

*****July 1, 2026 *****

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday, July 1, 2026. Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Culbertson, Commissioner Reid, Commissioner Dove and Commissioner Stieben are present; Also present: Mark Loughry, County Administrator; Misty Brown, County Counselor; John Jacobson, Planning and Zoning Director; TerriLois Todd, Register of Deeds

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Linda Sturgeon, Judy Smyth, Tammy Patton, Jim Karleskint, Ted Grinter, Joan Murnane, Crystal Blackdeer, Sarah George, Julie Downes, Mary Wood and Arulio Haro commented.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Commissioner Culbertson and seconded by Commissioner Smith to move that the Board recess for a closed executive meeting to consult with our attorneys and discuss confidential matters related to the legal interests of the County which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship as justified by K.S.A. 75-4319 (b)(2) and that Board resume open meeting at 10:30 a.m. in the meeting room of the Board. Present in the executive meeting will be Commissioners Mike Smith, Jeff Culbertson, Vanessa Reid, Willie Dove, Mike Stieben, County Administrator Mark Loughry, County Counselor Misty Brown and Assistant County Counselor Anne Marie Yatsula.

Motion passed, 5-0.

The Board returned to regular session at 10:30 a.m. No action was taken and no decisions were made. The subject was limited to matters related to specific nonelected personnel.

Public Comment continued : Arulio Haro, Dee Karleskint, David Todd and Norma Brockenberry, commented.

Mark Loughry commented about property rights and county regulations.

Commissioner Culbertson spoke about Courthouse parking.

Commissioner Smith spoke at the International Officer's Day yesterday.

A motion was made by Commissioner Culbertson and seconded by Commissioner Smith to accept the consent agenda for Wednesday, July 1, 2026.

Motion passed, 5-0.

TerriLois Todd presented Board Order 2026-8 for approval.

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Culbertson to approve Board Order 2026-8, transferring funds from the Register of Deeds Tech Fund to the Board of County Commissioners Equipment Reserve Fund in the amount of \$55,998.00 for the County Appraiser's Eagleview aerial photography contract.

Motion passed, 5-0.

John Jacobson presented Resolution 2026-12, a rezone request from RR-5 to RR-2.5.

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Dove to find that the rezoning request complies with the Golden Factors and move to adopt Resolution 2026-12 and approve the rezoning as outlined in Case DEV-26-068 based on the recommendation of the Planning Commission and the findings set forth in the staff report.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Mr. Jacobson presented Resolution 2026-11, a request for a special use permit for RJ Farms.

A motion was made by Commissioner Culbertson and seconded by Commissioner Smith that the request for a special use permit complies with the Golden Factors and move to adopt Resolution 2026-11 and conditionally approve the special use permit as outlined in Case DEV-26-057 based on the recommendation and conditions of the Planning Commission and the findings set forth in the staff report subject to the following additional conditions, no horse tripping and no bull tailing.

Motion failed, 3-2 Commissioners Stieben and Dove voting nay.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Dove to approve with the conditions that Commissioner Culbertson added keep the insurance at ten million and for a one-year term.

Commissioner Stieben withdrew his motion and Commissioner Dove withdrew his second.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Dove to approve with the same conditions as last motion but change the insurance to one million and term of one- year.

Motion failed, 3-2 Commissioners Reid and Culbertson voting nay.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve with the same conditions as last motion but change the insurance to one million and term of two- years.

Motion passed, 4-1, Commissioner Reid voting nay.

Commissioner Smith announced the city of Lansing will have a 4th of July celebration on Thursday.

Sarah George, Mary Wood, Tammy Patton and Julie Downes commented.

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Stieben to adjourn.

Motion passed, 5-0.

