BOARD OF McPHERSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA
April 28, 2025

**Commission Meetings are being held at the Public Works Dept. Meeting Room
1115 W. Avenue A, McPherson, KS during the renovation project at the County Building**

9:00 a.m. - The following items will be discussed as time permits -

A. Approval of Agenda
B. Approval of Minutes
C. Approval of Checks and Claims & Payroll
D. Adds & Abates
E. Personnel
F. Final ARPA Report for Review & Approval
G. 4-H Grounds Water Lines
H. Noxious Weed Department, Non-elected Personnel
I. General Correspondence

9:00 a.m. Public Input

9:05 a.m. Hollie Melroy, County Clerk -

Request to open provisional ballots

9:10 a.m. Sunny Milleson, Director of Harvey/McPherson Counties Community Corrections -

Juvenile Collaboration Grant Application & Signatory Form

9:15 a.m. Kathy Nicholson, Planning Board Chairman -

Discussion on Small Plat Subdivisions Moratorium

9:25 a.m. Laurie Wiziarde, Register of Deeds -

Non-elected Personnel

9:30 a.m. David Bohnenblust, Public Works Director & Mike Evans, Fleet Maintenance Foreman -

A. Award bids for the 2025 traffic paint and beads
B. Discussion of Maxwell State Park Project and Memorandum of Understanding
C. Discussion and approval to purchase a new RAM 5500 crew cab pickup truck
D. Discussion and approval to purchase a new mowing tractor
E. Discussion and approval to purchase a new 15' batwing mower

10:00 a.m. Special Election Vote Canvass - County Clerk's Office at the McPherson County Courthouse

MCPHERSON COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
April 28, 2025

April 28, 2025
9:00 a.m. - Regular Meeting
All Commissioners Present

Chairman Becker opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve the agenda for April 28, 2025, as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

During Public Input at 9:02 a.m., Sheriff Montagne updated Commissioners on recent arrest numbers, citations, and current jail counts.

Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve the minutes for April 21, 2025, with one clerical correction. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:02 a.m. Hollie Melroy, County Clerk, joined the meeting with a request to open the nine (9) provisional ballots from the recently passed USD 419 Special Bond election. Ms. Melroy cited statutes and justifications for the 9 ballots which were not included in the original ballot count. Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve the request for Ms. Melroy to return to her office to open and tally the provisional ballots. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:07 a.m., Sunny Milleson, Director of Harvey/McPherson Counties Community Corrections joined the meeting to request approval and signatures on the final grant application documents to submit for the 2-year FY2026-2027 Juvenile Collaboration Grant. Grant dollars requested amount to $118,208.53, which once received will be used to hire a Full-time Juvenile Intake Supervisor (to cover salary and benefits for 2 years), and for the continuance of the truancy program by Offender Victims Ministry (OVM) in Harvey and McPherson Counties. Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve the application and for the Chairman and County Administrator/Financial Manager, Rick Witte, to sign the Regional Collaboration Signatory documents as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:10 a.m., Kathy Nicholson, County resident and Planning Board Chairman, joined the meeting to discuss the possibility of placing a short term pause on applications for small tract subdivisions in the unincorporated areas of McPherson County until the Planning Board, Planning/Zoning/Environment Director, and County Commissioners could meet for a work session to consider adjustments to the current regulations. It is her concern that the allowable acreage, that was changed in 2024 from 20 acres to 40 acres, has increased the number of small tract subdivisions, which in her opinion, does not appear to support the County plan to preserve agriculture land. Ms. Nicholson noted she was not representing the Planning Board in this request. Following discussion, it was a consensus among Commissioners that no action be taken and that Ms. Nicholson return to the next meeting to allow time for the County to seek advice and direction from the County Counselor.

