



PRATT COUNTY, KANSAS
BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S MINUTES
JANUARY 05, 2026

The Pratt County Commissioners met in regular session Monday, January 05, 2026, Commissioner Room, 1st floor of the Courthouse. The following members were present: Thomas W Jones III, Rick Shriver, Morgan Trinkle, Tyson Eisenhauer, County Counselor, Cescha Hoffman, County Clerk and Mark Graber, IT Director. The meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance.

Tyson Eisenhauer, County Counselor, please state your name and title when speaking. Public comment will be allowed to the extent that it is on topic. Persons participating via ZOOM are currently muted. If you have a comment, please let Mark know via the chat function. Mark will then inform Chairman Jones, who can take up the comment in a manner that does not disrupt the agenda. In the event an executive session is needed, it will be muted when recessed and turned back on when they return from executive session.

Economic Development Update – Heather Morgan

ARPA Closeout

Heather reported the ARPA closeout information received last week applied at the City of Iuka, not the County. She successfully completed the ARPA closeout for Iuka. The state indicated closeouts are being released on a rolling basis, county closeout information has not yet been received. Heather offered assistance to small cities with system navigation and closeout submissions.

Sawyer Project

Heather reported receiving communication from the Kansas Corporation Commission, KCC, regarding the Sawyer project. Heather expressed concern about the city's cash flow, as reimbursement grants typically require payment prior to reimbursement. She indicated that resolving this issue may require complex legal involvement and negotiations with the state.

Freedom Claims Quarterly Update

Darren Booth, Theel Insurance provided a quarterly performance and utilization report on the County's Health Insurance. The plans are running smoothly and creating savings for the County.

NextEra

NextEra representatives, Devon Pishalski, Madisen Scotese and Cody Akers explained recent internal company transitions and confirmed they have assumed responsibility for ongoing projects in Pratt County previously managed by another representative. They outlined new oversight and communication procedures, including weekly ride-along with county staff, weekly issue-review meetings, escalation of unresolved issues after two weeks and monthly on-site meeting to review. They also reported progress on the battery project application, noting updated County regulations and an anticipated submission once compliance is confirmed.

Senior Center Contract

Tara Pagenkopf, Cheryl Phye, Mike Schmidt and Sandy Hazlett with the Senior Center reviewed the contract provided by the City of Pratt. The board was advised to schedule a meeting between the Senior Citizen Board and the Manager for the City of Pratt to clarify financial responsibilities, usage allocations

and feasibility of the proposed agreement. Because the Senior Center is their own entity outside of the County, the commissioners were unable to assist.

Landfill and Recycling Center Yearly Update

Jason Winkel, Solid Waste and Recycling, presented a year end report for the Landfill and Recycling Center. Overall intake is up. Jason will continue to monitor tonnage trends, out of county intake and recycling efficiency.

Road Department Update

Doug Freund, Road Department, presented bridge easements.

MOTION – Make a motion to sign the temporary construction easement for bridge repair

MOTION BY – Commissioner Shriver

SECONDED BY- Commissioner Trinkle

MOTION PASSED 3-0.

Doug presented two quotes for trailers to be considered.

MOTION – To purchase a detachable trailer from Berry Tractor in the amount of \$110,383.33 to come out of Road Special Equipment.

MOTION BY – Commissioner Trinkle

SECONDED BY- Commissioner Shriver

MOTION PASSED 3-0.

Commissioners were asked out the south part of the county and mowing the right of ways. Doug said they will be mowing all winter long so they are working on getting caught up. He also noted that the discounts the county gets for new equipment often makes it more financially reasonable than buying used without discounts.

Executive Session – Attorney-Client

MOTION – To move to executive session under the Attorney-Client exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act to discuss salaries for elected officials for 5 minutes at 3:04 pm.

MOTION BY – Commissioner Shriver

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Trinkle

MOTION PASSED 3-0

MOTION – To move to come out of executive session at 3:07 pm with no action taken

MOTION BY – Commissioner Trinkle

SECONDED BY- Commissioner Shriver

MOTION PASSED 3-0.

Elected Official Resolution

MOTION – To Approve Resolution 01-05-2026 to establish elected personnel salaries as followed: Commissioners \$23,500, Chairman Commissioner \$24,500, County Attorney \$96,730, County Clerk \$68,391, County Treasurer \$65,493, Register of Deeds \$60,857, Sheriff \$78,982.

MOTION BY – Commissioner Shriver

SECONDED BY- Commissioner Trinkle

MOTION PASSED 3-0.

Depositories

MOTION – Declare County Depositories for 2026 as The Peoples Bank, Legacy Bank and Fusion Bank

MOTION BY – Commissioner Trinkle

SECONDED BY- Commissioner Shriver

MOTION PASSED 3-0.

Sheriff Personnel Request

MOTION – To Approve Salary Adjustments for \$18/hr for , Robert Solan, Daniel Sanchez, Robert Cambell and Amy Jones

MOTION BY – Commissioner Shriver

SECONDED BY- Commissioner Trinkle

MOTION PASSED 3-0.

Courthouse Cleaning Services

Commissioners agreed to use M& Maria Cleaning Services as an interim cleaning service until a more permanent contract can be put into place. They will revisit once we get more information.

Capital Improvement and Special Equipment Exhibits

MOTION – Accept the additions on the Special Equipment and Capital Improvement on Exhibits

MOTION BY – Commissioner Shriver

SECONDED BY- Commissioner Trinkle

Emergency Vehicle Permit

MOTION – To approve the application for an emergency vehicle permit for Landon Sparks with Township 12.

MOTION BY – Commissioner Shriver

SECONDED BY- Commissioner Trinkle

KAC Membership

MOTION – to approve the Kansas Association of Counties membership in the amount of \$3,274.91

MOTION BY – Commissioner Shriver

SECONDED BY- Commissioner Trinkle

Executive Session – Attorney-Client

MOTION – To move to executive session under the Attorney-Client exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act to discuss KPERS for 15 minutes at 3:21 pm.

MOTION BY – Commissioner Shriver

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Trinkle

MOTION PASSED 3-0

MOTION – To move to come out of executive session at 3:36 pm with no action taken

MOTION BY – Commissioner Shriver

SECONDED BY- Commissioner Trinkle

MOTION PASSED 3-0.

Cost Of Living Salary Adjustment

MOTION – To approve a 3% Cost of Living Wage for County Employees

MOTION BY – Commissioner Shriver

SECONDED BY- Commissioner Trinkle

MOTION PASSED 3-0.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION – To approve the minutes of December 29th, 2025

MOTION BY – Commissioner Trinkle

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Shriver

MOTION PASSED 3-0

Approval of Vouchers

MOTION – To approve the vouchers for January 5, 2026

MOTION BY – Commissioner Shriver

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Trinkle

MOTION PASSED 3-0

Adjourn

MOTION – To adjourn the meeting at 04:11

MOTION BY – Commissioner Jones

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Trinkle

MOTION PASSED 3-0

/s/ Tomas W Jones III
THOMAS W JONES III CHAIRMAN

/s/ Rick Shriver
RICK SHRIVER MEMBER

/s/ Cescha Hoffman
CESCHA HOFFMAN, COUNTY CLERK

/s/ Morgan Trinkle
MORGAN TRINKLE MEMBER