

Residents invited to ask questions, explore the plan, and learn the facts

USD 303 to host town hall on April 24 to discuss proposed school bond

With the upcoming school bond election scheduled for May 6, the USD 303 Facilities Steering Committee invites all community members to a Town Hall Meeting on Thursday, April 24, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Ness City Junior/Senior High School auditorium.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide clear, factual information about the \$24 million bond proposal—and to give voters the opportunity to ask questions, share concerns, and better understand what’s at stake.

“We understand that this is a big decision,” said Weston Vogel, committee member and parent. “Some people may be thinking, ‘Isn’t this too much?’ or ‘Why now?’—those are fair questions. This meeting is where we talk about all of it, openly and honestly.”

Topics to be covered include:

- What the bond includes: From FEMA-grade storm shelters and secure building entrances to essential HVAC, electrical, and roofing upgrades.
- Why it’s needed now: With aging infrastructure, ris-

ing repair costs, and safety concerns, the proposed bond project tackles immediate needs and prepares the district for the next generation.

- How it affects taxpayers: Examples will be shared to show the monthly cost for typical homes, farms, and businesses.
- How the proposal was developed: Learn about the year-long collaborative process involving school leadership, local citizens, and construction professionals.
- What it means for the future: A look at how the proposed changes support student learning, community safety, economic development, and local pride.

Community members are encouraged to attend, ask questions, and be part of the conversation about the future of Ness City schools. This is a chance to hear the facts directly, share your perspective, and make an informed decision ahead of the May 6 election.

For more information, visit www.usd303facilities.com.

Measles outbreak nearby

Dr. Harley Calvin, Ness County Health Department Medical Director, wants Ness Countians to know that we are a bordering county to a Measles case! With that being said the following is want you need to know.

Cases in Kansas

Due to the highly contagious nature of measles, additional cases are likely to occur in the outbreak area in Kansas and in surrounding counties especially among those that are unvaccinated. Find the number of Kansas measles cases on the Reportable Infectious Disease Statistics Dashboard. For more information on the 2025 Kansas measles outbreak, visit the Kansas Measles Outbreak Dashboard.

Learn More About Measles

Measles is caused by a virus that spreads easily from person to person. It is an airborne disease, meaning it spreads through the air when an infected person breathes, coughs, sneezes, or talks. The virus can stay alive in the air and on surfaces for up to two hours. Thankfully, two doses of Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine can almost always prevent measles.

Measles, also called rubeola, causes a rash, fever, chills, body aches, and headache. Common complications of measles include ear infections, pneumonia, croup, and diarrhea. But measles is more than just a rash—it can lead to serious problems like brain inflammation, pneumonia, and other infections. Even healthy children can become seriously ill and may need to be hospitalized.

Measles can be life-threatening; 1 to 3 in 1,000 children may die from lung or brain complications. Young children, pregnant women, and people with weakened immune systems are at greatest risk for severe measles.

A person with measles can spread the disease to others from 4 days before the rash appears to 4 days after. Measles is a highly infectious disease. On average, one infected person can spread measles to 12 to 18 unvaccinated people.

Know the Symptoms

First you may experience..



Cough



Fever



Red and watery eyes



Runny Nose


Two or three days later you'll start to see..

Spots inside the mouth



Then, three to five days later you'll notice..

The measles rash, which typically begins at the hairline and spreads down the chest and back, which is a key symptom.



If you think you have been exposed or are experiencing symptoms of measles, please call your health care provider or your local health department at the number above and tell them about being in contact with someone that had measles.

If you want to get the measles vaccine to protect yourself and your community, call your local health department for information on accessing the vaccine at the number above.

Call Ness County Health Department 785-798-3388!

Blessing Box



The Blessing Box is located at Steph’s Garden Center in Ness City. The Gradatim Club has placed items in the Blessing Box for your use. If an item is needed, please take it and use it! It is yours. If, at some point, you would like to put something back in, please check the expiration date before leaving it for someone else.

Thank you for allowing the Gradatim Club to help you, we all need help from time to time. God be with you through each day.

Eastside Liquor

511 E. Sycamore - Ness City
785-798-2200

Drive thru access for your convenience.

Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Friday & Saturday
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Sunday 1:00 - 6:00 p.m.

DEINES & DEINES

E. Jay Deines
Lawyer

110 North Main
785-743-5766

WaKeeney, KS 67672
Mon-Thurs 8:00-4:00 Fri 8:00-12:00

CITY OF UTICA, KANSAS LARGE ITEM PICKUP DAY THURSDAY, MAY 1ST, 2025

QUESTIONS? CALL 785-391.2354 OR 785-391.1032

THIS IS A CITY-WIDE, ONE-DAY COLLECTION FOR RESIDENCES WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS.

--Place items at the curb on the day prior (Wednesday, April30th.) This day is NOT to be used for regular trash disposal.

--Please do not block mailboxes, cars, light poles and other items along the street.

--Trucks only pass through once. Pick up will be weather dependent.

