

LEGAL NOTICES

(First published in the Smith Co. Pioneer Thursday, July 30, 2021.)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SMITH COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of Kenneth J. Vinsonhaler, Jr., deceased

SM-2026-PR-000018

NOTICE OF HEARING AND

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on July 20, 2026, a Petition for Issuance of Letters of Administration was filed in this Court by William R. Vinsonhaler, nephew of Kenneth J. Vinsonhaler, Jr., deceased, praying that William R. Vinsonhaler be appointed as Administrator of the Estate of Kenneth J. Vinsonhaler, Jr., deceased.

You are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before August 25, 2026, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., of said day, in said court in the City of Smith Center, Smith County, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this Notice, as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever barred.

William R. Vinsonhaler, Petitioner

S. Scott Sage # 14529

SAGE & SAGE LAW OFFICES

620 Third Street, P.O. Box 243

Phillipsburg, Kansas 67661

(785) 543-2022

Attorney for Petitioner

August 13

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(First published in the Smith Co. Pioneer Thursday, August 6, 2026.)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SMITH COUNTY, KANSAS.

In the Matter of the Estate of William D. Devlin, deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are hereby notified that on July 30, 2026, a Petition For Probate Of Will And Issuance Of Letters Testamentary was filed in this Court by James M. Devlin, designated as the Executor named in the "Last Will and Testament of William D. Devlin", deceased, dated March 10, 2011.

All creditors of the decedent are notified to exhibit their demands against the Estate within the latter of four months from the date of first publication of notice under K.S.A. 59-2236 and amendments thereto, or if the identity of the creditor is known or reasonably ascertainable, 30 days after actual notice was given as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited, they shall be forever

barred.

James M. Devlin  
Petitioner  
Richard E. Dietz  
Dietz Law Office  
115 South First Street  
P. O. Box 326  
Osborne, Kansas 67473  
(785) 346-2157  
(785) 346-5650 - Fax  
staff@dietz-law.net  
Attorney for Petitioner  
August 20

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NOTICE OF HEARING

Jamie Schwandt is to be served reference case #SM2026LM3 regarding a limited actions chapter 61 suit. Jamie Schwandt-defendant-has been sued in the 17th Judicial District Court of Smith County, Kansas. The defendant must answer the petition or other pleading, or otherwise defend on Thursday, September 10, 2026, at 0900 a.m. at the Smith County District courthouse located at 218 S. Grant St. in Smith Center, Kansas. If the defendant does not answer or otherwise defend, the petition or other pleading will be taken as true, and judgment, the nature of which must be stated, will be rendered accordingly.

Respectfully,
Brandt Smith (plaintiff)
633 Copper Fox Pl.
Larkspur, Colorado 80118
720-238-1000

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(First published in the Smith Co. Pioneer Thursday, August 6, 2026.)

RESOLUTION NO 26-05

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SMITH COUNTY, KANSAS.

WHEREAS on this 20th day of April, the Board of County Commissioners of Smith County, Kansas, meeting in regular session at the Smith County Courthouse, Smith Center, Kansas, at 9:00 a.m. pursuant to K.S.A. 68-102 et. seq. considers the vacation of alley ways in the unincorporated city of Bellaire in Smith County, Kansas, to wit:

Lots 1-8, Block 1  
Lots 1-28, Block 4  
Lots 1-5, Block 7  
Lots 1-28, Block 2  
Lots 1-34, Block 5  
Lots 1-28, Block 3  
Lots 1-19, Block 6

WHEREAS, said alley ways lies within the unincorporated city of Bellaire in Smith County, Kansas said alley ways was established by Plat filed of record in Book D, Page 17 in the Office of the Smith County Engineer's Smith County, Kansas; and

WHEREAS, notice to the public was published in the Smith County Pioneer on March 26, 2026 and April 2, 9, 17, 2026 and notice to adjacent landowners was given by certified mail, return receipt requested; and

WHEREAS, the Board if County Commissioners appointed themselves as viewers; and

WHEREAS, the viewers recommended that the Board of Smith County Commissioners determine that the alley ways in the unincorporated city of Bellaire, is NOT a public utility and should be vacated; and

WHEREAS, no written applications for damages were made by any owners of property adjacent thereto; and

WHEREAS, the said viewers requested no compensation for services as viewers.

