

## -Rush County Commission Minutes-

**COMMISSIONERS MINUTES** Monday, July 21, 2025, 9:00 a.m. Chairman Leslie Rogers, Vice-Chairman Mitchell Blackburn and Member Richard T. Luft were present. Commissioner Luft moved to approve the July 14, 2025 minutes as presented. Commissioner Blackburn seconded the motion. Chair called for discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

The payroll register was reviewed and signed by the board.

Deputy County Clerk Kristen Muller joined the meeting.

Chad Foust, Road and Bridge Supervisor, and Tracy Lewis, Road and Bridge Secretary, met with the board. At 9:02 a.m., Commissioner Rogers moved to go into executive session for 10 minutes with Supervisor Foust and Ms. Lewis regarding non-elected personnel with Road and Bridge. Commissioner Luft seconded the motion. Meeting returned to open session at 9:12 a.m. The weekly report was presented for review. They graded in Alexander, Banner, Belle Prairie, Big Timber, Brookdale, Center, Fairview, Hampton, Pleasantdale and Union townships. Magnets were utilized in Banner, Belle Prairie, Center and Union and sand was hauled in Fairview and Garfield. Road elevation was done, millings/dirt were hauled and culverts repaired or replaced in Banner township. They mowed in Alexander, Banner, Belle Prairie, Center, Garfield, Pleasantdale and Union townships. The mechanics worked on graders #18 and #19 and performed routine maintenance on county equipment. Roofmasters will be starting on the roof at the Rush County Annex building on this week. Commissioner Luft relayed a road concern on CR 120 south of Hwy 96.

County Attorney Tony Rues met with the board to discuss county matters. County Treasurer Christie Bittel joined the meeting to discuss funds generated by the health department.

Trevor Deuel, Noxious Weed/Solid Waste Director met with the board. At 10:04 a.m., Commissioner Rogers moved to go into executive session for 20 minutes with Director Deuel, County Clerk Keener and Deputy County Clerk Muller regarding non-elected personnel with Solid Waste. Commissioner Blackburn seconded the motion. Meeting returned to open session at 10:24 a.m. Director Deuel stated he will be holding interviews this week for the position at Solid Waste. He discussed the quote he received from Blackstone Environmental for \$1,400.00 for the re-development of three wells at the landfill.

Jeff Vap met with the board to tender his resignation as Rush County Zoning Board Administrator. Mr. Vap also stated Ken Romeiser, Zoning Board Member for Bison has also resigned.

County Clerk Keener reported on the recent inspection of the county completed by KWORCC. Correspondence was reviewed.

There being no other business before the board, Commissioner Blackburn moved to adjourn at 11:58 a.m. and to meet again in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, July 28, 2025. Commissioner Luft seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Approved this 28th day of July, 2025.

Leslie Rogers, Chairman

ATTEST: Tacy A. Keener, County Clerk

## -City of La Crosse Commission Minutes-

The regular meeting of the La Crosse City Commission was held on July 9, 2025 at 5:15 p.m. Present were Mayor Bill Schroter, Commissioner Alan Sramek, Commissioner Kim Peach, City Manager Lyle Hammerschmidt, City Clerk Kim Jay, City Attorney Tony Rues, James Heifner, Allen and Bailey Morgan, and Jami Benyshek with Adams Brown.

Commissioner Peach motioned to approve the minutes from the June 25, 2025 meeting, Commissioner Sramek seconded the motion. Motion carried – vote 3-0.

Bailey and Allen Morgan met with the commission to discuss the new playground at the school. They left the meeting at 5:26 p.m.

City Attorney Tony Rues discussed the policy handbook and recommended the city have the policy updated. Tony left the meeting at 5:29 p.m.

Jami Benyshek with Adams Brown presented the 2024 Audit to the commission. After reviewing the audit Mayor Schroter motioned to approve the 2024 Audit, Commissioner Peach seconded the motion. Motion carried – vote 3-0. Jami also presented the initial 2026 budget. The 2026 Budget Hearing will be held on August 20th. Jami left the meeting at 6:09 p.m.

Commissioner Peach motioned to pay the bills, Commissioner Sramek seconded the motion. Motion carried – vote 3-0.

Commissioner Peach motioned to approve the building permit for Heath and Michelle Morgan-driveway, Mayor Schroter seconded the motion. Motion carried – vote 3-0.

