

MEETING —

internally.
County Attorney Chris Rohr updated the contracts during the meeting. He asked about the Memorandum of Understanding for Jail Services on Section

E billing and timing of charges. City Clerk Dana Philpott clarified that any medical claims are billed to Medicaid not Medicare. We reached out to other city clerks and received information

from them on a third party vendor Wellpath and have been in touch with the hospital as well. The billing will be handled at the city.
County Attorney Chris Rohr

will have the revised contracts at the next commissioner’s meeting for approval. City Council will have City Attorney Charles Peckham review the contracts and the contracts will be on the

agenda at the next City Council meeting on December 18, 2025. The contracts will be for a three-year period and will be reviewed in December 2028.
With no further business to

come before council, Councilwoman Mulligan moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Kastens, the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Atwood City Council holds regular November meeting

Following are the unapproved minutes from the Nov. 20 Atwood City Council regular meeting.

Atwood City Council met in regular session on November 20, 2025, at City Hall.

The meeting was called to order by the Honorable Mayor Janet Stice at 7 p.m.

Present were Mayor Janet Stice, Councilmembers: Dakota Dunker, Dietrich Kastens, Sandy Mulligan, Diana Tongish and Mark Vrbas via Go to Meeting; City Clerk Dana Philpott; City Superintendent Rick Kramer; City Attorney Charles Peckham, Chief of Police Brian Withington, Tyrel Prideaux, Leslie Smith, David Blau with Miller & Associates, Cathy Domsch and Mike Runkle

Mayor Stice requested to amend the agenda adding under old business d. Two Homes LLC reimbursement request #2 from KS Department of Commerce Grant and under new business g. Resolution 2025-02 swearing in newly elected officials.

The agenda was approved as amended on motion of Councilman Kastens, seconded by Councilwoman Mulligan approved by all.

The minutes of the regular meeting on Oct. 16 and special meetings Oct. 1, Oct. 16 and Nov. 10 were approved as circulated on motion of Councilwoman Tongish, seconded by Councilman Kastens, approved by all.

The bills were approved as read on motion of Councilwoman Mulligan, seconded by Councilwoman Tongish, approved by all.

Public Comments: None

Appearances: None

Old Business

Moderate Income House progress/payment request #2-Two Homes LLC—agenda item tabled until December meeting.

Review proposed zoning home-based business ordinance changes—City Attorney Charles Peckham reviewed the proposed changes he made to the home-based business section 46-245 of the zoning ordinance. Mobile small footprint businesses where the work is done at the customer’s site and not at the home. This includes mobile metal fabrication and repair and other repair services where the work is done at the customer’s site. He also proposed a change to section 46-243 and 46-291 of the zoning ordinance regarding accessory buildings. The proposed changes would be to allow an accessory building to be built directly across the street or alley from the dwelling and a change to height of structure of 10 feet or more taller than the existing building with a requirement of a variance for approval prior to construction. Council will review and it will be on the agenda for the December 2025 council meeting.

Standard Agreement for Professional Services for Gresson Industrial Park Drainage Design- Councilman Kastens made a motion to authorize the mayor to sign the agreement with Miller & Associates for the design portion of the drainage agreement, seconded by Councilwoman Mulligan, approved by all.

New Business

Amendment #1 Project No. 244-C1-010-25 – Council-

man Kastens made a motion to authorize the mayor to sign the Amendment to the north water main extension project for the design services for the water right portion of the agreement. The cost for the design will be \$33,000, seconded by Councilwoman Mulligan, approved by all.

Second Reimbursement Agreement with SurePoint Ag Systems and City of Atwood-Cathy Domsch with SurePoint Ag presented the agreement and Attorney Sarah Munger with John Deere was present via Go to Meeting. City Attorney Charles Peckham reported there was a minor change to the agreement. In section D part 1. the last sentence will be removed. Attorney Munger and Cathy Domsch explained that they are waiting for grant funding to move forward with which option of the project will be chosen. This portion of the project is needed regardless of which option is chosen. A third and final reimbursement agreement will be needed after the option is chosen. Councilman Kastens made a motion to authorize the mayor to sign the agreement as amended, seconded by Councilwoman Tongish, approved by all.

GAAP Waiver Resolution 2025-04- Councilman Kastens made a motion to adopt resolution #2025-04 the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and to authorize the mayor to sign the resolution, seconded by Councilman Dunker, approved by all.

Tree Board—City Clerk Dana Philpott reported that she had three community members that were interested in starting up the tree board and serving

as board members. The three members are JoEllyn Argabright, Rebecca Dill and Lori Colgan.

Discontinuation of Penny Distribution—City Clerk Dana Philpott presented a notice that she wants to send to customers and post regarding the discontinuation of the penny distribution. Our banking institution notified us they would no longer be receiving penny denominations from the Federal Reserve. With customers paying cash we will suggest that they bring the exact amount of change or any over payment in penny increments will be credited towards their next bill.

Approve publication for public hearing notice to amend Waterworks and Water Loan Funds -Councilman Kastens made a motion to approve the publication of the public hearing notice to amend the waterworks and water loan funds, seconded by Councilwoman Tongish, approved by all.