WHEREAS, pursuant to K.S.A. 68-102 the Board of County Commissioners held a public hearing to consider the requested vacation; and

WHEREAS, the Board determined that the public would suffer no loss or inconvenience by the requested vacation and that no private rights will be injured or

endangered thereby; and

IT IS NOW, THEREFORE, HERBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED by the Board

of County Commissioners of Smith County, Kansas, that the alley ways in the unincorporated city of Bellaire, KS described above, is hereby vacated.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND RESOLVED THAT the vacation of said of alley ways

is subject to the reservation of any currently existing easements for public utilities over and under, and across all

that portion of vacated alley ways for the repair, maintenance, and replacement of any existing utilities presently located within the vacated alley ways.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the County Clerk to be placed in the road records.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the County Appraiser.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect after its publication in the official County newspaper.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Smith County, Kansas this 27th day of July.

By:  
Jim Gwennap, Commissioner

By:  
Brady Peterson, Commissioner

By:  
Kurt Ifland, Chairman

ATTEST:  
Ashley Maxwell  
Ashley Maxwell  
Smith County Clerk  
August 13

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Hearing 2026-2027 Budget

The governing body of Unified School District 237 will meet on the 14th day of September 2026 at 6:30 PM at 215 S. Jefferson, Smith Center, KS 66507 for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of tax to be levied. Detailed budget information, including budget profile, building needs assessment and Board state assessments review is available at District Office on the district website and will be available at this hearing.

The Amount of 2026 Tax to be Levied and Expenditures (published below) establish the maximum limits of the 2026-2027 Budget. The Est. Tax Rate\* (column 7), shown for comparative purposes, is subject to slight change depending on final assessed valuation.

(Published in the Smith Co. Pioneer, Thursday, August 13, 2026)

|                                       | 2024-2025 Actual        |                      | 2025-2026 Actual        |                      | 2026-2027 Proposed Budget  |                                     |                    |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Code                                  | Actual Expenditures (1) | Actual Tax Rate* (2) | Actual Expenditures (3) | Actual Tax Rate* (4) | Estimated Expenditures (5) | Amount of 2026 Tax to be Levied (6) | Est. Tax Rate* (7) |
| <b>OPERATING</b>                      |                         |                      |                         |                      |                            |                                     |                    |
| General                               | 06                      | 4,755,187            | 28.000                  | 4,773,064            | 28.300                     | 4,885,177                           | 834.421            |
| Supplemental General (LOB)            | 08                      | 1,568,543            | 28.770                  | 1,592,140            | 21.333                     | 1,638,940                           | 1,161.755          |
| <b>SPECIAL REVENUE</b>                |                         |                      |                         |                      |                            |                                     |                    |
| Federal Funds                         | 07                      | 129,982              |                         | 116,431              |                            | 110,111                             |                    |
| Adult Education                       | 10                      | 0                    | 0.000                   | 0                    | 0.300                      | 0                                   | 0.000              |
| Preschool-Aged At-Risk                | 11                      | 66,080               |                         | 66,282               |                            | 122,167                             |                    |
| Adult Supplemental Education          | 12                      | 0                    |                         | 0                    |                            | 0                                   |                    |
| At-Risk Education Fund                | 13                      | 640,841              |                         | 631,768              |                            | 689,279                             |                    |
| Bilingual Education                   | 14                      | 0                    |                         | 2,000                |                            | 0                                   |                    |
| Virtual Education                     | 15                      | 0                    |                         | 0                    |                            | 0                                   |                    |
| Capital Outlay                        | 16                      | 776,738              | 7.940                   | 321,469              | 7.391                      | 1,896,199                           | 649.453            |
| Driver Training                       | 18                      | 0                    |                         | 5,043                |                            | 25,508                              |                    |
| Declining Enrollment                  | 19                      | 0                    | 0.000                   | 0                    | 0.300                      | 0                                   | 0.000              |
| Extracurricular School Program        | 22                      | 0                    |                         | 0                    |                            | 0                                   |                    |
| Food Service                          | 24                      | 367,140              |                         | 422,442              |                            | 659,277                             |                    |
| Professional Development              | 26                      | 0                    |                         | 8,521                |                            | 17,500                              |                    |
| Parent Education Program              | 28                      | 14,863               |                         | 0                    |                            | 0                                   |                    |
| Summer School                         | 29                      | 0                    |                         | 0                    |                            | 0                                   |                    |
| Special Education                     | 30                      | 1,032,396            |                         | 977,579              |                            | 1,363,130                           |                    |
| Goal of Learning                      | 33                      | 0                    | 0.000                   | 0                    | 0.300                      | 0                                   | 0.000              |
| Career and Postsecondary Education    | 34                      | 219,652              |                         | 243,714              |                            | 309,030                             |                    |
| Gifts and Grants                      | 35                      | 117,589              |                         | 304,440              |                            | 905,166                             |                    |
| Special Liability Expense Fund        | 42                      | 0                    | 0.000                   | 0                    | 0.300                      | 0                                   | 0.000              |
| Extracurricular Growth Facilities     | 45                      | 0                    | 0.000                   | 0                    | 0.300                      | 0                                   | 0.000              |
| Special Reserve Fund                  | 47                      | 0                    |                         | 0                    |                            | 0                                   |                    |
| EPERS Special Retirement Contribution | 51                      | 362,885              |                         | 378,754              |                            | 446,156                             |                    |
| Contingency Reserve                   | 53                      | 0                    |                         | 0                    |                            | 0                                   |                    |
| Textbook & Student Material Revolving | 55                      | 64,128               |                         | 16,000               |                            | 0                                   |                    |
| Activity Fund                         | 56                      | 60,006               |                         | 115,767              |                            | 0                                   |                    |
| <b>DEBT SERVICE</b>                   |                         |                      |                         |                      |                            |                                     |                    |
| Bonds and Interest #1                 | 62                      | 0                    | 0.000                   | 0                    | 0.300                      | 0                                   | 0.000              |
| Bonds and Interest #2                 | 63                      | 0                    | 0.000                   | 0                    | 0.300                      | 0                                   | 0.000              |
| No-Fund Payment                       | 66                      | 0                    | 0.000                   | 0                    | 0.300                      | 0                                   | 0.000              |
| Special Assessment                    | 67                      | 0                    | 0.000                   | 0                    | 0.300                      | 0                                   | 0.000              |
| Temporary Note                        | 68                      | 0                    | 0.000                   | 0                    | 0.300                      | 0                                   | 0.000              |
| <b>COOPERATIVES</b>                   |                         |                      |                         |                      |                            |                                     |                    |
| Special Education                     | 79                      | 0                    |                         | 0                    |                            | 0                                   |                    |
| <b>TOTAL USED EXPENDITURES</b>        | 100                     | 10,323,389           | 48.710                  | 9,885,394            | 49.324                     | 13,123,130                          | 2,545,699          |
| Less: Transfers                       | 105                     | 2,511,042            |                         | 2,536,145            |                            | 2,069,186                           |                    |
| <b>NET USED EXPENDITURES</b>          | 110                     | 7,812,346            |                         | 7,349,249            |                            | 11,053,944                          |                    |
| <b>TOTAL USED TAXES LEVIED</b>        | 115                     | 2,567,453            |                         | 2,582,777            |                            | 2,545,630                           |                    |