The Board adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

*****July 8, 2026 *****

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday, July 8, 2026. Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Culbertson, Commissioner Reid, Commissioner Dove and Commissioner Stieben are present; Also present: Mark Loughry, County Administrator; Misty Brown, County Counselor; Bill Noll, Infrastructure and Construction Services; John Jacobson, Planning and Zoning Director

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Kim Colvert, Cecilia Pruitt, Tammy Patton, Tim Johnson and Jim Karleskint commented.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Mark Loughry reminded the Board that next week is the deadline to vote revenue neutral or not.

Commissioner Stieben read an article written by Senator Josh Hawley regarding AI and datacenters.

A motion was made by Commissioner Culbertson and seconded by Commissioner Smith to accept the consent agenda for Wednesday, July 8, 2026.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Bill Noll presented a contract for the replacement of a culvert on Leavenworth Road.

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Dove to approve the construction contract with Linaweaver Construction for the replacement of F-47 culvert on Leavenworth Road in the amount of \$260,751.85 with a 10% contingency.

Motion passed, 5-0.

John Jacobson presented an application for appointment to the Board of Building Appeals.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Dove to open it up for another 30 days and then reconsider.

***Motion passed, 3-1 Commissioner Reid voting nay,
Commissioner Culbertson voting present***

Sandra Bloss commented.

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Culbertson to adjourn.

Motion passed, 5-0.

The Board adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

*****July 15, 2026 *****

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday, July 15, 2026. Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Culbertson, Commissioner Dove and Commissioner Stieben are present; Commissioner Reid by phone; Also present: Mark Loughry, County Administrator; Misty Brown, County Counselor; Anne Marie Yatsula, Assistant County Counselor; Bill Noll, Infrastructure and Construction Services

Fran Keppler updated the Board on early voting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tyler Carpenter, Terry Abell, Dee Karleskint, Kim Colvert and Jim Karleskint commented.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Commissioner Stieben inquired about evening meetings to be placed on the agenda for discussion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben to have every other meeting an evening meeting.

Motion dies for a lack of a second.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Smith to have a meeting in the evening down south in Tonganoxie for a discussion on the agenda.

Motion failed, 2-3 Commissioners Dove, Reid and Culbertson voting nay.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Smith to add the discussion of data center moratorium extension to the agenda.

Motion passed, 3-2, Commissioners Dove and Reid voting nay.

Commissioner Reid is attending summit in Topeka where there is discussion on data centers and will report information back to the Board.

Commissioner Dove will be attending the National Association of Counties conference that includes sessions on data centers.

A motion was made by Commissioner Culbertson and seconded by Commissioner Smith to accept the consent agenda for Wednesday, July 15, 2026.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Anne Marie Yatsula presented a notice to withdraw from KERIT.

A motion was made by Commissioner Culbertson and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve a notice to the KERIT Board of Trustees of Leavenworth County's intent to withdraw as a member effective December 1, 2026.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Bill Noll presented the closing agreement with the FHA.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dove and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the closing agreement with the Federal Highway Administration for the Leavenworth County Safe Streets for All planning grant.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Mark Loughry gave the Board an overview of the 2027 budget.

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Dove to notify the county clerk general overall mill levy to intend to stay revenue neutral.

Motion passed, 5-0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Dove to notify the county clerk to intend to stay revenue neutral for special funds.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Robert Owens commented.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dove and seconded by Commissioner Smith to adjourn.

Motion passed, 5-0.

The Board adjourned at 9:52 a.m.

*****July 22, 2026 *****

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday, July 22, 2026. Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Culbertson, Commissioner Reid, Commissioner Dove and Commissioner Stieben are present; Also present: Mark Loughry, County Administrator; Misty Brown, County Counselor

Commissioner Culbertson requested to add the public comment policy to the agenda for discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Hannah Houck, Cecilia Pruitt, Chase Green, Lisa Haack, Tammy Patton, Jim Karleskint, Dee Karleskint, Jerry Pruitt, Byron McFee, Ted Grinter, Rebecca Davis, TerriLois Todd and Kim Colvert commented.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Commissioner Reid attended a data center and utility summit in Topeka and will provide material to the Board.

