

Smith Co. Commissioners Meeting Minutes

The County Commissioners met in a regular session on August 4, 2025, in the County Commissioners’ room. Present were Commissioners Brady Peterson, Kurt Ifland and Jim Gwennap. Also present was Ashley Maxwell, Clerk, and Travis Story, Assistant Road Supervisor.

At 8:30 a.m. Gwennap called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

A motion was made by Peterson and seconded Gwennap to approve the 7/28/2025 regular minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Ifland and seconded by Peterson to approve the 8/04/2025 agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

The commissioners and Story discussed the following:

1. Ifland discussed 280 Rd between O Rd and P Rd. There is irrigation tail water standing in the roadway.

2. Ifland also discussed 270 Rd between O Rd and P Rd. Ifland stated this road

has not been worked all summer.

3. Ifland stated there are also some dirt roads in Pleasant Township and Washington Township that need to be worked.

4. Ifland asked about C Rd. Story stated JR Rice is training another employee in the area.

5. Ifland stated the landowner on 1st Street completed his driveway, so now the road department can do the work they need to.

6. Peterson stated he received a complaint about M Rd between 140 Rd and Hwy 36. Peterson stated 140 Rd between M Rd and N Rd needs bladed.

7. Peterson asked about the asphalt piles in Nebraska. Story stated Mitch was in contact with Werner.

8. Gwennap asked about whether gravel can be hauled out of Red Cloud. Story stated they can get gravel out of Naponee, but he isn’t sure about Red Cloud.

9. Gwennap discussed S

Rd. Gwennap stated the roadway needs worked.

10. Gwennap asked about the Q Rd project. Story stated the blade men are working on other projects right now.

11. Gwennap stated he received a call about 50 Rd, East of Hwy 281.

12. Gwennap stated the dirt roads need bladed for fall harvest.

13. Gwennap discussed the need for a blade on P Rd, North of the Thornburg church.

14. Story stated the blue water truck is having an issue with the alternator.

15. Story stated the automatic semi is in Salina with a transmission issue. Story stated it is also having other issues as well.

Gwennap stated he received a call from Chad Nillen with RWE. Nillen stated he is currently the person working to acquire additional land. Nillen also stated the RWE is waiting on the road use agreement. Nillen also shared the “foot-print” and that is Phillips

Co. line on the West, State line on the North, 120 Rd on the South, and T Rd to the East. Nillen also shared that soon RWE will be conducting a bat study.

16. Ifland discussed the future purchase of a vehicle/equipment scanner.

17. Gwennap discussed O Rd, North of 90 Rd. Story left the meeting.

The commissioners contacted Collier Abstract via telephone with questions regarding closing on the Old Hospital Site.

Trenton Ringle joined the meeting and discussed the following;

1. Ringle shared with the commissioners that Trenton Frydendall received his provisional certificate last week.

2. Ringle shared the sheriff’s department served 2 search warrants last week.

Allen Lanus joined the meeting.

3. Ringle discussed the fatality accident that happened last Friday. Lanus stated the length of highway shutdown time was due to

the location of the highway patrol units.

4. Ringle stated the sheriff’s department will be installing fire extinguishers and cages in the vehicles. The durangos will not have a cage installed as they plan to phase them out of the fleet.

The commissioners also discussed the transfer of the old hospital site and the agreement for lawn services on the property with Ringle.

Lanus discussed the following:

1. Lanus discussed a call complaint that Peterson received that he previously contacted Lanus about.

2. Lanus also shared the monthly call breakdown by category of call.

Ringle left the meeting.

3. Lanus stated they are utilizing the fatality accident for training purposes. Lanus left the meeting.

Keith Wangerin joined the meeting and discussed the following:

1. Wangerin stated he contacted Tracy Kingsbury for 4 toilets for the EMS facility. The commissioners are in favor of purchasing the toilets.

A motion was made by Ifland and seconded by Peterson to convene in executive session at 10:55 a.m. for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel, employee performance. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Wangerin shared he visited with David Tharp and Allen Lanus about TabletCommand. Wangerin shared he will be visiting more with Lanus and they will be researching it more.

At 11:23 a.m. a motion was made by Peterson and seconded by Ifland to adjourn as there was no further business. Motion carried unanimously.

These minutes are not official until signed by the county commissioners and attested to by the County Clerk.

BOE #237 Meeting Minutes

Item 1. Call to Order
President Theron Haresnape called the meeting to order.

Present for the call to order were Board Members Marty Hanson, Adam Rentschler, Libby McDonald, Steve Overmiller and Sara Pruden, Superintendent Dustin McEwen, and Board Clerk Susan Panter. Board Member Jodi Frydendall was not present.