1. Sponsoring District Only

\*Tax Rates are expressed in mills

|                                         | 2024-2025 Actual        |                      | 2025-2026 Actual        |                      | 2026-2027 Proposed Budget  |                                     |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Code                                    | Actual Expenditures (1) | Actual Tax Rate* (2) | Actual Expenditures (3) | Actual Tax Rate* (4) | Estimated Expenditures (5) | Amount of 2026 Tax to be Levied (6) |
| <b>OTHER</b>                            |                         |                      |                         |                      |                            |                                     |
| Historical Museum                       | 80                      | 0                    | 0.000                   | 0                    | 0.300                      | 0                                   |
| Public Library Board/District           | 82                      | 0                    | 0.000                   | 0                    | 0.300                      | 0                                   |
| Public Library Board Employees Benefits | 83                      | 0                    | 0.000                   | 0                    | 0.300                      | 0                                   |
| Recreation Commission                   | 84                      | 0                    | 0.000                   | 0                    | 0.300                      | 0                                   |
| Rec Comm Emp Benefits & Spec Liab       | 86                      | 0                    | 0.000                   | 0                    | 0.300                      | 0                                   |
| <b>TOTAL OTHER</b>                      | 120                     | 0                    | 0.000                   | 0                    | 0.300                      | 0                                   |
| <b>TOTAL TAXES LEVIED</b>               | 125                     | \$2,567,453          |                         | \$2,582,777          |                            | \$2,545,630                         |
| Assessed Valuation - General Fund       | 128                     | \$48,153,714         |                         | \$47,054,289         |                            | \$48,721,042                        |
| Assessed Valuation - All Other Funds    | 130                     | \$56,906,303         |                         | \$56,225,611         |                            | \$56,182,918                        |
| Assessed Valuation - Capital Outlay     | 139                     | \$56,854,695         |                         | \$56,117,302         |                            | \$56,182,918                        |
| <b>Outstanding Indebtedness, July 1</b> |                         | 2024                 |                         | 2025                 |                            | 2026                                |
| General Obligation Bonds                | 136                     | 0                    |                         | 0                    |                            | 0                                   |
| Capital Outlay Bonds                    | 140                     | 0                    |                         | 0                    |                            | 0                                   |
| Temporary Note                          | 145                     | 0                    |                         | 0                    |                            | 0                                   |
| No-Fund Payment                         | 150                     | 0                    |                         | 0                    |                            | 0                                   |
| Lease Purchase Principal                | 153                     | 0                    |                         | 400,000              |                            | 319,168                             |
| <b>TOTAL USED DEBT</b>                  | 155                     | 0                    |                         | 400,000              |                            | 319,168                             |

\*Tax Rates are expressed in mills



Board President



Clerk of the Board

2027

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The governing body of

**Parsons Township**

**Smith County**

will meet on Sept 1, 2026 at 7:00 P.M. at 3051 T Rd, Lebanon, KS for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Detailed budget information is available at Smith County Clerk's Office and will be available at this hearing.

