



WELCOME TO
LYON COUNTY
KANSAS

LYON COUNTY COMMISSION ACTION SESSION
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2026

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

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

Others attending the meeting:

Alicia Rumold, Lyon County Human Resources
Pam James, resident
Tagan Trahoon, KVOE

Wayne Scritchfield, Lyon County Engineer
Austin Hoagland, Emporia Gazette

9:00 A.M. I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. APPROVE/AMEND AGENDA

Motion: To Approve the agenda as written.

RESULT: Approved

MOTION: Chairman Duft

SECOND: Vice-Chair Bartel

AYES: Chairman Duft, Vice-Chair Bartel, Commissioner Peck

NAYS: None

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Consider the Minutes of the 02/12/26 meeting.

Motion: To Approve the minutes as written.

RESULT: Approved

MOTION: Vice-Chair Bartel

SECOND: Commissioner Peck

AYES: Chairman Duft, Vice-Chair Bartel, Commissioner Peck

NAYS: None

B. Consider Warrants Payable for 02/20/26, in the amount of \$137,536.79.

Motion: To Approve the Warrants Payable.

RESULT: Approved

MOTION: Commissioner Peck

SECOND: Vice-Chair Bartel

AYES: Chairman Duft, Vice-Chair Bartel, Commissioner Peck

NAYS: None

C. Consider Appointments.

Motion: To Approve appointing Dagan Morris and Chad Kurzen to the Lyon County Fair Board.

RESULT: Approved

MOTION: Chairman Duft

SECOND: Commissioner Peck

AYES: Chairman Duft, Vice-Chair Bartel, Commissioner Peck

NAYS: None

Note: Dagan's term will expire December 31, 2027, and Chad's term will expire December 31, 2028.

D. Consider the Annual Report of Reading and Pike Townships.

Motion: To Approve the Annual Report for Reading Township for 2025.

RESULT: Approved

MOTION: Vice-Chair Bartel

SECOND: Chairman Duft

AYES: Chairman Duft, Vice-Chair Bartel, Commissioner Peck

NAYS: None

Motion: To Approve the Annual Report for Pike Township for 2025.

RESULT: Approved

MOTION: Commissioner Peck

SECOND: Vice-Chair Bartel

AYES: Chairman Duft, Vice-Chair Bartel, Commissioner Peck

NAYS: None

V. DISCUSS PERSONNEL CHANGES

Commissioners reviewed Personnel and Payroll changes.

VI. PERMITS

None.

VII. ALICIA RUMOLD - HUMAN RESOURCES

- A. Consider approving the invoice from KWORCC for the 2025 workers' compensation premiums after the audit in the amount of \$26,966.00 to be paid from account [010-58-7236].

Motion: To Approve the invoice from KWORCC for the 2025 workers' compensation premiums after the audit in the amount of \$26,966.00 to be paid from account 010-58-7236.

RESULT: Approved

MOTION: Vice-Chair Bartel

SECOND: Commissioner Peck

AYES: Chairman Duft, Vice-Chair Bartel, Commissioner Peck

NAYS: None

VIII. WAYNE SCRITCHFIELD - LYON COUNTY ENGINEER

- A. Discuss the County Engineer's recommendation for pedestrian crossings at 5th and Commercial Street.

Engineer Scritchfield presented to Commissioners his recommendations for the crossing. Recommending that the crosswalks be moved, and the traffic signal be removed.

IX. AMIE JONES - LYON COUNTY CLERK

- A. Consider approving the invoice from KSOS for the 2026 ELVIS invoice for Lyon County for a total of \$7,100.00 to be paid from account [010-21-7210].

Motion: To Approve the invoice from KSOS for the 2026 ELVIS invoice for Lyon County for a total of \$7100.00 to be paid from account 010-21-7210.