At 9:22 a.m., Laurie Wiziarde, County Register of Deeds joined the meeting to request approval of a Personnel Change Notice (PCN) to hire Sheila Malm as a Clerk I (8A), effective April 28, 2025, to fill a vacancy. Commissioner O'Dell made a motion for the Chairman to sign the PCN as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve the one abate as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:00 a.m., David Bohnenblust, Public Works Director, and Mike Evans, Fleet Maintenance Foreman, joined the meeting with five (5) items:

A. A request to award the 2025 yellow and white striping paint bid, and the traffic beads bid. Following discussion, Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve the yellow and white striping paint bid from Allstate Coatings for $52,800.00, and to approve the traffic bead bid from Crafco for $20,580.00 as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**
B. A request for approval and signature on the updated Memo of Understanding (MOU) between McPherson County and the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. The change involves the authorization of an additional 15' ROW on each side of Pueblo Road. Following discussion, Commissioner O'Dell made a motion of approval, and for the Chairman to sign the MOU as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**
C. A request to purchase a new crew work truck to replace the current outdated truck, which will be sold at auction. Following a review of bids and discussion, Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to purchase a new RAM 5500 crew cab pickup truck from Midway Motors, in an amount not to exceed $69,718.00 as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**
D. A request to purchase an additional mowing tractor. Following a review of bids and discussion, Commissioner Kueser made a motion to purchase a new Case IH Maxxum 150 from KanEquip in an amount not to exceed $140,608.00 as presented. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**
E. A request to purchase a new 15' batwing mower. Following a review of bids and discussion, Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to approve the bid for a Landpride 5715 Flex Wing Mower with a one-year deck warranty and ten-year gearbox from KanEquip for an amount not to exceed $25,459.00 as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

At 9:42 a.m., Ms. Melroy returned to the meeting to review the results from the provisional ballots, and vote totals from all five (5) precincts. Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to approve and sign the Special Election vote canvass as presented for the USD 419 Special Bond Election. The inclusion of the provisional ballots did not change the outcome of the overall election result. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to approve and sign checks and claims, regular accounts payable, election checks (including wages and mileage), witness checks, and a check to Fuqua Construction for April 28, 2025, and payroll for the pay period ending April 26, 2025 as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

Mr. Witte reviewed the Final ARPA Report which included all expenditures through December 31, 2024. He reported on specific details of allocated expenditures, and covered projects, which together totaled $5,543,949.00. Following discussion, Commissioner O'Dell made a motion to approve the certification and for the Chairman to sign the Final Report/Certification as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

Mr. Witte and Joshua Pimentel, Maintenance Supervisor, reported on leaking issues with the 4-H water lines, hydrants, restrooms and the waste dump station. The system was designed with no shutoffs at individual buildings or hydrants. Following a review and discussion of proposals for the installation of a new water system on the 4-H grounds, Commissioner Kueser made a motion to approve the system improvement project as presented from Jim's Plumbing, Heating & A/C Inc. for $45,411.92, plus the cost of adding a metered flow-through water service hydrant near the ballfield. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.**

Chairman Becker presented a request for approval of a PCN to hire Michael Benda as the Noxious Weed Department Director (21E), effective May 5, 2025, to fill a vacancy. Commissioner O'Dell made a motion for the Chairman to sign the PCN as presented. Commissioner Kueser seconded. **All voted aye.**

Chairman Becker and Commissioner Kueser reported on topics discussed at the Annual KCCA Meeting which they attended April 22, 2025 in Manhattan, Kansas.

At 10:11 a.m., Commissioner Kueser made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner O'Dell seconded. **All voted aye.** Later in the day, Chairman Becker approved and signed the CDBG (Grant # 22-PF-026) Contract Amendment Request (#5), and cover letter to the Kansas Department of Commerce, regarding a two (2) month extension for the completion of the McPherson RWD #1 Water System Improvement Project. The project was completed by 12/31/2024; however, the final monitoring and project performance hearing did not take place within the 90-day close out period due to a number of delays.

Minutes prepared by:
Abbey Heidebrecht, Commission Secretary

Keith Becker

Keith Becker, Chairman

D. O'Dell

David O'Dell, Vice Chairman

Thomas L. Kueser, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Hollie D. Melroy

Hollie D. Melroy, County Clerk