



PRATT COUNTY, KANSAS
BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S MINUTES
FEBRUARY 17, 2026

The Pratt County Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 2:00 pm in the 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 Trinkle, 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 she received the ARPA award closeout notification for the City of Iuka but has not yet received one for the County.

Southwest Kansas Transportation Planning Group

Heather provided an update regarding the upcoming advisory meeting of the Southwest Kansas Transportation Planning Group. A bill was introduced to modify how transportation projects are allocated among Kansas transportation districts. US Highway 54 was cited as a priority.

Public Assessed Utility Valuation Bill

Representative Schwerdtfeger requested that Heather inform the Commission about a bill concerning publicly assessed utilities. The bill would require the Kansas Department of Revenue to conduct a study if a publicly assessed utility's valuation changes beyond a specified percentage and produce a report explaining the cause of the valuation change. The bill is scheduled for hearing during the first week of March.

Sawyer Gas Project

The City of Sawyer received funding from the Kansas Corporation Commission, they are authorized to issue one consolidated payment to KGS for the project which will reduce administrative burdens.

House Bill 2470 – Neighborhood Revitalization

House Bill 2470 passed the Kansas House of Representatives with only four dissenting votes. The bill will no advance to the Kansas Senate tax Committee. If passes it will allow any city or county with a population below 10,000 to designate the entire municipality as a Neighborhood Revitalization Program area.

Rural Opportunity Zone (ROZ) Program

The Kansas Department of Commerce announced that the ROZ Program will end after the current fiscal year and no new funding will be allocated moving forward.

House Tax Committee Bill – Revenue Cap Proposal

If passed would cap municipal revenue growth at 3% annually, if exceeding 3% it would require a protest petition process. This process would eliminate the current RNR framework. It also creates a incentive fund for those that do not increase revenue or reduce revenue. K-12 School Districts are exempt.

Executive Session – Non-Elected Personnel

MOTION – To move to executive session under the Non-Elected Personnel exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act to discuss probation with Jon Roach for 5 minutes at 2:11 pm.

MOTION BY – Commissioner Shriver

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Jones

MOTION PASSED 3-0

MOTION – To move to come out of executive session at 2:14 pm with no action taken

MOTION BY – Commissioner Shriver

SECONDED BY- Commissioner Jones

MOTION PASSED 3-0.

Bridge Replacement FAS #170

Joshua Dlabal, Kirkham Michael, and Doug Freund, Road and Bridge Director presented bids received for the FAS 170 Bridge Project, located on Southwest 90th Street, directly west of Coats. Engineer's Estimate was 453,564.00. 3 Bids Received: L&M Contractors, Inc - \$327,805.60, Reece Construction - \$394,153.18 and Bridges Inc - \$536,019.00.

MOTION – To accept the low bid from L&M Contractors, Inc in the amount of \$327,865.60 for the FAS 170 Bridge Project

MOTION BY – Commissioner Shriver

SECONDED BY- Commissioner Jones

MOTION PASSED 3-0.

Stroudwater Presentation

Eric Shell, Stroudwater Associates, Brock Slabach, National Rural Health Association, and Gimmie Jo Jansonius, State Director for Kansas Rural Development United States Department of Agriculture shared the results of the strategic financial operational assessment of Pratt Regional Medical Center. Eric Shell recommends the hospital utilize the Action Plan provided by Stroudwater which is an investment strategy, not a slash and burn cost cutting approach. The proposed action plan selected 10 high-impact initiatives that include growing inpatient services, grow surgery, improve short-term financial liquidity, outpatient ancillary growth, administration, BOD, medical staff alignment, rural referral center functions, evaluate 340B opportunity, quality initiatives, improve financial viability of clinics and employee recruitment and retention. Commission concerns include lack of regular financial reporting and request for financial assistance without full financial transparency. Commissioners expressed interest in engaging an independent third-party reviewer who could supply financial statements, accountability benchmarks and better transparency. Commissioners also raised concerns regarding an immediate crisis plan that addresses short term cash crisis mitigation, vendor issues and outstanding accounts payable along side long term action plans. Commissioners and presenters recognized PRMC's service, performance and importance to the community and expressed the importance of working toward a positive outcome for our community.

Executive Session – Attorney-Client

MOTION – To move to executive session under the Attorney-Client exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act to discuss PRMC Leases with Lorin Haas, Jack Galle and David Prella Eron for 90 minutes at 3:48 pm.

MOTION BY – Commissioner Shriver

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Jones

MOTION PASSED 3-0

MOTION – To move to come out of executive session at 5:16 pm with no action taken

MOTION BY – Commissioner Shriver

SECONDED BY- Commissioner Jones

MOTION PASSED 3-0.

Withdrawal of Notice of Default

MOTION – To give David Prella Eron authority to issue withdrawal of the pending notice of default and intent to terminate lease, authority to issue a related press release and to respond to any related media inquiries.

MOTION BY – Commissioner Shriver

SECONDED BY- Commissioner Jones

MOTION PASSED 3-0.

UMB Administrative Fee Consideration

UMB bill for administrative fees was presented for consideration. The bill is generally paid out of the rent that PRMC pays. Since there is no rent, UMB has asked that the county pay it.

MOTION – To approve a \$5,000 payment to UMB Bank for administrative fees

MOTION BY – Commissioner Shriver

SECONDED BY- Commissioner Jones

MOTION PASSED 3-0.

Courthouse Breaker Panel

MOTION – To approve the InteGreen quote to replace a breaker panel in the amount of \$1,750.00

MOTION BY – Commissioner Shriver

SECONDED BY- Commissioner Jones

MOTION PASSED 3-0.

Consideration of Employee Forms

Revised County Forms were presented; Commissioners reviewed the forms. Forms were approved for implementation and distribution.

Tax Foreclosure Sale Update

Tyson Eisenhauer, County Counselor, gave an overview of the recent tax foreclosure sale. The initial case summary included 25 total properties. 15 properties were redeemed prior to the sale resulting in \$5,625.00 recovered in costs and \$100,766.80 collected in delinquent taxes. These funds will be distributed to the appropriate taxing entities. Properties sold at the foreclosure sale by auction include 10 properties resulting in \$16,955.00 in cost that are returned to the county. \$13,082.39 then will be distributed to the taxing entities. One additional property from the 2020 case sold and will get distributed as well.

HIPPA Compliance Project – Resolution Preparation

Tyson Eisenhauer, County Counselor, gave an update on the HIPPA project. He is out a point where the Board can consider the resolution to adopt all required compliance documentation and appoint designated privacy officers and security officers. Binders will need to be prepared. Tyson stated he will coordinate with Cescha Hoffman, County Clerk for assembly and organization before presenting the resolution for adoption at a future meeting.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION – To approve the minutes of February 9, 2026

MOTION BY – Commissioner Jones

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Shriver

MOTION PASSED 3-0

Approval of Vouchers

MOTION – To approve the vouchers for February 17 2026

MOTION BY – Commissioner Shriver

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Jones

MOTION PASSED 3-0

Adjourn

MOTION – To adjourn the meeting at 5:32 pm

MOTION BY – Commissioner Shriver

SECONDED BY – Commissioner Jones

MOTION PASSED 3-0

/s/ Morgan Trinkle
MORGAN TRINKLE CHAIRMAN

/s/ Rick Shriver
RICK SHRIVER MEMBER

/s/ Cescha Hoffman
CESCHA HOFFMAN, COUNTY CLERK

/s/ Thomas W Jones III
THOMAS W JONES III MEMBER