RESULT: Approved

MOTION: Commissioner Peck

SECOND: Vice-Chair Bartel

AYES: Chairman Duft, Vice-Chair Bartel, Commissioner Peck

NAYS: None

X. COMMISSION/STAFF REPORTS

Commissioner Duft:

- Attended the City/County Joint Luncheon on Wednesday
- Will attend Main Street Annual Auction on Saturday
- Will attend the Council on Aging meeting on Monday
- Meeting tomorrow with Molly and resident

- Phone calls on lagoons and road issues

Commissioner Bartel:

- Road concerns after the rain
- Attended a meeting with Cathy Pimple
- Attended the City/County Joint Luncheon on Wednesday
- Will attend Main Street Annual Auction on Saturday

Commissioner Peck:

- Attended a meeting with Cathy Pimple on Thursday
- Attended the City/County Joint Luncheon on Wednesday
- Attended RDA meeting on Friday
- Will attend Main Street Annual Auction on Saturday

Clerk Jones:

- Attended the City/County Joint Luncheon on Wednesday

Counselor Priest:

- Attended the City/County Joint Luncheon on Wednesday
- Attended JEDAC yesterday
- Will attend Main Street Annual Auction on Saturday
- Will attend the hospital board meeting next week

Controller Williams:

- Attended RDA meeting on Friday
- Attended JEDAC yesterday
- Attended the City/County Joint Luncheon on Wednesday
- Will attend Main Street Annual Auction on Saturday
- Auditors will be here next week

Pio Smith:

- Absent

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION - EMPLOYEE EVALUATION

Motion: To move to an Executive session for employee evaluation with Commissioners and Erin Rodrigues to return at 9:55 AM.

RESULT: Approved

MOTION: Chairman Duft

SECOND: Commissioner Peck

AYES: Chairman Duft, Vice-Chair Bartel, Commissioner Peck

NAYS: None

Meeting reconvened at 9:55 am.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION (2) - EMPLOYEE EVALUATION

Motion: To move to Executive Session for employee evaluation with Commissioners and Counselor Priest to return at 10:10 AM.

RESULT: Approved

MOTION: None

SECOND: Commissioner Peck

AYES: Chairman Duft, Vice-Chair Bartel, Commissioner Peck

NAYS: None

Meeting reconvened at 10:10 am.

XIII. MOLLY PRIEST - LYON COUNTY COUNSELOR

A. Review contract for animal shelter services.

Counselor Priest presented Commissioners with information about the current contract. Counselor Priest, worked along with Keena Privat from CareArc, informed Commissioners that "Home Quarantines" are allowed when the owner can provide the needed recommendations. Counselor Priest informed Commissioners that the County is paying a monthly charge of \$1000.00 to Raise Your Paws and has used the service provided by the contract 9 times for quarantines along with using it 3 times for strays in the past 3 years. The monthly charge is to insure the availability of space if needed. Discussion between Commissioners and Counselor Priest on the number of vets in town that are able to provide kennels for quarantines when needed and utilizing owners' responsibility for pay per day, and the use of home quarantines, brought up the question of still needing the contract.

Motion: To discontinue the contract due to lack of use, use of taxpayer dollars, ability to use home quarantines and making economic sense to discontinue the use of the contract.

RESULT: Approved

MOTION: Vice-Chair Bartel

SECOND: Commissioner Peck

AYES: Chairman Duft, Vice-Chair Bartel, Commissioner Peck

NAYS: None

XIV. SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE AWARDS

Sheriff Cope explained to Commissioners about the new program for employee recognition nominated by staff. Sheriff Cope explained that the nomination process was all done by employees and their peers they work with. He presented 5 employee awards. Undersheriff Koelsch informed Commissioners that this idea came from Captain Shafer with the ideas for the program and recognition.

XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION - ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Motion: To move to Executive Session for Attorney/Client privilege with Commissioners, Counselor Priest, Amie Jones and Forrest Rhoads via phone, to return at 11:00 am.

RESULT: Approved
MOTION: Chairman Duft
SECOND: Vice-Chair Bartel
AYES: Chairman Duft, Vice-Chair Bartel, Commissioner Peck
NAYS: None

Meeting reconvened with information at 11:00 am.

Motion: To Approve the settlement agreement and release as presented.

RESULT: Approved
MOTION: Chairman Duft
SECOND: Vice-Chair Bartel
AYES: Chairman Duft, Vice-Chair Bartel, Commissioner Peck
NAYS: None

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To adjourn.

RESULT: Approved
MOTION: None
SECOND: Vice-Chair Bartel
AYES: Chairman Duft, Vice-Chair Bartel, Commissioner Peck
NAYS: None

There being no further business before the Board, an Action Session will take place on February 26, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., in the Commission Chambers.

Attest:

Affirm:

Amie Jones
Lyon County Master Clerk

Ken Duft, Chairman
Lyon County Commission