker moved to leave firework display as the previous year to stop at 11:00 p.m. Commissioner Vaughan seconded; vote taken: 4 in favor; 1 opposed (Commissioner Scruggs), the motion passed.

#### STAFF COMMENTS

Laura Epp, County Clerk, reported the 2026 Primary election is wrapping up, the canvass has been completed and the election results have been certified. Certified results will be submitted to the Kansas Secretary of State. Preparation for the General Election is underway.

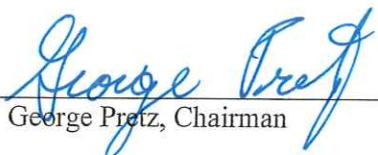
#### COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

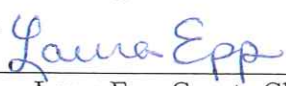
Commissioner Vickrey commented legal counsel previously recommend that commission not have dialogue during Public Comments so as not to impose on the citizens constitutional right to come in, comment and explain their thoughts. Commission should mention that dialogue can happen after the meeting.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.



  
George Pretz, Chairman

ATTEST:   
Laura Epp, County Clerk