Resolution 2025-05 –swearing in newly elected officials. Councilman Kastens made a motion to approve the mayor to sign Resolution 2025-05 swearing in newly elected officials at the December 18, 2025, city council meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Mulligan, approved by all.

Department Reports

City Clerk Dana Philpott – She reported that Farmers Bank & Trust had notified her of another beautification bank account listed under Rawlins County Economic Development. She has transferred those funds to the City of Atwood Beautification account to simplify tracking. Dana also

stated that she had spoken with Councilwoman Mulligan about using a portion of the funds to purchase new Christmas decorations and supplies for the Christmas opening events, totaling \$1,151.67.

The After-Christmas Party has been scheduled for January 19, with Chris Adamson catering the meal.

City Attorney Charles Peckham shared his activities for the month. He attended the airport board meeting, represented the city in court, attended the city council and commissioner meetings, worked with the John Deere Attorney on an agreement, prepared journal entries, sent out subpoenas, reviewed contracts, sent out two letters to Vyve regarding tree damage along right of ways, leaving the limbs on properties, and not communicating with property owners. He reviewed the Tall Grass pipeline crossing agreement for the South 7th Street infrastructure project. Dana will email out the agreement to the council and add it to the agenda for the December meeting. David Blau explained to the council that any damage that is incurred during construction will be the responsibility of the contractor.

Chief of Police Brian Withington presented his report. His department worked 13 reports from October 16 to November 20. There were 2 non-custodial arrests, 2 custodial arrests, 3 tickets issued, 8 warnings given, and 9 traffic stops. Other patrol activity included 4 papers served and 18 business checks.

City Superintendent Rick Kramer presented his report showing the areas where the city crew has spent their time

since the last meeting. They have been locating, they winterized the sprinkler systems and put winterizer on the grass, Next week they will be putting up Christmas lights.

Council Reports

Councilman Dunker –Airport: The board is discussing building a new airport lounge, the estimate for a 20x30 building is around \$60,000. They will work on a contract for the Rawlins County Road and Bridge lease and propose it next month.

Councilman Kastens –No report.

Councilwoman Mulligan – Economic Development: The board is still looking for a director. They have not received many applications. They received a report on the new daycare and things are moving along. They are ready to pour the concrete.

Councilwoman Tongish–Theater board: The board will have their Christmas Party on December 8 and will review the bylaws at that time. They will be changing holding board meetings to every other month.

Councilman Vrbas – No report.

Mayor’s Notes: Mayor Stice thanked Councilman Kastens for all his work on the Rawlins County Dispatch and Rawlins County Sheriff’s office agreements.

With no further business to come before council, Councilman Kastens moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Rawlins County hospital board accepts annual audit report

Rawlins County Health Center board of trustees heard a report from Travis Leibl who is with Forvis, the firm that does the RCHC audit each year. He reviewed the audit during the regular meeting Nov. 24. His presentation was a review of the finances which show

a slight increase in patient revenue over last year. Auditors did provide an unmodified opinion again this year, which is the highest level of assurance. Leibl noted that RCHC receives about 8% of its financial support from county property tax. These dollars all

go for operational support.

CEO Lucretia Stargell reported on the outcome of a recent 2-day off site meeting for leadership training. She deemed the workshop insightful and fruitful, setting goals for quality healthcare for people they serve.

She also pointed out that RCHC has received national recognition with the Chartis Award for quality. Goodland was the only other facility in this area to receive recognition in this category.

Kansas Hospital Association is forming a Hospital Leadership and Governance committee that will be open to hospital board members.

The October 2025 financials were presented by CFO Heather Prideaux. Gross patient revenue was up 29% compared to last year. There is an estimated Medicare Cost report receivable of \$198,000. She reported high pharmacy expenses for the month.

There is considerable doubt about the 340B funding for pharmaceuticals. One change would be that the hospital would have to submit requests for reimbursement to a company for approval which could cause a disruption in cash flow

among other things.

Prideaux reported 270 days of liquid cash on hand.

The Medical Executive Report was given by Dr. Travis Daise. They recommended the credentialing of several providers including Dr. Brenda Kopriva, The board voted approval of his report.

Chairman Harlan Holste requested three separate executive sessions all for discussion concerning non-elected personnel. No action was taken following any of the three sessions.

Chairman Holste conducted the meeting. There were no

board objections to foregoing a regular meeting in December. If necessary a special meeting will be called.

Board members in attendance were Matt Wolters, Dan Fields, Karen Fikan, Scott Ross, Rosalie Ross with Loren Erway attending via Teams. Dr. Tamara Robbins and Cedric Green were absent.

Regular meetings of the Rawlins County Hospital board are held on the fourth Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the education room of the hospital and are open to the public.




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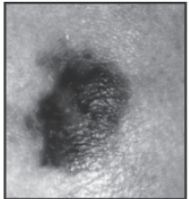
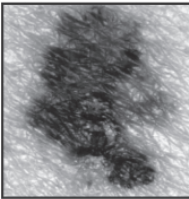
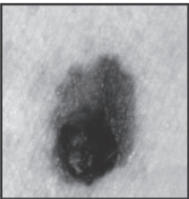


December 19

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