Item 2. Election of Officers 2025-2026
a. Board President
Sara Pruden made a motion to nominate Marty Hanson as Board President. Adam Rentschler seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

b. Board Vice-President
Adam Rentschler made a motion to nominate Sara Pruden as Board Vice-President. Steve Overmiller seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Item 3. Appointment of NCKSEC Interlocal #636 Board Member Representative
Adam Rentschler made a motion to nominate Libby McDonald as Representative for NCKSEC Interlocal #636. Steve Overmiller seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Item 4. Approval of Agenda - Add/Delete
Adam Rentschler made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Libby McDonald seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Item 5. Approval of Consensus Items
a. Approval of Minutes from June 9, 2025 Regular Meeting
b. Approval of Minutes from June 18, 2025 Negotiations Meeting
c. July 14, 2025 statements
d. Approval of Donations
e. Board of Education Appointments 2025-2026
1. Clerk of the Board - Susan Panter
2. District Treasurer - Kimberly Kuhlmann
3. Board Attorneys - Kyle Allen and Tabitha Owen
4. Freedom of Information Officer - Dustin McEwen
5. Deputy Clerk - Building Principals
6. District Attendance Officers - Greg Koelsch and Michelle Stamm
7. Authorized Representative for Food Service Fund - Jessica Abbott
8. Determining Official Free/Reduced Price Meals - Kimberly Kuhlmann
9. Hearing Official Free/Reduced Price Meals - Dustin McEwen
10. Investments - Kimberly Kuhlmann and

Superintendent Dustin McEwen
11. Authorized Representative for KPERS - Susan Pante
12. Authorized Representatives for Consolidated Program - (Title I, Title II
Part A - Teacher Quality; Title II Part D Education Technology; Title IV Safe and Drug Free Schools; Title V Innovation Programs; The American Reinvestment and Recovery Act, ESSER; and the At-Risk Program)- Dustin McEwen and Kimberly Kuhlmann
13. Authorized Liaison for services to homeless & foster children- Dustin McEwen and Susan Panter
14. Authorized Representative for Title IX and Section 504 - Dustin McEwen as District Coordinator, Michelle Stamm and Greg Koelsch as Investigators, when available, the District Attorneys or KASB Investigators as needed
15. Depositories of District funds - Guaranty State Bank & Trust, Smith Center; The Peoples Bank, Smith Center; Smith County Bank, Smith Center
16. Official Newspaper - Smith County Pioneer
17. Adopt the 1,116 Hour Calendar for 2025-2026
18. Designate Inclement Weather Make-up Days, September 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26
f. Reimbursement Rate for Mileage; as authorized by K.S.A. 75-3202a, the Secretary of Administration has fixed the private vehicle mileage reimbursement rates for FY 2025-2026 at .70 cents per mile
g. Approval of Resolution for the following:
1. Rescind all policy statements found in the minutes of the board of education prior to June 30, and that the board adopt the new Board Policy Manual as presented and recommended by the superintendent to govern the school district during the 2025-2026 school year (See Resolution attached)
2. Establish petty cash limits - (see attached Resolution for respective buildings)
SC Elem School - \$500.00 - administered by the elementary principal
SC Jr/Sr High School - \$1000.00 - administered by the jr/sr high school principal
District - \$1000.00 - administered by the board clerk and superintendent
3. Adopt guidelines

for activity funds and gate receipts (see attached Resolution for respective buildings)
h. Approval to Waive GAAP Accounting Principle (See Resolution letter)
Theron Haresnape made a motion to approve the consensus items. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Item 6. Public Forum
None
Teacher Monica Wagner, students Karson Sasse, Korey Weltmer and Jonny Schlatter arrived at the meeting at 7:13 PM.

Item 7. Approval for the Use of 1 Suburban for FFA to Attend Officer Retreat August 1-3 in Nevada, MO
Karson Sasse, Korey Weltmer and Jonny Schlatter gave a presentation for an upcoming FFA retreat. They asked the board for the use of a suburban and fuel card to attend the FFA Officer Retreat.

Theron Haresnape made a motion to approve the use of 1 suburban and fuel card for FFA to attend the Officer Retreat August 1-3 in Nevada, Mo. Adam Rentschler seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Monica Wagner, Karson Sasse, Korey Weltmer and Jonny Schlatter left the meeting at 7:15 PM.

Item 8. Time, Place, Date of Meetings (see attached Resolution)
There was discussion on the date of the December board meeting due to a conflict with the music program and possible basketball tournament.

Sara Pruden made a motion to approve the attached resolution with the December meeting being held on Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at 7:00 PM. Adam Rentschler seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Item 9. Discussion and Approval of Meal Prices for 2025-2026 School Year
Mr. McEwen presented the Board with research on the State average for meals as well as the local school averages. The Board discussed the cost of food increasing.

Steve Overmiller made a motion to raise the prices as presented for Elementary and jr/sr high student breakfast and lunch; adult breakfast and lunch by \$0.10 per meal. Libby McDonald seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Item 10. Approval of Bid on Milk Prices
Mr. McEwen presented information from F&A and Cash-Wa for milk. F&A

will deliver to both buildings.

