

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

Others attending the meeting:

Austin Hoagland, Gazette	Mindy Bartel, resident
Julie Govert, N.C.F.H. Area Agency on Aging	John Alvarado, resident
Kelsey Pfannenstiel, N.C.F.H. Area Agency on Aging	Odessa Green, resident
Taliyah Logsdone, N.C.F.H. Area Agency on Aging	Rita Andersen, resident
Kim Parks, resident	Dagan Morris, resident
Jim Childears, resident	Ryan Benton, resident
Courtney Matlon, resident	Hank Parks, resident
Lilly Parks, resident	Deb Childears, resident
Carolyn, Van Syoc, resident	John Koelsch, Lyon County Undersheriff

Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

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

Motion: To Approve the Minutes of the 06/12/2025 meeting as amended. Duft/Bartel 3-0

Motion: To Approve the Minutes from 06/18/2025 study session fence viewing as amended.
Bartel/Duft 3-0

Motion: To Approve Warrants Payable for 06/20/2025 in the amount of \$392,972.29.
Duft/Bartel 3-0

Motion: To Approve Payroll Payable for 06/20/2025 in the amount of \$376,127.51.
Duft/Peck 3-0

Motion: To Approve Payroll Withholding Payable for 06/20/2025 in the amount of \$516,665.04.
Duft/Bartel 3-0

Appointments: None.

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

Permits: None.

Julie Govert Walters, Executive Director, Kelsey Pfannenstiel, Deputy Director, and Taliyah Logsdone, Aging Specialist, of North Central Flint Hills Area Agency on Aging, presented their budget request for 2026. Commissioners had additional questions regarding the budget request, and requested additional detailed information about what the funds would be used for.

Public Comment:

John Alvarado, spoke to Commissioners about if the county will provide funding towards to new Rec center.

Break until 10:00 a.m.

Commissioners held discussion on the fence viewing held on Road 220. Counselor Priest provided Commissioners with information from the Kansas Statutes, stating that K.S.A. 29-309 is applicable in this situation. However, should a new fence be built and livestock be put on the land, then another viewing would take place, and landowners may be responsible for their half of the fence. Counselor Priest spoke to fact that the County Commissioners do not have authority to comment or give direction about how the land was surveyed.

Carolyn VanSyoc, landowner, explained to Commissioners that they now understand the boundaries and have no issues with a new the fence being build, however they do not want forced ownership of the fence or to have to pay for half the fence. Mrs. VanSyoc also expressed that they do not have any malice toward Jim Childears or in the moving forward of a new fence being built on the surveyed lines.

Wayne Fessler, landowner, expressed to Commissioners that he has no malice toward Mr. Childears. Mr. Fessler explained that he does not have a need for a fence and that a new fence will not provide any benefits to him, therefore he feels as if he shouldn't have to pay for half of the fence.

Commissioner Bartel, spoke as a cattleman, and advised that as state law says that if cattle get out of a fence and come onto adjoining landowners' property, due to the adjoining landowner not taking care of the fence, then the responsibility is turned on the adjoining landowner and not the cattle owner for damages cause by said cattle.

Counselor Priest reiterated that it is State law about fence cost, not the decision of the County Commission.

Ryan Benton, asked if the findings will be sent to the landowners.

Motion: To Accept the findings of the fence viewers on the Childears property and adjoining landowners' properties, viewed at the 1200 block or Road 220 on June 18, 2025.

Duft/Bartel 3-0

Counselor Priest presented Commissioners with signing the Local Disaster Declaration for Severe Flooding June 3-7, 2025.

Motion: To Approve signing the Local Disaster Declaration for Severe Flooding June 3-7, 2025.

Duft/Peck 3-0

Vici Smith, Public Relations Manager, presented additional information to Commissioners on the Agenda and Minutes Management software through CivicPlus. Mac Glidewell and Mathew Marler with CivicPlus, appeared by phone, and answered questions that the Commissioners and County Counselor had. CivicPlus will prepare a new quote and Vici will bring it back to the Commissioners on June 26th.

Vici also discussed a letter to vendors regarding the article in Business View Magazine, set to come out in August.

Reports:

Commissioner Duft:

- Attended the Fence Viewing on Wednesday
- Attended the Freestate Fiber ground breaking at ESU for a fiber HUB
- Will attend the KDEM meeting
- Attended the meeting about the Shooting range and 911 dispatch center on Wednesday
- Will attend the Lyon County Counsel on Aging meeting on Monday

Commissioner Bartel:

- Attended the Fence Viewing on Wednesday
- Took calls about budget questions
- Took calls about farmers farming all the way to the gravel on some roads
- Tuesday went to rock quarry west of Olpe that US Stone takes care of
- Attended the meeting about the shooting range and 911 dispatch center on Wednesday

Commissioner Peck:

- Attended the Fence Viewing on Wednesday
- Attended the RDA meeting on Friday

Clerk Jones:

- Attended the Fence Viewing on Wednesday

Counselor Priest:

- Attended the Fence Viewing on Wednesday
- Attended the RDA meeting on Friday
- Will attend the hospital board meeting on Wednesday

Controller Williams:

- Attended the RDA meeting on Friday
- Presented a KCAMP letter, and insurance prices for next year
- Attended the meeting about the Shooting range and 911 dispatch center on Wednesday

Motion: To Adjourn.

Duft/Bartel 3-0

There being no further business before the Board, the next Action Session will take place on June 26, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. in the Commission Chambers.

Attest:

Affirm:

Amie Jones
Lyon County Master Clerk

Ken Duft, Chairman
Lyon County Commission