

LYON COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
FEBRUARY 20, 2025

The Board of Lyon County Commissioners met in Action Session at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission Chambers with the following people in attendance:

Ken Duft, Chairman
Doug Peck, Commissioner
Dan Williams, County Controller
Vici Smith, Public Relations Manager

Chris Bartel, Vice Chair
Molly Priest, County Counselor
Amie Jones, County Clerk

Others attending the meeting:
Alicia Rumold, Lyon County H.R.
Brandon Rains, resident
Richelle Birk, resident
Clay Childs, resident
Dr. Caren Daugherty, FHTC
Gary Post, resident

Carl Antes, resident
Ed Rathke, resident
Amanda Davis, Emporia Gazette
Terry Rhoads, FHTC

Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

Motion: To Approve the Agenda as written. Bartel/Duft 3-0

Motion: To Approve the Minutes of the 2-13-2025 meeting as corrected. Duft/Bartel 3-0

Motion: To Approve Warrants Payable 2-21-2025 in the amount of \$162,036.47.
Bartel/Duft 3-0

Appointments: Commissioners considered an appointment for the National Resources Advisory Board.

Motion: To Approve Appointing Eric Paul the to National Resources Advisory Board with a term ending 12/31/2027. Duft/Bartel 3-0

Personnel changes: Commissioners reviewed the personnel changes for this week.

Motion: To Approve the personnel and payroll changes for February 20,2025. Duft/Bartel 3-0

Permits: No action taken.

Reports:

Commissioner Duft:

- Attended the ESU Founders Day
- Met with the Mayor of Emporia on Monday afternoon

Commissioner Bartel:

- Attended the ESU Founders Day
- Several calls on Roads and zoning issues

Commissioner Peck:

- Attended the RDA meeting on Friday
- Attended the ESU Founders Day at ESU

Clerk Jones:

- No Report

Counselor Priest:

- Attended RDA meeting on Friday
- Attended the ESU Founders Day at ESU
- Will attend Economic Advancement Committee meeting at Zoo Education Center on Tuesday
- Will attend the NRH Board meeting on Wednesday

Controller Williams:

- Zoom meeting with Brown and Brown yesterday
- Zoom meeting with CDBG this afternoon

Ed Rathke, Richelle Birk, and Clay Childs, from The Wall that Heals, presented Commissioners with an update on the status of the fundraising campaign. They invited the Commissioners to the kick-off campaign at the American Legion on March 29, 2025 from noon to 5pm. The wall will arrive on August 12, 2025 and once set up will be on display August 14-17, 2025.

Motion: To Approve allocating \$12,000.00 from sales tax dollars to the Wall that Heals Committee Emporia American Legion from fund 017-00-9811. Peck/Bartel 3-0

Public Comment:

Gary Post, Emporia Lions Club, Thanked Commissioner for supporting the Wall that Heals, and gifted them with tickets to the Lions Club Biscuit and Gravy feed on March 1 from 7:30-11:00am. Brandon Rains, resident, spoke to Commissioner about property taxes, and the money for Flint Hills Technical College.

Carl Antes, resident, Thanked Commissioner for supporting the Wall that Heals, and spoke to the issue of tax dollars being spent on Flint Hills Technical College and encourages places to get more private funding dollars.

Dr. Caren Daughety, FHTC, spoke to Commissioners about the FHTC and the value of Technical Education.

Garrett Nordstrom, with Western Consultants, briefed Commissioners about the CDBG and how the grant program works. There is no debt or liability that Lyon County is held accountable for. Lucas Moody, spoke to Commission about what Fork & Spoon is and what the plan is for the grant. The location is 713 Commercial, and construction is expected between June 2025 and January 2026. The CDBG funding will cover construction cost only.

Public Hearing:

Commissioners held a public hearing on the CDBG Downtown Commercial Rehabilitation Application.

Motion: To Approve Resolution 04-25, A Resolution Certifying Legal Authority to Apply For The 2024 Kansas Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program From The Kansas Department of Commerce and Authorizing the Mayor/Commissioner To Sign and Submit Such An Application. Duft/Bartel 3-0

Motion: To Approve Resolution 05-25, A Resolution Declaring A Building Blighted With Respect To The Kansas Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Bartel/Duft 3-0

Motion: To Approve the Contract for Administration Services for Lyon County, Kansas CDBG Commercial Rehabilitation between Western Consultants and Lyon County. Duft/Bartel 3-0

Dan Williams, Lyon County Controller, presented Commissioner with approving the invoice from Flint Hills Technical College for the 2025 Allocation for a total of \$230,000.00 to be paid from account 017-00-9811. After much discussion, it was noted that this money comes from Sales Tax fund and not from Ad Valorum.

Motion: To Approve the invoice from Flint Hills Technical College for the 2025 Allocation for a total of \$230,000.00 to be paid from account 017-00-9811. Peck/Duft 2-1
Note: This is paid out of the Sales Tax Fund not Ad Valorum.

Motion: To Adjourn. Duft/Bartel 3-0

There being no further business before the Board, the next Action Session will take place on February 27, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission Chambers.

Attest:

Affirm:

Amie Jones
Lyon County Master Clerk

Ken Duft, Chairman
Lyon County Commission