--NO hazardous or special waste accepted. No tires, drums, appliances containing CFC refrigerants, batteries, chemicals, paint, containers having contained oil, toxic household waste or computer and electronic equipment. These items will be left and will need to be removed from the curb by the end of day

Ness County Courthouse, Noxious Weed, and other Offices will be closed at Noon on Friday, April 18, 2025 in observance of Good Friday.



Ness County Landfill will be open Friday, April 18, 2025, and will be **CLOSED Saturday, April 19, 2025.** HAVE A HAPPY EASTER!

For Sale



40' x 50' Butler building located at 719 S Pennsylvania Ave. 3/4 bath, Heated Ample street parking and private parking behind Commercially zoned and ready for your business or personal needs **Call 785-798-5710**

Early voting in person for School Bond election

Ness County will be holding early voting in person in the Ness County Clerk’s Office, 202 W. Sycamore, Ness City (Monday thru Friday starting April 28 through May 2, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Monday, May 5, from 9:00 a.m. to noon.)

If you are a registered voter within USD 303 School District you may vote at the location listed above. Remember to bring a valid form of photo ID. If you would like to cast your vote by Advance Mail ballot, please contact the Ness County Clerk’s Office for information. If you have any questions or concerns, please call the Ness County Clerk’s Office at: 785-798-2401.

Pray for Rain

First published in the Ness County News, Thursday, April 17, 2025.

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NESS COUNTY 2025 EXPENDITURES January - March 2025					
Fund	Beginning Balance	Receipts	Expenses	Ending Balance	
County General	\$ 1,868,114.32	\$ 1,440,576.03	\$ 730,836.24	\$ 2,577,854.11	
Road & Bridge	\$ 942,621.41	\$ 1,010,691.18	\$ 354,109.08	\$ 1,599,203.51	
Special Hwy Improvement	\$ 949.97	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 949.97	
Special Machinery	\$ 180,822.78	\$ -	\$ 9,924.88	\$ 170,897.90	
Noxious Weed	\$ 68,317.91	\$ 111,326.02	\$ 31,936.52	\$ 147,707.41	
County Health	\$ 248,076.94	\$ 172,625.95	\$ 62,360.26	\$ 358,342.63	
Appraiser	\$ 70,073.19	\$ 86,299.58	\$ 47,531.32	\$ 108,841.45	
Solid Waste Post Closure	\$ 189,470.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 189,470.00	
Solid Waste	\$ (1,315.20)	\$ 50,891.32	\$ 19,211.25	\$ 30,364.87	
Ambulance	\$ 245,661.02	\$ 129,557.07	\$ 41,223.58	\$ 333,994.51	
Capital Improv. Reserve	\$ 519,394.92	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 519,394.92	
Capital Equip. Reserve	\$ 345,702.15	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 345,702.15	
Employee Benefits	\$ 647,576.19	\$ 948,125.34	\$ 396,033.40	\$ 1,199,668.13	
Election	\$ (0.35)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (0.35)	
Noxious Weed Cap. Outla	\$ 25,449.90	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,449.90	
Worthless Check Trust	\$ 1,745.10	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,745.10	
911 Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Local E-911	\$ 95,148.50	\$ 16,791.36	\$ 24,306.42	\$ 87,633.44	
Soil Conservation	\$ (1.16)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1.16)	
MVE1 Inspection	\$ 8,640.00	\$ 860.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 9,300.00	
Mental Health	\$ (1.47)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1.47)	
Mental Retardation	\$ (1.30)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (1.30)	
Senior Citizen	\$ (2.94)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2.94)	
Alcohol & Drug Program	\$ 18,252.66	\$ 1,150.85	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 18,403.51	
Heritage Trust	\$ 928.00	\$ 990.00	\$ 928.00	\$ 990.00	
Law Enforcement Trust	\$ 4,946.28	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,946.28	
Conceal Carry	\$ 5,697.51	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,697.51	
Sex Offender Regis.	\$ 7,365.01	\$ 320.00	\$ -	\$ 7,685.01	
Road & Bridge - Bridge	\$ 293,191.32	\$ -	\$ 36,854.28	\$ 256,337.04	
Treas Motor Veh Operatin	\$ 29,648.53	\$ 15,758.50	\$ 30,174.59	\$ 15,232.44	
Prosecutor Training	\$ 9,091.94	\$ 111.52	\$ 54.63	\$ 9,148.83	
Regis. of Deeds Technolo	\$ 34,134.67	\$ 1,980.00	\$ -	\$ 36,114.67	
Drivers License	\$ 55.50	\$ 1,837.00	\$ 1,837.00	\$ 55.50	
Co. Clerk Technology	\$ 12,258.38	\$ 495.00	\$ -	\$ 12,753.38	
Co. Treasurer Technology	\$ 4,064.10	\$ 495.00	\$ 119.99	\$ 4,439.11	
Totals:	\$ 5,876,075.78	\$ 3,990,881.72	\$ 1,788,641.44	\$ 8,078,316.06	

A FULL LIST OF THESE EXPENSES IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION AT:
THE NESS COUNTY CLERK’S OFFICE, 202 W SYCAMORE, NESS CITY KANSAS