

*****February 5, 2025 *****

The Board of County Commissioners met in a regular session on Wednesday, February 5, 2025. Commissioner Culbertson; Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Stieben, Commissioner Reid and Commissioner Dove are present; Also present: Mark Loughry, County Administrator; Misty Brown, County Counselor; John Jacobson, Planning and Zoning Director; Amy Allison, Planning and Zoning Deputy Director; Tammy Saldivar, Solid Waste Director; Bill Noll, Infrastructure and Construction Services; John Richmeier, Leavenworth Times

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Julie Downes, David Downes, Crystal Blackdeer, Joe Herring, Dennis Bixby and Louis Klemp commented.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Commissioner Reid presented a letter of support for House Bill 2005.

Commissioner Culbertson suggested verbiage that puts a cap on the income.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Dove to approve the letter with the suggested language added.

Motion passed, 5-0.

It was the consensus of the Board to participate in the St. Patrick's Day parade.

Commissioner Stieben inquired about the status of the 235th St. project.

Bill Noll gave a brief update on the project.

A motion was made by Commissioner Culbertson and seconded by Commissioner Stieben to accept the consent agenda for Wednesday, February 5, 2025 as presented.

Motion passed, 5-0.

A letter of support for SCR 1603 was presented for approval.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Dove to approve the SCR 1603 letter.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Mike Spickelmeier presented the solid waste 5- year management plan.

A motion was made by Commissioner Culbertson and seconded by Commissioner Dove to approve the proposed text amendments to the County's 5-year solid waste management plan and forward the amendments to KDHE.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Mr. Spickelmeier requested approval of the 2025 solid waste committee roster.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Dove to approve the Leavenworth County 2025 solid waste committee members roster and forward to KDHE.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Amy Allison presented Resolution 2025-7, repealing Resolution 2024-32 correcting a legal description.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Culbertson to repeal Resolution 2024-32 and adopt Resolution 2025-7 to adopt legal description error.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Ms. Allison presented Resolution 2025-6, a special use permit for RJ Farms.

Aurelio Haro spoke.

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Stieben to table Case DEV-24-125, a special use permit for RJ Farms to next week.

Motion passed, 5-0.

John Jacobson presented the quarterly report for Planning and Zoning.

Mr. Noll presented the quarterly report for Public Works.

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

Motion passed, 5-0.

The Board adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

*****February 12, 2025 *****

The Board of County Commissioners met in a regular session on Wednesday, February 12, 2025. Commissioner Culbertson; Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Stieben, Commissioner Reid and Commissioner Dove are present; Also present: Mark Loughry, County Administrator; Misty Brown, County Counselor; Larry Malbrough, Information Systems Director; Monica Swigart, Human Resources Director; John Jacobson, Planning and Zoning Director; Amy Allison, Planning and Zoning Deputy Director; John Richmeier, Leavenworth Times

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Thaddeus Brzustowicz, Joan Murnane, Julie Downes, Dennis Bixby and Bennie Phillips commented.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Commissioner Smith mentioned LCDC has removed the Commission's position on their Board.

Commissioner Dove attended his first Mental Health Advisory Board meeting yesterday.

Commissioners Culbertson and Smith met with Senator Klemp to discuss legislative issues.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Culbertson to accept the consent agenda for Wednesday, February 12, 2025 as presented.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Mark Loughry presented a letter appointing Jon Khalil as the KERIT trustee alternate.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Culbertson to appoint Jon Khalil as the Leavenworth County alternate trustee on the KERIT Board of Trustees.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Resolution 2025-6 a special use permit for RJ Farms was presented.

Misty Brown cautioned that any decisions should be based on information presented at the public hearing.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Smith to return Case DEV-24-125 to the Planning Commission for their consideration of additional conditions including certification of security on site with a county employee to be paid by the applicant, licensed vendor on site if alcohol is going to be on site, making sure that minors aren't being served alcohol, certification that Kansas law are being observed, certification that any out of state registrations or licenses for animals are provided for and certified that they are meeting state law, assurance that tail pulling and horse tripping are specifically not to be permitted at the event, reviewing and potentially enhancing the liability insurance and reviewing and having an inspection required for the bleachers and all that to be consider by the Planning Commission. To send it back to the Planning Commission for public hearing and the information can be submitted at that time and allow the applicant a chance to respond to it.

Motion passed, 4-1 Commissioner Reid voting nay.

Larry Malbrough presented the quarterly report for Information Systems.

Monica Swigart presented the quarterly report for Human Resources Department.

Commissioner Reid explained her vote for the special use permit.

Commissioner Stieben reported on the tax cap bill.

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

Motion passed, 5-0.

The Board adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

Final Approved

*****February 12, 2025 *****

The Board of County Commissioners met in a work session on Wednesday, February 12, 2025. Commissioner Culbertson; Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Stieben, Commissioner Reid and Commissioner Dove are present; Also present: Mark Loughry, County Administrator; Misty Brown, County Counselor

The Board met in a work session to discuss the status of High Prairie Township's petition and action going forward.

The Board ended the work session at 10:24 a.m.

Final Approved

*****February 19, 2025 *****

The Board of County Commissioners met in a regular session on Wednesday, February 19, 2025. Commissioner Culbertson; Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Stieben, Commissioner Reid and Commissioner Dove are present; Also present: Mark Loughry, County Administrator; Misty Brown, County Counselor; John Richmeier, Leavenworth Times

PUBLIC COMMENT:

David Clifton and Crystal Blackdeer commented.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

A brief discussion took place regarding LCDC and Port Authority funding.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Culbertson to hold the funding until the work session.

