

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. with all members and County Clerk present. Commissioner Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance and Commissioner McGaughey provided prayer.

Josephine Jellison, Ulysses News Reporter, was in attendance.

Commissioner McGaughey motioned to adopt Amended Resolution No. 00-04, A resolution expressing and clarifying the Board of Grant County Commissioner's policy and intent regarding corporate hog farming. Commissioner Figgins seconded the motion., and it was carried unanimously.

The Commissioners reviewed a letter from The Kansas Department of Commerce. The letter was about a ROZ applicant. The application is on hold due to our County not contributing to the ROZ program this current budget year. It was questioned whether we should amend this decision. The Commissioners agreed to not make any changes to the current budget year.

A letter from ESH, Inc. requesting 1/3 if the Alcoholic Treatment fund dollars as allowed in K.S.A. 79-41a04 (e) was reviewed. Commissioner McGaughey motioned to allow the allocation equaling \$2,100.16 from the Alcoholic Treatment fund to ESH, Inc. Commissioner Martin seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

The Commissioners reviewed a letter from Grant County Recreation. A letter stating the Single membership is changing from \$30.00 to \$35.00 per person. The Commissioners agreed to the membership rate change.

County Clerk, Anita Lane, presented an updated quote for the Martin Yale automatic folding machine. The original quote was approved on September 2, 2025, in the amount of \$1,589.00. Due to the machine being on backorder, the machine was not purchased. Southern office gave us an updated quote as soon as the machine was back in stock. The quote was \$1,875.00. County Clerk, Anita Lane, requested an amendment to the original quote. The Commissioners stated that Southern office should honor the original quote due to availability. County Clerk, Anita Lane, will contact Southern Office.

Commissioner Martin motioned to approve the five wage increases at the Health Department as presented. Commissioner Figgins seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

County Clerk, Anita Lane, inquired about COL raises for 2027 budgets. The Department Heads are starting their 2027 budget. The Commissioners agreed to have the Department Heads budget a 3% COL raise with the understanding this has not been approved and subject to change.

The Commissioners asked the County Clerk, Anita Lane, to get with Troy at Southern Office about Conference chairs for the Conference room. Possibly a total of 12 chairs.

County Clerk, Anita Lane, inquired about offering AFLAC to new employees since the local representative resigned. The Commissioners would like to offer AFLC still to new employees.

Economic Development Board Members, Cindy Davis, Andy Cole, Paige Kratzer, and Charlie Fields were invited to meet with the Commissioners along with Mayor, Ken Warner and City Administrator, Luke Grimes. The purpose of the meeting was to receive an operational update from the Economic Development and discuss oversight and funding considerations as the County begins planning the 2027 budget. Economic Development shared a few of the projects they are currently working on, for example the Business Incubator, Proposed Brewery Development and the Main Street Storefront improvement Grants. Commissioners inquired how the \$100,000.00 is used the County appropriates each year. The Economic Development Board stated the primary use of funds is for Salaries, Utilities, Building Maintenance, operations, equipment and administrative needs.

Building Maintenance Supervisor, David Manzano, and Juan Montoya with M&A Construction met with the Commissioners about the water leaking into the basement. Juan stated they would remove approximately four feet of concrete and soil around the north and west side of the building to expose the foundation and footings of the building. Depending on the status of the foundation, either a specialized waterproof coating will be applied to the foundation, or he may have to excavate below the footings and pump concrete beneath the footing to reinforce and support the structure. After the dirt and concrete will be placed. Juan stated he will get us an estimate in the next few days.

Commissioner McGaughey motioned to approve minutes for February 3, 2026, meeting along with claims against various funds of the County, payroll totals \$166,397.83 dated February 5, 2026, and voucher numbers ending 177537 totaling \$161,425.36 which included the January Attorney invoice in the amount of \$12,180.00. Commissioner Figgins seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Ginger Anthony with the Grant County Museum met with the Commissioners pertaining to property insurance. The County pays all property insurance on the county buildings from the General Fund. The Department funds reimburse the General fund from their budget. Ginger did not budget the \$11,536.00 for property insurance for 2026. Ginger requested the County to cover this expense for 2026, and she will budget in 2027. The Commissioners stated the 2026 is covered and asked her to budget \$12,100.00 for property insurance on her 2027 budget. Ginger announced that she will be retiring in June and Beth Mathes will be her replacement.

A letter from Kansas Silver Haired Legislature was reviewed. Commissioner McGaughey motioned to support the Silver Haired Legislature and fund \$200.00 to come from Other Appropriations. Commissioner Martin seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Courthouse Secretary, Sheila Brown, submitted a request to set up website training for those needing it. CivicPlus will offer webinar block training at a rate of \$1,250.00 per 3-hour session for 1 to 12 participants. Sheila recommended new users receive at least 6 hours of training, and ideally 9 hours if possible. Commissioner McGaughey motioned to approve the training for 2 3-hour sessions for a total of \$2,500.00. Commissioner Figgins seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Commissioner Martin moved to adjourn at 11:01 a.m. to meet again in regular session on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Figgins seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.



Anita Lane, County Clerk



John Martin, Chairman