Libby McDonald made a motion to approve the bid for milk from F&A for the 2025-2026 school year. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Item 11. Second Reading and Approval of Classified Handbook and Crisis Handbook
Steve Overmiller made a motion to approve the Classified Handbook and Crisis Handbook for the 2025-2026 school year. Adam Rentschler seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Item 12. Approval and Second Reading of KASB June 2025 Board Policy
Adam Rentschler made a motion to approve KASB June 2025 Board Policy Updates with the exception of DFH, Fundraising. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Item 13. Discussion and Approval of Cardiac Emergency Response Plan
Mr. McEwen mentioned he had reviewed the Cardiac Emergency Response Plan with nurses from the Smith County Health Department. The plan was prepared according to KDHE recommendations.

Adam Rentschler made a motion to approve the Cardiac Emergency Response Plan. Sara Pruden seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Item 14. Discussion of Exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate
Mr. McEwen discussed the budget for the 2025-2026 school year. He recommends that we exceed the Revenue Neutral Rate. The information will be given to the Smith County Clerk by July 18.

Item 15. Approval of Revenue Neutral Rate and Budget Hearing on September 8, 2025
Libby McDonald made a motion to schedule the RNR and Budget Hearing on September 8, 2025 at 6:45 p.m. and 6:50 p.m. Theron Haresnape seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Item 16. Approval of Application for Payment from Roofmasters
Mr. McEwen discussed the payment that is due to Roofmasters by August 15th.

Adam Rentschler made a motion to approve the payment to Roofmasters. Theron Haresnape seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Item 17. Discussion on Bus

Routes and Road Maintenance
There were suggestions that we present all of the bus routes to the county commissioners to make them aware of where the buses are traveling to pick up students.

Item 18. Superintendent’s Report Budget
Budget review July 18th
Federal Title Funds
Roger Barta Memorial Wrestling Room - plans are in place to put pallets and plywood down to keep the new wrestling mats off the floor to prevent moisture from getting to the mats from the cement floor.

Football field lights
High school gym lights - replacing with LED lights
Elementary A/C - will repair the unit for a cost of \$12,000 instead of replacing Roof
Item 19. Executive Session - Negotiations - the Exception for Employer-Employee Negotiations Under KOMA
Theron Haresnape made a motion that the Board Members and Mr. McEwen move into executive session - negotiations - the exception for employer-employee negotiations under KOMA for twenty (20) minutes, returning to the open meeting in this room at 8:54 PM.

Steve Overmiller seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Susan Panter left the closed meeting.

The Board Members and Superintendent, Mr. McEwen discussed negotiation matters.

Susan Panter returned to the open meeting.

Theron Haresnape made a motion that the Board Members and Mr. McEwen move into executive session - personnel - to Protect the Interest of Individual(s) to be Discussed, Pursuant to Non-Elected Personnel Exception Under KOMA for ten (10) minutes, returning to the open meeting in this room at 9:04 PM.

Steve Overmiller seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Susan panter left the closed

meeting.

The Board Members and Superintendent, Mr. McEwen discussed negotiation matters.

Susan Panter returned to the open meeting.

Theron Haresnape made a motion that the Board Members and Mr. McEwen move into executive session - negotiations - the exception for employer-employee negotiations under KOMA for five (5) minutes, returning to the open meeting in this room at 9:09 PM.

Steve Overmiller seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Susan Panter left the closed meeting.

The Board Members and Superintendent, Mr. McEwen discussed negotiation matters.

Susan Panter returned to the open meeting.

Item 20. Discussion and Approval of EMC 90% or 100% coinsurance
Mr. McEwen discussed another option for the property insurance through EMC. Joel Fouts sent an optional quote which would reduce premiums. The coinsurance would be 90%, which would be an annual savings of \$39,987.

Adam Rentschler made a motion to approve the 90% coinsurance with EMC. Steve Overmiller seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

Item 21. Executive Session - Personnel - to Protect the Interest of Individual(s) to be Discussed, Pursuant to Non-Elected Personnel Exception Under KOMA
Sara Pruden made a motion that the Board Members and Mr. McEwen move into executive session - personnel - to Protect the Interest of Individual(s) to be Discussed, Pursuant to Non-Elected Personnel Exception Under KOMA for ten (10) minutes, returning to the open meeting in this room at 9:24 PM.

Adam Rentschler seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 6-0 vote.

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Still Cruising at 100.



You are invited to a Birthday Celebration for DORIS LEA MERRITT Sunday, September 7, 2025 from 2:00-4:00pm The Srader Center in Smith Center KS. Birthday Wishes may be mailed to: Doris Merritt 505 Walnut St. Lebanon, KS. 66952