

\*\*\*\*\*May 20, 2026 \*\*\*\*\*

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday, May 20, 2026. Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Culbertson, Commissioner Reid, Commissioner Dove and Commissioner Stieben are present; Also present: Mark Loughry, County Administrator; Misty Brown, County Counselor; Connie Harmon, Council on Aging Director; Aaron Yoakam, Buildings and Grounds Director; Roger Marris, Deputy County Counselor; Bill Noll, Infrastructure and Construction Services

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Ed Irvine, Brian Morley, Dee Karleskint, Jim Karleskint and Nancy Carpenter commented.

**ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Reid attended the LCDC and Port Authority meetings indicating there may be some movement in Leavenworth County.

Commissioner Smith attended the Port Authority meeting.

Commissioner Stieben will be posting information on datacenters on his county webpage.

Commissioner Stieben read a legal brief from a local veterinary and local attorney regarding horse tripping and steer tailing.

Misty Brown indicated she disagreed with the legal opinion.

***A motion was made by Commissioner Culbertson and seconded by Commissioner Smith to accept the consent agenda for Wednesday, May 20, 2026, as presented.***

***Motion passed, 5-0.***

Connie Harmon requested to accept bid from TRIO Community Meals for nutritional services and catering.

***A motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Dove to approve the bid from TRIO Community Meals for FY 2026-2029 nutritional services and catering.***

***Motion passed, 5-0.***

Aaron Yoakam requested renewal of a 3-year contract with Clearwater Enterprises for gas sales.

***A motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Dove to approve a 3-year contract with Clearwater Enterprises, LLC for gas sales beginning July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.***

***Motion passed, 5-0.***

Roger Marris requested approval to proceed with tax foreclosure proceedings.

***A motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Dove to approve Board Order 2026-7, directing tax counsel to initiate judicial tax lien foreclosure proceedings.  
Motion passed, 5-0.***

Bill Noll requested approval of a 3-month lease on a Hydradig.

***A motion was made by Commissioner Culbertson and seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve a 3-month lease on a JCB 110W Hydradig from Kan Equip in the amount of \$25,000.00.***

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

The Board held a hearing on a proposed island annexation by the city of Easton by Resolution 2026-1.

***A motion was made by Commissioner Culbertson and seconded by Commissioner Smith to find that this island property is adjacent to the KDOT roadway and is not expected to impact County roadways or present any concerns regarding access or maintenance. Based on the totality of the record, I find that the proposed annexation will not hinder or prevent the proper growth and development of the area or that of any other incorporated city located with the County, and I move that this Board adopt these findings.***

***Motion passed, 5-0.***

The Board held a hearing on a proposed annexation of one County owned lot in the city of Easton.

***A motion was made by Commissioner Culbertson and seconded by Commissioner Stieben that the Board of County Commissioners consent to the annexation of this County owned parcel, identified as parcel 052-064-18-0-00-00-015.00-0 into the city limits of Easton and direct staff to file the County's consent to annexation with the city.***

***Motion passed, 5-0.***

Commissioner Culbertson would like to amend a resolution regarding high pressure gas lines.

***A motion was made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Dove that the Board recess for a closed executive meeting to consult with our attorneys and discuss confidential matters related to contract negotiations and the legal interest of the County which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship as permitted under the Kansas Open Meetings Act and the board resume open meeting at 10:45 a.m. in the meeting room of the board. Present in the executive meeting will be Commissioners Mike Smith, Jeff Culbertson, Willie Dove, Mike Stieben and Vanessa Reid, County Administrator, Mark Loughry and County Counselor, Misty Brown.***

***Motion passed, 5-0.***

The Board has returned to regular session at 10:45 a.m. No action was taken and no decisions were made. The subject was limited to the legal interests of the County.

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

The Board adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

Final Approved