Motion passed, 5-0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Culbertson and seconded by Commissioner Stieben to accept the consent agenda for Wednesday, February 19, 2025 as presented.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Planning and Zoning offered a presentation regarding using licensed vendors for serving alcohol on special use permits.

Staff was directed to draft policy that if alcohol will be on the premise during a commercial event under a special use permit that a licensed officer be present during that event.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dove and seconded by Commissioner Stieben that the Board recess for a closed executive meeting for the discussion of subjects involving the legal interests of the county and confidential matters related to potential claims and litigation as justified by K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2) for consultation with legal counsel which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship and that the Board resume open meeting at 10:50 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 Counselor Misty Brown, Deputy County Counselor Jon Khalil and County Administrator Mark Loughry.

Motion passed, 5-0.

The Board returned to regular meeting at 10:51 a.m. No decisions were made and the subject was limited to the legal interests of the county.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dove and seconded by Commissioner Stieben that the Board recess for a closed executive meeting for the discussion of subjects involving the legal interests of the county and confidential matters related to potential claims and litigation as justified by K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2) for consultation with legal counsel which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship and that the Board resume open meeting at 11:10 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 Counselor Misty Brown, Deputy County Counselor Jon Khalil and County Administrator Mark Loughry.

Motion passed, 5-0.

The Board returned to regular meeting at 11:11 a.m. No decisions were made and the subject was limited to the legal interests of the county.

Commissioners Stieben and Dove testified in Topeka on the property tax cap.

Commissioner Smith will attend the JCAB meeting tomorrow.

***A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Culbertson to adjourn.
Motion passed, 5-0.***

The Board adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Final Approved

*****February 26, 2025 *****

The Board of County Commissioners met in a regular session on Wednesday, February 26, 2025. Commissioner Culbertson; Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Stieben and Commissioner Dove are present; Commissioner Reid is present by phone; Also present: Mark Loughry, County Administrator; Misty Brown, County Counselor; John Jacobson, Planning and Zoning Director; Jamie VanHouten, Community Corrections Director; Travis Hunsecker, Deputy Appraiser; Bill Noll, Infrastructure and Construction Services; John Richmeier, Leavenworth Times

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tama Brzustowicz and Louis Klemp commented.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Mark Loughry reported that the current Wellness Incentive Policy does not include retirees that are on the county health insurance and will amend the policy to include that to bring back next week.

Commissioner Culbertson will testify on Senate Bill 108 tomorrow morning.

Commissioner Culbertson announced CoreCivic will give a presentation on Saturday at their facility.

Commissioner Stieben commented on Fire District #1.

Commissioner Stieben commented on the former economic development director.

Commissioner Smith requested letters of support for the city of Basehor's request for lowering the speed limit and a letter of support for Leavenworth Waterworks consolidation.

Commissioner Dove reported the State of the City of Basehor will be held March 11 at 11:30 a.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Culbertson and seconded by Commissioner Stieben to accept the consent agenda for Wednesday, February 26, 2025 as presented.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Commissioner Stieben read a memo from the city of Tonganoxie requesting a continuance of the rehearing of their annexation request.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Culbertson for a continuance of the hearing to March 26, 2025.

Motion passed, 4-1 Commissioner Reid voting nay.

Misty Brown requested authorization to process claims and expenditures on behalf of Fire District #1.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Smith to authorize the County Counselor's office to process claims and expenditures on behalf of Fire District #1, in compliance with the County's Procurement Policy.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Jamie VanHouten requested approval for the application for FY2026 Juvenile Comprehensive Plan.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Dove to approve the application for the FY2026 Juvenile Comprehensive Plan.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Ms. VanHouten requested approval for the application for FY2026 Adult Comprehensive Plan

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Culbertson to approve FY2026 Adult Comprehensive Plan.

Motion passed, 5-0.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Culbertson to approve the application for FY2026-2027 JCAB grant.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Travis Hunsecker requested approval of Board Order 2025-1, granting disaster relief tax abatement.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Culbertson to approve Board Order 2025-1 granting disaster relief tax abatement for tax ID's 1-28711, 1-21058, and 2025 tax credit for tax ID 1-37570 which were substantially destroyed by fire in 2024.

Motion passed, 5-0.

Mr. Hunsecker presented the quarterly report for the Appraiser's Office.

Ms. VanHouten presented the quarterly report for Community Corrections.

A motion was made by Commissioner Stieben and seconded by Commissioner Smith that the Board recess for a closed executive meeting for discussion of subjects involving the legal interests of the County and confidential matters related to potential claims and litigation as justified by K.S.A. 75-4319(b)(2) for consultation with legal counsel which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship 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 Counselor Misty Brown, Deputy County Counselor Jon Khalil and County Administrator Mark Loughry.

Motion passed, 5-0.

The Board returned at 10:30 a.m. No action was taken and no decisions were made. The subject was limited to the legal actions of the county.

Commissioners Stieben and Culbertson participated in the MARC meeting.

Commissioners Dove and Stieben will be attending the NACO Conference in Washington D.C. next week.

Commissioner Smith met with the mayor of Basehor and the LCPA meeting.

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

Motion passed, 4-0.

The Board adjourned at 10:32 a.m.