

LYON COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
May 29, 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 Chairman
Molly Priest, County Counselor
Amie Jones, County Clerk

Others attending the meeting:

John Ingold, Resident
Jarom Smith, Lyon County Observer
Alicia Rumold, Lyon County H.R.
Becky Morton, Boy Scout Troop 157
Sam Seeley, Lyon Co. Planning & Zoning
Jim Brull, Lyon County Asst. Engineer
John Koelsch, Lyon County Undersheriff
Melanie Curtis, Co-Executive Director Imaginarium
Dell Jacob, Co-Executive Director Imaginarium

Mark Remmert, Resident
Monte Miller, Counsel
Ethan Morton, Boy Scout Troop 157
Amanda Davis, Emporia Gazette
Chip Woods, Lyon County Engineer
Tagan Trahoon, KVOE
Garrett Nordstrom, Govt. Assistance Service
Sarah Eimer, Board Member Imaginarium
Jerry Campbell, Resident

Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

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

Motion: To Approve the Minutes of the 05/22/2025 meeting as amended. Duft/Bartel 3-0

Motion: To Approve Warrants Payable for 05/30/2025 in the amount of \$96,300.87.
Duft/Bartel 3-0

Appointments: None.

Personnel & Payroll changes: Commissioners reviewed the personnel and payroll changes for this week.

Motion: To Approve the Personnel & Payroll changes for May 29, 2025. Duft/Peck 3-0

Permits: None.

Chip Woods, Lyon County Engineer and Jim Brull, Lyon County Assistant Engineer, introduced Commissioners to the new Lyon County Engineer, Wayne Scritchfield. Engineer Woods will continue to work until October when he retires.

Amie Jones, Lyon County Clerk, presented Commissioners with the proposal from KOMTEK Systems Corporation for prepayment of the RNR notices to be mailed out. This item is budgeted yearly now, to be paid from the Clerks Miscellaneous Fund 010-02-7280 for a total of \$14,703.31. Clerk Jones noted that this year the State will reimburse the County in full for the mailing.

Motion: To Approve the proposal from KOMTEK Systems Corporation in the amount of \$14,703.31, for the RNR notices to be mailed out to be paid from the Clerks Miscellaneous Fund 010-02-7280.

Note: This is a budgeted item and will be reimbursed by the State. It is also statutory requirement to send out the notice. Bartel/Duft 3-0

Sam Seeley, Lyon County Planning & Zoning, presented Commissioners to consider application Q2025-01, a request for Agriculture Conditional-Use "Quarry" by Ben Retter, US Stone, Leaseholder. Mr. Seeley, explained to Commissioners that the plan was for removal of the stone, statutes that impact this permit, board recommendations, and how the land would be restored. He also explained about the proposed routes that could be used. Mr. Seeley did state that one protest petition was filed in opposition of this. Mr. Seeley informed Commissions that all public notices were issued per statue, along with being printed in the Gazette prior to the Planning & Zoning boards public hearing.

Commissioner Bartel explained that he visited the area last night, and looked at the road situation. He expressed that the option of road C, after a rebuild would be a better option than road D. He also expressed that the load capacity on road D is questionable, the hill that is located on road D is dangerous, and expressed that road C is too narrow for semi-trucks. Commissioner Bartel expressed safety concerns as a main focus. He said he wanted to go on record stating that the road that the company had suggested was completely unsafe, and that someone would end up getting hurt or killed using that minimum maintenance road due to the hill north of the turnpike.

Resident, John Ingold, expressed concern about Road D and the hill. He also expressed concern about the process of getting the stone out of the ground, Lockerman Road and use of it even when they are not allowed to use it. He expresses concern about the Company being used and their lack of safety protocols.

Mark Remmert, resident, expressed concern that he was the only neighbor that was notified and expressed concern about safety. Mr. Remmert was the only person to file a protest petition, being the only one in statutory limits to be able to do so. Mr. Remmert also expressed concern about the dust and traffic flow, and how he was not a fan of the roads being sprayed to keep the dust at minimum. He advised he had tried to make a deal with the company, wherein he would be willing to trade a piece of his land, with the land in question – at a loss to himself, to give them land with better access, and be safer. The company declined.

Monte Miller, Counsel, expressed concern on the number of loads done per day and suggested that the number of loads that was proposed should be put in the permit so that they are held to the number of loads per day.

Commissioners suggested to add to the Conditional Use Permit that no more than 10 loads per week, and having the County Engineer work with the Sheriff to have a traffic survey done, at the company's cost.

Commissioners agreed to table it for 2 weeks and asked Sam Seeley, Lyon County Planning and Zoning and Wayne Scritchfield, Lyon County Engineer to return with more information.

Motion: To Approve tabling the application Q2025-01, a request for Agriculture Conditional-Use "Quarry" by Ben Retter, US Stone, Leaseholder for two weeks.

Bartel/Peck 3-0

Break 10:05 a.m.

Public Comment: Ethan Morton, Boy Scout Troop 157, spoke to Commissioners about how he needed to take notes and present his notes to Commissioners for his Communications Merit Badge.

Public Hearing on CDBG Application to the State Department of Commerce for the Imaginarium Rehabilitation.

Garrett Nordstrom, Governmental Assistance Services and Melanie Curtis, Co-Executive Director Imaginarium, explained what the Imaginarium does for kids, how they interact with the schools, and what the summer camps look like. Today was just to meet the public hearing requirements, that they will be back in a few weeks to present the grant. Lyon County, again would just be the "pass through".

Sarah Eimer, Board member, spoke to the expansion if this were to go through. She also spoke to the fact, that this could provide for more students and scholarships opportunity for the community. Allowing for more classes to be held at the same time, and allow more that one activity at a time.

Reports:

Commissioner Duft:

- Attended the Memorial Day Celebration on Monday at the Anderson Building
- Will attend a meeting with the city next week
- June 4th starts budget meetings

Commissioner Bartel:

- Attended the Memorial Day Celebration on Monday at the Anderson Building
- Spoke with a resident about a property entrance
- Spoke with a resident about cleaning out a ditch
- Went to Noxious Weed and met with Amy and toured the department
- Spoke with residents about the quarry issue

Commissioner Peck:

- Attended the Memorial Day Celebration on Monday at the Anderson Building
- Memorial Day Celebration at Cottonwood falls was canceled due to weather
- June 4th next meeting

Clerk Jones:

- Filing deadline is Monday, June 2nd at noon

Counselor Priest:

- Attended the hospital board meeting on Wednesday
- Next week will be here on Wednesday and Ashley McGee will be here on Thursday in my absence.

Controller Williams:

- Provided the sale tax total for the month of May, totals are above plan, and increased from last month and last year.

Motion: To move to a Non-Elected Personnel Executive Session for employee evaluation with Commissioners, to return at 10:40 a.m. Duft/Bartel 3-0

Meeting reconvened at 10:40 a.m.

Motion: To Adjourn. Duft/Bartel 3-0

There being no further business before the Board, a Study Session will take place on June 4, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. with the next Action Session on June 5, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission Chambers.

Attest:

Affirm:

Amie Jones
Lyon County Master Clerk

Ken Duft, Chairman
Lyon County Commission