Mark Loughry updated the Board on what Fort Leavenworth is doing for EMS services per Commissioner Stieben's request.

A motion was made by Commissioner Culbertson and seconded by Commissioner Smith to accept the consent agenda for Wednesday, July 22, 2026.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Mr. Loughry presented an exemption form for NEK-CAP.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dove and seconded by Commissioner Smith to authorize the chairperson to sign the exemption form for the environmental review for NEK-CAP per the County Clerk.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Misty Brown presented an agreement for legal services related to data center development.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dove and seconded by Commissioner Culbertson to enter into an agreement with Kutak Rock to provide legal services related to the proposed data center development and associated legal matters.

Motion passed, 4-1 Commissioner Stieben voting nay.

Commissioner Dove attended the NACO conference and will relate more information to the Board.

The Board recessed for 10 minutes.

The Board reconvened at 10:57 a.m.

Commissioner Stieben ruled that the video will not be shown and that it is a discourteous act.

Commissioner Reid indicated the chairperson stated at a forum that the Board voted for the budget because of his leadership. She stated she wanted to give the rest of the Board a chance to state as to why they voted for the budget.

A motion was made by Commissioner Culbertson and seconded by Commissioner Smith to adjourn.

Motion passed, 5-0.

The Board adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dove and seconded by Commissioner Smith to reconvene as the Board of County Commissioners.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Rebecca Davis, Cecilia Pruitt, Tammy Patton, Dee Karlskint, Annette Holton, Byron McFee and Jane Dent commented.

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Dove to adjourn.

Motion passed, 5-0.

The Board adjourned at 11:24 a.m.

*****July 29, 2026 *****

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday, July 29, 2026. Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Culbertson, Commissioner Reid, Commissioner Dove and Commissioner Stieben are present; Also present: Mark Loughry, County Administrator; Misty Brown, County Counselor; Jamie VanHouten, Community Corrections Director

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tyler Carpenter, Ronald Grossman, Cecilia Pruitt, Andrea Bradfield, Keith Longhofer, Andrew Bellerive, Maryam Hjersted, Kevin Grow, Ted Grinter, Tammy Patton, Judy Smith, Dee Karleskint, Ann Hulsey, Jerry Pruitt, Rebecca Davis, Lee Hungerbeeler, Janice Barnhardt, Kim Colvert, Mary Brown, Carl Langley and Janelle Kimsey commented.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Commissioner Reid read services that Kutak Rock provides.

Commissioner Dove requested interaction with the public during public comment to be added to the agenda for discussion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Culbertson and seconded by Commissioner Smith to accept the consent agenda for Wednesday, July 29, 2026.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Jamie VanHouten presented the Adult and Juvenile Comprehensive Plan budget amendments for 2026.

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Culbertson to approve the FY26 Adult Comprehensive Plan budget amendment.

Motion passed, 5-0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dove and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the FY26 Juvenile Comprehensive Plan budget amendment.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Mark Loughry presented an updated public comment policy.

A motion was made by Commissioner Culbertson and seconded by Commissioner Dove to move public comment on non-agenda items to the end of the meeting.

Commissioner Culbertson amended his motion to include a one hour and a half time limit on agenda items at the beginning of the meeting and no time limit at the end. Commissioner Dove agreed to the amendment.

Commissioner Culbertson withdraws his motion and Commissioner Dove withdraws his second.

A motion was made by Commissioner Culbertson and seconded by Commissioner Reid to table the public comment policy.

Motion passed, 5-0.

The Board briefly discussed land use.

Jim Karleskint, Cecilia Pruitt, Lee Hungerbeeler, Tammy Patton, Maryam Hjersted, Kevin Grow, Mary Brown, Andrea Bradfield, Robert Owens, Jerry Pruitt and Jane Dent commented.

Mr. Loughry briefly discussed what the funds from Cloverleaf will be used for per Commissioner Stieben's request.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Dove to adjourn.

Motion passed, 5-0.

The Board adjourned at 11:49 a.m.