City Manager reported on the following: Safe Routes to School Grant acceptance; 2026 Budget; street by the high school; parking area at city park; Grass Park bathrooms were vandalized; upgrade to substation on West 5th; school transformers.

Commissioner Peach discussed the trees at the cemetery.

Mayor Schroter discussed the fireworks ordinance.

Mayor Schroter motioned to end the meeting at 6:41 p.m. Commissioner Peach seconded the motion. Motion carried – vote 3-0.

## The heat is on: Staying safe in the hot Kansas summer

By Chevy-Lynn Vaske,  
K-State Research and  
Extension news service

While longer days and warm sunshine can be enjoyable, the heat and humidity of a Kansas summer can also pose serious health risks — especially for older adults.

Kansas State University associate professor and extension specialist Erin Martinez says there are important precautions to stay safe during the hottest months.

“As we get older, sometimes our bodies don’t regulate heat as well as they once did — including how much sweat we’re able to produce and how our heart rate responds. Older adults are also more likely to take medications that can impact how they manage the summer heat,” Martinez said.

Martinez encourages older adults to speak with their doctor or pharmacist about how their medication may affect their ability to handle heat.

“Some medications can increase your heart rate or make you less likely to sweat,” she said. “That impacts your body’s ability to regulate temperature.”

If outdoor activity is necessary, Martinez recommends avoiding it during the hottest part of the day — typically between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

“If you must go outside during the hottest part of the day, try to keep it limited to short periods of time,” she said.

To manage daily tasks like gardening or errands, Martinez suggests planning them for earlier in the morning or later in the evening when temperatures are cooler.

Although summer weather might inspire people to wear tank tops and shorts, Martinez recommends more protective clothing.

“Wearing a very thin, lightweight, loose long-sleeve shirt is really your best bet because it protects you from the sun,” she said.

Hydration is also key; it’s important to drink fluids regularly, not just when you feel thirsty.

“It’s really important with older adults that we encourage fluid intake and not wait until we’re totally dying of thirst to get a drink,” Martinez said. “Offering foods like watermelon or broth soups that have high water concentration are different choices that can help with hydration.”

Martinez also notes that staying indoors during peak heat can reduce social interaction, which is vital for overall well-being. She encourages older adults to find alternative ways to stay active and connected.

“Utilizing your community facilities — a recreation center, library or doing indoor activities with friends — helps keep you interacting and learning new things,” she said.

As temperatures rise, Martinez reminds everyone to remember to check on neighbors, stay cool and help one another beat the heat.

## Lone Star School T-Shirts & Tote Bags For Sale At The Rush County Fair

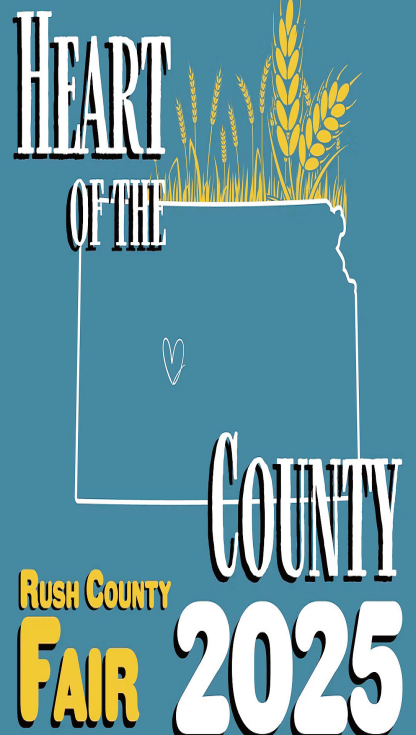
Adult S – XL T-Shirts .....\$20  
Adult XXL T-Shirts .....\$22  
Tote Bags .....\$20



All proceeds will go to restoring the interior of the school

## Welcome To...

JULY 30th  
THRU  
AUGUST 2nd



*The Rush Health Department  
Is Located At  
Rush County Memorial Hospital  
801 Locust St., La Crosse  
(Use South Entrance)*

*Monica Strudder, RN  
Amanda Kendall, LPN  
Terri Deuel, Clerk*

Hours: Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Closed - Friday

## Rush County Health Department

801 Locust St • La Crosse • 785-222-3427

JULY 30th  
THRU  
AUGUST 2nd



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