**BUDGET SUMMARY**

Proposed Budget 2027 Expenditures and Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2027 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

|                                 | Prior Year Actual 2025 | Current Year Estimate 2026 | Proposed Budget 2027          |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
|                                 | Actual Tax Rate*       | Actual Tax Rate*           | Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax |
| Fund                            | Expenditures           | Expenditures               | Proposed Estimated Tax Rate*  |
| General                         | 5,407                  | 8,400                      | 11,035                        |
| Totals                          | 5,407                  | 8,400                      | 11,035                        |
|                                 |                        |                            | Revenue Neutral Rate**        |
| Less: Transfers                 | 0                      | 0                          | 0                             |
| Net Expenditure                 | 5,407                  | 8,400                      | 11,035                        |
| Total Tax Levied                | 5,277                  | 5,277                      | 11,035                        |
| Assessed Valuation:             |                        |                            |                               |
| Township                        | 1,396,131              | 1,333,584                  | 1,399,678                     |
| Outstanding Indebtedness, Jan 1 |                        |                            |                               |
| G.O. Bonds                      | 0                      | 0                          | 0                             |
| Other                           | 0                      | 0                          | 0                             |
| Lease Purchase Principal        | 0                      | 0                          | 0                             |
| Total                           | 0                      | 0                          | 0                             |

\*Tax rates are expressed in mills.

\*\*Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-298

Jodi McCleary  
Township Treasurer

(Published in the Smith Co. Pioneer,  
Thursday, August 13, 2026)

will meet on Sept 1, 2026 at 1:00 P.M. at Smith County Courthouse for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax. Detailed budget information is available at Smith County Clerk's Office and will be available at this hearing.

**BUDGET SUMMARY**

Proposed Budget 2027 Expenditures and Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax establish the maximum limits of the 2027 budget. Estimated Tax Rate is subject to change depending on the final assessed valuation.

|                                 | Prior Year Actual 2025 |                  | Current Year Estimate 2026 |                  | Proposed Budget 2027              |                               |                              |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Fund                            | Expenditures           | Actual Tax Rate* | Expenditures               | Actual Tax Rate* | Budget Authority for Expenditures | Amount of 2026 Ad Valorem Tax | Proposed Estimated Tax Rate* |
| General                         | 4,917                  | 2.153            | 9,500                      | 2.308            | 11,442                            | 5,426                         | 2.379                        |
| Totals                          | 4,917                  | 2.153            | 9,500                      | 2.308            | 11,442                            | 5,426                         | 2.379                        |
|                                 |                        |                  |                            |                  | Revenue Neutral Rate**            |                               |                              |
| Less: Transfers                 | 0                      |                  | 0                          |                  |                                   |                               |                              |
| Net Expenditure                 | 4,917                  |                  | 9,500                      |                  | 11,442                            |                               |                              |
| Total Tax Levied                | 6,429                  |                  | 6,429                      |                  | XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX                   |                               |                              |
| Assessed Valuation:             |                        |                  |                            |                  |                                   |                               |                              |
| Township                        | 2,985,867              |                  | 2,784,403                  |                  | 2,700,830                         |                               |                              |
| Outstanding Indebtedness, Jan 1 |                        |                  |                            |                  |                                   |                               |                              |
| G.O. Bonds                      | 2024                   |                  | 2025                       |                  | 2026                              |                               |                              |
| Other                           | 0                      |                  | 0                          |                  | 0                                 |                               |                              |
| Lease Purchase Principal        | 0                      |                  | 0                          |                  | 0                                 |                               |                              |
| Total                           | 0                      |                  | 0                          |                  | 0                                 |                               |                              |

\*Tax rates are expressed in mills.

\*\*Revenue Neutral Rate as defined by KSA 79-298

Wyatt Oliver  
Township Treasurer

(Published in the Smith Co. Pioneer,  
Thursday, August 13, 2026)

# Sponsors wanted

The Smith Co. Pioneer is looking for sponsors for this years PICKEM' Contest. Call 785-282-3371